



PENGURUSAN PEMANTAUAN KERATAN AKHBAR MBSJ
TARIKH: 09 FEBRUARI 2024 (JUMAAT)

LAIN-LAIN PBT

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MOBILE COUNTERS ✓

Petaling Jaya City Council (MBPJ) will place mobile counters at several locations for residents to pay their assessment tax. The locations are SS24 Taman Megah next to the market (Feb 17 and 18), PJS 8, Desa Mentari (Feb 24 and 25) and Jalan SD 12/1, next to Petron petrol station (Feb 28 and 29), from 10am to 3pm for all locations. Additional counters will be open on weekends at MBPJ headquarters on Feb 17, 18, 24 and 25 from 10am to 2pm. For details, call 03-7956 3544 ext 102/103/108/109.

THE STAR

Tarikh:.....09 FEB 2024

Facelift in phases for Chinatown

Petaling Street traders hope long-awaited changes will bring greater footfall, boost business

By JAROD LIM
jarodlim@thestar.com.my

AFTER decades of neglect, Kuala Lumpur's iconic Petaling Street, fondly known as Chinatown, will finally get a much-needed facelift.

Over the years, the bustling cultural hub, renowned for its vibrant street markets and rich heritage, has suffered from having dilapidated infrastructure.

Leaking roofs, torn awnings, broken pavements and ageing stalls with exposed wiring are among the many issues plaguing traders operating in the area.

Over five years, talks between stakeholders and Kuala Lumpur City Hall (DBKL) took place towards revitalising this historic thoroughfare and breathing new life into its storied lanes.

The facelift of Petaling Street is expected to begin after the Chinese New Year period.

Kuala Lumpur Hawkers and Petty Traders Association chairman Datuk Ang Say Tee said, "What's left is a few details to be ironed out and we expect a meeting soon with DBKL either this month or the next.

"The hawkers are welcoming the effort by DBKL as the last upgrade was more than 20 years ago.

"We hope this beautification will bring transformation to Chinatown."

In need of refurbishment

For years, conditions at Petaling Street have been a source of concern for locals and visitors alike.

Despite its undeniable charm and historical significance, Chinatown's deteriorating physical environment has become an



Kwok Chin says the Petaling Street facelift is timely ahead of Visit Malaysia Year 2025.

inconvenience to traders and reduced its potential as a tourist attraction.

"The roofs covering most of Petaling Street are leaking and water falls onto the road during a downpour.

"Some of the stalls are old, have wiring problems, and broken awnings pose a risk to both traders and visitors.

"There were also instances of flooding at the end of Petaling Street," Ang said.

He said the facelift would solve all the problems faced by traders.

According to Ang, the association had called for upgrading and beautification of Petaling Street in the early 1990s.

"It was only in 2001 that Petaling Street underwent a major facelift.

"The project was completed two years later.

"Two Chinese-style arches were built at the beginning and end of the road while blue polycarbonate roofing was installed to shelter traders from

the sun and rain."

It was reported in an English daily that the project cost RM11mil.

Since 2018, Ang said the association had been requesting an upgrade of Petaling Street facilities.

"After more than 10 meetings with DBKL and three Kuala Lumpur mayors, the beautification plans are finally underway," he said.

Ang also showed *StarMetro* DBKL's beautification plans, which included Chinese-inspired motifs and decorations as backdrop for the stalls.

"We understand that the entire project will likely take a year and will be done in four phases.

"This is so that traders operating along the street will not be affected for the entire year.

"However, they will still need to temporarily halt their operations for a short period to make way for the beautification project," he said.

Additional stalls proposed

Ang said the beautification plans, however, came with a catch.

"DBKL wanted to add about 100 new stall lots in front of existing stalls, which we objected strongly."

With 773 stalls already in Petaling Street, he said, "There is barely any room for additional stalls, so adding lots would make the street more cramped, making it difficult for visitors to shop.

"We fear that this will compromise visitors' comfort, thus driving them away.

"The addition of more stalls would also hamper access for fire and rescue vehicles into Petaling Street should a fire occur."

Ang said he had sent a letter to DBKL with members' objections and would bring this up again in the next meeting.

"The association also collected more than 600 signatures from





Cultural and historically, Petaling Street is a major draw for tourists.
— Photos: LOW BOON TAT/The Star

traders objecting to the additional stalls," he said.

Currently, stalls occupy the kerb in front of shoplots.

The proposed additional stalls would be placed in front of these existing stalls.

DBKL said in a statement that the status of the beautification project for the traders' area was still at design stage.

Part of the works included replacing existing kiosks with new ones featuring bigger roofs, replacing roofing with more vibrant fixtures, installing lights to emphasise building designs and replacing old wiring, it said.

"DBKL is committed to upgrading and beautifying the traders' area in Kuala Lumpur including Petaling Street to ensure they can operate in an organised and comfortable environment.

"We wish to remind traders to take care of the existing facilities for the benefit of all parties."

The local authority, however, did not disclose the allocation for the beautification project.

Stakeholders' feedback

Anticipation is mounting among Petaling Street stakeholders for the upcoming transformation.

Most business owners have voiced optimism, expressing hope that the facelift would not only enhance the area's aesthetic appeal but also attract greater foot traffic and revenue.

Petaling Street KRT chairman Datuk Chan Kwok Chin said the facelift was timely ahead of Visit Malaysia Year 2025.

"It's been a while since Petaling Street received upgrades.

"We hope it will transform the place into a lively tourist attraction and bring more foot traffic to the area to benefit the traders," he said.

Footwear trader KW Siow, 50, was happy about the proposed facelift since the stall that he was occupying was old and unsightly. "Whenever there is a downpour, my goods will be soaked and the awnings are not doing much to keep the rain away.

"I have to cover my goods with canvas. I hope these problems will be solved after the beautification process," he said.

However, amid the excitement, some concerns have been raised about the potential inconvenience the facelift could bring.

For vendors like Jaden Chan, whose livelihood depends on the daily operations in Petaling Street, the prospect of temporary closure during the renovation posed a significant challenge.

