

KERATAN AKHBAR

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Govt to meet local authorities to speed up IPR

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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 (IPR) throughout the country as announced under Budget 2023.

Economy Minister Rafizi Ramli said the government would be working closely with state governments and the local authorities to identify and nominate target groups who are eligible for the IPR participation.

"To ensure that the participants who apply are eligible, a cross-check will be made with the eKasih data system, which is the existing

list of hardcore poor recipients, as well as the Sumbangan Tunai Rahmah recipient data.

"Later I will have a meeting with all the local leaders across the country so that we can speed up this matter (implementation of IPR)," he said during the minister's question time session in Parliament as reported by *Bernama* yesterday.

He was replying to a question from R. Yuneswaran (PH-Segamat) who asked how the IPR could help the Bottom 40 (B40) households and the hardcore poor to generate regular income and the ministry's efforts to ensure

that 100,000 target groups are included.

According to Rafizi, the ministry has received about 24,000 applications as of yesterday to participate in the IPR – a week from its launch.

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

"We will also extend the IPR offer to not just the hardcore poor, but also to help participants from the B40 group," Rafizi pointed out.