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Abu Hassan-per capita

ABU HASSAN: RIVER BASIN TO BE INCOME-BOOSTER

KUALA SELANGOR, May 13 (Bernama) -- Development of the Sungai Selangor, Sungai Tinggi and Sungai Buloh basins under the Seventh Malaysia Plan (7MP) will increase the per capita income of the local people, Selangor Menteri Besar-designate Datuk Abu Hassan Omar said today.

These areas had been identified as new areas for economic growth, he told reporters after a briefing by the Kuala Selangor District Officer Ishak Ahmad here.

"Upon implementation of the economic programmes, it is projected that the average local man will enjoy a per capita income of RM9,358 at par with that of the state's," he said.

Also present were State Executive Councillors Datin Paduka Rakibah Abdul Manap, Ch'ng Toh Eng and S.S. Rajagopal, State Secretary Datuk Hashim Meon, Speaker Datuk Onn ismail, Barisan Nasional candidate for Kuala Selangor parliamentary by-election Datuk Jamaluddin Adnan and heads of department.

Ishak told Abu Hassan that development in the constituency would also focus on agriculture so as to strike a balanced development with emphasis on sufficient food production to forestall inflation.

Rakibah, who is State Infrastructure Committee Chairperson, said the draft development plans for the river basin areas would be submitted to the state government for approval shortly.

She said the Sungai Selangor Basin would be developed for tourism and as the administrative and commercial centre for the region, the Sungai Tinggi Basin for agriculture and the Sungai Buloh Basin for industrial use.

Abu Hassan was picked by Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad to succeed Tan Sri Muhammad Haji Muhammad Taib who resigned on April 14, following a court case in Brisbane.

Abu Hassan, who is switching places with Jamaluddin, seeking election in the parliamentary constituency, has to be elected to the State Legislative Assembly before being appointed Menteri Besar.

The Election Commission has fixed nomination day on May 20 and polling on May 29 for both by-elections.

In a separate function here, Abu Hassan launched a Barisan Nasional polling area "adoption" scheme and told reporters later that the BN will hold some 30 public "ceramahs" (talks) and over 400 small gatherings for its campaign for the Kuala Selangor parliamentary and the Permatang state by-elections.

Deputy Prime Minister Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim and other ministers, including those from MCA and MIC would attend the public ceramahs, he said.

To date eight ministers had agreed to attend the public ceramahs, among them Entrepreneur Development Minister Datuk Mustapa Mohamed, Culture, Arts and Tourism Minister Datuk Sabbaruddin Chik, Rural Development Minister Datuk Annuar Musa, Education Minister Datuk Seri Najib Tun Razak, Works Minister Datuk Seri S. Samy Vellu and Housing and Local Government Minister Datuk Dr Ting Chew Peh.

At the function, Abu Hassan who is Kuala Selangor Umno Division leader, distributed the polling area adoption letters to 26 Selangor and the Federal Territory Umno division leaders.

Several MCA and MIC divisional leaders also received the letters for them to adopt predominantly Indian and Chinese areas.

All mosques and suraus in the two constituencies would hold special

prayers on May 18, he added.-- BERNAMA
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