

Private sector welcomes formation of Pemudah

PETALING JAYA: The public delivery system and procedures should be sped up or the country will risk losing its competitiveness, cautioned Malay Businessmen and Industrialists Association president Datuk Moehamad Izat Emir.

He welcomed the formation of the Special Task Force to Facilitate Business (Pemudah), saying it would be able to fast-track procedures and transactions between the Government and the private sector.

"Any delay will cause hindrances to businessmen irrespective of the types and sizes of their businesses or projects," he said yesterday.

"The Prime Minister showed personal concern over the issue by initiating the formation of the task force, and I hope it will get down to work immediately to solve bureaucratic problems."

The Government formed Pemudah, which comprises key public and private sector officials, to help

improve the public delivery system, especially those related to administration of the country's economy.

The task force has been placed directly under Datuk Seri Abdullah Ahmad Badawi.

MTUC president Syed Shahir Syed Mohd said the Government needed to investigate why bureaucratic problems occurred in the civil service before ordering any revamp.

Malay Electrical and Mechanical Association of Malaysia (Perkem)

secretary-general Jamaliah Abdul Hamid said the emphasis on the public delivery system would help increase foreign investments and also create more jobs.

Federation of Real Estate Malaysia immediate past president Datuk Teo Chiang Kok said: "We are constantly competing on the international level and, as such, must benchmark ourselves globally.

"In order for this to happen, we must concentrate on making quicker

decisions and not be held back by unnecessary barriers."

Malaysian Employers Federation executive director Shamsudin Bardan said foreign investors would definitely shy away from a country filled with "hassles".

Federation of Malay Economic Bodies (Gabem) national chairman Tan Sri Abdul Rahim Tamby Chik said Pemudah's initiatives might not succeed if red tape and lack of cooperation continued to exist.