

THE STAR

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# We have been greatly unfair to Pak Lah

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WRITE in reference to the article by Leslie Lau "Abdullah keeps reforms on his agenda" (*The Star*, June 24.) His article is timely and I believe that the Prime Minister has been unfairly criticised. He has been blamed for many things while his reforms in government have been completely ignored.

The media, for example, has been given more freedom than ever. His predecessor Tun Dr Mahathir Mohamad can criticise him but Pak Lah has surely allowed more reforms than ever.

It has been reported that he now allows PAS to publish its party newspaper *Harakah* fortnightly and Parti Keadilan Rakyat has also been given a printing permit. The irony is that these two newspapers would be used to attack his leadership.

He has also given the green light to the Anti-Corruption Agency to be revamped and to become independent like Hong Kong's

Independent Commission for Anti-Corruption.

I feel that Pak Lah has been unfairly treated. Like the true gentleman he is, Pak Lah allowed a smooth handover of power even after the BN's massive losses in the elections.

He allowed the setting up of an independent inquiry into the VK Lingam video clip issue and he paid a heavy price for it. He was blamed for a sin which took place during Dr Mahathir's time and yet, nobody took notice. The Opposition heaped the blame on him.

When he talked about emphasising agriculture to boost food production, many of us dismissed it as we were so used to 22 years of a policy that focused on manufacturing.

Now, he has been proven right. Food production is suddenly given serious attention because of increasing food prices.

But how many of us remember that or

give credit to him?

None of the previous prime ministers has carried out as much reforms as he has. The unfortunate part is that he may become the most unpopular Prime Minister of our time because he happens to be the head of government at the wrong time.

Let's face it. The price structure on fuel is beyond his control. The Pakatan Rakyat leaders have all attacked him but do they have the answers to the price hike, besides holding demonstrations? Is this the kind of people you want to depend on to resolve the problems?

Do you actually believe that Anwar Ibrahim can lower the price of oil as he has promised? The real reforms, so far, have come from Pak Lah.

**A PATRIOT,  
Kuala Lumpur.**