

**National Strategic Plan to Combat Drugs In Final Draft Stage - Zahid
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KUALA LUMPUR, Sept 11 (Bernama) -- The National Strategic Plan to Combat Drugs is in its final draft stage and expected to be tabled in the Cabinet for approval, says Deputy Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Ahmad Zahid Hamidi.

According to him, he has already examined the draft with the National Anti-Drug Agency director-general, besides involving non-governmental organizations (NGO), including the Malaysian Drug Prevention Association.

"'Engagements' have been carried out by NGO and other authorities, especially customs and narcotics departments, together with the health ministry.

"I have even given a special briefing to members of parliament so that they can give their input for the national drug policy," he told reporters after opening the Eight Annual General Assembly of the Makkal Sakti Malaysia here today.

Ahmad Zahid, who is also home minister, said this when asked on the latest development of the strategic plan to combat drugs.

On whether he was confident the plan would go all out to combat drugs, he said: "We cannot be too sure of it as it does not involve only the Malaysian (drug) syndicates but it is also on an international level...nevertheless, the government's efforts to create a recovery and enforce all legislations are going well".

In Kuching, Sarawak last February, Ahmad Zahid had announced an 'All Out War' on drugs nationwide as manifestation of the government's concern on the drug scourge in the country.

Meanwhile, commenting on a proposal for housing developers to apply for license for a loan to finance the buyers of real estate, especially companies with strong financial position, the deputy prime minister said the matter had yet to be discussed in the Cabinet.

In relation to the matter, he also asked Urban Wellbeing, Housing and Local Government Minister Tan Sri Noh Omar to explain the proposal.

In another development, Ahmad Zahid praised the initiative of the organizer of the World #QuranHour which was held today, and urged all Muslims to make the Quran as a way of life.

"Personally, I do not ever set aside the Quran, and I read the Holy Book for an hour daily,"

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