

Muhyiddin Launches Seberang Jaya Hospital Upgrading Project
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BUTTERWORTH, April 28 (Bernama) -- Deputy Prime Minister Tan Sri Muhyiddin Yassin today launched the upgrading project of Seberang Jaya Hospital (HSJ) which is expected to be completed by the end of 2018 as evidence of the federal government's concern in raising the standard of health and medical services for the people.

He said the upgrading project involved the construction of a new nine-storey building, costing RM400 million, and other projects including upgrading the health department, delivery hall, management office, medical store as well as a medium voltage exchange at a cost of RM22 million.

He said the project to upgrade the 20-year-old hospital is proof the government was striving to improve the standard of services needed by the people.

"To fulfill these aspirations, the government is determined to improve government delivery system through various efforts and initiatives. The Health Ministry will continue to get the involvement of the community in various disease awareness and preventive programmes," he said at the launch of HSJ upgrading project, here.

Also present were Health Minister Datuk Seri Dr S. Subramaniam, Works Minister Datuk Seri Fadillah Yusof, Federal Territories Minister Datuk Seri Tengku Adnan Tengku Mansor, Deputy Health Minister Datuk Seri Dr Hilmi Yahaya, state UMNO Liaison Committee chairman Datuk Seri Zainal Abidin Osman and Barisan Nasional candidate for Permatang Pauh, Suhaimi Sabudin.

Muhyiddin said the upgrading project was part of the 13 new projects under the 10th Malaysia Plan (RMK-10) approved for Penang involving large allocations for the period 2011 to 2015.

He said besides health infrastructural efforts, steps were also being taken to raise the skills and capability of health personnel for more effective health services.

He said the ministry would continue to assign more specialists and medical officers to the state from time to time for the best continuous health services.

"There were 1,670 medical officers serving in Penang as at March 2015, in which 89 per cent were from the 1,884 existing posts. From the number, 208 were specialists while 1,462 were normal medical officers.

"As for nurses, there were 4,274 of them in service as at March 2015, in which 84 per cent were from the existing 4,793 posts," he said.

Meanwhile, Subramaniam in his speech said the Penang state Health Department had

allocated more than RM970 million to manage health and medical services in the state.

He said the large allocation demonstrated the commitment of the ministry in providing the best health services especially for Penang residents.

"It is hoped the projects planned will raise the community's accessibility to health facilities. These project are aimed at raising the quality of service for residents in Penang as well as the northern region of the peninsular," he said.

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