"Closing shop for an extended period could mean lost income for me and my family.

"It is hard to tell what the facelift will bring but I do not want my operations to be affected," he said.

"I hope the authorities will provide support to affected vendors during this transition period.

The 30-year-old apparel trader operating at the edge of Petaling Street said he began trading after the movement control order was lifted and had been operating for two years.

"This place is flooded up to the kerb where my stall is located and this can happen two to three times a month.

"This affects me a lot because my goods get damaged."



The roof over Petaling Street leaks during rain while old decorations (right) need to be replaced.



Upgrading works at Chinatown area including the roof are expected to start after Chinese New Year.



Ang (in red shirt) showing cracked tiles in Petaling Street alongside association treasurer Chan Pooi Chee (second from left) and a trader. (Right) Ang pointing out a stall's tattered cover.

By FARID WAHAB
faridwahab@thestar.com.my

THE operator of a food court in Taman Tasik Titiwangsa, Kuala Lumpur, has been given until Feb 14 to vacate.

A nearby resident, Roslina Rahman, told *StarMetro*, that several notices by Federal Territory of Kuala Lumpur Land Administrator dated Feb 5 were pasted at the premises in Lorong Titiwangsa 7.

The notice stated that the operator had committed an offence under Section 425 (1) of the National Land Code 1965 for unlawful occupation of reserved land without permission.

The operator was ordered to vacate the site by Feb 14, failing which, a demolition exercise could be carried out at any time.

"The Federal Territory of Kuala Lumpur Land and Mines Office (PTGWP) will not be responsible for any damage caused during the demolition.

"Failure to comply may result in a RM500,000 fine or imprisonment for up to five years," the notice read, adding that no appeal would be entertained.

When contacted, a PTGWP spokesperson confirmed the notices were issued.

However, Roslina claimed the notices have been removed and the food court was operating as usual.

A check on the food court's

Titiwangsa food court ordered to vacate by Feb 14

Star 9/2
(DBKL)

But eviction notices removed and business seen operating as usual, claims resident

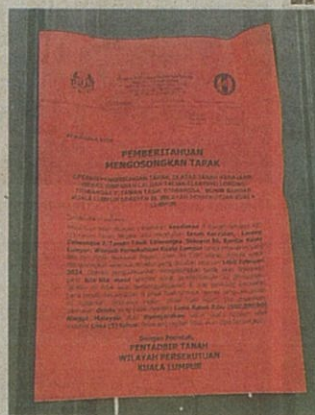
social media found that it continued to post updates including booking it as an event space.

StarMetro had reported about the food court multiple times since May 17 last year when residents expressed concerns about cleanliness and traffic congestion, among others.

The structures were reportedly erected without a development order from Kuala Lumpur City Hall (DBKL).

Prime Minister Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim's aide Datuk Azman Abidin said the premises was operating without a licence in a Dec 18 *StarMetro* report.

He said the operator was given several notices to demolish the structures, but was granted extensions following appeals.



(Inset) Close up of the notice.



The space where eviction notices were pasted at the food court in Taman Tasik Titiwangsa. — Courtesy of Roslina Rahman

THE STAR

Tarikh: 09 FEB 2024
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Golden dragon shines bright

Star
9/2

Fo Guang Shan Dong Zen Temple in Selangor installs massive lantern for CNY

By KHOO GEK SAN
geksan@thestar.com.my

BANTING: A massive display of the golden dragon lantern at the Fo Guang Shan Dong Zen Temple is expected to draw visitors to this Buddhist temple during the Chinese New Year period.

The "Auspicious Golden Dragon" joins a spinning dragon that will greet visitors to the lantern festival from Feb 7 to Feb 25, and for two weekends next month: March 2-3, and March 9-10.

"Measuring an impressive 288ft (88m), these dragons will usher in and showcase the Year of the Dragon," said Buddha's Light International Association Central Malaysia president Datin Seri Yong Chou Lian.

"While their size may evoke power, their essence manifests the tranquil and peaceful nature of dragons, as skillfully depicted by the artisans at Dong Zen Temple," she said in her speech during the ceremony to light up the lanterns on Wednesday night.

A big crowd gathered to witness the event were mesmerised as the night exploded in colourful lanterns that bathed flowers in captivating lights to usher in the Year of the Dragon.

The central theme of this year's festival is "May you be free as cloud and water, auspicious and joyful," while the lantern pillars surrounding the golden dragon feature teachings from Venerable Master Hsing Yun.

The festival also features cultural performances, another dragon sculpture on the thirty-three Avalokitesvara Bodhisattva pathways, a dragon



Majestic: Visitors taking pictures during the lantern lighting up ceremony. — CHAN TAK KONG/The Star



boat showcasing Chinese traditional culture, and a 3D diorama of the Dragon Maiden Attaining Buddhahood story.

Visitors can walk through the serene Lumbini Garden, which

symbolises the benevolence of mountains and the wisdom of waters, as well as explore the art gallery and indulge in vegetarian cuisine at the food street and Waterdrop Teahouse vegetarian food court.

Jue Cheng, Chief Abbess of Fo Guang Shan Dong Zen Malaysia, Singapore, Thailand, Indonesia and India, expressed gratitude for the diverse attendance at the lighting ceremony, which included Catholic priests, Malay

Muslim friends, diplomatic envoys, Taoist friends, and business leaders.

She said the temple was a shared space for everyone, with guests from Taiwan, China, Singapore and India also joining in the Lunar New Year celebrations here.

"This area of durian and rubber plantations has undergone a remarkable transformation," said Cheng of the lands surrounding the temple, which was founded

35 years ago by Venerable Master Hsing Yun.

"The Master envisioned Selangor as a precious land, imbued with auspiciousness, and containing a sacred Buddhist ground.

"A future of prosperity is now certain," she said during the lighting ceremony.

Also present were Transport Minister Anthony Loke and Deputy Finance Minister Lim Hui Ying.

