

# 'A model for future housing projects'

SUN 3. 2. 2007

PM advises developers to use Wetland Park as an example

By **T. Buvanes**

buvanes@thesundaily.com

**PUTRAJAYA, Fri:** Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad today invited all housing developers in the country to visit Putrajaya and the Wetland Park so that they can model their projects after these places.

He said the Putrajaya Wetland park is a perfect example of how developers can preserve the environment and, at the same time, create something new for potential buyers.

"There is no need for developers to cut down hills or trees at construction sites and destroy the greenery to make way for houses or buildings.

"The greenery in an area can be preserved, like how we have done in the Wetland Park. The people who visit here also get to learn about the various flora and fauna."

Mahathir said he is aware that there are a lot of developers who are only interested in making as much for themselves as possible from a housing project, without being bothered about the environment.

"However, they must realise that if they have all this greenery, it will be an asset for them to raise the va-

lue of the property."

Developers can persuade buyers to purchase property at a higher value if they have parks, or develop lakes or ponds in the existing areas, Mahathir said in his speech when opening the Putrajaya Wetland Park here today.

Describing the park, he said it covers 136ha of land, comprising 24

wetland cells which come together to a large lake.

The beauty of the Wetland Park, he said, is that the muddy water from the cells is filtered and cleansed before it flows into the lake.

Mahathir added that the park can be an attraction for local and foreign tourists, as they can see marshes, swamps and flora and fauna.