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SUGGESTION TO STRENGTHEN CIVIL SERVICE GETS GOOD RESPONSE - ABDULLAH

KUALA LUMPUR, Dec 1 (Bernama) -- Prime Minister Datuk Seri Abdullah Ahmad Badawi said today the directive to reduce red-tape and eliminate corruption in the civil service has so far received positive reaction from government departments.

"With regard to the suggestions made, so far I've received good response. So, what has been said is at the moment getting attention," he said at a media conference after attending a joint Hari Raya open house hosted by the Umno Wanita, Youth and Puteri movements at the Putra World Trade Centre, here.

He said government departments had in fact started to implement the directives with regard to bureaucratic red-tape and the problem of corruption in a move to strengthen the civil service.

Abdullah said this when asked to comment on the response concerning the suggestions he had made a few days after assuming the post of Prime Minister on Oct 1.

Abdullah had completed his first month as Prime Minister after Tun Dr Mahathir Mohamad relinquished the post which he held for 22 years.

Abdullah said he had held several meetings with the departments concerned with regard to his suggestions to create a Public Ethics Institute which would be established under the National Integrity Plan.

Among other things, the Plan aims to promote good governance, accountability and efficiency in the public and private sectors.

-- BERNAMA

SNS NM AHH AO