THE STAR

Tarikh:..... 09 FEB 2024

Health Ministry to take action on 'energy sticks' sold online

PETALING JAYA: The Health Ministry says it will act on complaints from the public about "energy sticks", a vape-like nasal inhaler, being sold online.

For a start, it said that advertisements for the products - which have not been registered with the National Pharmaceutical Regulatory Agency as required by the Sale of Drugs Act 1952 - will be taken down from popular ecommerce platforms.

"Monitoring and enforcement action will also be taken (against) the sellers," Health director-general Datuk Dr Muhammad

Radzi Abu Hassan said in a statement yesterday.

"Early checks on (popular) ecommerce platforms by the ministry found local and foreign sellers advertising and selling the product.

"The ministry, through its Pharmacy Enforcement Division, will take enforcement action by removing the advertisements," he added.

He said those who sell unregistered health products are in breach of Rule 7(1) (a) of the Control of Drugs and Cosmetics Regulations 1984.

Those found guilty face a fine of up to RM25,000 or up to three years' jail or both for the first offence, the Health director-general said.

For subsequent offences, those convicted can be fined up to RM50,000, jailed for up to five years, or both.

Dr Muhammad Radzi reminded consumers to make sure that any products with claimed health benefits have the ministry-issued hologram sticker and product registration number before buying them.

"The Health Ministry is committed

to protecting the health and wellbeing of the public through continuous monitoring.

"The people are encouraged to make complaints and channel information to the Pharmacy Enforcement Division at <https://www.pharmacy.gov.my> or the Public Complaints Management Agency (Sispa) at <https://moh.spab.gov.my> or at 03-78413200," he added.

It was reported recently that the ministry had received complaints from a public health group about the availability of the product, priced as low as RM2.50 and

targeting young children.

Local advertisements for the vape-like products show two-pronged nasal inhalers, which come in a range of common vape flavours.

Minister Datuk Seri Dr Dzulkefly Ahmad said on Sunday (Feb 4) immediate action would be taken to curb the sale of such products.

Earlier yesterday, Deputy Education Minister Wong Kah Woh urged schools throughout the country to immediately report any cases of "energy stick" use among students.

THE STAR

Tarikh:.....09 FEB 2024



IZHAM (kiri) melihat peta blok projek pedalaman dan pelebaran Sungai Klang di Alam Impian, Shah Alam semalam. - SADDAM YUSOF

Miliki infrastruktur yang baik jika berdepan kemarau

Air Lembah Klang boleh bertahan hingga 9 bulan

Oleh MOHD. YUNUS YAKKUB

SHAH ALAM – Bekalan air bagi penduduk Lembah Klang mencukupi sehingga sembilan bulan sekiranya berlaku musim kemarau berdasarkan kepada infrastruktur yang telah ada seperti kolam tadahan, Pusat Takungan Air Hibrid Pinggiran Sungai (HORAS) dan empangan.

Exco Infrastruktur dan Pertanian Selangor, Izham Hashim berkata, kesemua perancangan telah dibuat dalam memastikan proses kesalinghubungan supaya bekalan air dapat digunakan apabila diperlukan nanti.

"Kita telah membuat audit kolam dan tasik kita yang mampu menjana 34 juta liter kubik

meter dan boleh bertahan antara dua hingga tiga bulan.

"Itu tidak termasuk HORAS. Empangan kita pula mampu bertahan sehingga enam bulan. Sekiranya dicampur akan menjadi sembilan bulan," katanya selepas melawat projek mitigasi banjir Klang di Alam Impian di sini semalam.

Selangor secara keseluruhan mempunyai tujuh empangan iaitu Sungai Selangor, Sungai Tinggi, Sungai Langat, Tasik Subang, Klang Gates, Batu dan Semenyih.

Sebelum ini, Jabatan Meteorologi (MetMalaysia) memaklumkan Malaysia dijangka mengalami cuaca lebih kering pada bulan ini, seterusnya diramalkan berlaku fenomena Monsun Timur Laut

yang akan berakhir pada Mac dan fenomena El Nino.

Dalam pada itu, Izham berkata, perangkap sampah akan dipasang di 35 anak Sungai Klang tahun ini bagi mengelakkan lambakan sampah seterusnya memudahkan proses pendalaman dan penjagaan kualiti sungai.

Katanya, berdasarkan kerja-kerja pengorekan dan penyedutan mendapati, sebanyak kira-kira 130 tan sampah telah dibawa keluar daripada sungai tersebut termasuk tilam, kereta sorong bayi, tayar, seluar jeans yang merosakkan mesin pengorek.

"Secara purata, Sungai Klang mempunyai kedalaman 4 meter, namun 2 hingga 3 meter sahaja dipenuhi sampah," ujarnya.

KOSMO

09 FEB 2024

Tarikh:

Hasil keseluruhan sektor perkhidmatan 2023 meningkat

Kuala Lumpur: Jumlah hasil keseluruhan sektor perkhidmatan bagi 2023 adalah RM2.3 trilion, meningkat 8.4 peratus daripada RM2.1 trilion pada 2022, menurut Jabatan Perangkaan Malaysia (DOSM).

Ketua Perangkawan Datuk Seri Dr Mohd Uzir Mahidin berkata, prestasi itu disumbangkan oleh subsektor perdagangan borong dan runcit; pengangkutan dan penyimpanan; serta maklumat dan komunikasi masing-masing meningkat 7.7 peratus (+RM119.1 bilion); 15.8 pe-

ratus (+RM20.4 bilion); dan 5.3 peratus (+RM8.6 bilion) berbanding angka pada 2022.

"Namun terdapat beberapa subsektor yang masih belum melepasi nilai hasil sebelum pandemik (2019) iaitu makanan dan minuman (-1.4 peratus); kesenian, hiburan dan rekreasi (-24.4 peratus); dan perkhidmatan persendirian dan lain-lain aktiviti (-23.9 peratus).

