# By-laws governing strata parcels in Malaysia



> General duties of proprietors according to the Third Schedule of Strata Management Regulation 2015

BY **DATUK PRETAM SINGH** DARSHAN SINGH

HILE last week's article covered the general bylaws under the Third Schedule of the Strata Management Regulation 2015, this week, we look at what is required and prohibited by the proprietor who is the house owner.

## **GENERAL DUTIES OF A PROPRIETOR**

- ▶ Promptly pay to the management corporation the charges and contribution to the sinking fund relating to his parcel, and all other monies imposed by or payable to the management corporation under
- Promptly pay all quit rent, local authority assessment and other charges and outgoings which are payable in respect of his parcel;
- ▶ Permit the management corporation and its servants or agents, at all reasonable times and on reasonable notice being

given (except in the case of an emergency when no notice is required), to enter his parcel for the purposes of:

a) checking for leakages or other building defects;

b) maintaining, repairing, renewing or upgrading pipes, wires, cables and ducts used or capable of being used in connection with the enjoyment of any other parcel or the common property;

c) maintaining, repairing, renewing or upgrading the common property; and executing any work or doing any act reasonably necessary for or in connection with the performance of its duties under the Act or the regulations made thereunder or for or in connection with the enforcement of these by-laws or additional by-laws affecting the development and forthwith carry out all the work ordered by any competent public or statutory authority in respect of his parcel other than such work for the benefit of the building or common property;

d) repair and maintain his parcel, including doors and windows and keep it in a state of good repair, reasonable wear and tear, damage by fire, storm, tempest or act of God excepted, and shall keep clean all exterior surfaces of glass in windows and doors on the boundary of his parcel which are not common property, unless the management corporation has resolved that it will keep clean the glass or specified part of the glass or the glass or part of the glass that cannot be accessed safely or at all by the proprietor;

e) maintain his parcel including all sanitary fittings, water, gas, electrical and air-conditioning pipes and apparatus thereof in a good condition so as not to cause any fire or explosion, or any leakages to any other parcel or the common property or so as not to cause any annoyance to the proprietors of other parcels in the development area;

f) forthwith repair and make good at his own cost and expense any damage to his parcel if such

damage is excluded under any insurance policy effected by the management corporation and to carry out and complete such repair within any time period specified by the management corporation, failing which the management corporation may carry out such repair and the cost of so doing shall be charged to the proprietor and shall be payable on demand;

g) not use or permit to be used his parcel in such a manner or for such a purpose as to cause nuisance or danger to any other proprietor or the families of such proprietor; not use or permit to be used his parcel contrary to the terms of use of the parcel shown in the plan approved by the relevant authority; and

h) notify the management corporation forthwith of any change in the proprietorship of his parcel or any dealings, charges, leases or creation of any interest, for entry in the strata roll; and use and enjoy the common property in such a manner so as not to interfere unreasonably with the use and enjoyment thereof

by other proprietors. Follow our column next week to learn of the general prohibitions of proprietors, power of the management corporation and changes to by-laws that are possible.

Datuk Pretam Singh Darshan Singh, a lawyer by profession, has previously worked as Senior Federal Counsel, Deputy Public Prosecutor with the Attorney General's Chambers and legal advisor to several



government departments and agencies He is currently the partner in a legal firm while simultaneously serving as President of the Tribunal for Home Buyers' Claims. Leveraging his vast knowledge and decades of experience and knowledge, he contributes articles to local and international journals, besides delivering lectures and talks in relevant forums.

