

# 18 months to build, 15 months to repair

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**TRONOH:** On paper, the abandoned Bandar Baru Seri Iskandar police headquarters project is nearing completion.

In reality, it will need another 15 months of work — almost the original work period — to be made fit for occupation after being left dormant since July 2002.

The obvious contradiction had Datuk Seri Abdullah Ahmad Badawi stumped during the RM19.183 million project briefing

yesterday.

The Prime Minister was told that the 11ha project needed a major make-over after vandalism and the ravages of nature caused extensive damage.

Abdullah's irritation was obvious as he interrupted Arcadia Architect partner, Zulkiflie Amir Samad, at least twice during the briefing.

"Why do you need another 15 months when the project was orig-

inally scheduled for completion in 18 months?" he asked.

Zulkiflie replied that several of the buildings were extensively damaged.

"Apart from this, a firing range and an armoury have also been added to the original plan."

Zulkiflie said a new contractor would be appointed soon and that work on the complex should resume in September.

Abdullah said he hoped the

complex could be completed by December next year.

Accompanied by Perak Menteri Besar Datuk Seri Mohd Tajol Rosli Ghazali, he was given a brief tour of the complex before leaving for lunch with the Raja Muda of Perak, Raja Dr Nazrin Shah.

He later performed Friday prayers at the Sultan Azlan Shah Mosque before flying off for a state visit to Egypt from the Sultan Azlan Shah Airport.