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More low-cost houses for Perak

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IPOH, Wed. - The State Government has approved the construction of 6,100 low-cost houses which will be built within 18 months.

Menteri Besar Datuk Seri Tajol Rosli Ghazali said today 200 units would initially be built in a 100 per cent low-cost housing scheme in Taiping, Pengkalan Hulu, Kampar and here.

He was speaking to reporters after visiting the Radio Televisyen Malaysia station here this morning, his first since his appointment in December last year.

He said developers assigned to the projects had promised to complete the houses within nine months.

"This way, we will be able to overcome the housing shortage and squatter problem in Taiping, Teluk Intan, Kuala Kangsar and here," he said.

He said more land would also be allocated for planned villages while a 40-ha plot of land had been identified for low-cost housing for civil servants.

Another 80ha plot in Ipoh will be used to build low-cost houses for Ipoh City Council workers. Other sites are in Ulu Kinta.

He said the State Government would also build RM10,000 homes for those who fall under the Scheme for the Very Poor.

Retired civil servants will also have new housing areas, where land will be sold at RM2.50 psf.

Ten developers have been identified to build the low-cost homes.

Some 30,000 units of low-cost homes costing RM35,000 each is to be built in Perak by 2005.

During his visit, Tajol Rosli answered questions "live" from listeners on the "people-friendly" concept he introduced, low-cost housing schemes, ladang rakyat, and improvements to enhance Ipoh's reputation as the Bougainvillea City.

On Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad's statement yesterday that some States were imposing extra conditions on investors, causing them to abandon planned projects approved by Malaysian Industrial Development Authority, Tajol Rosli said Perak was willing to retract those found to be unsuitable.

"We want investors to come. We have even assigned a special officer to handle them," he said.

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