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Abu Hassan-Report

MAHATHIR TO GET MB RESIDENCE RENOVATION REPORT TODAY

SHAH ALAM, Dec 5 (Bernama) -- A detailed report on the RM5 million renovation to the official residence of Selangor Menteri Besar at Bukit Megawati will be handed to Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad, his deputy Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim and Works Minister Datuk Seri S. Samy Vellu today.

Menteri Besar Datuk Abu Hassan Omar said the report was being finalised by the Selangor Public Works Department director and would be sent to them by tonight, at the latest.

" This is our responsibility on the part of the state government. When the prime minister or his deputy asked for a report, we will provide them with the report," he told reporters after attending the State Legislative Assembly sitting here today.

Abu Hassan said he had informed Dr Mahathir on the renovations earlier although he did not provide him without a detailed report.

He said Dr Mahathir did not say anything as he realised that the residence was in need of renovations.

He said the decision to renovate the residence was not made in haste and it was decided before the government announced the austerity drive.

" We went ahead with what we had decided earlier on," said Abu Hassan, who is scheduled to move into his official residence on Dec 19.

He said the actual cost of renovation could not be determined as it was a turnkey project but estimated that only RM2 million was spent on the residence.

The rest were spent to build the quarters for the families of three employees and for the landscaping of surrounding areas, he said.

" Hence, the RM5 million was not spent solely for the Menteri Besar's residence," he said.

Abu Hassan also said there was no need to set up an inquiry committee as proposed by the DAP as all the Barisan Nasional (BN) assemblymen had voiced support for the state government's decision.

He said the opposition was harping on the issue for political mileage.

In his adjournment speech at the state assembly, Abu Hassan thanked the BN assemblymen for their support on the issue.

Meanwhile, Teng Chang Khim (DAP-Bukit Gasing) urged the government to set up a special committee to investigate the matter and the findings made public.

" This is a case of public interest and not a personal matter," he said when debating on the state development estimates at the assembly. --

BERNAMA

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