

'Artistic' touch to PR1MA housing loans

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PUTRAJAYA: A special financing scheme will be provided for artists and arts activists to buy houses under the 1Malaysia People Housing programme (PR1MA), said Prime Minister Datuk Seri Najib Tun Razak.

He said he was aware that artists and arts activists do not have pay slips, and banks were reluctant to provide them with housing loans as a result.

Speaking when hosting a tea reception for artists and arts activists at Seri Perdana here Wednesday, Najib said except for a few who were really popular, 90% would find it difficult to obtain loans to purchase houses.

"I have informed PR1MA Bhd chief executive officer Datuk Abdul Mutalib Alias and asked him to come out with a non-conventional end financing scheme.

"This is for those who are without a steady income so they can own houses," he said to applause from some 700 artists and cultural activists.

Najib also announced the extension of the 1Malaysia Privilege Card which offers discount of up to 25% at more than 100 outlets to the group.

"The discount card will be given to all registered members of arts-related associations in the country," he said.

Currently the cards are only for members of the armed forces, police and government pensioners.

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