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Negri tells illegal cultivators to register with district land offices

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SEREMBAN, Thurs. - Individuals or groups illegally cultivating crops on Government land have been told to register with the State Government to legalise their agriculture activities.

Menteri Besar Tan Sri Mohamad Isa Abdul Samad said today the State would vet their applications before they got a 21-year lease to work on the affected land.

"We don't want the people to open up land illegally for agriculture following the Government's call to increase food production."

He was speaking after chairing the State Economic Action Council's inaugural meeting at Wisma Negri.

Members of the council chaired by Mohamad Isa comprised representatives of both the public and private sectors including, all State Executive Councillors, department heads, Housing Developers Association and the Negri Sembilan Industrial Liaison Committee.

He said all district land offices in Negri Sembilan would continue to monitor and curb the illegal cultivation of State land in future.

"Those interested to cultivate State land should send applications to the respective district land offices which will hand them to the State Land and Mines Department before they are submitted to the State Executive Council for approval."

The State's latest move is an addition to an offer last month enabling people to rent vacant State land to raise crops or livestock.

Mohamad Isa said the State was acting in line with the call made by the National Economic Action Council chaired by Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad. At today's meeting, Isa said they discussed the type of agriculture projects to be carried out, with an emphasis on cash crop cultivation.

Besides, he said, the council also discussed fish rearing for the local and export markets.

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