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RM10m trust for Felcra members

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> Govt looking at ways to raise the living standard of settlers, says Najib

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KUALA LUMPUR: A Felcra trust fund will be initiated to benefit its members, said Prime Minister Datuk Seri Najib Abdul Razak yesterday.

The fund will be operated by Permodalan Felcra Sdn Bhd with a starting amount of RM10 million.

"Each year, Felcra will inject at least RM5 million to the fund," Najib said when launching the Felda tower in Jalan Semarak.

He said the government is looking at ways to increase the standard of living of Felcra members.

"We are aware some members are tied down with huge debts with a small land to

develop. The government is very sympathetic towards this people," Najib told a crowd of over 5,000 at the event.

Earlier, the premier said the Felcra project, which will have a 35-storey office tower, a 43-storey service apartment block and commercial buildings, will be a stepping stone for a balanced economy between the urban and rural areas.

The buildings, which are located in Jalan Sultan Yahya Petra (formerly known as Jalan Semarak), will be completed in 2018.

Also present at the launch was Felcra chairman Datuk Bung Mokhtar Radin.

Najib said the project also has the potential to uplift the country's economic market especially in the rural areas to a global level.

He said projects like this are part of efforts to increase the income of B-40 level people from RM2,500 to RM5,000 a month by the year 2020, which is envisaged in the 11th Malaysian Plan.



ADIB RAWI
YAHYA/THESUN

Najib being briefed on the Felcra tower project at the launch yesterday.