

Focus on three areas to ensure success, says PM

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PUTRAJAYA: Monitor, maximise and maintain.

Prime Minister Datuk Seri Abdullah Ahmad Badawi said these factors should be the focus of executors of projects under the Ninth Malaysia Plan (9MP).

Projects should be monitored to ensure that they bring maximum economic returns as well as social benefits to the people, and their maintenance should be a priority.

"Overall, we are weak in all three areas," Abdullah said in his speech at the Prime Minister's Department's monthly assembly.

He said as the 9MP had entered its implementation stage, close monitoring of projects would help detect and rectify problems quickly, ensuring that projects were not delayed or abandoned due to problems later on.

"If contractors are found to have under-performed, they can be reprimanded and the authorities concerned can act against them so that the projects will be completed on time."



Abdullah said contractors should not be burdened by delays caused by government agencies as this could affect their operations, resulting in projects being delayed. "Close monitoring can eliminate these problems. I do not want us (government agencies) to be blamed for the problems," he said.

Abdullah also said infrastructure projects completed under the 9MP must be utilised. Those behind the projects must ensure that the people reaped the benefits of the facilities, he added.

Stressing the importance of maintaining public facilities, Abdullah expressed disappointment that many people still had not taken this to heart.



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