



Prime Minister Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim witnessing the Rumah Bakat Baru Madani joint development agreement in Kuala Lumpur yesterday. With him are Housing and Local Government Minister Nga Kor Ming (standing, left) and Penang Chief Minister Chow Kon Yeow (standing, right). The agreement was signed by (seated, from left) Penang Development Corporation (PDC) chief executive officer (CEO) Datuk Aziz Bakar, PDC Properties CEO Ismail Ishak, SkyWorld founder and executive chairman Datuk Seri Ng Thien Phing and SkyWorld CEO Lee Chee Seng. BERNAMA PIC

## AFFORDABLE HOMES

# Have humane concept on housing'

**KUALA LUMPUR:** Prime Minister Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim yesterday said housing projects in Malaysia, particularly affordable homes, must adhere to a “humane concept”.

He said these developments should prioritise the wellbeing and dignity of the people, ensuring that they were not only affordable, but also conducive to a good quality of life.

He stressed that while achieving progress in development was important, it was crucial to address the basic housing needs of society as a whole, leaving no one behind.

“Housing for the people is crucial, and comfort is key. Affordable housing must ensure that individuals can integrate into society with access to the same basic facilities.

“If luxury housing includes high-end amenities like a swimming pool, then affordable housing should also provide a pool for the community.”

He said this at the signing ceremony of the joint development

agreement for the Rumah Bakat Baru Madani scheme.

The tripartite agreement was signed by Penang Development Corporation (PDC), PDC Properties (a subsidiary of PDC), and SkyWorld Development Bhd.

Anwar also stressed the urgency of affordable housing development projects, saying, “There is no justification for delaying affordable housing projects once the necessary documentation and approvals are in place.”

He cited the Residensi Suria Madani in Taman Desa, launched in August, as an example.

The project received approval from Kuala Lumpur City Hall within 45 days.

“If it can be done in Kuala Lumpur, I am confident Penang can achieve the same.”

Anwar witnessed the signing ceremony alongside Housing and Local Government Minister Nga Kor Ming and Penang Chief Minister Chow Kon Yeow.

The agreement was signed by PDC chief executive officer (CEO) Datuk Aziz Bakar, PDC Properties

CEO Ismail Ishak, SkyWorld CEO Lee Chee Seng, and SkyWorld founder and executive chairman Datuk Seri Ng Thien Phing.

The Rumah Bakat Baru Madani project is described as the largest affordable housing development in the nation’s history, with an estimated gross development value of RM13 billion.

Located on two prime plots in Penang — 13.75ha in Seberang Jaya and 65.35ha in Batu Kawan — the project aims to deliver more than 35,000 affordable homes.

Units will be priced between RM225,000 and RM420,000 each.

The first phase of the development is scheduled for launch in 2026, with the entire project expected to span a 10-year development period.

When combined with existing affordable housing units, both schemes will play a significant role in the federal government’s commitment under the 12th Malaysia Plan to deliver 500,000 affordable homes by next year.