

KERATAN AKHBAR

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SOME 30 projects worth RM100 million will be shelved, said Minister in the Prime Minister's Department (Economy) Datuk Seri Mustapa Mohamed.

The decision followed engagement sessions with the Finance Ministry, Works Ministry, Economic Planning Unit (EPU) and the Implementation Coordination Unit (ICU) of the Prime Minister's Department and the Public Works Department (PWD) on Tuesday.

Mustapa said the projects included the construction of an integrated rubber processing centre under the Plantation Industries and Commodities Ministry; procurement of equipment to modernise workshops in the electrical field; hi-tech training centre and overseas training under the Human Resources Ministry; and research projects under the International Trade



Datuk Seri Mustapa Mohamed

and Industry Ministry.

"Only 30 projects worth about RM100 million have been identified.

"This engagement session will continue next week with the

Finance Ministry, while the Works Ministry, EPU, ICU and PWD will hold a meeting with other ministries," he said during the ministers' question time at the Dewan Rakyat yesterday.

He was responding to a question by Fahmi Fadzil (PH-Lembah Pantai) on the number of projects that would be delayed and the amount expected to be saved by the move.

Mustapa said projects like the Mass Rapid Transit Circle Line, the East Coast Rail Link Project and the Pan-Borneo Highway would continue.

He said the projects to be shelved involved new and existing ones, whose procurement and advertisement had not yet begun; non-priority projects, except those that had an immediate impact on the wellbeing of the people; as well as new and ex-

isting projects that could not be implemented yet due to site issues.

For projects being implemented, tender advertisements, Letters of Intent and Letters of Acceptance had been issued, he said.

He added that projects financed via the Infra Fund would continue.

"This is important to support the government's efforts to boost the economy post-Covid-19 pandemic," he added.

He said 7,243 development projects with a total allocation of RM75.6 billion had been approved for implementation this year.

It had been reported that the government would review the procurement process for projects that had not yet started to control development expenditure.

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