

## Police force has improved

By SHAHANAAZ HABIB

KUALA LUMPUR: The police force has improved and is committed to fighting crime in the country, said Datuk Seri Abdullah Ahmad Badawi.

“If the police force is not good – believe me – we all will not feel safe. We will not feel peaceful. And we will be afraid all the time if the entire police force is bad,” the Prime Minister said in defence of the police.

The media always highlighted the bad things that a few policemen did while rarely giving credit to the good that the majority of the policemen were doing, he said, giving people an unfortunately bad perception of the police.

“They have also been quick in catching criminals and this shows their efficiency,” he said yesterday after the launching ceremony of Pantai Sentral Park Project.

He was asked about a recent report in Transparency International which said that integrity of the police here was at its lowest level.

“There are always people who have done something bad and are not worthy of the body (they are from) but they certainly do not represent the majority. That, I can say emphatically,” he said.

He added that the problem of these few bad hats had caused “so much problems to so many others.”

On a different matter, Abdullah said it would be a good idea if housing developers built low cost units first and fast.

He said those needing the low cost units were often squatters who needed homes.

“So it’s appropriate, when possible, for developers to build these units first,” he added.

The Pantai Sentral Park development project involves an area of 275 acres of which 70 acres would be set aside for development for residential and commercial units.

In his speech earlier, Abdullah said often when he went abroad, he would always compare other cities with Kuala Lumpur in all aspects.

“If you look at KL with its infrastructure, cars and all the facilities it has, I think this is one of the best cities in the world,” he said, adding however that there was room for improvement.

“It is important too that the level of comfort and security be stepped up. I want KL folk to feel peaceful and safe here,” he said, adding that he had spoken to the Inspector General of Police Tan Sri Musa Hassan about this.