



Awang Tengah

Land unsurveyed or without title belongs to government

KUCHING – All land not surveyed or any land not issued with a land title, including land under NCR claim, is government land, said the Second Minister of Resource Planning and Management, Datuk Haji Awang Tengah Ali Hassan.

"The State government will only recognise a right or claim to government land if it was created inline with the relevant written laws of the State government, including the laws and the Royal Order brought

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into effect before January 1 1958," he said in reply to a question raised by the State Assemblyman for Ba'Kelalan, Nelson Balang in the State Legislative Assembly, yesterday.

Nelson, who was elected in a by-election after the demise of Dato' Dr Judson Tagal in a helicopter crash on July 12, last year, had asked, "To the people in the villages, all land belonging to them are native land, but to the government

all such land are state land. How do we reconcile this statement so that both parties will understand each other in terms of the legal implications?"

Tengah, went on to clarify that if there was any dispute over the land – whether it is government land or NCR land - then the matter should be dealt with according to the law.

"The party making the claim must prove the validity of their NCR claim over the land," he said.