

24/05/1999

## Call for affordable homes in Putrajaya

IPOH, Sun. - Cuepacs today called on the Government to allocate affordable homes for civil servants at Putrajaya.

Cuepacs president Siva Subramaniam said this would enable easier transition for civil servants who would be transferred to Putrajaya once Federal Government offices are shifted there.

He said even though there were government quarters in the area, it might be insufficient and could pose problems to civil servants.

"I have brought this matter up with Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad and he has promised to look into it.

"I have also spoken to Chief Secretary to the Government Tan Sri Abdul Halim Ali who is taking a serious view of the matter," he said after the launch of Perak's low-cost housing programme by Menteri Besar Tan Sri Ramli Ngah Talib in Taman Bercham Raya.

The programme is part of the State's move to build 7,000 low-cost houses over a two-year period to meet the needs of the lower income group under the Seventh Malaysia Plan.

The project is carried out by Zaman Teladan Sdn Bhd, a subsidiary of the Emkay Group of Companies.

During the launch, Cuepacs also signed a memorandum of understanding with the State and Emkay to ensure that civil servants are given priority when applying for homes under the housing programme.

In lauding the Government's commitment to ensure that the lower income group could own houses, Siva Subramaniam said Cuepacs was confident that the housing problems in the country would be resolved soon.

He said the Government's promise to continue with low-cost housing schemes and its implementation of such projects were testimony that the Government would be able to reach its goal soon.

Earlier, Ramli said he was confident that at the end of the Seventh Malaysia Plan, Perak would have exceeded its target of building 17,200 low-cost houses.

The Emkay Group will be building 1,439 houses under the scheme.

At Bercham Raya, 763 units of low-cost houses and 87 shophouses will be built, while the remaining units will be in Ulu Kinta Jaya.

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