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**Prime Minister Datuk Seri Najib Razak** (left) chairing a meeting without his coat due to air-conditioning failure at the Prime Minister's Office in Putrajaya yesterday. The cooling system went offline after a pipe supplying water to it was damaged by Tenaga Nasional Bhd cabling work on Tuesday. Pic by Mohd Fadli Hamzah

## Air-conditioning woes 'heat up' govt complexes, hotel and mall

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PUTRAJAYA: Air-conditioning at several government complexes, a shopping mall and a hotel here went offline after a pipe supplying water to the system was damaged on Tuesday.

The affected buildings include the Prime Minister's Office in Complex A, Prime Minister's Department in Complex B, several ministries at the C, D and E complexes, Alamanda Shopping Centre and Everly Hotel.

Putrajaya Corporation president Tan Sri Aseh Che Mat said the pipe was damaged by an excavator during cable connection work by Tenaga Nasional Bhd (TNB) on Monday at 6pm.

A TNB-appointed contractor was connecting high-powered cables from Presint 1 to Presint 12 and was

not aware of the presence of a pipe when the incident occurred.

**Remedial works are being carried out now. We have also instructed the management of Putrajaya International Convention Centre and Marina Putrajaya to be on standby should any ministries require rooms for their events, especially for post-cabinet meetings,** said Aseh.

He said remedial works were expected to be completed by late evening yesterday, but the air-conditioning system was only expected to be fully operational today.

An employee of Everly Hotel told the *New Straits Times* that air-cooling machines had been placed at the main lobby and open areas.

She said the hotel had received many calls from guests complaining

about the heat.

**"The situation is beyond our control. After we explained to them, many of our guests came to terms with the situation.**

"Right now, we are waiting for the cooling system to be up and running.

"We have to bear with the warm condition for the time being," she said.

An employee from the Prime Minister's Office said the staff had to endure the heat as a result of the disruption to the air-conditioning system.

The employee said the staff had to resort to opening windows to ventilate the offices and some kept washing their faces to cool down.