

Rehda tells govts, local councils to cooperate on affordable housing

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Its president Datuk Seri FD Iskandar said he three parties should provide leeways to affordable housing developers such as collecting lower premium at higher density lands without imposing development charges.

PETALING JAYA: The Real Estate and Housing Developers' Association (Rehda) has urged the federal, state and local governments to work together to tackle the affordable housing issue.

Its president Datuk Seri FD Iskandar said he three parties should provide leeways to affordable housing developers such as collecting lower premium at higher density lands without imposing development charges.

“The governments and local councils must understand that land prices, labour cost and construction cost are getting more expensive,” he told reporters on the sidelines of the Rehda Hari Raya open house here yesterday.

“Hence, the outlook for the year would be less challenging if the leeways were provided, he added.

On affordable house ownership in the country, Iskandar hoped the central bank could be more lenient with loan approvals and provide certain flexibility to potential purchasers.

Houses priced below RM500,000 were considered affordable housing, he noted. Meanwhile, he remained optimistic that the government would adopt the revised National Housing Policy by year-end.

The policy, among other things, emphasises the price of affordable houses.

“We are currently in talks with the government and believe the policy would benefit house buyers,” he said —
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