



PENGURUSAN PEMANTAUAN KERATAN AKHBAR MBSJ
TARIKH: 13 FEBRUARI 2024 (ISNIN)

LAIN-LAIN PBT

BIL	AKHBAR	PBT	TAJUK
1.	THE STAR	MBSA MBPJ MPKj DBKL	• ECO FREE MARKET • CAR-FREE DAY • MOBILE COUNTERS • MBPJ ISSUES STOP-WORK ORDER FOR LAND NEXT TO SRI MANJA COURT • SOLUTION SOUGHT FOR SMELLY LAKE • SMOKE RISING ON BLACK WATER LAKE • SAVING KL'S FLOOD RETENTION PONDS • CHOW KIT MARKET TRADERS SHOCKED BY HUGE FEE HIKE

UMUM

BIL	AKHBAR	TAJUK
1.	THE STAR	• NECESSARY CHANGES TO AN UNSUSTAINABLE SYSTEM • MORE MEASURES ON WATER SAFETY NEEDED • 'CITY CLEANERS MUST HAVE SOCSO, INSURANCE'
2.	SINAR HARIAN	• LEBIH 2,000 NAHAS JALAN RAYA PADA HARI KEEMPAT OP SELAMAT TAHUN BAHARU CINA • KONTRAK PSIKOLOGI PERKUKUH IKATAN ANTARA MAJIKAN DAN PEKERJA • HENTIKAN PERSEPSI PERBUATAN RASUAH HANYA LIBATKAN MELAYU • KEMPEN KESEDARAN BERKAITAN UNDANG-UNDANG RASUAH PERLU DILAKUKAN LEBIH KERAP • UMNO SELANGOR KEKAL PENDIRIAN PULANG 20 KUOTA AHLI MAJLIS PBT
3.	KOSMO	• PBT PERLU LAKSANA KAEDAH 'ZONING' ELAK KEDAI SENSITIF TIDAK BERADADI KAWASAN PERUMAHAN PREMIS HIBURAN MESTI JAUH DARI RUMAH
4.	BERITA HARIAN	• USAHA PERANGI RASUAH, PERBAIKI INDEKS GLOBAL PERLU SOKONGAN RAKYAT • 4,764 NAHAS DALAM 3 HARI OP SELAMAT • HANYA GUNA 60 PERATUS GAJI BERSIH UNTUK TAMPUNG KOS SARA HIDUP
5.	UTUSAN MALAYSIA	• ANAK BULAN RAMADAN DIUNJUR TERBIT, NAMUN GAGAL PENUHI KRITERIA IMKANUR RUKYAH KITA DIJANGKA MULA PUASA 12 MAC • 14 KES KEMATIAN HARI KEEMPAT OP SELAMAT 21 • RISIKO DITIPU, DIANCAM JENAYAH SIBER
6.	THE SUN	• DROP IN DENGUE CASES • NAVIGATING THE BOUNDARIES OF WORKPLACE MONITORING

ECO FREE MARKET

Shah Alam City Council is holding an Eco Free Market at its car-free day on Feb 18 at Jalan Persidangan, Dataran Kemerdekaan, Section 14, Shah Alam starting 9.30am. Themed 'Back to school', it is held in collaboration with Be Kind Malaysia and Persatuan NGO Suri Rumah Rahmah Malaysia. There will also be a health screening and exhibition, and women's counselling and pap smear test offered in collaboration with Persatuan Pakar Perubatan Keluarga Selangor.

(MBA)

THE STAR

Tarikh: **13 FEB 2024**

4 News



**STAR METRO
WATCH**

CAR-FREE DAY ✓ 12/2

Shah Alam City Council (MBSA) will be holding its Car Free Day on Feb 18, from 7am to 1pm at Dataran Kemerdekaan, Section 14 Shah Alam. MBSA is collaborating with Persatuan Pakar Perubatan Keluarga Selangor to offer free activities for visitors such as health screening, exhibition and counselling.

THE STAR

Tarikh: 13 FEB 2024

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. MBPJ will also open additional counters on weekends at its headquarters on Feb 17, 18, 24 and 25 from 10am to 2pm. For details, call 03-7956 3544 ext 102/103/108/109.

(MBPJ)

THE STAR

Tarikh:.....1..3..FEB..2024

MBPJ issues stop-work order for land next to Sri Manja Court

By SHEILA SRI PRIYA (MBPJ)
sheilasripriya@thestar.com.my

PETALING Jaya City Council (MBPJ) has issued a stop-work order on all activities at a plot of land in PJS3 due to noise and air pollution.

Residents of Sri Manja Court, especially those in Block G, facing the land, had complained about the issue for some time and the matter was highlighted in *StarMetro* on Feb 3.

Area councillor Norah Mansor said the 2.4ha land was owned by the Department of Director General of Land and Mines (JKPTG) and was earmarked for the building of a school.

Since the Education Ministry has no plans to build the school there yet, the land had been rented out, she said.

"The issue is now over the activity taking place on this land which is causing air and noise pollution.

"The land is divided into



Waste separation operations being carried out in one of the parcels of land owned by Department of Director General of Land and Mines (JKPTG) in PJS3, Petaling Jaya.

three parcels. Two parcels are used as parking bays for heavy vehicles. The other one is rented by a waste management company and the contractors are carrying out waste separation activities.

"But when the waste is separated, it gives off a bad stench.

"MBPJ has issued a notice for

operators in all three parcels to stop work and move elsewhere," said Norah.

She added that the responsibility was on the land owner to ensure they were aware of the activities taking place.

"We understand that JKPTG owns a lot of land and they may not have the time to check on

all of it.

"However, it is important for them to know what activities are taking place there.

"In this case, the residents are affected by these activities," she said, adding that the movement of heavy vehicles in and out of the parking area day and night was also disturbing them.

THE STAR

13 FEB 2024

Tarikh:.....

Solution sought for smelly lake

PJS5 residents irked by unsanitary recreational area, MBPJ says park not within its purview yet

By AIDA AHMAD
aidaahmad@thestar.com.my

THE sales brochure reads "New Benchmark of Lakeside Living" but residents of a serviced apartment in PJS5, Petaling Jaya, Selangor, have a less appealing tale to tell.

If one takes a photo from the upper floors of one of the 40-storey blocks at the residence, the view is picturesque with man-made lake, green landscaping, playgrounds and walkways, all open to the public.

But a closer look at ground level reveals an algae-filled, smelly lake.

In January, some residents reached out to *StarMetro* to also highlight uncollected rubbish, overgrown grass and unpleasant smell.

During a visit to the area at the time, rubbish was strewn everywhere, waste bins were overflowing and a foul stench permeated the air.

However, rubbish at the playground was cleared last week, said sales and marketing executive Alice Kwan, who will soon move into her apartment on



Kwan: Rubbish has been cleared but lake still in bad state.



