

Helping hand for the Malay land owners

NST 34.7.1977



Datuk Hussein Onn wishing one of the owners of the shop units in the Kampung Datuk Keramat town centre yesterday.

\$5 MIL LOAN SCHEME FOR DEVELOPMENT OF THEIR PROPERTY

KUALA LUMPUR, Sat. — Datuk Hussein Onn announced today a loan scheme, with an initial allocation of \$5 million, to enable bumiputra land owners in the Federal Territory to develop their property.

He said the loan scheme would enable bumiputra residents in the city, who previously had no means to develop their land, to be able to do so now for economic activities.

"Shop units or extension to existing buildings could be built on their land, and these could either be rented out or used for their own businesses. In this way, the residents would be able to enjoy additional income," Datuk Hussein said.

The Prime Minister said the scheme, to be administered and implemented by City Hall, would also ensure that property owned by bumiputras would not change hands.

Opening the Kampung Datuk Keramat town centre here, Datuk Hussein said while the city centre was far ahead in the modern facilities available, many areas on the outskirts lagged far behind.

Small towns

He said City Hall would carry out a study and plan as a main project, to balance the development and expansion of the city centre with areas on the outskirts.

"Many such areas on the outskirts are still of kampung status, and they are without the proper facilities even though they possess the potential to form the basis of development in the Federal Territory.

"Kampungs such as Kampung Baru, Gombak, Jinjang and Sungai Pencala need immediate attention not only to raise their status, but also to restructure them so that they become small towns able to participate in the economic activities of Kuala Lumpur.

"The establishment of these small towns will ease the congestion in the city centre, and enable residents in these areas to obtain their daily needs from these towns themselves."

Datuk Hussein also said in the rapid development of Kuala Lumpur, efforts should be made to ensure that the bumiputras play an active role.

In this respect, he hoped City Hall together with other Government

available facilities as well as arrange the implementation of systematic programmes and projects in order that the objectives of the New Economic Policy were achieved.

The Prime Minister also said that with the setting up of the Federal Territory, the Federal Government could devote its full attention to the planning and development of the city in line with its position as the capital of the nation.

"Kuala Lumpur should be developed into a city comparable to other advanced and modern cities and become the symbol of pride of the people of Malaysia.

Identity

"While we are modernising and developing Kuala Lumpur, we should still maintain our national identity so that our history and culture continue to be enriched."

On the development of the Kampung Datuk Keramat town centre, Datuk Hussein said this would raise its status, and increase the value of land and property in the area.

He was confident that bumiputras in the private sector would play their part by having their businesses in the new town centre.

"With their participation, it will increase the economic activities of Kampung Datuk Keramat to benefit the residents," the Prime Minister added.

Earlier Datuk Bandar Tan Sri Yaacob Latiff said the development of the \$2 million town centre included a business complex with 193 shop units, a block of flats with 80 units, a children's playground and the repairs and improvement of roads.