

KERATAN AKHBAR

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Ministry to speed up People's Income Initiative

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KUALA LUMPUR: The Economy Ministry will hold discussions with all local authorities to speed up the implementation of the People's Income Initiative throughout the country.

Economy Minister Rafizi Ramli said the government will work closely with the state government in identifying and nominating target groups that are eligible and meet the criteria for participation under the initiative.

"To ensure that the participants who apply are eligible, a cross-check will be made with the eKasih data system, which has the existing list of hardcore poor recipients, as well as the Sumbangan Tunai Rahmah recipient data.

"I will have a meeting with all leaders of the People's Income Initiative across the country, so that we can speed up the matter (implementation) to get down to the lower levels," he said during a question-and-answer session in Parliament yesterday.

He was replying to a question from R. Yuneswaran (PH-Segamat) on how the People's Income Initiative can help the B40 (Bottom 40% income group) households and the hardcore poor to generate regular income, and the ministry's efforts to ensure that 100,000 target groups are involved.

According to Rafizi, the ministry had received 24,000 applications to participate in the initiative as of yesterday, after over a week of its launch.

"The number is increasing every day, while the target, according to official government statistics, is 130,000 people from hardcore poor families.

"We will also extend the offer to not just the hardcore poor, but also those from the B40 group." - Bernama