Balakrishnan: Reality different from promises in brochure.

the 27th floor.

"Rubbish around the bins were also cleared but the condition of the lake remains."

Buyers said they had been attracted by the illuminated blue lights of the lake at night, as depicted in the brochure.

"During vacant possession, the reality was different," said 20th floor resident A. Balakrishnan, a driver, adding that he received his keys in May 2022.

The lake and surrounding area are outside the perimeter of the two blocks of serviced apartments.

There are 752 units in total with built-ups of between 718 sq ft and 1,010 sq ft.

Bazlina Sharif, a software engineer living on the 15th floor, is worried about dengue fever due to the terrible condition of the lake.

She said snakes were seen near the walkway at the lake in September 2022, prompting residents to call the Fire and Rescue Department for help.

"Whether the water is stagnant or not, I'm not sure, but only two out of four water fountains are functioning."

"Who is supposed to maintain them?"

"There is also a monsoon drain near the lake, but we don't know whether it is functioning or causing water to stagnate."

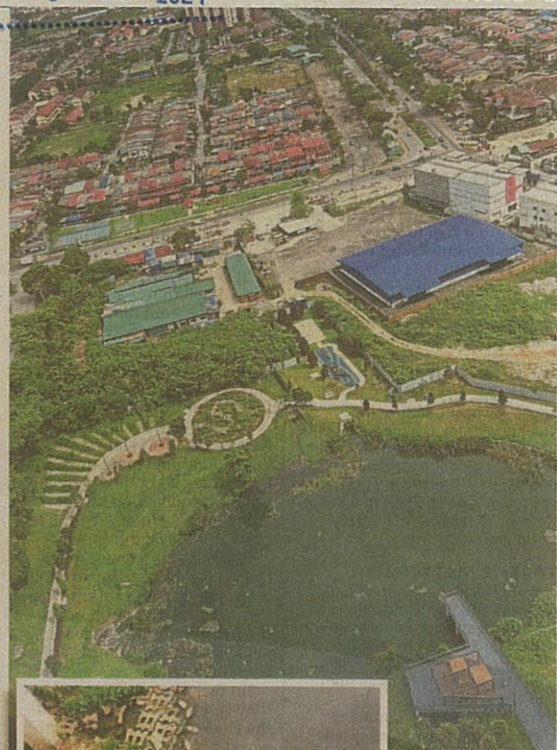
"We can smell foul air from our floors."

"The lake is contaminated with what looks like oil."

"There was also an incident in September 2022 where dead fish were seen floating in the lake, causing an unbearable stench."

"We want our surroundings to be clean and maintained properly," she added.

In an email from the developer to residents sighted by *StarMetro*, it was stated that lake enhancement work was completed in 2022, and the company was



View of the lake from an upper floor of the residence in PJS5, Petaling Jaya. (Inset) A September 2022 photo taken by a resident showing dead fish on the surface of the lake.

in the midst of handing the area over to the local authority.

In a statement, Petaling Jaya City Council (MBPJ) said the developer still shouldered the responsibility of carrying out landscape maintenance works and clearing rubbish from the park.

"Any claim that the area has been taken over by MBPJ is inaccurate, because the developer is still in the process of handing it over to MBPJ."

The city council said the developer had unfinished work to complete at the residence.

Based on a site visit carried out by MBPJ's Landscape Department on Dec 19, 2023, the developer has not fully complied

with conditions set by the city council.

"Following complaints from residents, the developer will be instructed in writing to carry out landscaping maintenance and clean the park."

"Irresponsible parties who litter and do not prioritise cleanliness have no regard for others."

"The city council expects cooperation from everyone to watch out for those who throw rubbish indiscriminately."

"Anyone found guilty of littering can be fined RM2,000 under the MBPJ Council Parks By-laws 2005."

Attempts to speak to the developer's person in charge proved unsuccessful.



A photo sent by Kwan showing overflowing rubbish bins (left) which have since been cleared.



MPAJ: RM1,000 compound for businesses with expired licences

By SHALINI RAVINDRAN
shaliniravindran@thestar.com.my

SOME 1,700 business owners in Ampang Jaya, Selangor have not renewed their licences for 2024, as of Feb 7.

Ampang Jaya Municipal Council (MPAJ) president Dr Ani Ahmad said only 8,926 holders had renewed before the Dec 31, 2023 deadline.

This totalled RM5,562,007 in collection, she said.

Between Jan 1 and 24, some 581 business owners renewed their expired licences with a total collection of RM574,840.

"Licence holders are charged an automatic penalty of RM360 if they renew after the Dec 31 deadline."

"Those caught trading with expired licences can be issued a maximum compound of RM1,000," she said in a statement.

"We will take action against business owners who fail to renew their licences."

Ani added that 4,293 micro-entrepreneurs had renewed their licences for 2024, amounting to a collection of RM831,744.

Ani reminded licence holders to settle any outstanding assessment tax to avoid facing obstacles when renewing their licences.

She said under the implementation of the Integrated Approval System, failure to do so might result in their applications being rejected.

"Renewal of business licences are now done online through MPAJ Icomm System, while Micro-entrepreneurs licence renewals are available via e-Pen-jaja."

Separately, 113 Ramadan bazaar spots are still available at eight locations in the municipality.

The bazaar spots are at Kompleks Muhibbah in Taman Nirwana as well as in Taman Sri Bayu and Taman Pandan Cahaya.

This year, 934 lots at 17 locations have been allocated for Ramadan bazaars.

Those interested to apply for a temporary licence for the Ramadan bazaars, can visit <https://intranet.mpa.gov.my/pen-jaja/login.php>



Ani (left) says licence holders are charged an automatic penalty of RM360 if they fail to renew by Dec 31. On her left is MPAJ secretary Julaiha Jamaludin.

By MEGAT SYAHAR
megatsyahr@thestar.com.my

THICK smoke from an illegal dumpsite at Black Water Lake is worrying residents of nearby Bandar Mahkota Cheras in Selangor.

Resident Yew Jin Teoh said the continuous smoke has persisted for a week.

"It is still burning 24/7 with an acrid smell that is strong even though the area that's burning is roughly 3km away from where I live," he told *StarMetro*.

Yew said he believed the fire was due to open burning at an illegal dumpsite near the lake.

The Vantage Residents Association (RA) chairman Logan Retnam complained that authorities were not doing anything to stop vehicles from going in and out of the area to carry out illegal dumping.

"Kajang Municipal Council (MPKJ) removed the gates and the small guard post that was there before and put a notice on the increase in penalties for vehicle seizures, but this did not stop the lorries."

"In fact, it made it worse, as they can dump waste around the clock now, with a foreign worker at the entrance guiding these lorries in," he said.

