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Abdullah: Complete projects by year-end

Ainon Mohd; Patrick Sennyah

KUALA LUMPUR, Wed. - Barisan Nasional Members of Parliament were today reminded to ensure development projects in their constituencies were completed by the end of the year.

Deputy Prime Minister Datuk Seri Abdullah Ahmad Badawi said all MPs should co-ordinate the development projects with State Assemblymen in the area to ensure there were no delays.

"I have been asked by Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad to convey this message," he said after a three-hour meeting with BN MPs, Rural Development Minister Datuk Azmi Khalid and Chief Secretary to the Government Tan Sri Samsuddin Osman.

Asked if the present rate of implementation was slow, Abdullah said while most projects were on schedule, there were constituencies where the allocated funds were not fully utilised.

"There are only two months left before the end of the year and MPs should not delay any further."

He said the delay was mainly due to poor co-ordination between the MPs and their respective Assemblymen.

He also said the progress of such projects was monitored by the Implementation Co-ordination Unit in the Prime Minister's Department which would provide the Government with constant updates.

This is the second such meeting the Deputy Prime Minister is having with MPs over the delay in the implementation of development projects. The first meeting was held in Parliament last week.

It is learnt that Dr Mahathir will also meet the MPs at his office in Putrajaya on Friday.