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Johari-Schools

NOVEMBER DEADLINE TO COMPLETE DELAYED SCHOOL PROJECTS

KUCHING, July 25 (Bernama) -- Contractors who could not complete school projects awarded under the Sixth Malaysia Plan (SMP) have been given until November to do so failing which they risk being blacklisted.

State Industrial Development Minister Datuk Abang Johari Tun Abang Haji Openg said 17 schools including nine secondary schools slated for completion under SMP had been delayed.

"We can tolerate if the delay is for two or three months but when it is for six months to a year, there is cause for concern," he told reporters after chairing a meeting on educational projects in Sarawak here today.

Johari, who is also in-charge of education, said he gave the contractors until November to complete the projects so that the schools could be used when the new academic year starts in January next year.

Contractors unable to meet the deadline would not be given projects under the Seventh Malaysia Plan during which 29 schools would be built, he said.

Abang Johari, who is also responsible for religious affairs, said Sarawak had no qualms in accepting a uniform syariah law in efforts to streamline and coordinate the administration of Islamic laws in the country.

Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad had called for uniformity in the administration of Islamic laws in the country as the lack of coordination among the states had led to numerous problems. -- BERNAMA

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