



Prime Minister Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim listening to a briefing from Putrajaya Corporation president Datuk Fadlun Mak Ujud (second from left) during the launch of the Kota Madani project in Presint 19, Putrajaya. Also present is Minister in the Prime Minister's Department (Federal Territories) Datuk Seri Dr Zaliha Mustafa (fourth from left). NSTP PIC BY MOHD FADLI HAMZAH

SMART CITY

KOTA MADANI PUTS PEOPLE BEFORE PROFIT, SAYS PM

NEW STRAITS TIMES 27 JUN 2025

pg. 3

RM4b project 'serves as new model for urban development in Malaysia'

MOHD ISKANDAR IBRAHIM
PUTRAJAYA
news@nst.com.my

KOTA Madani should not be viewed merely as a large-scale physical project, but rather as a symbol of a new urban development approach that puts people at the centre, said the prime minister.

Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim said urban planning should be guided by cultural values, humanity and social well-being, and no longer be dominated by the interests of developers.

"I want Kota Madani to serve as a model for urban development in

our country. I urge urbanisation, state-level works, (to) see what we can do differently.

"Do not simply bow to developers. We are the ones who plan.

"A project should not be dictated solely by a company, because when they decide, of course they will present views and proposals that prioritise profit," he said at the launch of the Kota Madani development here yesterday.

The mega project in Presint 19 is conceptualised as a smart city that is both people-friendly and environmentally conscious, Bernama reported.

The RM4 billion project will be developed by Putrajaya Holdings Sdn Bhd through a public-private partnership based on the build, lease, maintain and transfer (BLMT) concept, without involving any government allocation in the initial phase.

Kota Madani features 10,000 high-density residential quarters capable of housing more than 30,000 residents, vertical schools and a variety of public amenities.

The development integrates artificial intelligence (AI) technology, smart digital infrastructure, and green mobility systems.

The first phase is expected to begin in September and completed by the end of 2027.

The project forms part of the government's efforts to realise the Malaysia Madani vision and the "Chase" city concept — clean, healthy, advanced, safe and sustainable.

Meanwhile, Minister in the Prime Minister's Department (Federal Territories) Datuk Seri Dr Zaliha Mustafa said the Kota Madani project was expected to help civil servants save up to RM1,000 a month in living costs.

She said they would be able to reside in government quarters at minimal cost, with salary deduction for housing coming to only around RM400 per month.

"Their children's schools are nearby and accessible on foot. They can go to and from school safely as the area is equipped with advanced security system.

"Fuel costs can also be saved. So they can set aside money for the future," she said in her speech at the launch.

Responding to claims that the project would replace Putrajaya, Dr Zaliha said Kota Madani covered only 0.8 per cent of Putrajaya.

"Putrajaya was built as a symbol of modern and planned administrative capital. Kota Madani is a continuation and realisation of this vision, with emphasis on a liveable, inclusive and secure ecosystem," she added.

Dr Zaliha said the 10,000 residential quarters to be built for civil servants would address the acute shortage currently faced.

"The actual need for quarters in Putrajaya is 35,000 units, but only 22,000 have been available in the last 20 years, with no increase. Currently, there are 17,000 on the waiting list."

Also present were Chief Secretary to the Government Tan Sri Shamsul Azri Abu Bakar and Putrajaya Corporation president Datuk Fadlun Mak Ujud.