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Ting-Allowance

CONFUSION OVER FIREMEN'S OVERSEAS ALLOWANCE TO BE SETTLED SOON

MELAKA, Nov 2 (Bernama) -- The confusion over the overseas allowance for the Fire and Rescue Services Department personnel involved in fire-fighting operations in Indonesia recently will be settled soon, said Housing and Local Government Minister Datuk Dr Ting Chew Peh.

"There is a little misunderstanding regarding the matter and it will be ironed out soon," he told reporters after launching the Melaka Buddhist Association's 20th anniversary celebrations here last night.

Dr Ting said that he would discuss the matter with Deputy Prime Minister Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim who is Finance Minister, and Fire and Rescue Services Department Director General Datuk Soh Chai Hock within a few days.

He said that he would explain the actual situation after the discussions.

Dr Ting was commenting on a statement by Information Minister Datuk Seri Mohamed Rahmat who is the chairman of the Disaster Management and Relief Committee recently that each fireman would only receive a special allowance of RM2,000.

Meanwhile, Dr Ting also said that some state governments had been found to be not actively involved in the Plant-A-Tree Campaign launched by Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad on March 3.

He hoped that every state government and local authority would take action on the matter.

According to Dr Ting, the Prime Minister was giving serious attention to the campaign in efforts towards beautifying and turning Malaysia into a "country of gardens" by the year 2005.

He said that the Landscape Department under his ministry would ask every state government for a report twice a year to collect information on trees planted and problems encountered during the campaign.

The ministry had set a target to have three million trees planted by the year 2000 based on 15 per cent of the population involved in the campaign, he added. -- BERNAMA

NO ATI RM