

Media Title : The Malaysian Reserve  
Headline : SPNB confident of building 3,000 units of Rumah Mesra Rakyat  
Date : 12 November 2020  
Page : 7  
Size : 26x16.2



# SPNB confident of building 3,000 units of Rumah Mesra Rakyat

*The company is going to focus more on building affordable homes for the people moving forward*



**SYARIKAT** Perumahan Negara Bhd (SPNB) is confident of building 3,000 units of Rumah Mesra Rakyat as per Budget 2021's announcement last week.

CEO Datuk Hasleen Isnin said the company is going to focus more on building affordable homes for the people moving forward.

"We are going to be more aggressive towards delivering what the government wants us to build.

"The development of 3,000 units of Rumah Mesra Rakyat, I believe we can achieve it," he told *The Malaysian Reserve* (TMR) recently.

He lauded the government's allocation for the property market which proves that the need of affordable homes is a priority.

Hasleen also supports the government's rent-to-own (RTO) scheme, which involves 5,000 units of 1Malaysia People's Housing Programme (PRIMA).

In the recent Budget 2021 tabling, the



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government allocated a total of RM1.2 billion to ease homeownership for the low-income group.

A total of RM500 million was budgeted to build 14,000 low-cost housing units under the Program Perumahan Rakyat, RM315 million for the construction of 3,000 units of Rumah Mesra Rakyat by SPNB, RM125 million for the maintenance of low-cost and medium-low stratified housing, as well as assis-

tance to repair dilapidated houses and those damaged by natural disasters; and RM310 million for the Malaysia Civil Servants Housing Programme.

The RTO scheme will be implemented until 2022 with a total value of more than RM1 billion and reserved for first-time home buyers.

Glomac Bhd group MD and CEO Datuk Seri Fateh Iskandar Mohamed Mansor said

the government should allocate all the expenses to one national housing agency.

"I hope the national housing agency will come into place soon because one agency can coordinate better and compile big data.

"When you have the big data, you are able to know when and where to build, the type of properties and who needs it," he told TMR when contacted.

He added that having many agencies which do the same thing might contribute to poor coordination.

The government has also announced that the full stamp duty exemption on instruments of transfer and loan agreement for first-time home buyers is extended until Dec 31, 2025.

The limit of duty stamp for a first residential home is also increased to RM500,000, effective for sale and purchase agreement executed from Jan 1, 2021, to Dec 31, 2025.

Meanwhile, the stamp duty exemption on loan agreements and instruments of transfer given to rescuing contractors and the original house purchasers is extended for another five years.

The exemption is effective for loan agreements and instruments of transfer executed from Jan 1, 2021, to Dec 31, 2025, for abandoned housing projects certified by the Housing and Local Government Ministry.