

28 MAY 2003

Hadi-Bonus

TERENGGANU APPROVES RM5 MILLION FOR HALF MONTH BONUS

KUALA TERENGGANU, May 28 (Bernama) -- The Terengganu PAS government today approved a RM5 million allocation to pay a half month bonus to its 8,000 odd employees.

Menteri Besar Datuk Seri Abdul Hadi Awang said the state government decided to follow the move made by the federal government to pay its employees a half month bonus.

"We will also pay the bonus during the same period as announced by the Prime Minister (Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad)," he told reporters after chairing the state executive council meeting here.

Dr Mahathir announced the half month bonus in June for federal government employees when he unveiled the government's package to stimulate the country's economy on May 21.

In another development, Abdul Hadi said he had ordered a review of the plan to beautify the banks of the Terengganu river which would involve the demolition of a Chinese temple.

He said he wanted the parties concerned to recall PAS's election manifesto to grant religious freedom to all communities in the state.

"I have received complaints from a community liaison officer on the matter and after considering it, I ordered a review of the plan," he said.

Asked whether the state government was pressured to do so by certain groups including the MCA, he said it was the responsibility of the state government to look into complaints made by people of all communities.

"There is no pressure. There are complaints but not from the MCA," he said.

-- BERNAMA

AYB SN ABG