

Federal Government's Affordable Home Project Postponed By Penang DAP State Government
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GEORGE TOWN, Aug 7 (Bernama) -- The federal government's commitment to build affordable homes in Penang may come to nought following the action of the Penang DAP state government in postponing the projects planned.

Penang Federal Action Council chairman, Datuk Zainal Abidin Osman said 32,369 units of houses were planned for 2015-2018.

"Not one unit of the houses are approved by the state government and the State Planning Committee (SPC) has postponed all the projects by the federal government's departments and agencies since eight months ago.

"A total 9,850 of the units involved comprise 3,000 units of low cost houses and 6,050 units of medium cost and affordable houses. No technical reasons involving infrastructure were submitted, all were postponed without reason given," he told reporters after a Federal Action Council meeting at the Federal Building here Thursday.

As such, he said the council had submitted an appeal and sought a special consideration from the state government to approve the units which did not receive the approval of the SPC.

Zainal Abidin said 7,942 units of low cost, medium low cost and affordable homes had been built in 2013-2014 involving six agencies.

"We hope the plans of the federal government departments and agencies to build affordable homes can get speedy approval similar to that given to private sector developers," he said.

He said the meeting also discussed the process of drawing up a list of projects under the 11th Malaysia Plan.

He said 263 project proposals had been received from 28 government departments and agencies on people's housing, human capital development and urban wellbeing.

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