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MINISTRIES TAKEN TO TASK OVER HEALTH CARE FOR ESTATE WORKERS

KUALA LUMPUR, Jan 7 (Bernama) -- The Malaysian Medical Association (MMA) today took to task the Ministry of Health and the Ministry of Human Resources for not taking the responsibility to provide basic amenities like health care to estate population.

Its president, Datuk Dr. R.S. McCoy said the two ministries were passing the responsibilities to estate owners who took the matter lightly.

"The government must have the political will to do something about it," he told a news conference after the closing of a seminar on estate medicine at the Institute for Medical Research (IMR) here.

He said estate workers had been deprived of proper health care for so long and the situation should stop.

Estate owners must also be made to realise that they had a social responsibility to look after the welfare of their workers, he said.

Dr McCoy said that if the situation still persisted, the association would bring the matter directly to the Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad.

The two-day seminar discussed the plight of estate workers in the country.

--BERNAMA