"Ini berikutan terdapat beberapa aktiviti berkaitan industri pelancongan yang masih dalam fasa pemulihan selepas pembu-



Nilai keseluruhan pendapatan e-dagang pada 2023 pula meningkat 4.9 peratus kepada RM1.2 trilion daripada angka pada tahun sebelumnya"

Mohd Uzir

kaan sempadan antarabangsa bermula 1 April 2022 dan belum melepasi paras prapandemik," ka-

HM
9/2

tanya dalam kenyataan mengenai Prestasi Sektor Perkhidmatan dan Pendapatan E-dagang, Suku Tahun Keempat 2023 yang dikeluarkan semalam.

Mohd Uzir berkata, nilai keseluruhan pendapatan e-dagang pada 2023 pula meningkat 4.9 peratus kepada RM1.2 trilion daripada angka pada tahun sebelumnya.

"Pendapatan e-dagang mencatatkan nilai sebanyak RM291.9 bilion, iaitu meningkat 1.7 peratus tahun ke tahun pada suku keempat 2023. Bagi perbandingan suku tahun ke

suku tahun, pendapatan e-dagang meningkat secara marginal sebanyak 0.8 peratus," katanya.

Sementara itu, menerusi kenyataan berasingan mengenai Indeks Volum Perkhidmatan, Malaysia Suku Tahun Keempat 2023 pula, beliau berkata indeks volum perkhidmatan meningkat 4.1 peratus tahun ke tahun dengan mencatatkan 148.5 mata pada suku keempat 2023.

Angka itu sekali gus menjadikan prestasi tahunan bagi 2023 meningkat 5.6 peratus berbanding tahun 2022, katanya.

HARIAN METRO
Tarikh: 09 FEB 2024

Bimbang data peribadi bocor punca tak daftar PADU

Putrajaya: Kebimbangan mengenai butiran peribadi tidak dirahsiakan dipercayai antara punca jumlah pendaftaran sistem Pangkalan Data Utama (PADU) masih rendah, kata Datuk Seri Dr Ahmad Zahid Hamidi.

Timbalan Perdana Menteri berkata, di Kementerian Kemajuan Desa dan Wilayah (KKDW) sendiri merekodkan hanya 33.4 peratus daripada 24,471 warga kementerian dan agensi di bawahnya sudah berdaftar dalam sistem berkenaan.

"Ya memang setakat ini 33.4 peratus daripada pegawai dan kakitangan KKDW yang sudah mendaftar PADU.

"Tetapi kami sedang mengusahakan beberapa langkah pada pertengahan bulan ini kita akan lakukan beberapa tindakan untuk memastikan 100 peratus (warga KKDW) akan mendaftarkan dengan PADU," katanya ketika ditemui selepas meng-

hadiri Majlis Perhimpunan Bulanan KKDW di sini, semalam.

Kelmarin, Ketua Perangkawan, Datuk Seri Dr Mohd Uzir Mahidin, berkata seramai 2.69 juta rakyat negara ini sudah membuat kemas kini maklumat dalam sistem PADU setakat ini.

Beliau berkata, sistem PADU mempunyai 30 juta nama penduduk dan perlu membuat pengesahan dan kemas kini maklumat masing-masing sehingga 31 Mac ini.

Giat selesaikan isu

Ditanya mengapa jumlah peratusan pendaftaran PADU di KKDW masih rendah, Ahmad Zahid berkata, pihaknya mempunyai cara tertentu untuk menyelesaikan isu berkenaan demi faedah bersama.

"Mungkin kesedaran belum sampai lagi. Ada juga berasakan bahawa butiran peribadi itu tidak dirahsiakan tetapi kita

mempunyai jalan tertentu supaya semua dapat diselesaikan kerana itu semua faedah kita bersama," katanya.

Terdahulu, dalam ucapannya, Ahmad Zahid mahu seluruh warga KKDW memberikan kerjasama dan menterjemahkan kebersamaan dalam setiap inisiatif kerajaan dengan menyegerakan pengemaskinian sistem PADU.

Dalam pada itu, Ahmad Zahid mengarahkan beberapa jawatankuasa ditubuhkan bagi memantau pelaksanaan semua 62 program khusus yang dirangka pada sesi pemukiman KKDW baru-baru ini.

Beliau yang juga Menteri Kemajuan Desa dan Wilayah berkata, penubuhan jawatankuasa itu bukan sahaja dapat memacu pelaksanaan program berkenaan, malah memastikan ia dapat dilaksanakan dengan penuh tanggungjawab.

BERITA HARIAN
Tarikh..... 09 FEB 2024

'Produk berbahaya, ancam kesihatan awam'

BH 9/2
Kuala Lumpur: Persatuan Ahli Farmasi Malaysia (MPS) menegaskan 'Energy Stick' adalah sejenis produk yang berbahaya dan menjadi ancaman kepada kesihatan awam.

Justeru, pihak berkenaan bimbang dengan penjualan alat seperti vape atau rokok elektronik itu yang kini giat dipasarkan kepada orang dewasa, termasuk pelajar sekolah.

Malah, Presiden MPS, Prof Amrahi Buang, menggesa Menteri Kesihatan, Datuk Seri Dr Dzulkefly Ahmad, mengambil tindakan pantas dan tegas terhadap penjual yang mempromosikan produk berbahaya ini.

"Penetapan harga dan pemasaran produk yang didakwa, dijual pada harga serendah RM2.50 secara dalam talian menimbulkan kebimbangan serius kerana ia mudah diakses individu termasuk kanak-kanak.

"Tambahan pula, MPS mengulangi cadangannya agar Dr Dzulkefly mengembalikan status cecair vape yang mengandungi nikotin ke dalam Senarai Racun," katanya dalam satu kenyataan semalam.

Amrahi berkata, langkah proaktif ini sejajar advokasi berterusan MPS untuk larangan produk vape, mengakui potensi risiko kesihatan yang berkaitan

dengan amalan ketagihannya.

"Kerajaan perlu mengutamakan kesejahteraan jangka panjang orang ramai dengan pantas dan menangani serta melarang penjualan mana-mana produk yang memudahkan akses kepada nikotin.

