

07 Sep 2018 New Straits Times, Malaysia

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ROAD, DRAINAGE AND BUILDING ACT

Act to be tightened for construction at hillslopes, says DPM

PUTRAJAYA: The government will amend the Road, Drainage and Building Act (Act 133) 1974 in the next Dewan Rakyat sitting, regarding enforcement of building construction at hillslopes.

Deputy Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Wan Azizah Wan Ismail said every development in areas with a gradient of more than 25 degrees and a vertical height of more than 10m would be made compulsory to prepare a geotechnical report by a certified appraiser registered with the Board of Engineers Malaysia.

"The act will be tabled in the next Dewan Rakyat sitting. We decided on this due to past landslides.

"The previous government started the ball rolling, but it has taken such a long time to implement it, including referring the matter to the Attorney-General's Chambers and debating on proposals for approval."

Dr Wan Azizah said this after chairing the 72nd National Local Government Council meeting. Present was Housing and Local Government Minister Zuraida Kamaruddin.

She said no approval for hillslope development would be given to those who failed to comply.

Once the act had been amended, she said, monitoring would be carried out on buildings, including private-owned properties.

"I am shocked to learn that the law does not allow local authorities to inspect premises and buildings. With the changes made to the act, they can conduct inspection on all assets, including



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Deputy Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Wan Azizah Wan Ismail (centre) chairing the 72nd National Local Government Council meeting in Putrajaya yesterday. BERNAMA PIC

private-owned ones.

"We have decided to hold this meeting more frequently instead of once a year so that things will be more effective and impactful."

She said the Housing and Local Government Ministry would im-

prove its OSC Manual 3.0 to OSC Manual 3.0 plus to expedite the approval processes.

Zuraida said the ministry had proposed for hotels with a threestar rating and above to use biodigester technology to manage solid waste.

The ministry, she added, would discuss it with the authorities to ensure that the use of biodigester technology would be included as a requirement for licence approval.



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SUMMARIES

ROAD, DRAINAGE AND BUILDING ACT

PUTRA JAYA: The government will amend the Road, Drainage and Building Act (Act 133) 1974 in the next Dewan Rakyat sitting, regarding enforcement of building construction at hillslopes.