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Law-Award

RISE TO THE CHALLENGE OF THE SUSTAINABLE CITY AWARD, LOCAL AUTHORITIES  
TOLD

PUTRAJAYA, June 5 (Bernama) -- The Science, Technology and Environment Ministry launched the Sustainable City Award today with a challenge to the local authorities to create an environment that is conducive to live in.

Minister Datuk Seri Law Hieng Ding said that a sustainable city was one that was continuously supported with economic, physical and social development.

Initially, the award is open to the state capitals.

"If they (local authorities) don't win, the residents will question what they have been doing. So, this is a challenge to them," he told a media conference, here.

Law said the development of a sustainable city involved integrated environmental and development programmes at the local level.

He said the assessment would be based on five criteria, namely physical environment, ecological initiative, municipal service, environmental administration and education and awareness.

The assessment would be made throughout the year on the planning and operation by taking account of the views of the locals.

On the BioValley project in Dengkil, Law said the ministry fully supported Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad's suggestion that Japan be invited to participate, especially in providing advisory service and expertise.

"We welcome any party that wants to collaborate with Malaysia in building projects in the BioValley," he said.

He said that several countries like France, Italy, the United States and China had expressed their intention to participate and collaborate in the BioValley project.

-- BERNAMA

SHI SSA KHY JK