



**KEMENTERIAN PEMBANGUNAN
USAHAWAN DAN KOPERASI**
Ministry of Entrepreneur Development and Cooperatives

PRESS RELEASE

RM187,200 MRP GRANTS FOR EDUCATION, MEDICAL ASSISTANCE DISTRIBUTED TO RESIDENTS AND NGOS IN LUNDU

Lundu, 12 December 2020 - A total of 28 residents and 55 non-governmental organisations (NGOs) in the area received close to RM200,000 worth of financial assistance under the state government's Minor Rural Project (MRP) grants. The RM187,200 MRP grants, specifically for education and emergency medical assistance, were presented to the recipients by Santubong Member of Parliament YB Dato Sri Dr. Haji Wan Junaidi Tuanku Jaafar in a simple ceremony at Dewan Masyarakat Lundu, here, today.

Wan Junaidi, who is also the Minister of Entrepreneur Development and Cooperatives (MEDAC), said matters concerning education and health should always be given special focus as these two areas are vital elements in ensuring the wellbeing of the people. "Health is wealth while education is a powerful tool to help an individual to be a better person, both economically and spiritually. As the representative of my constituent, I will ensure that these two areas will continue to be given special attention," he said.

Meanwhile, Wan Junaidi also called on small informal businesses to register their business with the relevant authorities, in order to enjoy many types of assistance provided by the MEDAC and all of its agencies. He pointed out that, it is estimated that there are close to 2 million unregistered small businesses nationwide. Since they are not registered, MEDAC is unable to assist these businesses.

"We are very much aware that these Mak Cik Kiah businesses are severely affected by the COVID-19 situation. We are concerned of their situation and we want to assist them. However, they need to register their businesses so that whatever assistance that we have can be given via proper channel," he said.

Going forward, in ensuring their business survival in this Covid-19 era, Wan Junaidi called on entrepreneurs to make the necessary preparation for the transition of their current business operations from traditional to digital.

“Like it or not, digitalisation is the new norm. Due to the current situation as a result of the pandemic, many people are choosing to buy things online. Those who refuse to change with time, especially in this trying times, will sadly find it difficult to sustain their business. “However, for those who have successfully migrated their operations online, I am sure they are now reaping the benefits of it. In fact, based on our internal survey, there are entrepreneurs who are enjoying up to 500 percent sales growth after they started having an online business presence,” he added.

MINISTRY OF ENTREPRENEUR DEVELOPMENT AND COOPERATIVES