Email your feedback and queries to: propertyqs@ thesundaily.com



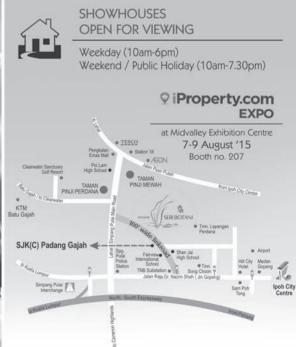
Double Storey Terrace House Standard Lot Size: 24'x80' Build-up Area: from 2,625 sq.ft Price: from RM472,000



Double Storey Semi-Detached Standard Lot Size: 40'x90' Build-up Area: from 3,375 sq.ft Price: from RM 798,000



Double Storey Semi-Detached Standard Lot Size: 38'x79' Build-up Area: from 2,350 sq.ft Price: from RM697,425



# Special Feature -

- 1,254 acres of integrated township development
- A green leafy pleasant suburb with lpoh City's charm
- Located approximately 4km from Simpang Pulai Interchange
- Freehold virgin land
- 2 recreational lake parks (32 acres Eco Park 1 and 24 acres Eco Park 2)
- Security features
- Practical and functional design with renovation free concept



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ON FRIDAY AUGUST 7, 2015

# **BANDAR SERI BOTANI**

**BANDAR SERI BOTANI** is a township development under the Taiko Group. Sprawling across 1,254 acres of former plantation land, this fully integrated township development located at the southeast section of Ipoh City is situated approximately 4km from the Simpang Pulai Interchange along the North-South Highway. It is also just about 12km to Ipoh's city centre.

The development is also accessible via a 100ft wide road that joins Jalan Raja Dr Nazrin Shah (Jalan Gopeng) to Lahat – Simpang Pulai road. Bandar Seri Botani was created with the slogan: "Nature in the midst of living". It is ideal for those who cherish a lifestyle concept that brings nature to the doorstep.

There are two recreational parks within this spacious development which are Eco Park I measuring 32 acres and the 24.6 acre Eco-Park 2. Amenities and facilities which are just a stone's throw away include:

- government schools;
- Chinese school SJK(C) Padang Gajah; private schools Shen Jai High School &
- Poi Lam High School;
- Fairview International School;
- commercial centres like Aeon Station 18, Tesco Hypermarket Station 18, Pengkalan Emas Mall, Gunung Rapat commercial area & wet market; and transport hubs like the Sultan Azlan
- Shah airport and KTM Batu Gajah

To date, there are 4,900 landed housing units and shop offices that have been

completed and handed over.

Phase 7.3 (2) was recently launched and comprises 173 units of double-storey 24' x 80' terrace houses with built-up areas measuring 2,625 sq. ft. These are offered at RM472,000 and above.

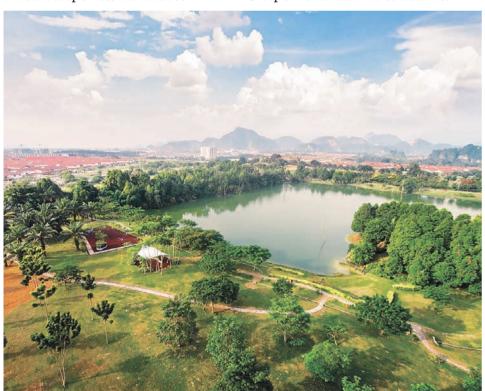
Features include:

- freehold lots;
- fully extended built-up; large built-up area with four bedrooms, four baths and a family hall;
- spacious closet area in the master bedroom;
- tiled driveway;
- plaster ceiling for the entire house except the wet kitchen area;
- ceramic tiles of 600mm x 600mm, complete with skirting for whole house except wet kitchen, baths and external
- individual home alarm system;
- security metal grilles;
- upgraded finishes; all in
- a renovation free concept.

Construction stands at 35% for now with completion expected in QI of 2017.

Interested parties can view the ready showhouses during weekdays from 10am to 6pm or at the weekends/public holidays between 10 am and 7.30pm.

