Parliament: No Plans To Absorb Prisoners On Parole As Labourers
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KUALA LUMPUR, Nov 9 (Bernama) -- The Home Ministry has no plans to absorb prisoners on parole as labourers to replace foreign workers, the Dewan Rakyat was told Wednesday.

Deputy Home Minister Datuk Abu Seman Yusop also said prisoners released after going through community rehabilitation programmes were free to join any job sector according to their interest and skills.

"This programme aims to reduce the rate of recidivism which will in turn reduce prison congestion. This is jointly carried out by the ministry and the Defence Ministry, whereby convicts are placed in blocks built in several army camps," he said in response to a question from Datuk Ismail Mohamed Said (BN-Kuala Krau).

Under the Prison Act 1995, a convict serving a jail sentence for over a year and achieves excellence in rehabilitation can be released on parole but have to under a community rehabilitation programme.

Abu Seman said programme participants would be given exposure on various job scopes such as cleaning, minor repairs, grass cutting and landscaping with cooperation from prison and army personnel.

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