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FOUR REHAB CENTRES FOR HARDCORE ADDICTS IN THE KLANG VALLEY

KUALA LUMPUR, Oct 19 (Bernama) -- Four rehabilitation centres to house hardcore addicts are being set up in the Klang Valley in efforts to reduce the crime index in the city.

Minister in the Prime Minister's Department Datuk Tajol Rosli Ghazali said the four centres, in Semenyih, Sungai Besi, Dengkil and Rawang, were expected to accommodate 1,800 hardcore addicts.

"The infrastructure in Sungai Besi is already in place while the three others are being established with assistance from the Kuala Lumpur City Hall," he told reporters at the dinner held by the Malaysian Crime Prevention Foundation here tonight.

He said the hardcore addicts contributed to most of the crime index in the city especially snatch cases.

Tajol Rosli said Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad seriously viewed the rising incidents of snatch thefts in the city and called for measures to eradicate it.

Many of the snatch cases occurred in the city's golden triangle which is a tourist destination and this could tarnish the nation's image, he said.

Statistics revealed that there are some 5,000 addicts in the city.

Tajol Rosli said there were suggestions to place the hardcore addicts at abandoned police field force camps in Pahang and Perak.

On the rehabilitation of such addicts, Tajol Rosli said the National Narcotics Agency was responsible in drawing out the rehabilitation programmes.

He said the administration of agents like "Viva" which can discharge the drugs from the body of addicts was expected to be implemented as part of the curative programme.

The group therapeutic programme is also expected to be carried out at the centres for the hardcore addicts, he added.

-- BERNAMA

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