

02/06/1999

Chief Secretary moves to Putrajaya

Leong Shen-li

PUTRAJAYA, Tues. - Chief Secretary to the Government Tan Sri Abdul Halim Ali moved to his new office within the Prime Minister's Office complex here today.

His office was the third division of the Prime Minister's Department to move to the new Federal Administrative Centre.

Preceding Abdul Halim's move were the Implementation Co-ordination Unit and the National Security Division of the Prime Minister's Department, which had moved in within the past two weeks.

"Although the finishing touches are still being done, all the necessary areas for us to operate in are fully functional," Abdul Halim said.

Asked when would Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad move to his new office, Abdul Halim said Dr Mahathir would decide it himself.

Abdul Halim said the move to Putrajaya was around two weeks behind schedule due to various factors expected in such massive projects.

He said there were now about 300 civil servants working in Putrajaya.

"Some are staying at the 44 residential units here. The rest are commuting by bus provided free of charge," he said.

There are seven pick-up points for the buses, namely the Prime Minister's Department in Jalan Datuk Onn, Jalan Cheng Lock, Serdang KTM Komuter station, Warta Supermarket in Selayang, PKNS building in Shah Alam, Velodrome in Cheras and Ampang Point shopping complex.

"For those who use their own vehicles, the Government gives them a monthly allowance of RM150."

Abdul Halim added that 1,549 units of terrace houses, bungalows and apartments would be completed by the end of this year to house those working in the new administration centre.

"By year 2005, there will be 15,000 residential units for those who work here."

Abdul Halim said the Prime Minister's Office would complete its move to Putrajaya by mid June, while the entire Prime Minister's Department would complete its move by the year end.

Besides the Prime Minister's and Abdul Halim's office and the two units, Parcel A of the Government Precinct will house the offices of Ministers and Deputy Ministers within the Prime Minister's Department, Science Advisor's Office and the Special Technology Unit and the Cabinet Division.

The almost completed Parcel B will, among others, house the Economic Planning Unit, Public Complaints Bureau, Office of the Chief Government Security Officer, Federal Territory Development and Klang Valley Planning Division; and the Research Division.

Abdul Halim said the other Ministries and Departments will begin their move in July next year, occupying Parcels C and D of the Government Precinct in Putrajaya.

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