

9MP projects worth RM15b to take off soon

PETALING JAYA: Some six weeks after Parliament approved the Ninth Malaysia Plan, the prime minister announced yesterday that 880 development projects worth RM15 billion will take off soon.

Datuk Seri Abdullah Ahmad Badawi said in a statement that tenders for the projects will soon be announced in the newspapers and on websites of myGovernment (www.gov.my), the Public Works Department (www.kkr.gov.my) and •Construction Industry Development Board (www.cidb.gov.my).

He said these represent an initial list and that more projects will be announced from time to time after his department had received information from the relevant ministries.

The total allocation for the 9MP is RM220 billion, of which projects worth RM20 billion are private financial initiatives.

Abdullah's statement made specific mention of some projects:

- » more than 450 primary and secondary schools,
- » roads, including one connecting Padang Besar to Kayu Hitam, and a bridge between Semporna and Bum Bum Island,
- » water supply projects in Terengganu, and
- » the Integrated Transportation Terminal in Gombak, Selangor.

Abdullah said the Implementation and Coordination Unit (ICU) and National Implementation Directorate will use a project

and programme management (PPM) methodology to ensure the projects are implemented at reasonable costs and within a set timeframe.

Abdullah sits on the overseeing National Implementation Task Force. "The PPM will also develop a proven technique to evaluate the effectiveness and ensure the programmes and projects achieve their goals and will give the desired results," Abdullah.

He said the relevant ministries and agencies, together with the Public Works Department, have been instructed to speed up the design and tender document submissions, so projects can be implemented soonest.

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