

**Government Committed To Curbing Social Ills Among Young Through Various Programmes - PM
Bernama
October 04, 2012**

KUALA LUMPUR, Oct 4 (Bernama) -- The government is committed to curbing social ills such as drug addiction, alcohol consumption, illegal gambling and cyber crime involving adolescents.

Prime Minister Datuk Seri Najib Tun Razak said social ills needed to be curbed through various programmes like counselling, protection and rehabilitation for public safety and well-being.

He said among the measures taken was the setting up of the Kuala Lumpur Krash Pad (KLKP) in Chow Kit which functioned as a safe house for kids in the area.

"The KLKP, established for adolescents aged 13 to 21, is also a place for them to receive counselling and to learn through tuition, and computer, culture and music classes.

"To date, 373 adolescents have registered with KLKP," Najib said in his written reply in the Dewan Rakyat today to a question from Datuk Billy Abbit Joo (BN-Hulu Rajang) on social ills involving adolescents and steps taken to check the problem.

Najib, who is also Women, Family and Community Development Minister, said other measures included the provision of institutional protection and rehabilitation by the Social Welfare Department for adolescents involved in social ills.

He said the department had nine reform schools called Sekolah Tunas Bakti, 11 reform hostels and four Taman Seri Puteri for those aged below 18 caught involved in crime.

"It has also set up 142 children's activity centres (PAKK) in high-risk areas nationwide to prevent those aged below 18 from involving in social ills."

Najib said another agency under the ministry, the National Population and Family Development Board, also carried out various programmes and courses to address social ills among the young.

These include family counselling, social and reproductive health programmes, Kafe@TEEN and Ilmu Keluarga@LPPKN aimed at strengthening the family institution and teaching family members to be more responsible.

The prime minister said the government had also introduced a crime prevention programme called Pencegahan Jenayah SEKATA (Keselamatan Keluarga Tanggungjawab Kita or Family Safety Our Responsibility) as part of efforts to curb social ills among adolescents

-- BERNAMA

Copyright © 2012 BERNAMA

Source: <http://www.bernama.com/bernama/v6/newsindex.php?id=699708>