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Stop-work on Ukay Perdana lifted, but required to build low-cost homes

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SHAH ALAM, Thurs. - The stop-work order on Ukay Perdana project in Hulu Kelang issued three months ago, has been lifted by the Selangor Government, but the developer is now required to include 300 low-cost houses in the scheme.

Approved by the Government under the previous Selangor Menteri Besar Tan Sri Muhammad Muhammad Taib, the project by Projek Ikatan Rapi Sdn Bhd had initially not included the construction of low-cost houses.

State Committee chairman for Local Government, Urbanisation and Squatters Datuk Fuad Hassan said the decision to lift the order was made during the Selangor State Executive Council meeting and was effective from yesterday.

"The developer can now continue work at the project site," he told a Press conference at the State Secretariat Clubhouse after a helicopter ride to survey the various land development projects in the State.

He said the low-cost houses were among several conditions which the developer must meet to resume work on the project.

"The developer must construct silt traps to prevent siltation of nearby rivers and flooding of adjacent settlements.

"It also has to take responsibility for incidents arising from its project such as floods which may occur at the neighbouring Sungai Sering and Taman Reduan."

Fuad also said Projek Ikatan Rapi has to carry out development of the area according to the phases which had been approved by the local council.

The developer would also have to plant trees and grass in the first three phases which is currently being developed.

"For the subsequent phases, it will have to apply to the Ampang Jaya Municipal Council for approval before work can begin. It will also have to submit reports on all phases which it is developing on a monthly basis."

He also said the council has been asked to monitor the project closely to make sure that the conditions were met.

The environmental degradation at the project site was highlighted after Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad spotted the bare hill (project site) from a helicopter in March.

The Cabinet subsequently directed the Housing and Local Government Ministry to investigate the land-clearing works while the Ampang Jaya Municipal Council issued a stop-work order to the developer.

It is a blessing in disguise that 300 low-cost houses will be built as a result of Dr Mahathir's observation.

On April 3, Projek Ikatan Rapi had pledged to plant some 12,000 trees at the site within six months. It was part of the remedial measures proposed to the State Government and the council.

The company also proposed to give the Selangor Government a bank guarantee of RM5 million to be forfeited if it failed to meet the six-month target.

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