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After Highland Towers

If the Government is seen to be reacting a bit harshly by inspecting buildings and requiring reports from independent consultants (to ascertain the safety of buildings under construction), it is because it does not want to see the recurrence of such a tragedy.

- Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad

The Highland Towers tragedy, the frequency of landslides and floods demand that we view development in all aspects. The Government will ensure that laws and regulations pertaining to development are abided by all.

- Former Deputy Prime Minister Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim, who chaired the Special Cabinet Committee on the Highland Towers tragedy (If the foundation of Block A was sub-standard), why did the council approve the design and construction of the three blocks knowing the lives of 150 families would be in jeopardy?

- Dr Benjamin George, Highland Towers resident and victim
Highrise buildings should not be allowed on hillsides because of environmental and safety reasons. It is against the Land Conservation Act 1960.

- Former Department of Environment director-general Datuk Dr Abu Bakar Jaafar

Unless there is some condition that says all recommendations of the EIA report are binding, State Governments can still allow a developer to continue with a project without taking into consideration the EIA.

- Environmental Protection Society of Malaysia president Gurmit Singh
The nation cannot afford another disaster like the collapse of Highland Towers. The Government must come up with stringent building regulations to ensure that highrise buildings are safe for occupation.

- Former Bukit Bintang Member of Parliament Wee Choo Keong
We must not be lulled into a false sense of security and must learn from the Highland Towers tragedy.

- Former Ampang Jaya Municipal councillor Fuad Hassan
The council has been slow in the past ... until the Highland Towers building collapse on Dec 11. Let this be a lesson to the council and its staff. The safety of the public must never be compromised.

- Ampang Jaya Municipal councillor Datuk Mufti Suib
The tragedy is a valuable lesson to all. We will ensure the State Government inspects all highrise buildings especially those on hillsides.

- Former Johor Menteri Besar Tan Sri Muhyiddin Yassin
Stringent checks have to be carried out and the EIA must be adhered to. We do not want to see a repeat of the Highland Towers tragedy.

- Science, Technology and Environment Minister Datuk Seri Dr Law Hieng Ding