

Parliament: Government Monitors Increase In House Prices
Bernama
June 20, 2012

KUALA LUMPUR, June 20 (Bernama) -- The government continues to monitor the increase in house prices and will impose additional measures, if necessary, to ensure the people can afford to buy their own houses.

Housing and Local Government Deputy Minister Datuk Lajim Ukin said several mechanism had been implemented, like reducing to 70 per cent the Loan to Value (LTV) on housing loans for purchase of a third house, and subsequent houses.

He said the government had also reintroduced the Real Property Gains Tax (RPGT) since Jan 1, 2010, to reduce speculations that caused the increase in the price of houses in the country.

"Currently, the government does not control the house price as it is determined by the market forces and free economic practice to encourage the growth of the country's housing industry," he said in response to Datuk Md Sirat Abu (BN-Bukit Katil) in the Dewan Rakyat, here on Wednesday.

Lajim said that the government was concerned with the housing needs of those in the low income group and was targetting to build 78,000 units of low cost houses (RKR) nationwide under the 10th Malaysia Plan.

The government also launched the 1Malaysia housing programme (PR1MA) to ensure that the medium income groups could buy their own house at reasonable prices of between RM150,000 and RM300,000, depending on their locations, he added.

-- BERNAMA

Copyright © 2012 BERNAMA

Source: <http://www.bernama.com/bernama/v6/newsindex.php?id=674386>