

18/06/1998

Abu Hassan's order to DOs

KUALA SELANGOR, Wed. - The Selangor Government today ordered the nine district officers in the State to identify suitable land for development of small and medium-scale industrial zones.

Menteri Besar Datuk Abu Hassan Omar said this was to encourage people especially Bumiputras to venture into small and medium-scale business.

"The present economic downturn should not stop State Government from taking proactive measures to boost revenue," he told reporters after launching the RM45 million SMI industrial zone project by the Selangor Economic Development Corporation in Jalan Perusahaan Satu today.

The nation's economic problem, Abu Hassan said, should not deter people from taking up business challenges as only through such ventures could they help resolve the problems affecting the country.

"The development of SMI industrial zones especially in rural districts such as Sabak Bernam, Kuala Selangor and Kuala Langat, will boost the living standard of the people."

He said 40 per cent of the State's economic growth was from the industrial sector and thus the State Government had to give continued support for this "engine of growth".

Abu Hassan also supported Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad's stand that local banks which continued to impose a credit squeeze even on productive sectors should close down.

"If the banks impose stiff conditions for loans, how are people going to venture into businesses or continue with their already existing businesses?"

"This is definitely a problem to be seriously looked into."

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