

04 JUL 1996
Development
PEOPLE DRAWN DEVELOPMENT MASTER PLANS

SEBERANG PERAK, July 4 (Bernama) -- Villagers will have a say in the drawing up development master plans for their villages to create a spirit of initiative among them. Rural Development Minister Datuk Annuar Musa said today.

This was to create a spirit of initiative among them, he said at the launching of the Gerakan Desa Wawasan by Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad at Felcra Seberang Perak here.

A second transformation of rural areas would take place when the people were empowered to manage their resources in an optimum way, he said.

He said accurate and speedy information on local socio-economic problems were pre-requisites in planning and implementation of major development programmes.

Annuar said under the Gerakan Desa Wawasan attention would be focussed on more than 3,000 villages annually until the year 2000.

Beginning this year, attention would be given to 642 villages nationwide of which 482 were traditional villages, 50 were land scheme villages, 70 were villages in regional schemes and 40 were from the poorest districts of the country, he said.

The rural vision movement, aimed at changing the attitude of the people, through a second transformation would be guided by a charter containing seven pledges. The charter was also launched by Dr Mahathir today.

One of the pledges required the people to strive for excellence, live in planned settlements, keep them clean and beautiful and to carry out a dynamic rural economy using modern technology.

On the "Rural Vision Movement" here, Annuar said the launching was done at Felcra Seberang Perak as the village had several features contained in the new philosophy on rural development. -- BERNAMA

LAT MTA AAM