

CLARIFYING AGE REQUIREMENT

Only SPM school-leavers to be called up for National Service

SUNGAI PETANI: Only Sijil Pelajaran Malaysia (SPM) school-leavers will be involved in the National Service Training Programme (PLKN) scheduled to start in January, said Deputy Defence Minister Adly Zahari.

He said there was a misunderstanding regarding the age limit set for PLKN participation, thus causing anxiety.

“Our focus next year is on the SPM leavers, those who can’t attend due to various constraints can still do so until the age of 35. This is in accordance with the law.

“But our focus is on the SPM leavers. I think the misunderstanding is about how the intake is done. There is anxiety... they (the public) say at 30 they are already working, but there’s no

issue. We have enacted an act aimed at giving them some leeway,” he said.

He was attending the Kedah, Perlis and Penang state-level Armed Forces Veteran Entrepreneurs Empowerment Programme here yesterday.

Adly said that from January, a total of 1,000 participants would be called up and placed in two training camps.

“In terms of the training module, we have made an improvement based on the previous PLKN. For us, what is important is that when they leave the PLKN programme, besides having a sense of identity, they will also have the highest ability to ensure they succeed in their respective fields,” he said.