In a statement, MPKJ said it detected a fire on Jan 30 at the Bandar Mahkota Cheras illegal dumpsite.

"Initial action involved contacting the Fire and Rescue Department to carry out fire-fighting operations but the extensive area made it difficult and time-consuming to extinguish the fire."

"To expedite matters, the department advised MPKJ to provide excavators in the area."

On Feb 4, Kajang assemblyman David Cheong's office in a Facebook post, wrote that the fire had been extinguished and the smoke was slowly dissipating.

"Thanks to the firefighters for their tireless efforts in putting out the flames," he said.

On the illegal dumpsite issue, MPKJ said it had raised the penalty for lorry seizure on Feb 1,

Smoke rising on Black Water Lake

Fire at illegal dumpsite in Cheras blankets surrounding area, excavators brought in



MPKJ says fire was detected at the illegal dumpsite at Bandar Mahkota Cheras on Jan 30. — Photo courtesy of YEOW JIN TEOH. (Inset) Firefighters battling the fire at the dumpsite.

from RM1,500 to RM5,500, with a impound period of one month.

"This increase in charges can have an impact and put pressure on those involved, hopefully leading to a reduction in planned waste disposal activi-

ties at illegal dumpsites," said the municipal council.

It said integrated monitoring operations were conducted periodically at several identified hotspots in the Hulu Langat district.

It also said it had confiscated

a total of 35 lorries in 2023 and four lorries in January this year.

The issue of illegal dumping at Black Water Lake has been going on for years, with those living in nearby residential areas complaining to the authorities about the bad smell.

THE STAR

Tarikh: 13 FEB 2024



The area surrounding Sungai Bonus flood retention pond in Kuala Lumpur has experienced significant flooding in the past. — IZZRAFIQ ALIAS/The Star

Saving KL's flood retention ponds (DBKL)

Experts: Gazette remaining ones to mitigate flooding, prevent future development

By BAVANI M
bavanim@thestar.com.my

THE Kuala Lumpur Land and Mines Office (PTGWP) is proceeding with the degazettement of Sungai Bonus flood retention pond, says a spokesperson.

He said the land classifications to "flood retention pond" and "open area" were to ensure better management and maintenance by respective agencies of the facility in Jalan Tun Razak, Kuala Lumpur.

It involves the Drainage and Irrigation Department (DID) for the flood retention pond and Kuala Lumpur City Hall (DBKL) for the open spaces.

Additionally, the move will expand the flood reserve area once land classification is finalised.

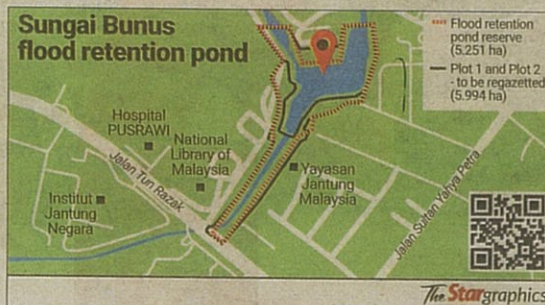
The spokesperson said with this, the total size of the flood retention pond would exceed its previous size.

"This request came from Kuala Lumpur DID, and we are currently coordinating with the Attorney General's Chambers (AGC) for the degazettement process," the spokesperson said.

"Once the revocation is completed, we will regazette the pond by including the larger portion of land.

"The regazettement process, involving feedback from the Survey and Mapping Department of Malaysia (Jupem), Percetakan Nasional Malaysia Bhd (PNMB), and the AGC, will take about three months."

The decision to degazette the land faced public scrutiny earlier this year as the Sungai Bonus



flood retention pond was only gazetted four years ago after it was approved as an impounding reservoir by Federal Territory of Kuala Lumpur Land Executive Committee (JKTWPKL).

The decision was aimed at strengthening the city's defences against flooding.

On Dec 27, 2023, JKTWPKL issued a Federal Government Gazette for the Notice of Proposed Revocation of Reservation Land for Public Use.

The move to degazette the land sparked objections from those living in the vicinity of Sungai Bonus.

Two retired directors from different government agencies contacted by *StarMetro* are pushing for PTGWP to prioritise protecting flood retention ponds in Kuala Lumpur.



Flashback to *StarMetro*'s report on Feb 5.

They suggested designating these ponds as protected areas, rather than modifying the status of those already serving as flood reservoirs.

They said revoking the gazetted status of flood retention ponds would expose the surrounding land to potential future development.



Hooi: Flood retention ponds are vital to the city's overall flood mitigation, not merely for individual development projects.

Retired DID director-general Datuk Nor Hisham Mohd Ghazali said: "It's common practice for the land office to seek feedback only from the landowner, like DBKL, regarding land matters."

"However, the land office overlooks the fact that Kuala Lumpur's entire flood mitigation system is interconnected and dependent on each component. "Therefore, degazetting land requires input from DID as well."

In response to *StarMetro* reports on Jan 6 and Feb 5, Nor Hisham stated that regardless of land ownership, if a pond was integral to the city's flood mitigation, the responsible agency must be involved in decision-making.

Hooi Yoke Meng, former Director of DBKL's Drainage and River Management Department, emphasised the need for broader



Nor Hisham: Entire Kuala Lumpur flood mitigation system is interconnected and dependent on each component.

perspective of Kuala Lumpur's flood retention ponds.

"These ponds are vital to the city's overall flood mitigation, not merely for individual development projects," he said in advising those involved in the original gazettement to maintain their status.

Ponds like Batu and Taman Wahyu, essential for flood mitigation, have been alienated for development and face future flooding risks.

The Sungai Bonus flood retention pond was gazetted on July 31, 2018.

Historically, it has played a critical role in flood control, especially during heavy rain, by channelling water into the pond, thus mitigating flooding.

The area has experienced significant disruptions due to flooding, particularly when Sungai Bonus overflowed.

LEE HENG
GUIE



Comment

Necessary changes to an unsustainable system

FISCAL pressures and demographic trends (increasing life expectancy and ageing society) in Malaysia have increased the urgency of reforming our pension system for enhancing fiscal and economic sustainability.

It is also to mitigate possible adverse economic impacts arising from a pension deficit when revenue, contribution and return on investment are insufficient to cover rising pension liabilities.

Civil service pension reforms formed part of the overall fiscal consolidation, focusing on the expenditure side, which includes subsidies rationalisation, plugging leakages and better management of public expenditure along with the revenue enhancement.

The government offers the defined-benefit pension programme for eligible civil personnel who meet the requirements. In general, each retiree will receive two types of payment.

The first is a monthly pension payment according to the employee's final salary and years of service, and is limited to a pension of three-fifths (60%) of the last basic salary (after 30 years or 360 months of the recognised service period) and the second, is the one-off gratuity upon retirement in appreciation of their services to the government.