"Kami terus menyeru untuk memasukkan Generational End Game (GEG) ke dalam Kawalan Akta Produk Merokok untuk Kesihatan Awam 2023 bagi menangani isu berkaitan merokok yang lebih meluas produk," katanya.

Semalam, Kementerian Kesihatan (KKM) berkata pihaknya sedang mengenal pasti tindakan serta peraturan yang

akan diambil terhadap penjual produk penyedut hidung (nasal inhaler) atau 'Energy Stick' yang kini giat dijual dan dipromosikan menerusi sosial media, kononnya dapat memberi tenaga dan kesegaran kepada penggunanya.

Timbalan Menteri Kesihatan, Datuk Lukanisman Awang Sauni, berkata pihaknya sudah mengenal pasti perkara itu yang dibangkitkan sejak beberapa hari lalu.

"Ini adalah isu bersama dan kita juga sudah dihubungi oleh Kementerian Pendidikan (KPM) dan Kementerian Pembangunan Wanita, Keluarga dan Masya-

rakat berhubung perkara ini untuk melihat kerjasama yang dapat dilaksanakan dalam mengekang penggunaan produk berkenaan daripada berleluasa.

"Kita akan melihat apakah bentuk tindakan dan peraturan yang kita boleh ambil untuk mengelakkan 'Energy Stick' ini daripada terus dijual di pasaran kerana ia menyerupai 'vape' dan boleh memudaratkan kesihatan terutama kanak-kanak.

"Perkara ini masih baharu dan kita tiada data penggunaan produk ini dalam kalangan kanak-kanak, namun kita sedang memantau secara rapi isu ini," katanya.

BERITA HARIAN

Tarikh.....9.9.FEB.2024

Denda RM25,000, penjara 3 tahun jika jual 'Energy Stick'

Siasatan awal KKM dapati produk bukan keluaran berdaftar

Oleh Suraya Ali
bhnews@bh.com.my

Kuala Lumpur: Kementerian Kesihatan (KKM) memberi amaran penjualan produk penyedut hidung atau 'Energy Stick' di negara ini adalah melanggar Peraturan 7(1)(a), Peraturan-Peraturan Kawalan Dadah dan Kosmetik 1984.

Mereka yang didapati menjual atau membekalkan produk itu boleh dikenakan denda sehingga RM25,000 atau penjara sehingga tiga tahun atau kedua-duanya.

Ketua Pengarah Kesihatan, Datuk Dr Muhammad Radzi Abu Hassan, berkata siasatan awal kementerian mendapati produk itu bukan keluaran berdaftar.

Jika sabit kesalahan kali kedua dan berikutnya, penjual boleh dikenakan hukuman denda tidak melebihi RM50,000 atau penjara tidak melebihi lima tahun atau kedua-duanya.

Syarikat yang melakukan

kesalahan sama boleh didenda sehingga RM50,000 kesalahan pertama dan sehingga RM100,000 untuk kesalahan berikutnya.

Penjualan dalam talian

Katanya, KKM menerima aduan awam berkait penjualan secara dalam talian produk berkenaan yang disyaki tidak berdaftar.

"Hasil siasatan awal mendapati keluaran terbabit bukan keluaran berdaftar.

"Ia perlu berdaftar dengan Pihak Berkuasa Kawalan Dadah (PBKD) seperti peruntukan undang-undang di bawah Akta Jualan Dadah 1952. Justeru, pemantauan dan tindakan penguatkuasaan akan dijalankan ke atas penjual yang dikesan menjual produk berkenaan," katanya.

Dalam satu kenyataan semalam, beliau memaklumkan, hasil saringan awal di platform e-dagang, KKM turut mengesan pengiklanan dan penjualan produk berkenaan oleh penjual tempatan dan luar negara.

"KKM melalui Bahagian Penguatkuasaan Farmasi akan mengambil tindakan penguatkuasaan sewajarnya, iaitu memastikan iklan produk terbabit diturunkan," katanya.

Beliau menasihatkan pengguna agar memastikan produk kesihatan mempunyai pelekat hologram dan Nombor Pendaftaran Produk (MAL) sebelum membeli produk terbabit.

Status pendaftaran produk boleh disemak di laman <https://www.npra.gov.my> di ruangan Status Produk atau dengan menghubungi terus Pusat Panggilan Farmasi Kebangsaan di talian 1-800-88-6722.

Selain itu, orang ramai boleh memuat turun aplikasi NPRA Product Status daripada Google Play Store bagi tujuan semakan.

"KKM komited dalam melindungi kesihatan dan kesejahteraan orang awam melalui peman-tauan secara berterusan.

"Orang ramai turut digalakkan mengemukakan aduan dan menyalurkan maklumat mengenai penjualan produk tidak berdaftar kepada Bahagian Penguatkuasaan Farmasi KKM," kata Muhammad Radzi.

Aduan dan maklumat boleh disalurkan melalui laman <https://www.pharmacy.gov.my> atau portal Sistem Pengurusan Aduan Agensi Awam (SisPAA) di <https://moh.spab.gov.my> atau mana-mana Cawangan Penguatkuasaan Farmasi berdekatan atau talian 03-78413200.

"Aduan dan maklumat ini agar tindakan sewajarnya dapat diambil bagi membanteras penjualan produk seperti ini di pasaran," katanya.

Menteri Pendidikan, Fadhlina Sidek juga sebelum ini meminta pihak sekolah dan ibu bapa memberi perhatian serius terhadap penggunaan atau pengambilan produk berkenaan kerana ia boleh memudaratkan kesihatan pelajar.



Dr Muhammad Radzi

BERITA HARIAN
Tarikh... 09 FEB 2024

Selangor punyai simpanan air untuk tempoh sembilan bulan

Kerajaan negeri usaha tampung bekalan untuk keperluan penduduk hadapi El Nino

Shah Alam: Selangor mempunyai simpanan bekalan air yang dapat menampung keperluan penduduk untuk tempoh kira-kira sembilan bulan, bagi menghadapi fenomena El Nino yang sedang melanda negara.