Alternatively, visit the Bandar Seri Botani booth at the iProperty.com expo at Midvalley Exhibition Centre from Aug 7 to 9, between 11am to 9pm at Hall 2, Booth 207. For more information, contact the Taiko Group or visit wwwbandarseribotani.com









# By-laws governing strata PARTS > General prohibitions of a proprietor according to the Third Schedule of Strata Management Regulation 2015



BY **DATUK PRETAM SINGH DARSHAN SINGH** 

**PROPRIETOR** shall not use his strata parcel for any purposes, illegal or otherwise, which may be injurious to the reputation of the development area; use as fuel of any substance or material which may give rise to smoke or fumes or obnoxious smells or shall not use any substance which the management corporation in a general meeting shall decide; and throw or allow to fall, any refuse or rubbish of any description on the common property or any part thereof except in refuse bins maintained by him or in refuse chutes or in refuse bins in common refuse chambers provided in the building.

# **▶ PROHIBITION OF NUISANCE**

A proprietor shall not use language or behave in a manner likely to cause offence or embarrassment or nuisance to any other proprietor or to any person lawfully using the common property.

# ► APPEARANCE, FAÇADE AND COLOUR OF EXTERIOR

A proprietor shall not change the appearance, colour code and façade to any part on the exterior of his parcel without the prior written approval of the management corporation and, where necessary, the approval of the appropriate authority.

# **▶ PEST CONTROL**

A proprietor shall take all necessary steps to prevent his parcel from infestation by termites, vermin, rodents, pests and insects provided that any netting installed shall first be approved by the management corporation.

# KEEPING OF ANIMALS IN A RESIDENTIAL BUILDING

A proprietor shall not keep any particular animal in his strata parcel or on the common property thereof that may cause annoyance or nuisance to the other proprietors or which may be dangerous to the safety or health of the other proprietors or which contravenes any written law or rules and regulations of the relevant state or the local authority.

## **DRYING OF LAUNDRY**

In a building used for residential or dwelling purposes, a proprietor shall not, except with the prior written approval of the management corporation, hang any washing, towel, bedding, clothing or other article on any part of his strata parcel in such a way as to protrude outside, other than at the areas designated for such purpose and leave them there only for a reasonable period.

## **▶** IDENTIFICATION FOR **SECURITY PURPOSES**

The management corporation may require any person on the common property to identify himself for security purposes and any person who refuses to comply and who is not a proprietor to leave the common property or the development area immediately.

# PROHIBITION OF OBSTRUCTION

All fire escape routes, including but not limited to, the stairways, landings and passageways in the building or the common property shall not be obstructed by the proprietor at any time and the management corporation may, without prior notice, remove or confiscate any property of a proprietor, including but not limited to, bicycles, potted plants, vases, furniture, trolleys, boxes,

goods or objects of any kind whatsoever. The management corporation may put up a notice of any removed or confiscated property which may be claimed by the proprietor within fourteen days from date of the notice subject to payment to the management corporation of a charge not exceeding RM200. If a removed or confiscated property is not claimed at the expiry of the period of fourteen days, the management corporation may discard or dispose of such property as it deems fit without any liability to the proprietor.

## GARDEN, LAWNS AND **POTTED PLANTS**

A proprietor shall not damage any lawn, trees, shrubs, plants or flowers in the common property.

## ENCROACHMENT ON **COMMON PROPERTY AND** OTHER PARCELS

A proprietor shall not do anything to his strata parcel which may encroach on any part of the common property or any other strata parcels. A proprietor shall not mark, paint, put up posters or banners or notices, drive nails or screws, or fasten brackets or the like into, or otherwise damage or deface, any part of the common property except with the prior written approval of the management corporation. An approval given by the management corporation shall not authorise any addition(s) to the common property.

# **▶ VEHICLES**

Every vehicle shall be properly parked in the designated parking bay without causing any obstruction to any adjacent vehicle or the flow of traffic. An improperly parked vehicle may be towed away or wheel-clamped by the

management corporation, at the vehicle owner's cost without prior notice, and in such a case, the wheel clamp will only be removed after payment to the management corporation of a charge imposed by the management corporation which shall not exceed RM200, and with any towing cost and holding charge actually incurred by the management corporation

# ► SOLID WASTE DISPOSAL

A proprietor shall not cause any unsightly accumulation of dirt, garbage, rubbish or debris in his strata parcel and accessory parcel that is visible from the outside and affecting the appearance or façade of the building or common property.

