

Federal Government Acquires Land For Permanent Homes For Flood Victims In Kelantan - Muhyiddin
Bernama
April 11, 2015

KUALA KRAI, April 11 (Bernama) -- The federal government will buy or reacquire land from settlers to be turned into building sites for permanent houses for victims who lost their homes due to the floods that hit the state in December last year.

Deputy prime minister Tan Sri Muhyiddin Yassin said the immediate move by the government was to overcome the problem of the shortage of suitable land needed to construct the permanent houses.

"The Post Flood Development Committee has been directed to identify suitable land near the original homes of the flood victims immediately for the construction of the permanent houses," he told reporters in conjunction with his post-flood working visit to Dabong, here Saturday.

Muhyiddin said the federal government would utilise the RM700 million allocation made available previously to assist victims in the flood affected states for the purpose of providing the land.

He said 1,918 units of houses were completely destroyed by the floods in Kelantan while only five houses had been built due to the land shortage.

He said the selection of suitable land would also be discussed to seek agreement from the flood victims who would stay in the houses so that upon completion, they would be ready to occupy them.

Muhyiddin, who could not predict the completion date for the permanent homes, said the committee would appoint local contractors to build the houses.

He said 1,858 houses had been identified as being destroyed by the floods and repair works involving an allocation of between RM5,000 and RM10,000 each were being carried out.

He expected repair works on all the destroyed houses in the state to be ready in June and wanted transit homes provided immediately to victims who were still staying in temporary tents while waiting for the completion of the permanent homes.

He would personally monitor the progress of the work every month to ensure that the construction of the permanent homes and repair on the damaged houses were proceeding smoothly.

"I apologise if there are victims who have waited a long time (to get the permanent home), don't be angry with the government, we already have plans to provide the land for the construction of the permanent homes.

"(to the land owners) If your land is to be reacquired, please give consent, the land are not acquired for free but will be acquired according to market rate, we need the support of the landowners," he said.

He added that the federal government was helping to revive the income of settlers who were affected by the natural disaster including providing the funds as capital.

Muhyiddin, who is also the Education Minister, said the government was also repairing schools that were damaged by the floods to provide comfort to the students and teachers.

Other infrastructures such as roads and bridges that were damaged were also being repaired by the government, he said.

He also announced an allocation of RM1 million for the construction of the Sekolah Menengah Kebangsaan Dabong hall.

Muhyiddin, who is on a one-day visit to the state, earlier chaired the Kelantan state post-flood meeting at the Kesedar Office, Dabong.

Also present were International Trade and Industry Minister Datuk Seri Mustapa Mohamed, Minister in the Prime Minister's Department Datuk Seri Shahidan Kassim and Dabong State Assemblyman Datuk Ramzi Abd Rahman.

-- BERNAMA

Copyright © 2015 BERNAMA

Source : <http://www.bernama.com/bernama/v8/newsindex.php?id=1125272>