

# More low and medium-cost houses in Putrajaya

## FT Minister wants to have better mix of population

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**L**OW and medium-cost housing units in Putrajaya will be increased from 2,000 to 8,500 to ensure a better mix of the population.

This was announced by new Federal Territories Minister Senator Datuk Raja Nong Chik Raja Zainal Abidin after his inaugural official visit to Putrajaya yesterday.

"Putrajaya caters for medium and higher income earners but future development should provide more housing for lower sections of the society," he said after a briefing in Perbadanan Putrajaya (PPj).

He had earlier visited the City Mosque under construction behind

the PPj complex in Precinct 3. Able to cater for 20,000 worshippers when completed in August, the RM200mil mosque is poised to become another landmark.

Raja Nong Chik, who also visited the PPj customer service centre and City Command Centre, said the stalled Putrajaya monorail project would have to take a back seat now that the global financial crisis had hit the nation.

When asked what he would like changed in Putrajaya, Raja Nong Chik said the public mindset towards maintenance.

"The Putrajaya community, being mainly civil servants, should be equally responsible in caring for the city.

"The local authority is doing its part but maybe it should organise

programmes to educate the public to maintain common facilities," he added.

PPj president Tan Sri Samsudin Osman said maintenance cost comprised 57% or RM159,350 of the overall management budget for 2009 and the figure had been on the rise since 2007.

To solve the current traffic problems in Putrajaya, Samsudin said another park-and-ride facility would soon be opened in Precinct 14.

"We strongly urge those who work in Putrajaya to use the existing park-and-ride facilities because the charges are only RM2 per entry and they can hop on a feeder bus for free. We will impose parking charges soon to solve the parking and congestion problems in Parcels B and E," he added.



**Getting ready:** Raja Nong Chik (in orange tie) sharing a light moment with Samsudin as the latter adjusts his hard hat before a tour of the City Mosque.