

# PM: Ghafar in critical condition

PUTRAJAYA: Prime Minister Datuk Seri Abdullah Ahmad Badawi said Tun Abdul Ghafar Baba is in critical condition.

"I have just received news that at this time (Ghafar) is in critical condition," he said after a meeting with more than 1,000 senior government officers of ministries, departments, agencies and district officers here yesterday.

Abdullah was accompanied by the Chief Secretary to the Government Tan Sri Samsudin Osman at

the meeting to discuss the implementation of national development projects and programmes under the Ninth Malaysia Plan.

He said he was monitoring the former Deputy Prime Minister's health.

"I am asking friends and relatives to get the latest news on Ghafar's condition from his family members or the hospital," Abdullah said.

Earlier, Deputy Prime Minister Datuk Seri Najib Razak visited

Ghafar, 80, who is in the Intensive Care Unit of the Gleneagles Intan Medical Centre in Kuala Lumpur.

GIMC chief executive officer Stuart J.V. Pack said Ghafar was unconscious but comfortable and continued to receive care and treatment from the doctors and staff of the hospital where he was admitted on Jan 24.

Najib spent 35 minutes at the ICU.

Other visitors included Educa-

tion Minister Datuk Seri Hishammuddin Hussein and Negri Sembilan Menteri Besar Datuk Seri Mohamad Hasan.

Pack asked reporters to respect the family's privacy.

"This is the time where the family needs to be close to him.

"I hope you all can give Tun (Ghafar) and his family the privacy they need," he said.

Ghafar's eldest son, Tamrin, asked people to pray for his father's recovery.—Bernama