Currently, public employee pension is funded by the state and federal government's annual contribution to the Retirement Fund (Inc) or KWAP, which was established on March 1, 2007 under the Retirement Fund Act

2007 (Act 662) to manage retirement savings of civil servants.

It is estimated that 32,000 new retirees every year, and currently we have 971,000 retirees.

As of end-July 2023, KWAP had RM184.5bil of assets under its management from the RM200bil target to be achieved in 2025.

The KWAP pension fund needs a longer period of at least 25 to 30 years before it becomes fully vested when the fund contributed by the federal government is fully accessible by the pensioner.

The budget spending on retirement charges had increased from an average of RM1.5bil per year in 1976-1999 to RM19.4bil per year in 2010-2019 and further to RM32.0bil in 2020-2024.

Accordingly, retirement charges have accounted for an average of 10.7% of total operating expenditure compared to an average of 5.5% in 1976-1999.

The relatively large size of pension in government budget is expected to increase to RM46.0bil in 2030 and will further increase to RM120bil in 2050.

With a large size of pension spending, along with other high committed expenses (emoluments of RM95.6bil or 31.5% of total operating expenditure in Budget 2024, RM49.8bil or 16.4% for debt service charges, and RM52.8bil or 17.4% for subsidies and social assistance), fiscal adjustment plans are necessary to reduce the fiscal deficit and contain the bloated debt.

In this regard, credible civil service reforms are needed to improve the quality and value of public services-based perfor-

mance and productivity-linked salary system.

The review of Public Service Remuneration System, including a new civil service hiring policy, should include a review of pension sustainability, rightsizing civil servants and accelerating digital government.

A path to public pension reform entails the transition to a defined contribution plan via the Employee Provident Fund for new hires as it eliminates the potential risk to underfund long-term pension liabilities.

However, in reforming the public pension system, we have to ensure a continued interest to pursue a career in the public service.

Civil service pension reforms possibilities

The appropriate level of pension spending and design of the pension system are ultimately to reduce the fiscal burden; improve labour market efficiency; assist in the capital market development; generate higher public and private savings as well as reduce burden on future generations.

There is a need to reform public sector pension scheme to make it financially sustainable. As the pension is a statutory expenditure, it has the first claim over future government revenue.

Regardless of the future performance of tax revenue and the government's financial capacity to bear the pension expenditure of civil servants, their pension benefits to them will continue.

This raises the risk of inter-generational equity.

The revenues must be sufficient to cover the liabilities and to ensure financial sustainability in the long run.

The ability to finance future expenditures will depend on the fund contribution, the return on investment on the management of assets, and the pension promises to the current and future retirees.

When a pension deficit occurs, it will result in a pension debt that the government needs to finance through its revenue or by raising taxes.

Given rising fiscal cost and increasing number of retirees as well as new recruits, public policy must adapt to improve the sustainability of pension system.

Studies have shown that overly generous public pensions not only burden government budget spending as the number of retirees increases, but affect the saving behaviour of individuals, who will be less inclined to save on their own for retirement needs.

Less generous public pensions can induce people to save more for their mainly self-funded retirement.

Some governments have addressed underfunded pensions with a wave of pension reforms that seek to limit benefits for current employees and alter the benefit structure for future employees.

Pension reforms can avoid the need for even deeper cuts in pro-growth public investment spending such as for the healthcare, education, food security and

elderly community services.

There are a number of ways to reform public pensions system: raising the statutory retirement age, review the period of service to qualify for pensionable status, review the size of pension benefits and payouts by reducing their generosity, changing the accrual rate (the rate at which pension benefits build as member service is completed in a defined-benefit plan), and move from defined-benefit to defined-contribution as adopted in the private sector.

Many countries have enacted significant pension reforms in recent years to contain the growth in the number of pensioners, given the fiscal funding challenges brought about by the ongoing demographic transition.

These include changing key parameters of the pension system, such as increasing the statutory retirement age and tightening eligibility rules.

For example, the recent reform proposal in France aims to raise the full-pension retirement age to 64; the reform adopted in Brazil in October 2019 increases retirement ages to 65 for men and 62 for women from 56 and 53, respectively.

In some countries, such as Cyprus, Denmark, the Netherlands, and Portugal, the statutory retirement age is legislated to increase in line with rising life expectancy.

Lee Heng Guie is Socio-Economic Research Centre executive director. The views expressed here are the writer's own.

THE STAR

13 FEB 2024

th:.....

By GRACE CHEN
gracechen@thestar.com.my

CALLS for water safety awareness programmes and swimming lessons to be included in the school syllabus or as a co-curricular activity have grown louder recently.

This follows reports that about 500 people drown every year in Malaysia.

Acknowledging this, the Education Ministry said it would spearhead a reform agenda to strengthen the national education system.

Dive master and underwater camera operator Megat Samsul Kamal Mohamad Zamberi, 48, said the time was ripe for the ministry to look into this issue.

"In many countries, swimming classes have become part of the regular school curriculum.

"In Singapore, for example, swimming and water survival skills are taught to all primary school pupils as part of their physical education (PE) lessons.

"Locally, such programmes are only available in selected national schools.

"Ideally, this basic survival skill should be made available to all children," he added.

The father of four boys aged seven to 14, takes it upon himself to teach his sons to swim.

Another concerned parent is Elisa Leong, 40, who has two boys aged 12 and 10.

Leong, a former national swimmer who is now a swimming coach, enrolled her sons for swimming lessons before they turned five.

She said many people mistakenly believed that swimming or water safety only applied at swimming pools.

"One has to remember that water is a big part of our lives.

"At home there are washing pails, bathtubs and inflatable pools where young children are at risk of drowning.

"Let's not forget when people travel, they tend to go to beaches, rivers, lakes and hotel pools.

"All these places are where drowning usually occurs.

"It is important that water safety awareness or basic swimming skills are taught to school children," she added.

Inaccessible public pools

Leong said access to swimming pools could be hampering the introduction of this important life skill at schools.

"Not many people have access to swimming pools, unless they are club members or live in a condominium.

"Those living in public housing, landed property and rural areas would have little exposure," she said.

"If more public exposure is to be given to water safety awareness, it has to start with the easy availability of public swimming pools."

She called on local authorities to look into the maintenance of their public swimming pools so that the facility would be accessible to the public.

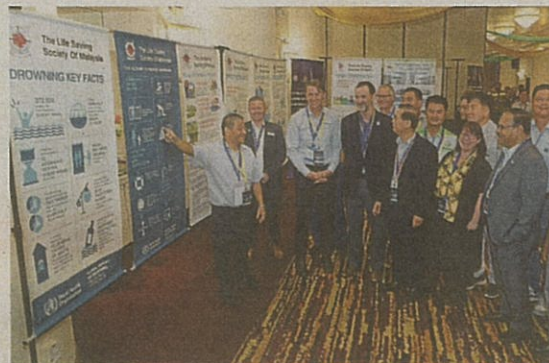
"Some public swimming pools in Kuala Lumpur, Putrajaya and Klang have been closed to the public – some for over a year – due to maintenance issues," added Leong.

