



03 MAR, 2026

Provision of TVET infrastructure depends on various factors

New Sarawak Tribune, Malaysia



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KUALA LUMPUR: The government outlined key initiatives on TVET, rural infrastructure, disaster preparedness, and Felda housing, aiming to strengthen development, safety, and community well-being across the country.

Deputy Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Ahmad Zahid Hamidi said proposals to provide permanent buildings for Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET) institutions operating for over 10 years should be viewed within the framework of a comprehensive national development plan.

He said the provision of TVET infrastructure did not depend solely on the period of operation, but also considered enrollment projections, location suitability, facility needs, and state and federal development priorities in line with the country's physical and financial planning.

"Even the provision of dormitory facilities for students is subject to the suitability of the programme, the number of trainees, and the training implementation model adopted.

"The industry-based training approach, apprenticeship, and work-based learning allow trainees to follow training more flexibly without being completely dependent on permanent dormitory facilities," he said.

Ahmad Zahid, who is also chairman of the National TVET Council, was responding to proposals that TVET centres in rural areas operating for over 10 years be housed in permanent buildings and provided with dormitory facilities.

On disaster preparedness, he highlighted the government's commitment through the National Disaster Risk Reduction Policy 2030, which targets strengthening risk management strategies at state and district levels.

Touching on rural infrastructure, he said 203 road development projects in Sabah and Sarawak's interior, costing RM19.39 billion, have been approved for 2026.

"Under the LJK KKDW Programme, the lights will be installed by Tenaga Nasional Berhad (TNB) on existing electricity poles, with installation and maintenance carried out by TNB, but the cost will be borne through the annual allocation of KKDW," he said on village street lighting

Addressing Felda settlers' second-generation housing, Ahmad Zahid explained that the current Land Act only permits one house per original settler site, and that the Prime Minister's Department, together with Felda, is conducting a comprehensive review of the Group Settlement Areas Act 1960 to improve and strengthen existing provisions.

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