

05 JAN 2003

Zahid-House

RM100 MIL TO BUILD AFFORDABLE HOUSING FOR THE POOR

SUNGAI PETANI, Jan 5 (Bernama) -- The government has set aside RM100 million under the Federal Government Special Fund to build house for the poor who own land but cannot afford to built a house.

Syarikat Perumahan Negara Berhad (SPNB) Chairman Datuk Ahmad Zahid Hamidi said today that 2,500 affordable houses would be build throughout the country this year.

"The 1,000sq ft and 700sq ft houses have three bedrooms and two bathrooms," Zahid told reporters after the ground breaking ceremony for the affordable- housing project in Semeling launched by Menteri Besar Datuk Seri Syed Razak Syed Zain.

Zahid said 1,000sq ft house that cost RM40,000 to build would be sold for RM26,400 while the 700sq ft house costing RM28,000 would be sold for RM18,840.

Buyers may opt for a 22-year loan with RM100 monthly instalment for the 1000sq ft property or RM70 monthly instalment for the 700sq ft house.

Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad recently handed over the keys to home owners of a pilot project launched in Terengganu last August involving 200 houses.

"SPNB will build the same type of houses in Kedah followed by other states. The state government has been asked to identify suitable candidates to determine the number of houses to be built," he said.

The government realised that there are many poor people who could not afford to build houses but owned inherited land.

Meanwhile, the SPNB housing project also involved 250 medium-cost terrace houses, 530 low-cost terrace houses and 19 low-cost shoplots.

The low-cost terrace houses were sold at RM55,000; medium-cost at RM35,000; and the low-cost shoplot at RM110,000.

-- BERNAMA

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