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PUTRAJAYA, Aug 16 (Bernama) -- The government will reopen the registration of G1 (Bumiputera) Contractors beginning Sept 1 after being frozen for 14 years.

In a joint statement today, the Ministry of Finance and Ministry of Economic Affairs said the Cabinet also agreed that the limit on the value of the government works offered to these contractors be reviewed.

On the decision to reopen the registration of the contractor that was agreed on Aug 14, the ministries said it would provide opportunities to new Bumiputera contractors, especially the young generation, to actively participate in the construction industry, particularly in the government projects.

"The government is of the view that the registration of G1 (Bumiputera) contractors should be reopened to the people, especially to qualified Bumiputera youths," the joint statement said.

The statement said based on the latest statistics, there are 21,495 G1 (Bumiputera) Contractors registered with the Construction Industry Development Board (CIDB) to date.

It said of the total, 70 per cent had a registration record of more than 20 years, and the situation had prevented new Bumiputera contractors from participating in the government procurements.

The remaining 30 per cent are contractors with registration record between three to 20 years according to their respective fields, it said.

The ministries also said they and relevant agencies would fine-tune the value limit of the government works offered to G1 (Bumiputera) Contractor by taking into account ? the impact of the rising cost ?of current government projects.

"The study aims to ensure the priority and strengthening of Bumiputera participation in government procurements in terms of the contract value as well as to narrow the income gap between races without compromising national construction industry ecosystem, in line with the principle of 'Wawasan Kemakmuran Bersama' (A Vision of Shared Prosperity)," the statement said.

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