

Government Urged To Establish Consultative Council For Poor Families

Bernama

April 14, 2015

KUALA LUMPUR, April 14 (Bernama) -- A senator proposed today that the government establish a consultative council for the unification of all forms of government assistance to poor families.

Tan Sri Mohd Ali Rustam said that at present, there were many ministries and government agencies that provided assistance in various aspects, but they were disintegrated.

"I suggest the government set up a Poor Family Development Consultative Council, so that all agencies that provide assistance to the poor in various aspects like the economy, education, children or people with disabilities (PWDs), are consolidated.

"Then an advisory board is appointed (for the consultative council) which may comprise economic experts and so on, to ensure that the consultative council can help poor families," he said when debating the Royal Address by the Yang di-Pertuan Agong, at the Dewan Negara here today.

He added that although there was a lot of help provided by the government, there were still poor families who claimed they had been left out of such aid because they were unaware of the existence of such assistance.

The Senators from Melaka also suggested that the government finds an economic mechanism to improve the economic status of poor families, such as setting up a cooperative for them.

He said besides creating jobs, the cooperatives may serve to stimulate economic activities and the profits be distributed to poor families.

"For example, in our country there are 500,000 poor families with aid from the government worth RM1.3 billion a year. If we cut RM10 per month for each family (to be given to the cooperative), in a month (it) can receive RM5 million and in a year, RM60 million.

"This money can stimulate economic activity, and in the long term some of them may no longer need help from the government, and they can rely on the cooperatives," he said.

-- BERNAMA

Copyright © 2015 BERNAMA

Source : <http://www.bernama.com/bernama/v8/newsindex.php?id=1126145>