

24 MAR 1999

JE-Selangor

SELANGOR IMPOSES IMMEDIATE BAN ON PIG IMPORTS

SHAH ALAM, March 24 (Bernama) -- Selangor today clamped an immediate ban on the import of pigs from other states as part of strict measures to prevent the spread of the Japanese Encephalitis (JE) disease.

Selangor Menteri Besar Datuk Seri Abu Hassan Omar said following the ban no pigs would be allowed into the state for slaughter at the abattoir here.

"In view of the present situation and in the interest of the Selangor people, the state government has decided to impose the ban," he told reporters after chairing the State Economic Action Council (MTES) meeting here.

On the JE situation in Selangor, Abu Hassan said it was under control and no new cases had been detected in the state apart from the two confirmed cases reported early last month.

On the destruction of illegal pig farms and slaughter houses in Selangor, he said the state level task force on JE was determining their number first before proceeding with action.

On matters discussed at the MTES meeting, Abu Hassan said once again MTES touched on the speedier approval of land and land conversion applications for infrastructure projects including housing as a measure to speed up economic recovery.

He said MTES itself would look into the applications and if all the papers were in order, approval would be granted immediately.

Abu Hassan also said the RM1.5 million Selangor Tourist Information Centre under construction here would be ready in time for its official opening by Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad when he visits Selangor on May 13.

He said preparation for the launching of Visit Malaysia Year 2000 to be hosted by Selangor is progressing well and it would be held as scheduled in June this year.

Abu Hassan also said that the state government had allocated eight hectares in Bukit Cherakah in the Petaling District for a new territorial army base.

--BERNAMA

KM AAM