

PM suggests motorcycle lanes for all highways

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KUALA LUMPUR: Motorcycle lanes must be built on all highways to reduce the number of road accidents, said Prime Minister Datuk Seri Abdullah Ahmad Badawi.

"If possible, I suggest motorcycle lanes be built for all the five projects I have visited today as motorcycles are one of the main causes of road accidents," he said after visiting road project sites in Cheras here yesterday.

However, he said, it would be up to Kuala Lumpur City Hall and project contractors to decide whether to include the lanes.

The five projects, which cost RM300mil, are funded by the Federal Government to ease traffic between Cheras and the city centre, and will not be tolled roads.

Earlier yesterday, when speaking to City Hall employees, Abdullah reminded local governments that there were 12 days left before initiatives announced two months ago to speed up the public delivery system take effect.

"During a meeting on Thursday with all the state Mentris Besar and the Federal Territories Minister, I told them that I did not want a situation where ground officers didn't know what to do," he said.

"The public delivery system must be good. There must be no compromise."

Meanwhile in Butterworth, at the Ninth Bumiputra Entrepreneur Exposition at the Seberang Jaya Expo site, Abdullah said trust agencies, government-linked companies and cooperatives would be strengthened to ensure successful imple-



Site visit: Abdullah viewing the progress at a road project in Cheras yesterday. There are five projects in the area to ease traffic between Cheras and the city centre. With him is Federal Territories Minister Datuk Zulhasnan Rafique (left).

mentation of Bumiputra Commerce and Industry Community (BCIC) programmes.

He said this in his speech read by Rural and Regional Development

Minister Datuk Seri Abdul Aziz Shamsuddin during the opening of the event.

"We have allocated RM1.37bil to ensure the success of BCIC develop-

ment throughout the Ninth Malaysia Plan," he said.

The one-week exposition organised by Penang Regional Development Authority ends on Thursday.