

Kampung Bunga Raya Villagers On Hunger Strike Over Unfulfilled PKR Promise
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PETALING JAYA, Jan 29 (Bernama) -- Fifty-seven families of Kampung Bunga Raya near here went on hunger strike Sunday, to protest against the Selangor Government's failure to provide new houses as promised in the last general election.

Beginning their hunger strike at 9am, the families comprising over 100 people, demanded to meet senior state or federal government officials to seek a solution to their four-year-old woes.

They claimed that Parti Keadilan Rakyat MP for Subang R. Sivarasah had promised that the 57 families would each be given a new house in Jalan Pluto by 2010.

"We were told we could celebrate Deepavali in our new homes in 2010. However, it was merely a distant dream...nothing has been done so far. It was an empty promise by Sivarasah.

"The housing project which began in 2008 has been abandoned until today," non-governmental organisation Pertubuhan Perikatan Prihatin Malaysia vice-president R. Balan told Bernama here.

However, the families ended their hunger strike about 4.30pm, when Paya Jaras assemblyman Datuk Muhammad Bushro Mat Johor and the prime minister's political secretary, Datuk Shafei Abdullah, arrived at the scene, promising to look into their plight.

Selangor Umno deputy liaison chief Datuk Seri Noh Omar, who is also agriculture and agro-based industry minister, also met the families.

Later, Balan said the first developer who began the project to build their houses was declared a bankrupt and absconded.

"The second developer who took over the project cheated us by mixing polystyrene to build the walls (of the houses), to which we did not agree.

"Such obstacles caused some of us to be blacklisted by a bank when we stopped paying instalments.

"We have lodged a few police reports (against the developers and the MP) but until now, no action has been taken," he said.

Village head S. Perumal, 62, hoped the federal government would rescue them out of the current mess as they had been "living without proper water and electricity supply for 18 years".

"We are living in Malaysia, are we orphans? Who will help us? We need an urgent solution as the state government is not helping us. We want the federal government to help us solve

the problem," he said.

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