

# FT Ministry comes up with 5 initiatives to help cushion impact of pandemic

**KUALA LUMPUR:** The Federal Territories Ministry has come up with five initiatives, which include deferment of housing loan repayments to 50 per cent rent cuts, and assessment tax rebates for malls and hotels until the end of the year to ease hardships caused by the Covid-19 pandemic.

Its minister, Tan Sri Annuar Musa, said the initiatives aimed to lift the financial burden of Kuala Lumpur, Putrajaya and Labuan folk during the Movement Control Order 3.0 and was in line with the government's Permerkasa+ programme.

In Kuala Lumpur, Annuar said the ministry had agreed to defer the repayment of Yayasan Wilayah Persekutuan (YWP) housing loans for the National Economic Action Council's People's Housing Project (PPR MTEN) and City Hall public housing (PA DBKL) for six months from next month until December.

A total of 6,444 borrowers will benefit from this measure, which would cost YWP a revenue exclusion of RM10.9 million, he said.

From now until December, 38,124 tenants of PPR MTEN and PA DBKL, as well as 457 tenants of public housing owned by Labuan Corporation will be given a 50 per cent reduction in their monthly rent. This will cost the government RM17 million.

"To support the sustainability



Federal Territories Minister Tan Sri Annuar Musa (centre) at a Covid-19 screening programme at PPR Sri Sabah in Kuala Lumpur recently. BERNAMA PIC

of businesses in the Federal Territories, City Hall and Putrajaya Corporation (PPj) will offer assessment tax rebates for 2021 for specific businesses and commercial premises.

"Up to 783 premises in Kuala

Lumpur will benefit from this rebate, which include 24 private higher learning institutions, 666 hotels and 93 shopping malls, and this will cost City Hall RM23.51 million.

"There will be a 10 per cent re-

bate for commercial and industrial buildings in Putrajaya where the revenue exclusion will be more than RM1.5 million."

Annuar said assessment tax payments would be deferred until December for all owners of res-

idential and commercial premises in the Federal Territories.

"Those living in Kuala Lumpur, Putrajaya and Labuan who were penalised for assessment tax arrears last year and this year will also be exempted" he said.