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Affifuddin - Perwaja

PERWAJA STAFF MUST NOT WORRY TOO MUCH

KUANTAN, April 11 (Bernama) -- Deputy Finance Minister Datuk Dr Affifuddin Omar today told the Perwaja Terengganu Sdn Bhd (Perwaja) employees "not to worry too much" over the financial crisis facing the steel mill, since the government is tackling the problem.

He said the government had made initial moves, like appointing the audit firm of Price Waterhouse to carry out the management audit.

Further, the government was making efforts to salvage Perwaja, as announced by Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad recently, he told reporters after closing the day-long seminar on "the entrepreneurship challenges towards the 21st century", attended by over 100 people from the Ex-servicemen Affairs Corporation (Perhebat) here.

Deputy Prime Minister Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim told the Dewan Rakyat last Monday that the preliminary report by Price Waterhouse had uncovered possible malpractices and fraud which contributed to the accumulated loss of RM2.5 billion.

Earlier, closing the seminar, Affifuddin said Perhebat must be prepared to pioneer into bigger ventures and emulate the example of Taiwan's Retired Servicemen Co which had achieved success in the construction sector, like building part of the Malaysian North-South Highway.

Perhebat having the support of the Lembaga Tabung Angkatan Tentera (LTAT) and the Perwira Affin Bank should have such a vision.

Formed in 1994, Perhebat had identified several ventures, like training its members in the catering sector to enable them venture into hotel catering.

He also urged Perhebat to set up a fund to help finance the education of members' children abroad.--BERNAMA

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