

PRIME NEWS

'Bar tardy contractors'

IMMEDIATE ACTION:

Govt can no longer accept and bear losses, says minister

KUALA LUMPUR

THE government will immediately blacklist contractors and suppliers who fail to complete government projects within the stipulated time.

However, Second Finance Minister Datuk Johari Abdul Ghani said contractors with good track records in completing projects would be given priority for future government tenders.

He stressed that the government could no longer accept and bear losses whenever contractors failed to deliver the projects as agreed.

"The standard practice is that whenever we face problems with contractors, we cannot 'terminate' them immediately as we have to wait for the cases to be settled first.

"By then, four to seven years would have passed before we can continue with the project, so the cost will be higher.

"In the current challenging economic situation, we have to make sure that all expenses incurred can benefit the people without any wastage."

He said this after The Holstein Milk Company Sdn Bhd scholarship presentation at Sekolah Bimbingan Jalinan Kasih here yesterday.

Johari said the ministries involved in the projects were required to ensure that all related technical matters, which fell under their jurisdiction such as land acquisition, building designs, dates for project completion and cost, must be finalised before it was given to any contractor.

"If technical problems arise, the relevant ministry will inform us (Ministry of Finance) for further action."

Johari said the Budget 2017 to be tabled by Prime Minister Datuk Seri Najib Razak next week would help Malaysians face the challenging economic situation. **Bernama**



Second Finance Minister **Datuk Johari Abdul Ghani** (third from right), The Holstein Milk Company Sdn Bhd operations manager **Azmi Zainal** (second from right) and Sekolah Bimbingan Jalinan Kasih headmaster **Zulkernai Fauzi** (second from left) at the scholarship presentation in Kuala Lumpur yesterday. Pic by Zulfadhli Zulkifli