Malaysia Swimming Federation secretary-general Andy Low, who is in his early



More measures on water safety needed

Government has addressed lack of swimming programmes, but pool maintenance still an issue



Geh (left) sharing information on how to prevent drowning during a workshop in Penang.

60s, said upkeep of public pools was important as these facilities could be utilised by schools to teach the life-saving skill.

"When I was a member of my school's swimming club, we learned how to swim and trained at the public swimming pool at Paroi in Seremban, Negri Sembilan," he said.

At most public swimming pools, he said, there would be students from at least six or seven schools making use of the facility for either basic swimming lessons or water safety courses.

But for this to happen, Low said clear direction was needed.

These included application procedures by the respective schools for pool usage, funding for instructors and rental fees as well as frequency and duration of sessions allowed per

school, added Low.

"Shoplot pools such as those operated by private swimming schools and mobile pools, which can be set up and dismantled according to programme duration, could be considered.

"It would be ideal if qualified volunteer instructors could be roped in to teach for a minimal fee to cover meals and transport," he said, adding that retirees from local councils and the fire brigade who had experience in water rescue, could also be considered.

"Even university students who could use the volunteer hours clocked as credit points."

Lessons and programmes

Malaysia Aquatic Rescue Association president Dollah Said, 62, said in 2018, then



Low says the upkeep of public pools is vital as they can be utilised by schools to run swimming lessons.

Education Minister Dr Maszlee Malik had said swimming would be introduced as a co-curricular activity and it would take off with schools located near public swimming pools.

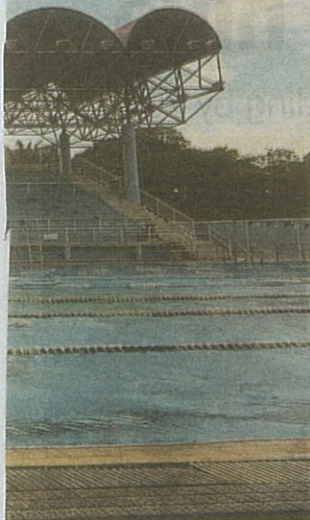
"Many people saw it as good news," said Dollah, who is also a former exco member of Lifesaving Society Malaysia.

"But no more was heard of the programme after Maszlee resigned in 2020."

He said the Water Activities Safety Council (MKAA) was formed in 2016, parked under Housing and Local Government Ministry (KPKT), following drowning incidents involving tourists in Johor, Sabah, Sarawak and Langkawi, Kedah.

KPKT's eSERANTA website stated that in the MKAA draft plan, among the strategies to be carried out was the compilation

Lack of swimming facilities can limit public access to water safety programmes and swimming lessons. — Photos: AZLINA ABDULLAH/The Star and courtesy of RNJ Swimming Academy



Students learning to swim at KLAS Renang in Kuchai Lama, Kuala Lumpur.



Swimming or water safety does not only apply at swimming pools, especially for children.



(From left) Malaysia Swimmers and Swimming Coaches Association president Richmond Ho, vice-president Raymond Ho and Youth and Sports Minister Hannah Yeoh (right) visiting participants of KLAS Renang at RNJ Swimming Academy Petaling Jaya branch last year.



Leong (right), with Kuala Lumpur Sports Council swimming coaches Shazali Salleh (left) and Daniel Bego, says water safety awareness has to start with availability of swimming and basic water survival lessons.

Number of water-related incidents from 2021-2023

Year	Locations					Victims			
	Beach	Sewer	River/Waterways	Lakes/Mining pool	Waterfalls/Rapids	Calls	Death	Injured	Safe
2021	62	8	206	18	12	306	305	3	101
2022	69	3	169	26	23	290	255	4	136
2023	88	3	185	30	19	325	263	18	88
Total						921	823	25	325

Source: Fire and Rescue Department

The Star graphics



Dollah says a clear direction is needed for swimming to be included in the national school syllabus.

of a data bank consisting of drowning-related statistics.

"From the data, the council members were supposed to decide on which states to target so that attention can be given first to the most at-risk groups," said Dollah.

He added that there were also programmes to teach basic swimming and water rescue to school and university students with the Fire and Rescue Department as implementing agency and Education Ministry and KPPT as strategic partners. The programme would also involve private companies coming in as sponsors.

"What we need now is a clear direction for nationwide implementation," he said.

Lifesaving Society past president Geh Thuan Tek, 61, who has been teaching survival swimming, life saving, water safety and basic rescue since 1979, is a member of MKAA.

He recalled that one of the activities the council had first organised was a survival swimming, water safety and basic rescue course for 33 teachers from all over Malaysia in 2021.

The five-day course was at Kem Tekali in Hulu Langat, Selangor, after the Covid-19 movement control order was lifted.

The teachers came from Kedah, Penang, Melaka, Johor,



Megat Samsul (in swim cap) assisting a member of Diveheart, a non-profit organisation that teaches scuba diving to the disabled, says all children should be taught basic water safety and swimming skills.

Sarawak and the Federal Territories of Putrajaya, Kuala Lumpur and Labuan.

There were three teachers from each state, and they were briefed on dry rescue.

"The idea was that they would go back to their own states and promote the programme," said Geh.

The latest update received from one teacher in Kuching,

Sarawak, was that she had organised a one-day programme for 50 special needs children at the Aquatic Centre, Kuching Sports Complex last month.

Attended by parents and school staff, the objective was to build water confidence and teach basic swimming skills.

Six other facilitators from Sarawak Co-curricular Centre were also present.



A member of Malaysia Aquatic Rescue Association demonstrating a dry rescue situation using a pole.

Geh, who is also on Royal Life Saving Society Commonwealth board of trustees and is a senior grade-one assessor for International Certification in Lifesaving and Lifeguarding, said MKAA continued to remain active with the fire department in carrying out programmes involving sailors, swimming clubs, residents associations and schools.

The last major event, a drowning prevention forum and workshop involving 300 participants from 30 Asean countries including Malaysia, took place in May 2023.

Malaysia Swimmers and Swimming Coaches Association vice-president Raymond Ho, 34, said although there was no lack of fresh talent in terms of competitive swimmers at school level, not all school swimming clubs could cater to beginners.

For this group, the most popular option was to take private swimming lessons.

However, the cost could be prohibitive to those from the lower income group.

"The Basic Sports Training Skills Programme (KLAS Renang) to provide swimming lessons for B40 children by Youth and Sports Ministry is meant to address this," he said.

