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Isa-audit

NEGERI SEMBILAN ACTS TO INCREASE LOCAL CONTENT IN PROJECTS

SEREMBAN, Feb 14 (Bernama) -- Menteri Besar Tan Sri Mohamed Isa Abdul Samad said all Negeri Sembilan state agencies and state-owned companies have been directed to give priority to local content usage in their projects.

He said this decision was reached at the State Exco meeting today and would be enforced as soon as possible.

"The state government will also ask the Negeri Sembilan Industrial Liaison Committee (NSILC) to encourage factories in the state to use local materials or components for their products," he said.

He told reporters this after witnessing the signing of a carpark privatisation agreement between the Seremban Municipal Council and Norm's Parking Sdn Bhd here.

Yesterday, Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad said an audit on all major projects by both the public and private sectors would be held to increase local content and decrease imports to check the country's current account deficit.

"Among state government agencies currently involved in major projects is the Negeri Sembilan State Development Corporation (NSSDC) which is building a cement plant in Kuala Jempol on a joint venture basis," he said.

Mohamed Isa said the State Financial Officer would be asked to hold discussions with NSSDC's project partner, Negeri Sembilan Cement Industries Sdn Bhd, to reduce the import of materials for building works and the factory's operations.

Private companies undertaking major development projects like the Bandar Baru Nilai and higher education centre in Pajam would also be asked to give priority to local content, he added. -- Bernama

RAB YBY