

Najib Launches Project Offering Affordable Homes For Civil Servants
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KUALA LUMPUR, April 8 (Bernama) -- Prime Minister Datuk Seri Najib Tun Razak today launched a government-initiated housing project that enables low- and medium-income civil servants to own affordable and quality homes in urban areas.

The 1Malaysia Civil Servants Housing Programme (PPA1M) in Bukit Jalil here is a public-private partnership project that makes use of the cross-subsidy method, he said.

He explained that a piece of land was approved for the developer, and the profit from part of the land developed on a commercial basis was used by the developer to build the houses for the civil servants without funding from the government.

Balloting was also done for the houses during the launch of the project today. A total of 1,536 units of houses costing between RM150,000 and RM300,000 per unit depending on sizes ranging from 1,000 sq ft to 1,434 sq ft was offered to the civil servants.

Up to 6,826 applications were received for the houses during the offer period from Jan 22 to Feb 28 this year. A total of 4,269 applicants fulfilled the criteria.

Najib said civil servants successful in the balloting for the Bukit Jalil houses could be regarded as having landed a windfall because the houses were being sold at below the market price.

"It is not just value for money. Those who acquire the houses can regard it as a windfall because their property value will escalate in five to 10 years," he said.

He also said that the PPA1M housing project came with various facilities, such as surau, 1Malaysia People's Shop, 1Malaysia Clinic and playground, to provide for comfortable living.

Najib said the government was sensitive to the laments of civil servants living in cities who found it difficult to own homes because of the high market price.

It was for this reason that the government implemented the PPA1M project that offered houses way below the market price to meet their needs, he said.

"We often hear of the laments of the city dwellers on the cost of owning a house by purchasing it from the open market. Not everyone can buy a house from the open market," he said.

Najib said it was the desire of the government to ensure that as many civil servants as possible had their own homes in cities and, as such, it had decided to build 100,000 units of PPA1M houses throughout the country.

He said the government had announced in April 2013 the construction of 10,336 units of PPA1M houses in Putrajaya, and recently the second phase was launched in the administrative capital providing for an additional 4,911 units.

He also said that due to the high demand for the houses, a PPA1M project was provided in Bukit Jalil with the offer of 1,536 units.

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