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Khair puzzled by claim of project's extra expenses

SHAH ALAM: There is no new slaughterhouse in Selangor and Menteri Besar Datuk Seri Dr Mohd Khir Toyo wants to know how RM21mil could have been wasted on the project's delay. Dr Khir is perplexed over an account in the Auditor-General's 2005 report claiming that Selangor had incurred an additional RM21mil in expenses for the delay in constructing two slaughterhouses. "I have checked with the economic planning unit and the Veterinary Department. There are no such projects in the state. I would have known if there were," he told reporters yesterday. He was commenting on a newspaper report that the original cost to build the two slaughterhouses was RM8mil but the state government needed to fork out an additional RM21mil because construction was delayed. Dr Khir said the projects might have been a private initiative or done in other states but mistakenly attributed to Selangor. The report had also listed other wasteful projects, such as the RM180,000 Kampung Idaman food court in Klang, which is now a car park. Other failed projects listed were the Jalan Meru market (RM19mil), Pandamaran Baru market (RM2.2mil) and Kapar fruit stalls (RM666,000). Dr Khir said he was waiting for a report from the Klang Municipal Council on claims of wastage of public funds.