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PAC to 'keep an eye' on RM22m inspection of Putrajaya buildings

By AUDREY EDWARDS

KUALA LUMPUR: The RM22mil exercise to inspect Putrajaya government buildings for defects will be carefully watched by the Public Accounts Committee.

"We will keep an eye on everything," said PAC chairman Datuk Shahrir Samad, "but let the committee do its job."

Works Minister Datuk Seri S. Samy Vellu announced the committee's formation on Wednesday. It will comprise engineers and be headed by Auditor-General Tan Sri Ambrin Buang.

Samy Vellu said the inspection would take six months to complete and a proposal on the matter had been submitted to the Cabinet.

On Thursday, Opposition leader Lim Kit Siang questioned the hefty cost of inspection, saying it would burden taxpayers and that the contractors responsible for the defects should pay for it.

Shahrir, who was speaking to newsmen Friday after chairing a PAC meeting, was asked if he thought the amount was too excessive.

He said he "did not know" but added that there must be professionalism displayed by the committee.

"There needs to be more professionalism and not be so quick to talk about money," he said.

"Be professional. Talk about the work that needs to be achieved," he added.