

30/07/2003

`More medium-cost houses for ex-officers'

PORT KLANG, Tues. - More affordable medium-cost houses for former army and police officers, single mothers and widows of government servants will be built within three years, Deputy Finance Minister Datuk Dr Shafie Mohd Salleh said today.

He said about 47,387 housing units were being built nationwide and some would be completed by the end of this year and the rest by 2004 and 2005.

Speaking after the ground-breaking ceremony of the Selangor Royal Malaysian Customs complex, he said this was the Government's latest strategy to boost the country's economy under the RM7.3 billion stimulus package announced recently by Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad.

He said Syarikat Perumahan Negara Bhd would build 150,000 affordable medium-cost houses within five years. So far, 960 units in Selangor have been completed.

All the completed houses were still unoccupied as the list of qualified applicants from the Selangor Government had not been received.

He said the company was finding suitable areas nationwide for the construction of 101,653 units.

As for single mothers, former police and army officers and widows of government servants, he said SPNB had purchased 40 terrace houses and apartments nationwide for those under this category.