

Newspaper	New Straits Times
Date	17/08/2017

BN FULFILS 1996 PROMISE TO EX-ESTATE WORKERS

PM launches Ampar Tenang PPR project

NST- 17/8/2017 Pg. X

DENGKIL: The government has fulfilled a long overdue promise to provide safer and comfortable homes for 400 plantation workers and their families.

At the groundbreaking event of the Ampar Tenang People's Housing Project (PPR) yesterday, Prime Minister Datuk Seri Najib Razak said the government under former prime minister Tun Dr Mahathir Mohamad had, in 1996, promised terrace houses to the families who had to move out of their estate homes to make way for the development of Putrajaya.

"Without Ladang Perang Besar, Madingly, Galloway and Sedgely, there would not be a Putrajaya. That is why the government, in 1996, had decided to

build one-storey terrace houses for the 400 estate workers.

"Dr Mahathir promised this in 1996. We didn't change his promise, it was he who altered his promise to us," said Najib.

The estate workers, he added, had not only contributed to the country's economic growth, but also sacrificed their homes to make way for the administrative capital.

The families were moved to five-storey flats in Taman Permata, near here. However, last year, the flats were confirmed unsafe, forcing residents to look for accommodation elsewhere.

Najib said the project showed the government's commitment to help all Malaysians.

He said this proved that the Barisan Nasional government fought for all groups, communities and races.

"Today (yesterday), with the start of this housing project, it marks the end of your struggle to own a house that should be provided by the government."

The Ampar Tenang PPR is built specifically for former estate workers who are residing at low-cost houses in Taman Permata.

It is slated to be completed in July 2019 and would cost RM60 million. The government would subsidise each unit at RM130,000 and the single-storey house would be priced at RM20,000.

Najib said 216 people, who had



Prime Minister Datuk Seri Najib Razak with recipients of the Ampar Tenang People's Housing Project at the project's groundbreaking event in Sepang yesterday. With them is Urban Wellbeing, Housing and Local Government Minister Tan Sri Noh Omar (sixth from right). PIC BY AHMAD IRHAM MOHD NOOR

made payments for the five-storey flats, would own the new houses for free.

"Hopefully, this project would leave a lasting impression on the 400 families who will move into their new homes in 2019."

Present were Urban Wellbeing, Housing and Local Government Minister Tan Sri Noh Omar, his deputy, Datuk Halimah Sadique, and Health Minister and MIC president Datuk Seri Dr S. Subramaniam.