Ho's company RNJ Swimming Academy is working with the ministry to deliver KLAS Renang lessons.

With a RM2mil grant from the ministry, 6,760 children aged six to 12 have been taught at 55 locations in Kelantan (Kota Baru, Tanah Merah and Bachok), Terengganu (Kuala Terengganu), Kuala Lumpur, Sabah and Sarawak.

Each participant received six free lessons, a swimsuit and a pair of goggles sponsored by a sporting goods retailer.

A majority of the lessons took place at the academy's 70 branches.

"To ascertain eligibility, the parents were required to declare their income and furnish their payslips and bank statements at the registration stage," said Ho, who hopes KLAS Renang will continue after Chinese New Year.

An Education Department spokesperson, when contacted on the introduction of swimming lessons in school, said it was waiting for further action from the Education Ministry.

Kuala Lumpur Fire and Rescue Department head of public safety awareness programme Roshdi Fitri Roslan said schools wanting to organise water safety awareness talks and training could seek its help.

Headmasters are advised to contact the nearest station for enquiries.

By JAROD LIM
jarodlim@thestar.com.my

TRADERS at Pasar Raja Bot, Chow Kit, Kuala Lumpur, who are expected to relocate to the new market building, had a rude shock when they discovered a hike in their licence fees.

They were also upset that they have to pay rental and maintenance fees for their stall at the new building that could amount to a few hundred ringgit each month.

Persatuan Penjaja-Penjaja dan Peniaga-Peniaga Kecil Kawasan Chow Kit chairman Yuesnaedy Idrus, who is also known as Ady, said hawkers and traders had complained about this.

"Previously, we did not have to pay stall rental and maintenance fees.

"We understand that in order to benefit from the facilities of the new building, we have to pay for maintenance, but the stall rental is too high.

"Many traders complained about the high charges," he said, hoping that Kuala Lumpur City Hall (DBKL) would reduce the stall rental rate.

Ady said previously, he only paid RM240 as the annual licence fee after a 50% discount by DBKL.

Now, in addition to that, he would have to pay RM450 a month for stall rental and RM50 for monthly maintenance.

"What if traders have a few stalls? It could amount to a few thousand ringgit."

Ady said the association sent a letter requesting DBKL to reduce the stall rental by up to 70%.

"We are supposed to move to the new building but we will not relocate if the traders don't accept the fees and stall rental rates imposed by DBKL."

A total of 1,477 stall owners at the existing market would be relocated to a new premises built next door under Phase II of the redevelopment of Pasar Raja Bot project.

The new multistorey market complex has facilities such as lifts and loading bay.

Association adviser Lee Chick King said traders occupying stalls would also have to make a one-off payment for stall collateral.

"We are hoping that DBKL can collect the collateral later.

"Forking out stall rental, maintenance and licence fee is a huge sum for traders and it will be difficult to cope," he said, adding

Chow Kit market traders shocked by huge fee hike

Traders ask DBKL to reduce stall rental at new building by 70%



A total 1,477 stall owners at the existing market are supposed to relocate to the new building. — Filepic



Ady says the association has sent a letter to DBKL requesting a reduction in stall rental fee, and says traders will not relocate if they do not agree with new fees and rates.

that he had to pay RM1,550 for a 3m x 3m stall to sell dry goods.

A DBKL spokesperson said in a statement that the licence fee rate charged on the licence holders or stall owners was subject to the Licensing of Markets (Federal Territory of Kuala Lumpur) By-laws 2016.

"The fee, as stated in the by-laws, is charged based on the types of spaces and products sold in the market building.

"The increase in the licence fee is due to the cancellation of Markets (Federal Territory of Kuala Lumpur) By-laws 1984, which the issuance of the old licence fee was based on.

"The difference in rates of licence fees is between RM120 and RM300 depending on the types of spaces and produce sold at the new market building."

DBKL cited the example of how a trader selling fish would be charged RM480 annually under the 1984 by-laws whereas under the 2016 by-laws, the rate would be RM780, a RM300



The new Pasar Raja Bot that is located next to the old one will be completed soon. — Filepic

increase in the licence fee.

The annual licence fee for a (indoor or outdoor) stall vendor selling fish, vegetables and fruits that was previously RM240, would now increase to RM360.

This, however, does not include the 50% discount that DBKL is offering stall owners.

The DBKL spokesperson also said the 50% discount on the licence fee would continue after

the traders move to the new market building.

"Those affected by the relocation will enjoy a six-month exemption in stall rental from February until July," he said.

THE STAR

13 FEB 2024

Tarikh:.....

CITY-CLEANING sub-contractors hiring foreign workers must register their employees with Social Security Organisation (Socso) and obtain insurance for them.

Federal Territories Solid Waste Management and Public Cleansing Corporation (SWCorp) director Ummi Kalthum Shuib said sub-contractor companies supplying foreign workers for dirty, dangerous and difficult jobs should ensure these two requirements were met.

"Sub-contractor companies must ensure their employees, especially foreign workers, have both Socso and insurance," she said at a press conference after presenting mandarin oranges and ang pow to Alam Flora workers at the

'City cleaners must have Socso, insurance'

Kepong DAP Service Centre in Kuala Lumpur together with Kepong MP Lim Lip Eng.

Lim also called on the sub-contractors to improve their protection for workers' welfare.

"According to Malaysian law, companies must register their workers with Socso and provide insurance."

According to the Socso website, effective Jan 1, 2019, employers who hire foreign workers must register their employees with Socso and contribute to the Employment Injury Scheme under the Employees' Social Security Act 1969 (Act 4).

A total of 173 Alam Flora

workers and 13 representatives from the joint management body of Vista Magna, each received a box of mandarin oranges and ang pow.

Ummi Kalthum said the cleaners were the unsung heroes of the city.

"I am thankful to Lim for having such a programme and urge the public to also keep the city clean," he said.

Lim said this was the third time he had given goodies to Alam Flora workers in recognition and gratitude for their efforts to keep Kepong clean.

"I also hope this will encourage other parties to appreciate those who keep the city clean," he said. — **By JAROD LIM**



Lim (second from right) and Ummi Kalthum (in white) presenting mandarin oranges and ang pow to Alam Flora workers.

THE STAR

13 FEB 2024

Tarikh:.....

84 13/2 Lebih 1,200 nahas jalan raya pada hari keempat Op Selamat Tahun Baharu Cina

KUALA LUMPUR - Sebanyak 1,203 kes kemalangan direkodkan di seluruh negara pada Ahad iaitu hari keempat Op Selamat 21 Tahun Baharu Cina.

Pengarah Jabatan Siasatan dan Penguatkuasaan Trafik Bukit Aman, Datuk Mohd Azman Ahmad Sapri berkata, daripada jumlah itu, sebanyak 14 kes kemalangan maut dilaporkan.

