

# Do post mortem, Sarawak BN told

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**KUALA LUMPUR:** Datuk Seri Abdullah Ahmad Badawi has directed the Sarawak Barisan Nasional to do a post mortem on why it had lost several seats in the urban areas.

The Prime Minister told his deputy Datuk Seri Najib Tun Razak that a thorough analysis must be carried out to find out the reasons for the defeat in the six urban areas to the DAP.

"Why did we lose the seats in the urban areas?" asked Abdullah, who spoke with Najib during an eight-minute teleconferencing session telecast at Wisma TV in Angkasapuri here yesterday.

Minutes earlier, Najib also spoke to Chief Minister Tan Sri Abdul Taib Mahmud to con-

gratulate him on the coalition's success of forming the state government.

Abdullah, who is in Egypt to attend the World Economic Forum for West Asia, added: "We have to carry out a thorough analysis."

The Prime Minister, however, congratulated the state Barisan for getting the two-thirds majority to form the state government.

At a press conference later, Najib said: "Although voter turnout was lower than expected we must take into consideration about the increase in the number of seats following the re-delineation.

He said the Barisan must respect the decision of the peo-

ple, adding that it still had time to improve its weaknesses and shortcomings.

"We must take this as a lesson to improve our weaknesses from the 'eyes of the voter' and achieve greater success in the future."

Asked whether the opposition's win at several areas came as a surprise to Barisan, he said: "We had anticipated that several seats would fall into the opposition's hand but its achievement was more than expected."

He noted that areas, which the Barisan had lost to the opposition, were Chinese-majority areas while the opposition could not easily sway the Malay voters.