

09/03/1997

CFs being issued much faster now, says Ting

Azran Aziz

KUANTAN, Sat. - Local authorities have managed to significantly reduce the time taken to issue certificates of fitness for buildings.

Housing and Local Government Minister Datuk Dr Ting Chew Peh said that as a result the Ministry was now receiving fewer complaints regarding the late issuance of CFs.

"This is an indication that the CFs are being issued fast," he said.

On Jan 10 last year, the Cabinet directed all local authorities to issue the CFs within 14 days of a building having met all structural and legal requirements.

The directive followed a study by the Ministry and the Malaysian Administrative Modernisation and Management Planning Unit which found many homeowners were made to wait indefinite periods for the CFs even though they had received their keys from the developers.

Citing the Kuantan Municipal Council as an example, Ting said it had been able to issue the CFs within two days provided all documents were in order.

In one case the KMC even issued the CF to a petro-chemical company one day after receiving the application.

Ting said feedback from the 145 local authorities nationwide had also been encouraging.

"The councils submit monthly reports to the Ministry which has enabled us to monitor the improvement," he told reporters after visiting the central market and several KMC projects.

In order to ensure speedy issuance of the CF, he said the onus however was on project developers to make sure that all documents were in order when they submitted applications for the CFs.

In a related development, he said the KMC might become the first local council in the country to qualify for the ISO 9000 certification on quality management system.

"The KMC is in the final stage of preparations in its bid to get the certification from the Standards and Industrial Research Institute," he said, adding this could materialise in the next two to three months.

Citing KMC as one of the model councils in the country he urged other local authorities to emulate the council's efforts in improving its services.

"We do not set a time-frame for local councils to get the (ISO 9000) recognition," he said. "But they must take the necessary steps from now."

On the nationwide tree-planting campaign launched by Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad last Monday, he said response had been encouraging.

"Our target is to get at least 15 per cent of the population to plant trees," he said, adding that there would be an extra three million trees nationwide by the year 2000 if the objective was achieved.

He called on professional bodies and non-governmental organisations to contribute to efforts to green the nation.

(END)