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Tajol blames project delays on late funds

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PARIT BUNTAR, Tues. - Bureaucratic procedures are not the main reason for the delay in the construction of projects in Perak.

Menteri Besar Datuk Seri Tajol Rosli said the delay was mainly due to the late distribution of allocation by the Finance Ministry.

He said the State Government received the allocation under the RM7.3 billion special package only two months ago and managed to use part of it to upgrade and build roads in the State.

However, the State Government had asked for the deadline for the construction of stalls and community halls under the package to be extended to Feb 15.

The State was reported to receive RM60 million under the package drawn up to help stimulate the country's economy.

Tajol Rosli said the State Government was efficient in disbursing the allocation.

"Even I myself did not see the money as they had already distributed it to all the districts immediately after receiving it," he told reporters at a Perak Umno Youth Hari Raya gathering at Sekolah Kebangsaan Jalan Baru near here.

He said the State Government was grateful for the allocation, but hoped it could be disbursed immediately after the announcement was made.

Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad yesterday said complications in the identification of projects and bureaucratic procedures had resulted in under-utilisation of the development budget and special packages.

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