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Ting disappointed with States on garbage collection services

SEREMBAN, Fri. - The Housing and Local Government Ministry is disappointed with the commitment of some State Governments pertaining to inefficient garbage collection services.

Its Minister Datuk Dr Ting Chew Peh said there were States which did not respond to queries by the ministry in its effort to solve complaints raised by the public.

He said Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad had also expressed his deep concern about the matter and had directed the ministry to act on the problem.

"We are very upset with the attitude of the State Secretary of some State Governments who do not even bother to reply letters sent to them on this and other matters," he said yesterday.

He, however, declined to name the States.

He said the ministry would send letters to Menteris Besar and Chief Ministers if the problem persisted.

The ministry may even consider writing to the Chief Secretary to the Government to look into the matter, he said.

"I also had to call one local council to look into uncollected rubbish problem."

The Minister said State Governments and local authorities were regularly reminded of issues affecting the people but problems still existed.

In this respect, he said, there has got to be greater commitment and support by State Governments in checking inefficiencies at local authority level.

Ting said there were various functions and responsibilities of local authorities which required the serious attention of State Governments.

He said the ministry could only advise the local authorities, and thus the State Governments should initiate effective measures to overcome such shortcomings.

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