

# Tawau ripe for city status: Zuraida

BERNAMA | November 26, 2019



Housing and Local Government Minister Zuraida Kamaruddin. (Photo by Low Yen Yeing/EdgeProp)

TAWAU (Nov 26): Tawau has the potential to be developed as a city in view of the intended relocation of the Indonesian capital to Kalimantan south of the common border, Housing and Local Government Minister Zuraida Kamaruddin said yesterday.

The municipality must prepare itself for the upgrading in the new year, she told reporters after a visit to a hire-purchase housing site at Batu 5, Jalan Apas, here.

“After my two-day visit here, I see great potential for Tawau to develop in terms of tourism, trade and the hospitality business with the intended relocation of the Indonesian capital (from Jakarta) to Kalimantan.

“As such, much upgrading of the local council services and infrastructure will have to be carried out,” she said.

Zuraida said she will propose that Economic Affairs Minister Datuk Seri Mohamed Azmin Ali make a working visit to Tawau and the border areas to see the potential for development.

Zuraida also said that Tawau can be developed as a smart city through smart partnership with foreign investors.

She spoke of potential investment from China which she said had made such an offer to the pertinent department under the ministry.

The Tawau Municipal Council can have discussions with these potential investors on the development of Tawau as a smart city, without any cost to the government, she said.