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Sibu Jaya Township on transformation mode

Posted By emmor On February 8, 2012 @ 6:12 AM In Local | No Comments



GROUNDBREAKING: Abang Johari gets a helping hand as he operates the machine at the earth-breaking ceremony to launch the project.

SIBU: HDCam Sdn Bhd will invest more than RM1 billion in total gross development value (GDV) to develop Sibu Jaya Township in the next 10 years.

Housing Minister Datuk Amar Abang Johari Tun Openg said that by 2023, the township would have 5,600 medium — to high-end residential units, 476 commercial units, 83 industrial units and four parcels of land for commercial buildings.

He also expected the population of the township to hit 60,000 by then.

"Currently, about 460 acres from the total area of 1,400 acres have been developed with RM470 million GDV having been spent in the initial development.

"The development comprises 4,986 residential units, 174 commercial units and 96 industrial units that serve a population of 25,000," he told a press conference after he officiated at the launching of 'Pearl Avenue' housing project in Sibu Jaya near here yesterday.

Abang Johari, who is also Tourism Minister, said Sibu Jaya had good potential as the state's economic hub because of its central location right smack in the Sarawak Corridor of Renewable Energy (SCORE) area.

It would also serve as a link in the planned Sibu-Kanowit-Song-Kapit Road.

"Sibu Jaya is just one kilometre from Sibu Airport and just 23km from the town's business district."

HDCam director Azmi Hashim, meanwhile, said 170 units of medium-to high-end double storey house would be built at the 'Pearl Avenue' project at a cost of RM40 million.

He said each unit built on a plot of 1,457 square feet would sell from RM248,880 upwards.

Assistant Minister of Housing Abdul Karim Rahman Hamzah, Malaysian Institute of Microelectronic Systems president and chief executive officer Datuk Abdul Wahab Abdullah, Sibu Rural District Council chairman James Laju Ambok, Daya Builders chairman Dr Abdul Rahman Junaidi and Sibu Municipal Council deputy chairman Daniel Ngieng were among those present.

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