

Parliament: Government To Protect Land Surrounding Lembah Bujang Heritage Site
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KUALA LUMPUR, Dec 13 (Bernama) -- The government will purchase the land surrounding the Lembah Bujang heritage site in Kedah to prevent them from being developed with housing and property projects, the Dewan Negara was told.

Deputy Information, Communications and Culture Minister Datuk Maglin Dennis D'cruz said the move was also aimed to ensure that the surrounding areas would not be mixed up with the archeologists' working areas there.

"We always take care of the areas surrounding the heritage site. That's why we will purchase the land to ensure that nothing will interfere with the archeologists' works," he said this in reply to Senator Dr Syed Husin Ali during question time today.

Meanwhile, D'Cruz said the National Heritage Department had built a roof over the monuments found through excavation process in a bid to protect and preserve them.

He said the department would also bear the cost of research conducted by Universiti Sains Malaysia in Sungai Batu and Jeniang.

"The ministry is also planning to build a gallery in the area, so that the public can learn more about Lembah Bujang, which is said to be the oldest civilisation in Southeast Asia," he said.

D'Cruz said several initiatives had also been taken from time to time to promote Lembah Bujang, including the organising of school visits, seminars, exhibitions as well as through write-ups, brochures and television documentary on the History Channel.

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