

Almost All Federal Department, Agencies In Sabah Headed By Locals
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KOTA KINABALU, Aug 11 (Bernama) -- The federal government always provide opportunities for locals to helm its departments and agencies in the states, Chief secretary to the Government Datuk Seri Dr Ali Hamsa said.

In Sabah, he said, almost all federal departments and agencies, like the Health Department, Customs Department, Immigration Department and the Education department were headed by locals.

"There are many more federal departments and agencies which are headed by locals. Hence, the issue of locals being sidelined does not arise," he told reporters after visiting the Queen Elizabeth 1 Hospital near here yesterday.

Ali was responding to demands made by the opposition in Sabah for more civil servants from Sabah be appointed to head federal departments and agencies in the state in tandem with the concept of "Borneonisation" that was agreed to during the formation of Malaysia.

On the progress of the construction of a new building for the Queen Elizabeth 1 Hospital, Ali said he satisfied with the work progress and hoped it would be completed according to schedule.

Earlier, in his speech at the breaking of fast function with civil servants here, Ali said efforts would be made to bring the civil service closer to the people to improve its image.

He advised civil servants to go to the ground to meet the people and be more people-friendly, as well as the welfare of their.

As for department heads, he said, they should also look into the welfare of their staff, especially on promotion for the long-serving employees.

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