

25 AUG 1999

Hassan-Squatters

SQUATTERS IN SELANGOR TO GET CHEAPER LOW-COST HOUSES

SHAH ALAM, Aug 25 (Bernama) -- In an effort to achieve its zero squatter target by 2005, Selangor has reduced the price of low-cost houses offered to squatters to RM25,000 and RM35,000 per unit.

Menteri Besar Datuk Seri Abu Hassan Omar said squatters who had to move to other areas to make way for development would be offered low-cost houses at RM35,000.

Those who need not move when their area was developed would have to buy the low-cost units at RM25,000, he told reporters after chairing the state Exco meeting here today.

"Other offers like provision of temporary longhouses, consolation payments or shifting aid will continue to be given where necessary," he said.

He said low-cost houses were previously fixed at RM42,000 in municipalities, RM35,000 in district council areas, and RM30,000 outside of district council areas.

Meanwhile, Abu Hassan said Selangor would hold the National Day celebrations and launching of "Malaysia Towards the New Millennium" event simultaneously at Dataran Shah Alam on the night of Aug 30.

In conjunction with the launch, Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad will hold "teleconferencing" with all Menteris Besar.

Apart from a parade to be mounted by district councils, district offices and other government departments beginning at 9pm, there will also be stage presentations.

Abu Hassan also said the state-level Quranic reciters gathering would be held from Aug 31 to Sept 4 at Masjid Sultan Salahuddin Abdul Aziz Shah here.

Nine qari and eight qariah will take part in the assembly which will be opened by Abu Hassan.

The Regent of Selangor Tengku Idris Shah will give away prizes to the winners on the final night.

-- BERNAMA

AZH YBY