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Adnan-highlands

HALT ON DEVELOPMENT WORKS IN CAMERON HIGHLANDS STILL IN FORCE, SAYS
ADNAN

KUANTAN, Feb 26 (Bernama) -- The halt on all development works in the Cameron Highlands is still in force until such a time to be notified later, said Pahang Menteri Besar Datuk Seri Adnan Yaakob today.

He said only works to improve drainage and counter the effect of erosion would be allowed.

The freeze order on all projects announced by him on Feb 5 was the price developers had to pay for ignoring the conditions imposed on development of highlands, he told reporters after chairing the state executive council meeting, here.

Adnan said he shared the view of Minister in the Prime Minister's Department Datuk Dr Rais Yatim that land administrators who approved projects that destroyed the highlands should be jailed and fined.

Dr Rais had suggested amending the Land Administration Act 1960 and the Land Code to define such act as an offence under the Penal Code.

Adnan, who was in Kuala Lumpur during the 13th Non-Aligned Movement (NAM) Summit which ended yesterday, said he met Dr Rais and Science, Technology and Environment Minister Datuk Law Hieng Ding to discuss the matter.

"I presented them view of the state government that haphazard land works should also be considered as an offence under the Penal Code and of the importance of tightening further regulations or provisions in the Land Rehabilitation Act and Town Planning Act," he said.

Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad had also expressed concern recently over the goings-on in the Cameron Highlands.

-- BERNAMA

MS ABG