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IBS academy to be set up

Zuraida: It will provide training on building pre-fabricated houses

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SHAH ALAM: An Industrialised Building System (IBS) Academy will be set up by the Housing and Local Government Ministry to train Malaysians on the latest technology in building pre-fabricated houses.

Minister Zuraida Kamaruddin said that by using the IBS technology, housing units could be built faster at a lower cost in terms of reduced labour and lower price of materials.

"Using this technology, building homes would no longer be regarded as a 3D (dirty, difficult and dangerous) job," she said after launching the National Affordable Home

Policy (NAHP) at Elmina Central Park here.

Zuraida said the IBS Academy would be located at Awana Kijal, Terengganu.

The NAHP is a sub-policy under the National Housing Policy (2018-2025) outlining the standards, key specifications and selling price, apart from providing guidelines for the development of liveable and safe affordable housing.

The policy also defines the key features for high-rises and landed affordable housing that meet national standard and construction industry standards.

Zuraida said the price of affordable homes should be kept below RM300,000, adding that prices

would vary according to location.

The minister lauded Sime Darby Property Bhd for coming up with D3 (divergence, dwelling and design) affordable homes that matched the government's aspiration to provide liveable, inclusive, comprehensive and quality affordable housing.

Sime Darby used the modular "kampung house" layout because it is energy efficient, practical, designed to capitalise on natural lighting and promotes good ventilation.

Former Bank Negara governor Tan Sri Dr Zeti Akhtar Aziz said the Sime Darby D3 sustainable home design could potentially change the way affordable homes were built throughout the country.

"It opens up opportunities for the construction of housing on a massive scale, especially medium cost and affordable housing.

"D3 delivers speed to market, operational efficiency, cost savings and improved quality and standards to consumers.

"We are confident that Sime Darby Property D3 Sustainable Homes will provide quality through a modern, accurate and sustainable building method, as accorded by the National Affordable Housing Policy and National Housing Standard," Zeti said.

Also present were Deputy Works Minister Anuar Mohd Tahir and Selangor Mentri Besar Amirudin Shari.