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Tajol-Cantonment

PERAK AGREES TO BATU CANTONMENT CAMP SHIFT TO BATU GAJAH, SAYS TAJOL

IPOH, Aug 14 (Bernama) -- The Perak Government has agreed to the proposed relocation of the Batu Cantonment army camp in Ipoh Road, Kuala Lumpur to Batu Gajah, Menteri Besar Datuk Seri Mohd Tajol Rosli Ghazali said today.

He said the relocation would contribute to Batu Gajah's development.

Tajol Rosli said he was informed that the Defence Ministry planned to relocate the camp to Batu Gajah.

He said the state government also learnt from the subsidiary of the Armed Forces Fund Board that the army needed 680 hectares to build the new camp.

The Batu Cantonment camp comprises several army battalions, among them are the 94th Battalion of the Army Services Corps, 91 Engineering Regiment and 92 Engineering Reserve Squadron.

Tajol Rosli said the state government had in principle approved 680 hectares with a low land premium as an incentive for the relocation.

"If the camp is built in Batu Gajah and relocation of KTM Bhd depot to Batu Gajah proceeds without any problem, it will help the state government to further develop Batu Gajah," he told reporters after chairing the weekly state executive council meeting.

He said the state government was informed that the Defence Ministry was keen to build the new camp in Batu Gajah because of its proximity to the Lumut Port, within the KTM Bhd double railway track project, near to the Sultan Azlan Shah Airport besides facilities to the east coast via the Simpang Pulai Highway.

Tajol Rosli also said he had raised the proposal to build the Commonwealth University in Tapah with Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad during his one-day visit to Perak on Saturday.

"The prime minister promised the university will be built in Tapah. I'm told the university needs 1,600 hectares and we are prepared to consider it. I'm confident we can further develop Tapah by building the university there," he said.

He said the state government was confident of a rapid development for Perak following plans to build several university campuses like Commonwealth University, Universiti Putra Malaysia's Agriculture faculty at Bandar Seri Iskandar and Universiti Tunku Abdul Rahman (UTAR) in Kampar.

On the development of Sungai Kinta, Tajol Rosli said the federal government had approved RM20 million for the project aimed at providing rest and recreation facilities for the people.

-- BERNAMA

KAY RON TS