

Melaka to provide kenaf incentive in Budget 2020

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JASIN, July 10 (Bernama) -- The Melaka state government will provide incentives to kenaf entrepreneurs and farmers in the state from next year, says Chief Minister Adly Zahari.

He said the incentives are aimed at encouraging more farmers to grow kenaf individually or as part of a group in a bid to expand the industry.

He said kenaf is currently grown on eight hectares of old rice fields in Kampung Sempang Pantai Merlimau here and the state government targets at least 25 hectares under kenaf cultivation within two years.

He said the state government has not made any allocation for kenaf, and will discuss with the National Kenaf and Tobacco Board (LKTN), which oversees the industry, on ways to help raise kenaf production.

"At this early stage, the state government plans to provide kenaf incentives which will be allocated in the state budget next year," he told reporters after a site visit to the kenaf plantation here today.

Also present were Deputy Primary Industries Minister Datuk Seri Shamsul Iskandar Mohd Akin and LKTN director-general Samsuddin Noor.

Adly added that an unused state government-owned building in the village has been identified for use by LKTN as a kenaf processing centre, adding comprehensive facilities would be provided in order to promote the state's kenaf industry.

He noted that kenaf has good potential for use in the furniture and automotive sectors, and the state government and LKTN will help with the marketing.

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