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Social

SELANGOR TO SET UP SPECIAL BODY TO COMBAT SOCIAL PROBLEMS

KUALA LUMPUR, Jan 30 (Bernama) -- The Selangor government will set up a special body to guide the youth and prevent them from being involved in social ills.

Menteri Besar Tan Sri Muhammad Haji Muhammad Taib said today the body would organise various programmes including on religious matters.

The state executive council at its meeting yesterday agreed that the body be modelled on the Poverty Eradication Foundation which had proven successful, he said.

The foundation carries out several programmes like providing assistance and training poor youths in various skills to eradicate poverty in the state.

"We want to do it in a big way...to make the youth attend courses before they get involved with social problems like drug abuse," he told reporters after opening a convention on institutionalising mosques, here.

Muhammad said social problems had to be tackled immediately as the Klang Valley was among the major areas facing such problems.

Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad recently called on menteri besar and chief ministers to act against places like entertainment centres that could cause social problems, especially among the youth.

Muhammad called on the public, organisations and mosque committees to help the government combat social ills.

"The government on its own is unable to resolve the problem ...we can stop entertainment centres from operating after midnight but the youths can go to other places after that," he said.

Mosques could organise programmes for youths who loiter in supermarkets and guide them on religious matters, he said. -- BERNAMA

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