EXCO Infrastruktur dan Pertanian negeri, Izham Hashim, berkata empangan di negeri itu mempunyai simpanan air untuk keperluan pengguna selama enam bulan, manakala kolam air takungan untuk tempoh tiga bulan.

"Kita kini dalam proses untuk memastikan semua bekalan itu bersambung bagi membolehkan kita dapat menggunakan air tersebut apabila diperlukan," katanya ketika lawatan

kerja ke tapak projek pemulihan Sungai Klang, di sini semalam.

Beliau berkata, usaha kerajaan Selangor berkenaan sejajar dengan kajian yang dilakukan oleh Institut Penyelidikan Air Kebangsaan Malaysia (NAHRIM) yang menjangka kemarau akan melanda negara pada 2026.

"Kita merancang dan buat persiapan, kemarau terakhir melanda negara adalah pada 2014 dan kitaran fenomena itu akan berulang dan kita perlu melakukan persiapan dan berharap ia tidak teruk," katanya.

Mengenai lawatan beliau hari ini, Izham berkata, projek terbabit merangkumi kerja pendalaman dan pelebaran 56 kilometer Sungai Klang serta penguatkuasaan tanah tebing dan pembinaan permatang yang dijangka siap pada 2028 melibatkan kos RM700 juta.

Timbunan sampah-sarap

Katanya, usaha itu berdepan cabaran ekoran timbunan sampah-sarap dan mendapan yang terkumpul di dasar sungai sedalam dua hingga tiga meter, ber-



Izham (kanan) melawat tapak projek tebatan banjir Sungai Klang, Shah Alam, semalam.

(Foto BERNAMA)

banding empat meter ketinggian sungai yang menyukarkan operasi pendalaman dan pelebaran sungai.

"Barang buangan besar seperti

tayar dan perabot serta plastik menjejaskan keadaan teknikal jentera pengorek dan menyebabkan gangguan terhadap operasi harian," katanya.

Izham berkata, projek terbabit menyasarkan untuk meningkatkan kapasiti Sungai Klang sebanyak 40 peratus apabila siap sepenuhnya.

BERNAMA

BERITA HARIAN
Tarikh.....0.9 FEB 2024.....

Strategi antirasuah perlu efektif tutup tiga faktor utama jenayah



Pegawai Jabatan Komunikasi Korporat, Pertubuhan IKRAM Malaysia

Oleh Basmin Maarof
bhrencana@bh.com.my

9/2

Masihkah wujud amalan 'duit kopi' atau 'pengeras' untuk mendapatkan sesuatu seperti keutamaan, perhatian, kelonggaran istimewa atau apa-apa kepentingan tertentu secara pintas atau mengikut jalan belakang?

Sebenarnya senario ini tidak banyak berubah walaupun kedudukan negara dalam Indeks Persepsi Rasuah (CPI) 2023 meningkat hingga mencapai 50 mata pada tahun lalu berbanding 47 mata sebelumnya daripada keseluruhan 100 mata skor dalam pengumuman Transparency International Malaysia, baru-baru ini.

Peningkatan ini menaikkan Malaysia berada di tangga ke-57 bagi tahun lalu berbanding ke-61 (2022). Pada satu sisi, kita gembira kerana ada perubahan baik sedang berlaku dalam membanteras rasuah tetapi ia juga isyarat masih banyak kerja keras perlu dilakukan dengan tekad lebih gigih.

Hakikatnya, sejak sedekad lalu, kedudukan Malaysia dalam CPI berlegar di sekitar skor purata 49. Data ini bukan sekadar angka statistik tetapi menggambarkan tahap rasuah kritikal. Suatu ketika dulu, skandal IMDB menyebabkan Malaysia terkenal secara salah.

Umumnya, gejala rasuah diketahui punca kebinaasaan kerana kunci membuka jalan kepada jenayah lain terutama apabila membabitkan isu penguatkuasaan undang-undang.

Selagi kitaran rasuah 'terpelihara' serta sistem mekanisme semak dan imbang tidak dapat ditegakkan, selagi itu rantaian rasuah akan terus menyubur dan sukar dibanteras.

Ahli kriminologi Amerika Syarikat (AS), Dr Donald R Cassey pernah memperkenalkan hipotesis penting pada 1953, iaitu tiga faktor utama berlakunya jenayah penipuan (termasuk rasuah) iaitu

peluang, tekanan dan rasionalisasi.

Faktor peluang didorong rasa ada kemampuan melakukannya dengan keyakinan perbuatan terabit tidak dapat dikesan, ditangkap atau hukumannya terlalu ringan. Peluang ini timbul apabila ada penguatkuasaan lemah serta kegagalan sistem semak dan imbang untuk berfungsi.

- Tekanan pula mewujudkan desakan melakukan rasuah. Kesempitan kewangan, keinginan diri atau konflik hidup antara punca menimbulkan dorongan memberikan atau menerima rasuah.

Rasionalisasi ialah usaha meyakinkan diri bahawa penipuan adalah perbuatan wajar atas alasan seperti 'hanya meminjam' atau menggantikan bonus sepatutnya diterima. Unsur penipuan ini paling kompleks untuk difahami dan ditentukan.

Keutuhan sistem semak dan imbang

Menurut Pengerusi Transparensi Antarabangsa, Francois Valerian, rasuah akan terus berakar hingga sistem keadilan mampu menjatuhkan hukuman terhadap kesalahan dilanggar manakala kerajaan dapat dikawal melalui keutuhan sistem semak dan imbang.

Tambahnya, apabila keadilan dibeli atau diha-

lang campur tangan politik, rakyat akan menderita. Beliau mengatakan, pemimpin harus komited sepenuhnya untuk menjamin kemerdekaan institusi menegakkan undang-undang dan menangani rasuah.

Jelas terbukti negara mempunyai kadar korupsi tinggi akan mengalami masalah ekonomi dan sosial kritikal. Bahkan, sistem terbaik juga akan gagal apabila rasuah berleluasa kerana undang-undang tidak dihormati, penguatkuasaan lemah dan masyarakat sudah hilang nilai murni.