## RENOVATION WORKS AND **REPAIRS**

A proprietor shall not carry out any renovation works to his strata parcel without first obtaining a prior written approval from the management corporation and, where necessary, from the appropriate authority.

# RESTRICTIONS IN RENOVATION WORKS

Unless prior approval in writing has been obtained from the appropriate authority and the management corporation, a proprietor shall not:

- construct another floor level to his strata parcel (e.g. to split the level of any portion of the existing floor in the strata parcel by adding platforms);
- relocate any external door or window of his strata parcel;
- remove or make changes to any building safety feature in his strata parcel and notwithstanding such approvals, the proprietor shall indemnify and keep indemnified the management corporation against any liability

From left: Andaman Group CEO Lim Chin Aik, director Datuk Abdul Rahman Harun, Datuk Bandar Majlis Bandaraya Johor Baru Datuk Abdul Rahman Mohamed Dewam, Tiew and Majlis Bandaraya Johor Baru committee head Datuk Yahya Jaafar.

which may be incurred or suffered as a result of such removal;

- shift any plumbing and sewerage
- system in a strata parcel; change or upgrade the whole
- electrical system in a strata parcel;
- illegally connect or tap electricity supply.

# POWER OF THE MANAGEMENT CORPORATION

Where the condition of any strata parcel(s) in the development area affects or is likely to affect the support or shelter provided by that parcel for another parcel in the same building or the common property, or causes or is likely to cause damage or destruction to another parcel or any property therein in the same building or the common property; and the proprietor of the parcel in that condition has neglected or refused within a reasonable time of two written notifications of at least fourteen days each from the management corporation to take such action as is necessary to have that condition rectified; the management corporation may, as agent for the proprietor of the parcel in that condition, take such actions and proceedings as are necessary to have that condition rectified and the management corporation may recover the cost and expense of such actions and proceedings from the proprietor of the parcel in that condition as a debt due to the management corporation.

# **CHANGES TO BY-LAWS**

A developer during the developer's management period may make additional by-laws or make amendments to such additional bylaws, not inconsistent with the bylaws in the Third Schedule, with the approval of the Commissioner of

A joint management body may, by a special resolution, make additional by-laws or make amendments to such additional bylaws, not inconsistent with the bylaws in the Third Schedule, for regulating the control, management, administration, use and enjoyment of the building or land intended for subdivision into parcels and the common property, including all or any of the following matters:

- · safety and security measures; details of any common property of which the use is restricted;
- the keeping of pets;
- parking;
- floor coverings;
- refuse control;
- behaviour; • architectural and landscaping guidelines to be observed by all strata parcel owners; and
- imposition of a fine, not exceeding RM200 against any parcel owner, occupant or invitee who is in breach of any of the by-laws.

Follow our article next week on The Strata Management Tribunal, highlighting criminalising nonpayment of service charges.

Email your feedback and queries to: propertyqs@ thesundaily.com

# Affordable luxury at ARC @ Austin Hills

THE luxurious ARC @ Austin Hills, which was launched recently, is the latest residential development project by the Andaman Property Group.

Situated on a 5.11-acre plot on Mount Austin, Johor, the luxury condominium project is jointly developed by Casa Andaman Sdn Bhd (a member of Andaman Group) and Majlis Bandaraya Johor Baru.

# **LIVING PLEASURES**

Mount Austin has carved a name for itself as one of the most high-end residential areas in Johor Baru city centre. A mere 17 minutes away from the Customs, Immigration and Quarantine (CIQ) Complex in Johor, the development is situated in a highly sought-after area, befitting young professionals looking to start a family.

Buzzing with well-patronised shops and restaurants, the township is well-supported and self-sufficient with the likes of AEON, Tesco, Econsave, Hospital Sultan Ismail, plus a commercial business centre located just a fiveminute drive away from the freehold development.

