

14 JAN 1998

Council

SELANGOR FORMS ECONOMIC ACTION COUNCIL

SHAH ALAM, Jan 14 (Bernama) -- Selangor today formed a state Economic Action Council (MTES) modelled after the National Economic Action Council, Menteri Besar Datuk Abu Hassan Omar said.

The council, which he chaired, would identify and resolve the state's economic problems as well as monitor policy implementation or adjustments, among other things.

Speaking at a news conference after chairing a weekly state executive council meeting here, he said the council would comprise 31 members, including 13 state executive councillors and the various chambers of commerce.

It would hold its first meeting on Jan 26.

He said Selangor would also set up a committee to consolidate integrity in the state government machinery to fight graft in accordance with Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad's directive.

Abu Hassan also said a quit rent collection counter at the concourse of the Sultan Salahuddin Abdul Aziz Shah building here would begin operations next month.

Later, in his speech launching the state Islamic Chambers of Commerce, he said only eight per cent or 320 of 3,477 small and medium-scale industries (SMI) registered in the state are Bumiputera-owned.

State Development and Planning Unit records showed only 67 of the Bumiputera-owned companies were involved in food, drink and tobacco production.

This indicated that Bumiputera participation in SMIs was still very low, he said in the speech read out by Rural and Entrepreneur Development Committee chairman Datuk Zainal Dahalan. -- BERNAMA

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