

FEDERAL TERRITORY DAY

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KL to have more green areas, says FT minister

KUALA LUMPUR: More recreational areas and public parks will be set up to provide more "green" to the concrete forest in the federal capital, which is inhabited by 1.9 million people.

Federal Territories Minister Tan Sri Annuar Musa said this is one of the ministry's aspirations to provide a better quality of life and more comfortable living for city dwellers, apart from ensuring balanced development and a sustainable environment.

The move, he said, would involve the upgrading and beautification of seven abandoned lakes north of the city under the 2020-2040 Kuala Lumpur Structure Plan (PSKL), which is expected to be launched mid-year.

"It is a big challenge, as the area is the focus of the private sector to be developed into residential areas.

"I want to ensure that our rapid development is balanced by having wider green areas," he told

Bernama in an interview in conjunction with Federal Territory Day, which will be celebrated today with the theme, "Federal Territory, Caring Territory".

Annuar said PSKL outlined the development of a large-scale public park in Bukit Kiara and the upgrading of Taman Botani Perdana and Taman Tugu, as well as the goal of creating a "garden city".

He said providing affordable housing for dwellers under the "Caring Residency" initiative, costing about RM200,000 per unit and with a target of 20,000 units, would

be given priority.

Five sites in Putrajaya and one in Seputeh had been identified for the construction of the housing project, he said, adding that priority will be given to young buyers.

He said the housing project will be built using the modular home concept to speed up construction, as well as to save costs.

Bernama



Tan Sri Annuar
Musa