The neighbourhood is also surrounded by notable education institutions such as Sunway College, Austin Heights Private & International Schools, Foon Yew 5 Primary Chinese School and others. Tourism appeal is expected to rise especially with Austin Heights Water Theme



Park set to open early in 2016 and located

ARC @ Austin Hills comprises a total of three blocks offering a total of 1,843 units in three variations of 650 sq ft two-bedroom and twobathroom units; 850 sq ft three-bedroom and two-bathroom units and 900 sq ft threebedroom and two-bathroom units. The project is expected to be completed in 2019 and is tagged from RM237,000 each.

# LIFESTYLE INDULGENCES

ARC @ Austin Hills will also be fully-equipped with facilities that include an Olympic-size swimming pool, wading and splash pools, an outdoor sky garden, a Japanese garden with a koi pond, a gymnasium and yoga room, appended with 24-hour multi-tiered security to ensure the safety of its residents. Besides these amenities, those living in the area can enjoy spectacular views and a scenery of lush greenery surrounding the Austin Heights Golf and Hotel Resort.

"The prices of units at the prestigious ARC@ Austin Hills are below RM420 per sq ft. This works out to 20% below market value and comes as a value-for-money investment especially for those looking for affordable luxury," said Andaman Group managing director Datuk Sri Dr Vincent Tiew during the official launch.

Buyers will also get to enjoy a 5% early bird discount if the purchase is made this month. Moreover, all legal fees for sales and purchase and loan agreements will be subsidised by the developer. Log on to the official website for more information.



# Service charges under strata title > Criminalising non-payment of service charge under the Strata Management Tribunal

BY **DATUK PRETAM SINGH** 

recent conversation with a relative on urban living raised a couple of interesting issues. One led to suggest that many high-rise buildings in Malaysia were fast becoming urban slums, of which I agreed, having noticed that although Malaysians have started living in stratified development properties, they express the devil-may-care attitude and expect "free lunch". Clearly, there is a huge need for a paradigm shift in responsibilities with regard to community living.

This so-called freedom of not paying of service charges will come to an end with the establishment of the Strata Management Tribunal (SM Tribunal). It states that any parcel owner or tenant who fails to pay service charges, can be brought before the SM Tribunal with the implementation of the Strata Management Act 2013, Strata Management (Maintenance & Management) Regulations 2015 (June 2, 2015) and Strata Management (Strata Management Tribunal) Regulations 2015 (July 1, 2015). It is interesting to note that limitation is not applicable to the SM Tribunal and the maximum that can be claimed is RM250,000 per claim. Any non-compliance of an award (decision) of the SM Tribunal is now a criminal offence.

# **THE TRIBUNAL**

"Any person who fails to comply with an award made by the Tribunal commits an offence and shall, on conviction, be liable to a fine, not exceeding RM250,000 or to imprisonment for a term not exceeding three years, or both, in the case of a continuing offence, to a further fine not exceeding RM5,000 for every day or part thereof during which the offence continues after conviction." (Section 123)

The Tribunal shall consist of the following members who shall be appointed by the Minister: (a) a Chairman and a Deputy

Chairman to be appointed from among the members of the Judicial and Legal Service; and

(b) not less than 20 other members to be appointed from among: (i) the persons who are members of

or who have held office in the Judicial and Legal Service; or

(ii) the persons who are admitted as advocates and solicitors under the Legal Profession Act 1976 [Act 166], the Advocates Ordinance of Sabah [Sabah Cap. 2] or the Advocates Ordinance of Sarawak [Sarawak Cap. 110], and who has no less than seven years' standing, each appointed for a period of three years.

## JURISDICTION OF TRIBUNAL

The Tribunal shall have the jurisdiction to hear and determine any claims where the total amount in respect of which an award of the Tribunal is sought, does not exceed RM250,000 or such other amount, as may be prescribed to substitute the total amount.

