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Putrajaya-development

DEVELOPMENT OF PUTRAJAYA GOING AS SCHEDULED, SAYS AZIZAN

PUTRAJAYA, Feb 4 (Bernama) -- The government departments and ministries would have all moved to Putrajaya by early 2005 at the latest, said Putrajaya Corporation President Tan Sri Azizan Zainul Abidin today.

"The development of Putrajaya is going smoothly and so far, works to build the government offices in Precinct 1 are almost completed," he said at the second anniversary of the Putrajaya Federal Territory Day and the opening of the Putrajaya Botanical Garden here.

Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad and his wife, Datuk Seri Dr Siti Hasmah Mohd Ali were also present.

Azizan said that of the five parcels in Precinct 1, four parcels had been developed and occupied while works to build the offices for another 10 ministries in Precinct 2-4 are in the advance stage.

"Under this project, works for the Finance Ministry have been completed and occupied while works on the remaining nine will be completed in the middle of next year at the latest," he said.

Azizan said the current population of 35,000 people was expected to increase further over time as Putrajaya Holdings Sdn Bhd and its partners completed their housing projects and handed over the units to the government or sold them to the public.

Besides government office buildings and residential units, other projects given attention last year, included the Convention Centre in Precinct 5, utility tunnel in Precinct 2-4, monorail tunnel and works to complete the Putrajaya Lake.

"Several public facilities projects have also been completed, including two more primary and secondary schools, one in Precinct 9 and another in Precinct 16 which were opened early this year," he said.

Azizan said Putrajaya was being developed into a garden city, where 37 per cent of its area was allocated for parks and lakes.

The botanical garden which was declared open by Dr Mahathir today is the biggest in Malaysia, he said.

He said the views from several locations in the botanical garden, situated next to Putrajaya Lake and Wetlands, are among the best in Putrajaya.

The botanical garden has three components, that is flowers component, ornamental plants component and preservation and research component.

"Steps have been taken to set up an arboretum as a heritage for the future generation," he said.

-- BERNAMA

SR AZZ ABG