"Sebanyak 1,480 buah kenderaan terlibat dalam kemalangan jalan raya dilaporkan dan jalan persekutuan mencatat kes kemalangan maut tertinggi iaitu sebanyak lima kes.

"Jalan negeri pula men-

catatkan empat kes, lebuh raya dua kes, jalan bandaran sebanyak satu kes dan lain-lain jalan sebanyak dua kes," katanya kepada *Sinar Harian* pada Isnin.

Mohd Azman menasihatkan pengguna jalan raya bekerjasama sama ada sebagai pejalan kaki, penunggang basikal atau pengguna kenderaan bermotor dalam usaha kerajaan mengurangkan kadar kemalangan terutama bagi kes kemalangan maut.



MOHD AZMAN

Op Selamat 21 dilaksanakan di seluruh negara bermula Khamis lalu hingga 13 Februari ini sempena Tahun Baharu Cina.

Pada Rabu, Ketua Polis Negara, Tan Sri Razarudin Husain dilaporkan berkata, Op

Selamat bagi edisi kali ini masih mengekalkan tema 'Rumah Selamat, Selamat Sampai Ke Destinasi', dengan mengangkat dua objektif utama iaitu meminimumkan kemalangan.

SINAR HARIAN

Tarikh: 13 FEB 2024

Kontrak psikologi perkukuh ikatan antara majikan dan pekerja

84 14/2
ISTILAH kontrak psikologi merujuk kepada perjanjian tidak bertulis antara pekerja dan majikan yang menerangkan komitmen, jangkaan dan tanggungjawab antara kedua-dua pihak.

Pekerja akan bekerja keras memberikan kesetiaan, masa dan tenaga sebagai pertukaran untuk keselamatan dalam pekerjaan, kenaikan pangkat, gaji, kompetensi, keseimbangan antara kerja dan kehidupan serta ganjaran oleh majikan.

Kajian menunjukkan kontrak psikologi mampu mendorong pekerja untuk menjadi lebih bermotivasi dan meningkatkan imej majikan pada kaca mata pekerja.

Kontrak psikologi tidak sama bagi setiap pekerja. Ia merupakan satu hubungan unik antara pekerja dan majikan yang berkembang dari semasa ke semasa.

Bagi membantu membina kontrak psikologi yang kukuh, ketua atau pengurus yang mewakili majikan perlu jelas tentang jangkaan mereka terhadap prestasi pekerja.

Pelanggaran kontrak psikologi akan berlaku apabila pekerja atau majikan gagal memenuhi tanggungjawab dan janji.

Di pihak majikan pula, ia akan memberi kesan negatif kepada emosi, semangat, prestasi



AHMAD BADRUDDIN

dan komitmen pekerja.

Akhirnya pekerja akan meninggalkan organisasi tersebut. Pelanggaran kontrak psikologi juga akan berlaku jika organisasi kerap melakukan penstrukturan semula atau mengecilkan saiz.

Dalam konteks perkhidmatan awam, kontrak psikologi ini dapat dibina melalui pelaksanaan Majlis Bersama Jabatan (MBJ) yang kerap.

MBJ merupakan wacana atau saluran dua hala antara pihak pekerja iaitu penjawat awam dan pihak

pengurusan untuk berkomunikasi dalam menyuarakan pendapat, pandangan serta menyumbang idea demi kepentingan dan kebaikan sesuatu organisasi.

Pelaksanaan MJB dapat mewujudkan hubungan dan sikap yang positif, kepuasan hati, peningkatan daya pengeluaran, peningkatan kualiti kerja, penjimatan kos, sikap hormat menghormati antara pihak pengurusan dan pihak pekerja.

Jika berlaku pelanggaran maka ia secara tidak langsung akan memberi kesan kepada peranan dan fungsi sektor awam yang merupakan tulang belakang kepada kerajaan.

- Dr Ahmad Badruddin Abdullah,
Perunding Latihan Kanan, Pusat Penyelidikan
dan Konsultasi INTAN

SINAR HARIAN
Tarikh:1.3.FEB 2024.....

Hentikan persepsi perbuatan rasuah hanya melibatkan Melayu

84 13/2
SHAH ALAM - Persepsi kegiatan rasuah hanya melibatkan kaum Melayu sahaja perlu dibuang kerana jenayah itu secara umumnya dilakukan oleh semua lapisan masyarakat tanpa mengira kaum dan latar belakang.

Yang Dipertua IKRAM Kuala Lumpur, Zainal Adnan berkata, perspektif negatif itu boleh dibendung sekiranya ada langkah awal yang diambil sebelum ia semakin menular.

"Untuk menghilangkan tanggapan tidak benar ini, beberapa alternatif perlu diambil seperti melaksanakan program pendidikan dan kesedaran melibatkan semua lapisan masyarakat tidak mengira etnik serta budaya

"Tindakan awal lain boleh dilakukan dengan membuat hebahan maklumat melalui media elektronik, penerangan kepada umum dan kerjasama dengan institusi pendidikan," katanya kepada *Sinar Harian*.

Sebelum ini, terdapat satu pandangan yang menyentuh mengenai kedudukan orang Melayu amnya di Malaysia.

Penulisan tersebut berkisar perihal rasuah dan perbuatan tidak beretika yang meruntuhkan maruah kaum berkenaan.

Tambah Zainal, ketelusan dalam



ZAINAL ADNAN

proses kerja pentadbiran awam serta sektor perniagaan perlu ditingkatkan dalam usaha memperbaiki persepsi negatif terhadap orang Melayu.

Jelasnya, langkah itu berkait rapat dengan penambahbaikan sistem penyampaian awam, pelaporan kewangan terbuka dan proses keputusan yang telus.

"Akauntabiliti perlu diperkukuhkan, individu yang terlibat dalam rasuah dan terbukti bersalah perlu dikenakan tindakan undang-undang tanpa mengira kaum serta status, sama ada daripada sektor awam atau swasta.

"Kerjasama antara masyarakat, badan bukan kerajaan (NGO) dan pihak berkuasa tempatan perlu dipergiatkan lagi agar pelbagai segmen masyarakat dapat dilibatkan dalam usaha pencegahan rasuah," ujar beliau.

Dalam pada itu, Zainal turut mengingatkan supaya pengamal media untuk memainkan peranan yang sangat kritikal dalam membentuk persepsi masyarakat mengenai kes rasuah.

Katanya, liputan media yang adil dan seimbang perlu diamalkan tanpa memfokuskan hanya kepada etnik tertentu sahaja.

SINAR HARIAN

Tarikh:1..3..FEB..2024

84 17/2 - Kempen kesedaran berkaitan undang-undang rasuah perlu dilakukan lebih kerap

SHAH ALAM - Pihak berkuasa digesa untuk kerap melaksanakan kempen kesedaran berkaitan rasuah kepada masyarakat tempatan dan warga asing yang menetap di negara ini.

