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Ting-Houses

LOW COST HOUSES BUILT STILL INADEQUATE

PETALING JAYA, July 6 (Bernama) -- The number of low cost houses built in the country has yet to reach an adequate level to meet demand from the low income group.

Housing and Local Government Minister Datuk Dr Ting Chew Peh said the Federal government is not satisfied with what has been achieved by state governments so far in building low cost houses.

"Such projects are implemented in all states but efforts must still be improved," he told reporters after addressing the National Housing Summit here today.

Ting said Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad had also written to Menteri Besar and Chief Ministers on the need to expedite the implementation of low cost housing projects.

Dr Mahathir, after chairing the Umno Supreme Council meeting last night, said the Federal government, state governments and housing developers need to expedite the building of low cost houses.

Ting said 35,000 low cost houses valued at RM1.4 billion are being built in Kuala Lumpur by the Federal government under its people's housing programme.

The low cost houses would be rented out to those in the low income group.

He said the programme would also be expanded to all states.

Ting said state governments faced delays in implementing low cost housing projects due to weaknesses in planning such as in alienating suitable sites.

"Sometimes, a project site picked may turn out later to be unsuitable," he said.

"The high cost of land in certain locations also make it difficult in choosing sites for low cost housing projects."

On the proposed introduction of a colour code system to rate housing developers by the end of the year, Ting said all parties concerned would be consulted in search of a fair decision.

-- BERNAMA

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