

PPM houses to be bigger, better than PPR homes

NST ONLINE | September 11, 2019 @ 8:51pm



Housing and Local Government Minister Zuraida Kamaruddin (left) visiting the exhibition during the 5th Annual Conference and Exhibition Smart Cities Asia 2019 at Kuala Lumpur Convention Centre today. (Bernama)

KUALA LUMPUR: Housing and Local Government Minister Zuraida Kamaruddin defended her ministry's move to rebrand the People's Housing Project (PPR) to Malaysia's Housing Project (PPM), saying they were both different concepts.

Though the rebranding still focused on the B40 group, she said the concept would be different as the houses built would be bigger with better facilities.

However, when asked if the prices of the rebranded houses would increase, Zuraida refused comment.

"I cannot be telling you everything. You will misquote me and everything will go crazy. But this (the rebranding exercise) is a different concept. The houses are bigger with at least 900 square feet compared to the current PPR houses where houses are only 700 square feet," she said.

She also said the houses would be situated at strategic locations, unlike the current PPR locations and would focus on ensuring tenants obtain bank loans.

"Currently they have no accessibility to a bank loan. But when they enter a rent to own scheme, they can upgrade themselves to an ownership scheme where banks will look at their rental payment record," she said.

She also said there might be a quota, not on ethnic groups but by economic groups to promote integrated living among Malaysians.

The rebranding, she said was also to uplift the morale of current PPR residents as they have always felt downgraded.

Zuraida was responding to criticism from Penang Chief Minister Chow Kon Yeow who said the rebranding exercise would result in higher market prices and would be out of reach for the B40 group.