

**Additional RM10 Million For National Legal Aid Foundation  
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KUALA LUMPUR, Oct 7 (Bernama) -- The government will allocate an additional RM10 million to the National Legal Aid Foundation to provide free legal aid for the needy, who are charged in court.

Prime Minister Datuk Seri Najib Tun Razak said the government was committed in ensuring that no accused person was denied legal representation.

"Currently, about 80 per cent of the accused in criminal cases appear in court without legal representation because of high legal costs.

"For this, the government will allocate an additional RM10 million to the foundation next year, bringing the total sum provided to RM15 million," he said when presenting the 2012 Budget at the Dewan Rakyat today.

The foundation was launched by Najib in February with a launching fund of RM5 million from the government.

The prime minister said the government had set up a social assistance centre known as Anjung Singgah, which would provide employment referrals, temporary shelter and food, counselling and welfare assistance to the homeless.

Currently, there are almost 1,400 homeless in Kuala Lumpur registered with the Welfare Services Department, of whom, 250 are registered with Anjung Singgah, he said, adding that more centres would be set up in Johor, Penang and Sarawak.

The centre, located at Jalan Hang Lekiu here, began operation on April 9.

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