Claims can be filed in relation to the following:

I. A dispute or complaint concerning an exercise or the performance of, or the failure to exercise or perform, a function, duty or power conferred or imposed by Strata Management Act 2013 or the by-laws;

2. A dispute on costs or repairs in respect of a defect in a parcel, building or land intended for subdivision into parcels, or subdivided building or land, and its common property or limited common property;

3. A claim for the recovery of charges, or contribution to the sinking fund, or any amount which is declared by the provisions of this Act as a debt;

4. A claim for an order to convene a general meeting;

5. A claim for an order to invalidate proceedings of meeting where any provision of the Act has been contravened;

6. A claim for an order to nullify a resolution where voting rights has been denied or where due notice has not been given;

7. A claim for an order to nullify a resolution passed at a general meeting;

8. A claim for an order to revoke amendment of by-laws having regard to the interests of all the parcel owners or proprietors;

9. A claim for an order to vary the rate of interest fixed by the joint management body, management corporation or subsidiary management corporation for late payment of charges, or contribution to the sinking fund;

10. A claim for an order to vary the amount of insurance to be provided;

II. A claim for an order to pursue an insurance claim;

12. A claim for compelling a developer, joint management body, management corporation or subsidiary management corporation to supply information or documents;

13. A claim for an order to give consent to effect alterations to any common property or limited common property; or 14. A claim for an order to affirm,

vary or revoke the Commissioner of Building's decision.

The Order that the SM Tribunal can make are:

I. Pay a sum of money to another party.

2. Order the price or other consideration paid by a party to be refunded to that party.

3. Order the payment of compensation or damages for any loss or damage suffered by a party.

4. Order the rectification, setting aside or variation of a contract or additional by-laws, wholly or in part.

5. Order costs to or against any party to be paid.

6. Order interest to be paid on any sum or monetary award at a rate not exceeding eight per centum per annum.

7. Dismiss a claim which it considers to be frivolous or vexatious.

8. Any other order as it deems just and expedient

9. Make such ancillary or consequential orders or relief as may be necessary to give effect to any order made by the Tribunal.

**EXCLUSION OF JURISDICTION OF COURT** 

Where a claim is filed with the SM Tribunal and the claim is within the Tribunal's jurisdiction, the issues in dispute in that claim, whether as shown in the initial claim or as emerging in the course of the hearing, shall not be the subject of proceedings between the same parties in any court unless:

(a) the proceedings before the court were commenced before the claim was filed with the Tribunal; or (b) the claim before the Tribunal

is withdrawn, abandoned or struck

This means that a claimant has to decide in advance as to which forum he has to file a case because having filed a case in the SM Tribunal means he cannot file the proceed in the same courts or vice versa.

## **PERSONS ENTITLED TO FILE** A CLAIM

This is a free for all Tribunal with many claimants and they are: (a) a developer;

(b) a purchaser;

(c) a proprietor, including an original proprietor;

(d) a joint management body; (e) a management corporation; (f) a subsidiary management corporation;

(g) a managing agent; and (h) any other interested person, with the leave of the Tribunal.

Filing procedure is inexpensive, pay only RM20 and simply fill in the required forms. These forms have not been uploaded yet on the KPKT web site but requests can be made by email.

# RIGHT TO APPEAR AT HEARINGS

At the SM Tribunal, no party shall be represented by an advocate and solicitor at a hearing unless, in the opinion of the Tribunal, the matter in question involves complex issues of law and one party will suffer severe financial hardship if he is not represented by an advocate and solicitor. A corporation or unincorporated body of persons may be represented by a full-time paid employee of the corporation or body. The Tribunal may conduct the proceedings in such manner as it considers appropriate, necessary or expedient for the purpose of ascertaining the facts or law in order that it may determine a claim.

