

12 DEC 1998

Housing

HOUSING LOAN CONDITIONS FOR GOVT STAFF RELAXED

KUALA LUMPUR, Dec 12 (Bernama) -- Government employees on the permanent establishment but have yet to be confirmed in their posts can apply for housing loans during the one-month home ownership campaign launched today.

Second Finance Minister Datuk Mustapa Mohamed who announced the relaxation said the move was to boost the growth of the housing sector to help revive the nation's economy.

Prior to this, government staff are only eligible for housing loans after they are confirmed in their posts. Confirmation is often granted a government employee a few years upon joining the service and after he has passed government examinations or gone through induction courses.

"The government has decided that government employees who have worked for one year are eligible to apply for government housing loans...no need to be confirmed (in their posts) but (must be) on the permanent establishment," he said at a news conference after the launch of the home ownership campaign by Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad.

He said that the government would issue a circular to further explain the move, to all government departments and agencies.

However, he said that the relaxation was only confined to the one-month period, until Jan 12.

Mustapa said that some 20,000 government employees comprising teachers, nurses, medical officers and defence and police personnel would be eligible to apply for government housing loans.

The move was also to encourage more people to own homes, he said.

The campaign is organised by the government with the cooperation of the Malaysian Housing Developers Association and the Association of Banks in Malaysia.

Some 260 housing developers are offering some 23,000 units of houses costing some RM4.2 bilion for sale during the campaign.

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