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No stopping the reforms, says PM

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KOTA KINABALU: The reforms promised by Barisan Nasional in its election manifesto will be aggressively pursued, said Prime Minister Datuk Seri Abdullah Ahmad Badawi.

He said it should be noted that the reforms in the judiciary and police began when he was appointed prime minister and there had been no let-up since.

"It is the view of the people that reform is required," he said here after meeting leaders of Sabah Barisan Nasional component parties.

Stressing that he would not run away from his responsibility of continuing with the reforms despite BN not securing a two-thirds majority in the recent general election, he said the effort to fight corruption would also be continued.

"I have implemented many things since I became prime minister but I recognise that people are still not happy," he said, adding that there was now greater freedom of expression.

He said there had been positive results from the reforms he initiated.

"As a result of the reforms, we have succeeded in building the confidence of investors and brought economic success to Malaysia."

Reiterating that he would eventu-



Datuk Seri Abdullah Ahmad Badawi and Datuk Seri Musa Aman (right) heading for the meeting with Barisan Nasional leaders in Kota Kinabalu yesterday. — Bernama picture

ally step down as prime minister, he said there were many things he needed to do, such as ensuring the implementation of development plans.

"There are certain things I need to do now. Of course, I cannot leave when the party is in this condition,"

he said, referring to calls for reform in Umno.

He also repeated that his deputy, Datuk Seri Najib Razak, would be his successor.

"I am not going to stay on for years, definitely not, and Najib understands this."