

# Laws to be amended for faster CF approval

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**KOTA KINABALU:** About 12 laws will be amended to speed up the process of issuing certificates of fitness for new buildings.

Prime Minister Datuk Seri Abdullah Ahmad Badawi said the amendments would go through Parliament next year.

He said they were necessary as issues related to CF and land approval had resulted in complaints from the public and private sectors.

Abdullah said despite the government's emphasis to improve the public delivery system, the results hadn't been up to expectation.

"If we don't improve, we will not have the capacity to compete with the rest of the world.

"If we take two steps forward and others take five steps we will be left behind," he said when officiating at the national-level Integrity Management Committee meeting here yesterday.

The convention was attended by some 1,000 heads of federal and state departments and agencies.

Also present were Chief Minister Datuk Musa Aman and Chief Secretary to the government Tan Sri Mohd Sidek Hassan.

Abdullah reminded the public service that efforts to improve efficiency must be a continuous process.

"Efficiency is the ability to handle volumes of work with speed and accuracy," he said, adding that efficiency was crucial to ensure the successful and speedy implementation of projects.

"Good programmes will not benefit the people if they are not implemented efficiently."

The government, he said, must avoid the perception that it was good on ideas but short on implementation.

Abdullah wants the public service to immediately correct or rectify any mistakes or weaknesses that arose.

"There must be constant assessment and evaluation on our performance to find out

what needs to be improved," he said.

On another matter, the prime minister told a Press conference that the media should stop playing up sensitive issues on race and religion.

He said it was better for all quarters to focus on development projects.

"Stop it. Don't play with racial issues," he said in response to a reporter's question that the Chinese newspapers were still highlighting issues deemed racial, raised at the recently concluded Umno general assembly.

Abdullah said that in his winding-up speech

at the assembly, he had assured all Malaysians that Umno cared for and would be responsible for all races, and not just the Malays.

"My assurance was well received by them (delegates), which meant that they agreed with my view and analysis."

As such, he said his assurance was the yardstick to determine Umno's stand on the issue and not what was raised by some of the speakers at the assembly.

"Do not exploit the sentiments of a few people and make a perception that it reflects the views of all people."