

Government To Implement Programmes To Enhance Role Of Local Authorities Under 11MP - Muhyiddin

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KUALA LUMPUR, Oct 17 (Bernama) -- The government will implement various programmes under the 11th Malaysia Plan (11MP) to make local authorities (PBTs) more environmental friendly and futuristic in their development and management.

Deputy Prime Minister Tan Sri Muhyiddin Yassin said the programmes would be aimed at creating a sustainable environment to reduce the effects of natural disaster and environmental destruction.

He said the strategy formulated by the government was aimed at ensuring development for the people's well-being.

"There are targets in the 10th Malaysia Plan which have yet to be achieved due to the limited capability of the PBTs because of shortage of manpower or allocationw.

"Under the 11MP, these issues will be studied, especially to enhance the quality of effective delivery," he said at a dinner in conjunction with the golden jubilee celebration of the Peninsular Malaysia Amalgamated National Union Local Authorities Employees (ANULAE) here tonight.

Also present were Public Service Department Director-General Tan Sri Mohamad Zabidi Zainal and ANULAE president, Datuk Azih Muda, who is also Congress of Unions of Employees in the Public and Civil Services (Cuepacs) president.

Muhyiddin said the setting up of the Residents' Representatives Committees (JPPs) in the PBT areas was an initiative by the government to carry out a social transformation of urban management as almost 70 per cent of the Malaysian population now lived in towns.

The establishment of the JPPs was made after studying the ad-hoc involvement of urban residents, which was not systematic like in the rural areas which have the Village Development and Security Committees (JKKK), he added.

"The government also realises that many federal government functions at the local level, as well as municipal issues, such as health, transport, public safety, housing, education, environment, consumerism, strata management, maintenance of low cost houses, are not addressed comprehensively, urgently and perfectly.

"With the setting up of JPPs, the government will have more room and opportunities to interact directly with residents and bring up issues to be addressed together," he added.

He assured members of local government councils to not feel threatened by JPPs, adding

that their position was safeguarded under Act 171 and that the setting up of JPPs would strengthen unity among residents.

On efforts to enhance effectiveness of PBTs, Muhyiddin said the government had implemented the Local Authorities Star Grading System (SPB-PBT).

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