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Moggie-IPP

MINISTRY WANTS IPP'S TO HELP IN RURAL ELECTRIFICATION

BANGI, Oct 27 (Bernama) -- The Energy, Telecommunications and Post Ministry is keen to hold discussions with Independent Power Producers (IPPs) about their possible role in supplying electricity to the rural areas.

Its Minister Datuk Leo Moggie said today the ministry hoped the IPPs could come out with some workable solutions without abrogating on agreements already made.

"What we are hoping to do is that at least we can emphasise our contribution to social projects which means provision of electricity to rural areas which at the moment is a burden to Tenaga Nasional Berhad (TNB)," he said.

The ministry would be pleased if a formula could be worked out for their involvement, he told reporters after opening the Postal Princess Festival at the Pos Malaysia Training Institute here.

Moggie said the IPPs had their own contractual agreements with TNB which were not necessarily identical.

Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad had recently cautioned IPPs against burdening TNB by demanding high prices for their electricity.

Dr Mahathir said the government might have to call a halt to the construction of more independent power plants as IPPs were merely involved in power generation and not distribution. -- BERNAMA

ZAB YBY