Hakikatnya, kezaman politik kuat diperlukan jika Malaysia mahu dikenali sebagai negara disegani kerana integriti. Strategi Antirasuah Nasional 2024-2029 yang bakal dilancarkan perlu berjalan dengan baik dan efektif agar keserasuan mencegah rasuah, meningkatkan tata kelola dan integriti dalam pentadbiran awam serta syarikat berkaitan kerajaan (GLC).

Undang-undang perlu dapat bertindak untuk mencegah jenayah daripada berleluasa. Justeru, pengubalan dan pindaan undang-undang berkaitan rasuah seperti Akta Perlindungan Pemberi Maklumat Rasuah 2010 dilihat perlu bagi memperbaiki kelemahan dan menutup lompang.

Idea mewujudkan mahkamah khas untuk percabaran kes rasuah ada kepentingannya bagi meningkatkan kecekapan usaha menangani gejala serius ini. Tidak dapat dinafikan, rasuah sudah lama membelenggu negara hingga berakar umbi dalam segenap peringkat.

Tentunya gejala ini memerlukan masa panjang untuk diperangi tetapi perlu ada tindakan mampu memberikan impak besar dan membawa perubahan signifikan. Reformasi menyeluruh perlu dilakukan bagi mengubah nilai dalam masyarakat.

Apabila rasuah dinormalisasikan, golongan rentan akan tertindas kerana mempunyai akses terhadap keadilan, sebaliknya golongan kaya dan berkuasa mengekang sistem hingga mengorbankan kepentingan bersama.



BERITA HARIAN
09 FEB 2024
Tarikh.....

Jangan tunggu saat akhir daftar PADU ^{UM} 9/2

PETALING JAYA: Jabatan Perangkaan Malaysia (DOSM) mengingatkan rakyat negara ini mengemaskini maklumat peribadi mereka dalam sistem Pangkalan Data Utama (PADU) dengan segera bagi mengelakkan kesesakan sistem pada 31 Mac ini.

Sehingga kini, seramai 2.76 juta rakyat negara ini sudah mengemaskini maklumat mereka dalam PADU sejak ia diperkenalkan kerajaan 2 Januari lalu.

Bercakap kepada *Utusan Malaysia*, Ketua Perangkawan Datuk Seri Dr. Uzir Mahidin berkata, pihaknya mahu rakyat mengemaskini maklumat dan tidak menunggu di saat akhir.

"Ramai yang suka menunggu di saat akhir untuk mengemaskini maklumat kerana menganggap masih mempunyai wak-

tu sehingga tarikh akhir.

"Kita harap kemas kini ini semakin meningkat tanpa menunggu 31 Mac ini. Kita perlu tahu juga sistem yang dibangunkan tidak terlepas daripada tekanan yang menjadikan aliran sistem menjadi sesak nanti," katanya.

Setakat ini, Selangor mencatatkan rekod pengemaskinian tertinggi iaitu 4.24 juta orang diikuti Johor dengan 2.77 juta orang dan Sarawak iaitu 1.97 juta orang.

Negeri lain adalah Perak (1.93 juta), Sabah (1.72 juta), Kedah (1.57 juta), Kuala Lumpur (1.41 juta), Pulau Pinang (1.26 juta), Kelantan (1.25 juta), Pahang (1.09 juta), Negeri Sembilan (0.88 juta), Terengganu (0.87 juta), Melaka (0.68 juta), Perlis (0.19 juta), Putrajaya (0.07 juta) dan Labuan (0.06 juta).

Menurut Uzir, ketika ini kemaskini sistem PADU mencatat keseimbangan oleh golongan warga emas dan belia.

"Kita juga sedang bergerak untuk menambah kaunter bergerak dan fizikal di dalam serta luar bandar.

"Kita akan bekerjasama dengan komuniti dan ketua kampung untuk memberikan kefahaman tentang kepentingan mendaftar PADU kepada penduduk setempat supaya tidak tercicir daripada mana-mana subsidi atau bantuan," katanya.

Dalam pada itu, Presiden Lembaga Perlindungan dan Kebajikan Pengguna Malaysia (LPKPM), Prof. Dr. Lee Nan Sang berkata, kerajaan harus mempelbagaikan usaha yang berkesan bagi meningkatkan jumlah pendaftaran

PADU.

"Berbaki lebih kurang 53 hari untuk mencapai sasaran itu pada 31 Mac. Jadi, kerajaan harus mengambil langkah yang lebih berkesan untuk meningkatkan kadar pendaftaran melalui pelbagai cara seperti iklan kesedaran, pendedahan kepentingan PADU dan mempelawa badan bukan kerajaan untuk bekerjasama.

Selain itu, pemberian baucar dan insentif juga boleh direncanakan oleh kerajaan untuk menarik perhatian golongan yang memerlukan bantuan kerajaan," katanya.

Pada masa sama, Nan Sang berkata, kerajaan perlu memberi jaminan kepada rakyat bahawa keselamatan data PADU terpelihara daripada diceroahi oleh pihak luar.

UTUSAN MALAYSIA
Tarikh: 09 FEB 2024

Low Padu numbers among Rural and Regional Development Ministry officers, staff

PUTRAJAYA: Concerns about personal data not being protected are one of the reasons why Central Database System (Padu) registrations among Rural and Regional Development Ministry officers and staff are low.

Its minister, Datuk Seri Dr Ahmad Zahid Hamidi, who is also deputy prime minister, yesterday said only 33.4 per cent of the 24,471 ministry officers and staff and its agencies had registered.

"We are working on it. In the middle of this month, we will initiate activities to ensure that 100 per cent of officers and staff register with Padu," he said this after the ministry's monthly assembly.

On Wednesday, chief statistician Datuk Seri Dr Mohd Uzir Mahidin said only 2.69 million out of 30.8 million Malaysians had updated their information on Padu.

When asked why the number was low, Zahid said: "Perhaps there is a lack of awareness about it."

"Some also feel that their per-

sonal details are not kept private, but we have a certain way to resolve it because it (Padu) is for everyone's benefit."

Padu consolidates data from government agencies under one roof.