INSIGHTS

# **FAST DISPOSAL OF CASES**

The SM Tribunal shall make its award without delay and, where practicable, within sixty days from the first day of the hearing before the Tribunal commences. In making an order under subsection (3), the Tribunal shall have regard to: (a) the relevant provisions of this

Act; or (b) the interest of all parcel owners or proprietors in the use and enjoyment of their parcels or the common property or limited common property. The award given are final and binding on all parties to the proceedings and are be deemed to be an order of a court and be enforced accordingly by any party to the proceedings. However, any person dissatisfied with the decision of the SM Tribunal can, apply to the High Court challenging the award in the proceedings on the ground of serious irregularity affecting the awards which means an irregularity of one or more of the kinds which the court considers has caused substantial injustice to the applicant.

With the establishment of the SM Tribunal there is hope for better maintenance and management culture to spur our quest to become a developed nation and zero nonpayment issues.

**Email your feedback and** queries to: propertyqs@ thesundaily.com

# My sanctuary at Putra 1

**INDULGE** yourself in the exclusive sanctuary at Putra 1, the latest condominium address within the Bandar Seri Putra township in Selangor.

Putra 1 is strategically located between KLIA, Putrajaya and Cyberjaya. It is easily accessible from the KL-Seremban Highway via the dedicated Putra Mahkota Interchange. A short drive from the Mahkota Toll Plaza, it is also situated close to the Bandar Baru Bangi education hub.

Putra i boasts a resort-style condominium designed to offer six blocks of 505 apartment units. The development is surrounded by a three-acre courtyard comprising lush landscapes of nature's beauty

Residents can amp up their lifestyles with the host of condo facilities such as a sauna room. badminton and basketball courts, a reflexology pond, alfresco areas to entertain, swimming and wading pools and a lot more, including security systems that enhance the peace factor.

Residential units range between 854 sq ft and 1,224 sq ft with prices starting from RM444,000. Layouts are spacious, the smallest offering 2+I bedrooms with 2 bathrooms.

Experience the true beauty of Putra I during its "A Merdeka Weekend" taking place on Aug 22 and 23 from 9.30am to 5.30pm at the sales gallery. Children will be

and playgrounds with lots of space. entertained by clowns and exciting activities while popcorn will delight both young and young-atheart. Moreover, home buyers and investors can indulge in the wealth of information shared by industry professionals that include Ahyat Îshak, Abdul Aziz Ahmad and Dr Daniele Gambero.

Putra I is expected to be completed in November 2017. Currently, buyers can enjoy zero legal fees on SPA and DMC, partial subsidies on loan documentation legal fees and a special rebate.

For more information, visit www.putrasatu.com.my or the sales gallery in Kajang, Selangor this





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Tel: 603-8023 3366



Persiaran Subang, 47600 Subang Jaya, Selangor.





# A gem in Greater KL North

> Upcoming township offers landed property

**ESTLED** in the matured township of Sungai Buloh, Bandar Seri Coalfields (BSC) is touted as one of the new property developments to keep an eye on, especially for those wanting out from the hustle and bustle of city life.

Addressing the escalating prices of residential property in established townships, especially in the heart of Klang Valley, more developers are said to be extending their development projects to the greater KL north section which include areas like Shah Alam North, Puncak Alam and Sungai Buloh.

Bandar Seri Coalfields is a development project of KLK Land Sdn Bhd. It spans across 1,000-acres within KLK's 6,500-acre land bank in Sungai Buloh. The freehold township is well planned and consists of mixed commercial and residential real estate including shop offices, commercial complexes, bungalows, semi-detached homes, super-link and terrace houses, all facilitated by public amenities such as a hypermarket, clubhouse, a petrol station and police station, as well as a primary and secondary school, among others.

A conducive environment for young families to settle in, the low density development boasts a 50-acre central park complete with lush landscaping, a full-sized football field, jogging and cycling paths and more. Moreover, accessibility to nearby

townships is a breeze with the interconnectivity through a nexus of major highways, including the upcoming Damansara-Shah Alam Elevated Expressway (DASH).

Referred to as "Sungai Buloh West" by renowned property consultant Ho Chin Soon, the area is estimated to arrive at a population of 10 million by the year 2020. Simply put, properties within the vicinity of "Sungai Buloh West" will see fast growth. "Bandar Seri Coalfields has much

potential as development from the city centre spills into the outskirts causing property prices in this area to slowly but

surely rise.

