

Housing development programmes to mark 29th anniversary of NHDA

The National Housing Development Authority (NHDA) commemorates its 29th Anniversary on April 01, 2008.

The NHDA has provided housing facilities for householder families during the past 29 years islandwide including North and East.

The NHDA has prepared a special anniversary programme to be implemented in each district level from April 1 to 4.

April 01: Empowering the district housing programme

The first day of the anniversary will be commemorated in all districts with the participation of the employees of the NHDA district office.

With this programme district housing programmes implemented in all the district will be reviewed. This progress review will be held in all parts with local political leadership, district Secretaries and other representatives.

April 2: Re-development and re-organisation

This programme will focus on Shramadana activities to be held to re-develop the housing projects constructed in all districts. Roads, common areas and community centres within the housing projects will redevelop under this programme and the active participation of the householders and the members of the societies will get the assistance for it.

During the past 29 years more than 800 housing projects have been constructed and the majority of these housing projects will be re-developed.

April 3: District Housing Fund for district housing programmes

On April 3 a District Housing Fund will commence. This will be used to implement the district housing programme. So far funds are allocated to the housing programme within the allocation of the Treasury and the internally generated fund of the NHDA.

With the establishment of the District Housing Fund, the district office of the NHDA expects to get the decentralised budget allocation for it.

ed from the district political representatives, Pradeshiya Sabhas, NGOs and the philanthropists.

April 4: Inauguration of Samurhdi Model Village and low-cost houses

On the 04th day of the ceremony a Samurhdi Model Village which will be constructed in each district under the 'Gama Neguma' programme will be inaugurated.

Each of these villages will be developed with the integrated development programme based on housing development activities. Each and every village development activities will be inaugurated on April 04, with the leadership of local politicians and with the participation of district secretaries, other officials and beneficiaries. In addition to the above programme, construction work of a low-cost model house will be inaugurated in each district.

These houses will be constructed with local low-cost building materials with the using of traditional technology. The NHDA expects to complete the construction work of these houses within 75 days.

The main objective of this programme is to give the technical know-how of low-cost technology in district level. This programme will redevelop under the low-cost housing competition. Winners of this competition will receive cash prizes.

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Panadura flyover construction starts

Irangika Range

With the successful implementation of the flyover project at Kelaniya, the Highways and Road Development Ministry, commenced the construction of its second flyover in Panadura yesterday.

Highways and Road Development Minister Jayaraj Fernando laid the foundation stone for the Panadura flyover yesterday. This was the second flyover built under the Government's massive construction project to construct 16 flyovers and 222 bridges countrywide.

The project is due to be completed within 90 days with the intention of constructing two lanes. A major objective of constructing flyovers in Colombo and the suburbs is to ease traffic congestion.

The total cost of the project is estimated at Rs. 1 billion and will be implemented with British assistance.

The length of the Panadura flyover is 290 meters. Maabey and Jonson Company in the UK in collaboration with the Access Engineering Company will carry out the construction of the

flyover. Minister Fernando said it is planned to complete the construction of 20 flyovers within four years by building five flyovers each year.

The Ministry is also planning to complete the construction of two bridges in Nugegoda and Attanagalla this year. The Minister said the Government will fight terrorism while developing the country something which former regimes did not do. "Though the prices of goods are high, people are willing to bear up and tide over the situation as the Government is properly conducting the war to defeat terrorism. The people have placed their trust and confidence in the Government and its correct policies."

Opposition Leader Ranil Wickremesinghe urged foreign countries to not to fund Sri Lanka, but these countries did not listen to him. The UK Government's large scale financial assistance for this project clearly proves this point", he said.

The Ministry which commissioned the Kelaniya flyover in a world record 61 days has added another feather in the cap for the local construction industry.

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