Meanwhile, Zahid said the government would roll out several measures to address rising dropout rates among secondary school students. He said among the reasons students were dropping out of school was because they had to work due to their family's financial problems.

The Education Ministry found that 14,506 secondary school students dropped out last year, or 0.8 per cent of the total number of students.

Zahid said the National Social Council meeting that he chaired earlier yesterday had identified eight improvements to lower the dropout rate.

This included raising awareness about the importance of education to at least the Sijil Pelajaran Malaysia level.

The awareness campaign

would be done through the print, electronic and social media.

"Other measures include periodic monitoring of employers of schoolgoing children to ensure they comply with prescribed working hours and conditions; setting up vocational training centres; and providing counselling to parents and guardians to ensure children under their care continue schooling."

He said this in his speech after chairing the council meeting here.

His speech was delivered by Women, Family and Community Development Minister Datuk Seri Nancy Shukri.

He said the government would also look into helping families in financial difficulties, which compelled students to work.

Zahid said financial assistance would be provided to students based on their needs and place of residence.

He added learning spaces would be set up in residential areas, such as in community centres or activity centres.

Apart from that, he said the government was looking at introducing HIV and AIDS prevention, control and treatment programmes, particularly for youth.

He said this was necessary as youth aged 20 to 39 were the most affected with HIV and AIDS at 74 per cent.

He said the council had outlined several programmes and improvements that could be carried out.

This includes establishing shelters managed by government agencies or non-governmental organisations to provide after-care for People Living With HIV/AIDS, especially those ostracised by their families and lacking support; and boosting their job security and educational opportunities.

"We also suggest implementing monitoring and restrictions on pornographic websites or social networking applications that lead to high-risk HIV activities."

In November last year, then health minister Dr Zaliha Mustafa had said an average of

eight people contracted HIV in Malaysia daily.

Zahid said HIV/AIDS was among the two discussion papers and one information paper deliberated at the meeting.

The other discussion paper was on secondary school dropout issues. The information paper was on policy enhancements to ensure fair treatment for vulnerable consumers.

On vulnerable consumers, he said, the paper had outlined two goals for best practices for financial service providers dealing with Persons with Disabilities (PWDs).

This includes establishing requirements for financial service providers to provide support to vulnerable consumers and encouraging a culture of tolerance for PWDs.

The National Social Council was established as the implementing body of the National Social Policy, which is the umbrella policy covering the philosophy and social development policies of the nation.

NEW STRAITS TIMES

Tarikh:0.9.FEB.2024..

Klang River rehabilitation project **flowing smoothly**

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► Works include deepening and widening of waterway, strengthening critical infrastructure and enhancing disaster resilience: Selangor exco

■ BY ALLEN WONG
newsdesk@thesundaily.com

SHAH ALAM: Efforts to deepen and widen the Klang River as part of a long-term flood mitigation strategy for the Klang Valley is on track, said Selangor executive councillor for Infrastructure and Agriculture Izham Hashim.

He was speaking during a presentation on the Klang River Rehabilitation Project, an initiative carried out by special purpose vehicle Landasan Lumayan Berjaya Sdn Bhd, which was formed through a joint-venture between Menteri Besar Incorporated subsidiary Landasan Lumayan Sdn Bhd (45%) and Berjaya Land Bhd subsidiary Berjaya Hartanah Bhd (55%).

"This project is in line with the Selangor government's mission to revitalise the river and develop it after years of neglect and industrialisation. The project is slated for completion by the end of 2028," he said, adding that the initiative will sustainably transform 27,960ha of the surrounding land.

The project, which is part of the Selangor government's efforts to safeguard water security and protect the people and economy from the impacts of flooding and drought, reinforces the state's commitment to disaster resilience, adaptation and readiness.

Izham said by improving water storage and climate-proofing infrastructure, the project reflects the UN-Water Agenda call to build resilient communities and safeguard the environment against the impacts of climate change and water-related disasters.

The project, which is a comprehensive two-part Integrated Water Resources Management exercise, will also bring new economic opportunities and sustain the well-being of those around it.

"The first part of the project will deepen and widen 56km of the river to expand its capacity to mitigate flood risks and improve water quality, while the



Izham said the project reflects the UN-Water Agenda call to build resilient communities and safeguard the environment against the impacts of climate change and water-related disasters.

— AMIRUL SYAFIQ/THE SUN

second part will reinforce soil embankments and bund construction to strengthen critical infrastructure and enhance disaster resilience."

Izham said the project consists of three key engineering components, which include design (hydrology and hydraulic analysis, bund improvement and slope protection work, as well as flood wall requirements) and construction and subsequent maintenance.

Twelve zones within four main blocks along its 56km length downstream of the river have been identified as the most vulnerable to potential flooding, due to its shallow depth caused by decades of sediment build-up.

Phase 1 consists of critical improvement works as it covers the high-risk sections of the last 10km of the river to its mouth and Port Klang.

"Initial dredging operations in Block 3, Zone 8, which is upstream of Taman Sri Muda in Shah Alam, has resulted in the removal of 130,000 cubic metres of rubbish.

"In mid-February, dredging work will expand into zones 6 and 7 within Block 3,

before moving into Block 1 (zones 1 and 2 within Port Klang) by early July.

"The improvement works in Block 3, which covers 14.3km from Kg Bukit Lanchong to Taman Sri Muda in Shah Alam and Block 1 will further improve river capacity and resilience."

He said the rubbish and sediment accumulated on the riverbed has led to its capacity being severely compromised, with 40% of the dredged material consisting of tyres, furniture and plastic items, which severely affected the dredger's technical condition and disrupted its operations.

Under the project, a total of 77,389 tonnes of solid waste was removed from the river between 2016 and 2021.

"The amount has gradually dropped from 1,500 tonnes per month in 2016 to 850 currently. The water quality index, which used to be categorised as highly contaminated at Class 5, is now at Class 3 for 48% of the days in a year," he said, adding that the target for the next two years is to achieve Class 3 or better, for 70% of days in a year.

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