"We are already in the midst of planning for the 5,500 acres of land and we envision a great city in the making which will offer home buyers and investors choice properties," said KLK Land managing director Datuk David Tan.

Recently, KLK Land launched its Ixora

Residences, offering 22' x 75' double-storey homes at a starting price of RM630,000. The first phase of BSC Central I, comprising 24' x 75' of two- and three-storey shop offices were also recently introduced offering 101 units starting from RM976,000 inclusive of

Properties are targeted for completion by mid 2017 and 2018 respectively. For more, log on to the developer's website.





INSIGHTS

### BY **MEERA AMMANI**

CLASSIC interior décor style, shabby chic is for the rugged who enjoys all things vintage. From aged furniture, accessories that show wear and tear, weather-beaten keepsakes and décor ... these are all commonly found in such interiors. However, the best thing is that one does not need to spend a fortune buying antiques.

Freelance interior designer Karina Fong says there are plenty of economical DIY methods for creating this look, using everyday items from home.

# WAYS OF ACHIEVING THE LOOK

# ► Aged furniture

Aged furniture is important if one wants to incorporate the shabby chic look interior. To achieve this distressed, worn or antiquated, peeling look is fairly simple. "Find furniture predominantly made with solid wood (tables, chairs, cabinets, doors, beds, etc), wipe the surface with a clean damp cloth and let it dry." Sand paper the furniture's wooden surfaces till it is smooth, then rub it down with wax. Paint the furniture with a coat of either satin or flat paint, and let it dry.

"The next step is to apply wax on the first coat of paint before applying a second coat and letting it dry. Finally, distress the furniture by coating a lighter shade of paint on certain areas, such as edges of arms for chairs," says Fong.

## Vintage-inspired lighting

This works on lampshades. "Clean the lampshade with a dry cloth and prepare the lamp for painting by covering the bulb with a plastic bag and the cord with cling wrap. Paint the lamp with a vintage-inspired colour such as Valspar Metallic. Set it by topping it with a clear sealer and let it dry for a day or two," Fong advises.

Once dried, use art glue to fasten the jute

# Vintage interiors

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or linen ropes to the lamp stand. "With the first piece of rope at the base of the lampshade, work your way up. Do it slowly so that the glue dries properly," says Fong.

## Shabby chic wall art

Forget the expensive wall paper, wood art looks fantastic in shabby chic interiors, and this is an easy way to make it. "Browse through

magazines or the internet and find a shabby chic painting of your liking, with that as a reference, replicate the art onto an old wooden cutting board from the kitchen, using a wood paint palette."

"To accentuate the wooden board, paint two lightweight door handles in a soft faded beige or white colour and super glue them to the horizontal sides of the board," she informs.

'Vintage' accessories "Every shabby chic interior needs a vintage flower vase," says Fong. "This adds a finishing touch to the overall look." Pick some old tin or glass bottle and thoroughly clean the bottle with water and soap. Dry it and paint with a colour of your choice.

Once the paint has dried, use metallic or gold coloured sparkles that can be found in art stores, and glue them to the bottom of the bottle, and add long stemmed flowers of choice to your 'vintage' flower vase.

## Distressed mirror

A distressed mirror works very well in





PHOTO SOURCE: PUCKHABERDECORATIVEANTIQUES.COM shabby chic interiors. Before starting this task, make sure to use gloves and protective

'Go outdoors for this project and pour muriatic acid in a spray bottle. Using the mist outlet, spray the acid onto the parts of the mirror where you want the antique spots to show up, this generates a sputtering effect."

"Allow it to sit until the acid removes the reflective surface. Blot away any excess acid with a dry cotton towel, then wipe with a damp towel," she concludes.

For an added shabby chic look, spray gold paint on the frames of any paintings or framed photographs or use gold frames itself if desired.



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