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CM: Malacca will revoke awards

A. Hafiz Yatim

MALACCA, Sun. - The State Government will revoke awards handed out to individuals if they are found to have tarnished Malacca's image, Chief Minister Datuk Seri Mohd Ali Rustam said.

Although the State had not withdrawn any titles, it would not hesitate to do so, he said in response to questions on the quality of the recipients receiving the titles.

"If the person has tarnished the State's image or is convicted of a crime, the Government will not hesitate to remove the titles awarded."

Speaking after launching the State-level haj course today, Ali said candidates would be vetted before titles were awarded to them.

Ali said the list of candidates nominated to receive awards would be scrutinised by a committee.

Asked to comment on an incident involving a 44-year-old developer, who is a Justice of Peace, being investigated by the police for brandishing his pistol in public, Ali said he had received a report on the incident.

On the issue of 'modern villages', Ali said Malacca would send a delegation to Kedah to study ways to implement the modern kampung system.

"This follows the suggestion by Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad that modern villages would have affordable homes for lower income families."

The modern village project is being implemented in Temin and Binjal in the district of Kubang Pasu, Kedah.

He said Malacca would study the project in Kubang Pasu and implement it in Malacca if funds permit.

Ali added that if the modern village programme is implemented in Malacca, it would cater to industries designated for each district such as Jasin (agricultural products), Alor Gajah (handicraft) and Malacca Tengah (clothing).