

PM gives Pemudah six months to deliver results

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PUTRAJAYA: Six months is the deadline given to the newly-established Special Task Force to Facilitate Business (Pemudah) to show results and "make a difference".

Datuk Seri Abdullah Ahmad Badawi said the task force and the 3P committee set up to complement the work of Pemudah in the public sector should be making visible progress in the next six months.

"We have to make progress. We cannot say nothing is happening. I want to see progress being made," he told reporters after a visit by Seri Paduka Baginda Yang di-Pertuan Agong Al-Wathiqu Billah Tuanku Mizan Zainal Abidin Ibni Al-Marhum Sultan Mahmud Al-Muktafi Billah Shah and Seri Paduka Baginda Raja Permaisuri Agong Tuanku Nur Zahirah to the Prime Minister's Department.

Also present were Deputy Prime Minister Datuk Seri Najib Tun Razak and his wife Datin Seri Rosmah Mansor.

The Prime Minister's Office, in a statement on Wednesday, said Pemudah was given the mandate to find ways to make Malaysia more business friendly and its first task was cutting local government red tape.

The Prime Minister stressed that the body would not be a platform for dialogue between the private and public sectors, but was to help express views and formulate suggestions on improving the country's business environment.

On a separate matter, Abdullah was asked if the favourable economy and a stronger ringgit would prompt him to call for an early general election.

"I am not thinking of that. What I am thinking is that there is a lot of work to be done," he said.