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Anwar-Putrajaya

ANWAR HAPPY WITH PUTRAJAYA DEVELOPMENT

KUALA LUMPUR, 27 Feb (Bernama) -- Deputy Prime Minister Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim is happy with the pace of development at the new seat of the Federal Government in Putrajaya some 35KM south of here.

"The project is being implemented smoothly without burdening the government's finances," he said.

"The developer has succeeded in gathering his own funds based on the strength of the property and using strategies to get funds from the public," he said after inspecting works to develop the new Federal Capital.

The RM20 billion capital city is within the Multi-Media Super Corridor and is being developed by Putrajaya Holdings Sdn Bhd, a government company.

Anwar rejected foreign media claims that the government was giving priority to the new KL International Airport (KLIA) in Sepang rather than to the development of Putrajaya.

"Work on KLIA began five years ago and we cannot compare Putrajaya's development with other major projects being developed by other companies," he added.

He said with problems in the development of KLIA having been resolved, the government was now concentrating on Putrajaya which involved longterm planning, comprehensive and orderly development.

The Deputy Prime Minister also rejected claims that in the development of the Multi-media Super Corridor, the government was only concentrating on the development of Putrajaya and the Prime Minister's Department there.

He said the Prime Minister's Department had to be in Putrajaya because it was the new seat of the Federal Government.

To finance the project, apart from the entering the bond market, the companies involved in it were likely to be listed in the Kuala Lumpur Stock Exchange, he said.

Anwar said details of the nine finance packages for the Putrajaya project would be disclosed later.

The Deputy Prime Minister commended Putrajaya Holdings for its efforts to build a modern capital city with unique features complete with housing, educational and health facilities and also preserving the wet lands and old trees.

"The development of Putrajaya is important as it will be a special city meeting longterm needs as often stressed by Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad and also because it forms part of the Multi-media Super Corridor," he said.

Anwar noted that work on the new capital city was proceeding smoothly with works on the Prime Minister's Department scheduled for completion next year.

"Well'continue to monitor the development of the project as it is a major development effort," he added.

Asked whether any serious problem was being faced, he said "There is no serious problem except the rain which is pouring more on the project site," he said. -- BERNAMA

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