

# PM: Immediate implementation of public service reform needed

**PUTRAJAYA:** Prime Minister Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim has called for the immediate implementation of public service reform.

"You can expect September to be a month of more vigorous reform movements. I will be holding discussions with the Chief Secretary to the Government Datuk Seri Shamsul Azri Abu Bakar and Public Service Director-General Datuk Seri Wan Ahmad Dahlan Abdul Aziz to determine the necessary steps to further improve the already commendable performance."

'Anwar was speaking at the monthly assembly of the Prime Minister's Department yesterday.

Present were Deputy Prime Ministers Datuk Seri Dr Ahmad Zahid Hamidi and Datuk Seri Fadillah Yusof, as well as Shamsul Azri and Wan Ahmad Dahlan.

Anwar, who is also finance minister, pointed out several areas of the public service that he considers still unsatisfactory, and urged all parties to promptly implement improvements.

"The merging of agencies and departments has not been satisfactorily completed, and unnecessary staffing overlaps have yet to be resolved.

"Reports from department heads, directors-general and unit heads regarding the sluggishness and negligence of some officers have not reached a satisfactory level. We need to make significant changes in these areas."

He added that in addition to focusing on governance and economic growth, the *Madani* government framework also prioritises the people's well-being.

"I always believe that the speed and efficiency of implementing changes should match the demands of the era and time.

"(Perhaps) there are some long-standing regulations that are good and should be continued, but others need to be adjusted according to focus and priority."

Anwar called on civil servants to give full cooperation to Shamsul Azri, just as it was given to former chief secretary to the government Tan Sri Mohd Zuki Ali. - Bernama