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Syed Razak: Convince people Kedah Maju 2010 plan on track

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ALOR STAR, Fri. - Efforts to make Kedah a developed State by 2010 have already recorded a 30 per cent progress rate so far, but a lot more should be done to convince residents that the plan is on track, Menteri Besar Datuk Seri Syed Razak Syed Zain said today.

Syed Razak said the State would fine tune its campaigns to let people know the progress made in implementing the plan to ensure its success.

"The people want to see whether we can deliver on our promise to make Kedah developed.

"There will be problems if they cannot see the concrete results taking shape before them one year after the plan's launch," he said after opening the "Sahabat MB" badminton tournament participated by over 200 State civil servants and family members at the Datuk Syed Omar hall here.

"We will continue to promote the Kedah Maju 2010 plan and I have asked the Information Department to work with district offices to undertake an intensive information campaign in the near future," he said.

Under the plan, district officers and agency officers would meet and explain to local residents how the specific projects earmarked for their area would benefit them.

The Kedah Maju 2010 Action Plan is a blueprint on how to make Kedah a developed State by the end of the decade.

It was launched by Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad on Sept 29 last year.

The plan contains 110 development projects which will boost economic activity.

Of the 110 projects, 29 are over 50 per cent complete. They include:

- \* the Beris dam project in Sik costing over RM187 million (67.37 per cent progress);
- \* the construction of a resettlement scheme for 600 families affected by the Beris dam costing RM68 million (88 per cent progress);
- \* the construction of the Kuala Kedah Yacht Marina costing RM26 million (51.55 per cent progress);
- \* the construction of 700 new houses to resettle Kuala Kedah fishermen costing RM31.2 million (56 per cent progress);
- \* the construction of a matriculation college in Changlun costing RM206.5 million (96 per cent progress), and;
- \* the northern Kedah water distribution system involving the construction of pipes from Pantai Johor to Kuala Kedah, and from Pokok Sena to Bukit Payung and Bukit Tembaga costing RM21.5 million (60 per cent progress).