

Govt is people-centred

PM: It strives to provide fast service to the people

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MALACCA: The Government is a people-centred government, always caring for the people's needs and striving to provide fast service to the people, said Prime Minister Datuk Seri Abdullah Ahmad Badawi.

Abdullah said that with good cooperation between the state and federal governments, everything would be able to be implemented speedily for the people's benefit.

"That is why we say that this government is a people-centred government, because, in the end, it is the people who benefit.

"In a meeting with all the mentris besar, I told them that work must be fast at all levels and in all fields, not only at the Federal Government level but also at the state government level.

"This is because many matters which need to be implemented require the cooperation of both governments," said Abdullah when launching the RM59.31mil Home Affairs Ministry building in Ayer Keroh here yesterday.

Abdullah said he was pleased that the office, with a built-up area of 11.93ha, had been built to serve the region as it brought the government nearer to the people.

All facilities related to the Internal Security and the Home Affairs ministries are now available under one roof.



Chosen ones: Abdullah presenting the i-Kad to Hendrikk Willem Kahlenberg and Sylvia Kahlenberg in Malacca yesterday. Looking on are Home Affairs Minister Datuk Seri Radzi Sheikh Ahmad (right) and Malacca Chief Minister Datuk Seri Mohd Ali Rustam (third from right).

"With this new one-stop facility serving the region, those living in Malacca and other states would be able to cut down on their travelling costs and petrol consumption. They also do not need to leave behind their work in the state just to go to KL or Putrajaya," said Abdullah.

The new building houses seven departments and as of today, the National Registration Department and Immigration Department offices here will open on weekends.

During the ceremony, Abdullah also launched the i-Kad, an immigration identification card for foreign

workers, maids, international students, expatriates and Malaysia My 2nd Home residents.

With 17 physical security features, the i-Kad is duplication-proof and stores two biometric fingerprints and a colour photograph.

The security chip, which stores the cardholder's personal details using Karsof technology, is the first of its kind in the world.

The four technologies used on the i-Kad are being patented as Malaysian technology.

"This card cannot be duplicated because of the safety features. But sometimes certain parties will do all

kinds of things to duplicate it, as they did with our MyKad, which we thought was very good but could still be duplicated.

"It is very important for cardholders not to lose their cards," Abdullah said.

He added that the card was one of the government's successes in developing the country's administrative system into an electronic government, or e-government.

Abdullah said that an e-government, however, would not be successful without an e-community willing to "learn how to use the electronic card."