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KUALA LUMPUR: The Construction Industry Development Board (CIDB) has set aside RM70mil for the implementation of several strategic programmes to help construction industry players affected by the movement control order (MCO).

The programmes, to be implemented this year, will provide exposure and training for 30,000 industry players, comprising contractors, construction workers and youth in various skill areas.

Senior Minister Datuk Seri

Fadillah Yusof said the allocation would also support the country's policy in enhancing the use of technology and reducing its dependence on foreign workers by providing jobs for locals.

"A total of 17,700 local construction workers as well as youths will benefit from the skilling, reskilling, upskilling and skills accreditation programmes that will be implemented.

"This effort is aimed at enhancing the skills of local workers and youth

in high impact fields for careers in the construction industry and thus, reducing the country's dependence on foreign labour," he said in a statement yesterday.

CIDB, said Fadillah, would also have an apprenticeship programme, which would see 7,800 youths sent to construction companies for training to provide them with exposure and experience.

He said 3,700 local construction workers and youths would also be trained in project supervision and

management, while another 400 would receive instruction in the field of construction site security.

"To make it easier for consumers and homeowners to make their search and obtain services, the CIDB and small contractors have developed a mobile app called Contractor4U.

"Registration for the app is open to all contractors, especially the G1 and G3 contractors. So far, 4,500 contractors have registered," he added. — Bernama