

**DPM Approves RM2 Mln to Upgrade Roads, Set Up RTC in Bario**  
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BARIO, April 30 (Bernama) -- A Rural Transformation Centre (RTC) will be set up in Bario to enable the people to obtain services from the government without having to go elsewhere, said Datuk Seri Dr Ahmad Zahid Hamidi.

The Deputy Prime Minister said the RTC would be set up by upgrading the existing Home Ministry's Micro office in Bario.

"Facilities available in the Home Ministry's complex will be upgraded to the RTC. Currently there is an immigration department office and a new of departments under the Home Ministry. There is also an Agrobank branch.

"I have approved the provision for the presence of the National Registration Department here.

"I will discuss with Transport Minister Datuk Seri Liow Tiong Lai to enable the Road Transport Department to be here," Zahid who is also the Home Minister told reporters after opening the Home Ministry's Micro office in Bario, here Saturday.

Ahmad Zahid later approved an allocation of RM2 million to upgrade roads in and around Bario and another RM200,000 to Federation Orang Ulu Malaysia (Forum).

Earlier, Sarawak Deputy Chief Minister Tan Sri Alfred Jabu Numpang in his speech said he hoped the Federal government would consider setting a RTC in Bario for the benefit of the people to carry out transactions involving services like renewing passport, MyKad, birth certificate, etc.

Jabu had also requested an allocation of RM1.5 million to upgrade and maintain roads in and around Bario.

Ahmad Zahid also thanked Jabu for his services throughout the nine terms he had served as a state assemblyman and his willingness to not contest any seats so that young leaders can take over.

"He (Jabu) can still continue his service but he has decided to make way for the younger leaders to take over," he said adding that the people of Sarawak would enjoy continued development under the leadership of Chief Minister Tan Sri Adenan Satem.

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