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# Uphold the truth, Abdullah tells media

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**PUTRAJAYA:** The media must not be afraid of honest reporting while upholding truth and justice, said Prime Minister Datuk Seri Abdullah Ahmad Badawi.

He said the media should also not feel apologetic when reporting the facts.

"Hold strongly to the principles of truth as the credibility of an institution depends on it," he said, adding that communication technology and channels could be used both constructively and destructively.

Abdullah said the two could be used as instruments to uphold principles of justice while spreading only the facts.

"News content with negative elements that spread lies and slander will only bring about disunity and destruction," he said when launching Bernama Web TV, South-East Asia's first live Internet news channel, at the Prime Minister's Office here yesterday.

Bernama Web TV can be accessed at [www.bernama-tv.com](http://www.bernama-tv.com). It is a version of the 24-hour news channel available on Astro Channel 502 and is provided free.

Abdullah hoped that the Internet news channel which would bring real time news, would become the top choice for people wanting accurate news throughout the world.

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DATUK SERI ABDULLAH AHMAD BADAWI

"This service will help foreigners and Malaysian students abroad to follow the developments in the country," he said.

Abdullah said that faced with a very challenging world economy and the people feeling the pressures of life, it was most important that the Government's efforts and proactive measures be well disseminated.

Realising the importance of effective communication, he said, news of the Government's efforts would also help increase the people's appreciation towards it.