Setiausaha Angkatan Belia Islam Malaysia (ABIM) Kedah, Abdul Rahman Solehuddin Mohd Zain berkata, program berstrategi atau advokasi yang teliti perlu diusahakan supaya dapat membentuk kefahaman orang ramai mengenai perkara tersebut.

Beliau memberi contoh usaha dan kempen yang digerakkan oleh Rasuah Busters dalam menyuarakan ketidakadilan atau penyelewengan yang berlaku berpunca dari jenayah rasuah.

"Gerakan ini disuarakan dengan lantang agar masyarakat lain juga dapat turut serta dalam kempen berkenaan," katanya kepada *Sinar Harian*.

Sebelum ini, media melaporkan dua wanita warga Indonesia direman tujuh hari kerana disyaki menawarkan dan memberikan rasuah sebanyak RM100 kepada anggota polis.

Kedua-dua suspek terbabit menawarkan sogokan tersebut di Balai Polis Seremban 2 untuk mengelakkan



ABDUL RAHMAN

diri mereka daripada dikenakan tindakan di bawah Akta Pengangkutan Jalan 1987.

Abdul Rahman juga berpandangan bahawa sikap pilih kasih juga berlaku dalam sistem undang-undang di negara ini yang melibatkan kumpulan bangsawan.

Sehubungan itu, beliau menggesa kerajaan menegakkan keadilan ketika

menguatkuasakan undang-undang terhadap sesiapa saja tanpa mengira latar belakang dan jawatan seseorang pelaku.

"Sistem sekarang terlihat seolah-olah tajam menusuk orang di bawah, manakala tumpul dan tidak melukai sesiapa yang berada di atas.

"Demikianlah hakikat yang sedang dihadapi masyarakat kita," jelasnya.

Tambah Abdul Rahman, undang-undang Islam juga perlu ditambah baik dan memerlukan penglibatan semua umat Islam.

"Penglibatan mereka perlu serius untuk memainkan peranan masing-masing bermula daripada peringkat idea, gagasan sehingga pelaksanaan undang-undang tersebut," tegasnya.

SINAR HARIAN

Tarikh: 13 FEB 2024

84 13/2

UMNO Selangor kekal pendirian pulang 20 kuota ahli majlis PBT

GOMBAK - UMNO Selangor kekal pendirian memulangkan 20 kuota kerusi ahli majlis pihak berkuasa tempatan (PBT) Selangor untuk diisi wakil Pakatan Harapan (PH).

Pengerusi Badan Perhubungan UMNO Selangor, Datuk Megat Zulkarnain Oмарdin berkata, bagi jawatan ketua kampung pula, pihaknya telah meminta UMNO Bahagian yang terdapat kampung tradisi untuk menghantar nama calon bagi pertimbangan lantikan baharu pada Mac.

Menurutnya, setakat ini UMNO Selangor kekal mahu jawatan ketua kampung lantikan diisi oleh parti tersebut.

Beliau menjelaskan, lantikan ketua kampung dimaksudkan itu merujuk kepada jawatan peringkat Persekutuan di bawah Kementerian Kemajuan Desa dan Wilayah (KKDW).

"PH juga boleh melantik (ketua kampung peringkat negeri) kerana tak bertembung dengan lantikan peringkat KKDW.

"Cuma kita akan lihat terma (agihan tugas) supaya fungsinya tidak bertindih," katanya ketika ditemui pada Lawatan Turun Padang di Dewan Undangan Negeri (DUN) Hulu Kelang pada Isnin.

Megat Zulkarnain berpandangan, tidak timbul masalah satu kawasan mempunyai dua ketua kampung kerana memberi lebih alternatif kepada penduduk memohon bantuan.

Pada 20 Januari lalu, Megat Zulkarnain berkata, UMNO Selangor memutuskan untuk menyerahkan semula kuota 20 jawatan ahli majlis PBT di negeri itu kepada parti sekutunya, PH.

Bagaimapapun, UMNO Selangor mahu semua 373 jawatan JPKK di negeri tersebut diberikan kepada parti berkenaan.

Sementara itu, Naib Ketua Parti Keadilan Rakyat (PKR), Juwairiya Zulkifli berkata, hasrat UMNO Selangor memulangkan 20 kuota ahli majlis PBT bagi mendapatkan semua jawatan JPKK perlu diteliti semula kerana dianggap tidak wajar.

Ujarnya, tuntutan itu juga tidak logik kerana tidak selari formula pentadbiran negeri.

"Tidak boleh semua jawatan ahli majlis untuk satu komponen manakala JPKK pula dikuasai komponen lain," katanya.



**MEGAT
ZULKARNAIN**

SINAR HARIAN

Tarikh: 13 FEB 2024

PBT perlu laksana kaedah 'zoning' elak kedai sensitif tidak berada di kawasan perumahan

Premis hiburan mesti jauh dari rumah

Oleh KHAIRUL MOHD. ALI

ISKANDAR PUTERI – Premis hiburan seperti spa, karaoke dan lain-lain akan ditempatkan dalam lokasi berjauhan daripada kawasan perumahan atau kampung bagi memberikan situasi menang-menang kepada semua pihak.

Pengerusi Jawatankuasa Perumahan dan Kerajaan Tempatan Johor, Datuk Mohd. Jafni Md. Shukor berkata, pihak berkuasa tempatan (PBT) telah digesa untuk melaksanakan kaedah pengezonan premis tersebut.

Katanya, langkah sedemikian mendapat sokongan polis kerana memudahkan mereka untuk membuat pemantauan dan sebagainya.

"Beberapa tahun lalu di Kulai, kita berdepan satu masalah apabila premis spa beroperasi di kawasan berhampiran perumahan dan kampung-kampung, jadi banyak aduan diterima daripada penduduk.

"Bagi melakukan penambahbaikan, kita laksana kaedah 'zoning' dengan mengumpulkan premis-premis sedemikian untuk beroperasi di kawasan ter-



PREMIS hiburan seperti pusat spa di Johor akan dialihkan daripada kawasan perumahan dan kampung bagi mengelakkan kacau ganggu ketenteraman. – GAMBAR HIASAN

tentu. Maksudnya premis spa dan karaoke tidak beroperasi secara berseparah di kawasan perumahan, kampung-kampung atau berhampiran sekolah," katanya.

Beliau berkata demikian kepada pemberita selepas mewakili kerajaan negeri menerima sumbangan SWM Environment untuk disalurkan kepada 750 ke-

luarga B40 di negeri ini semalam.

Hadir sama, Pengurus Besar Korporat SWM Environment, Mohd. Norlisam Mohd. Nordin.

Sementara itu, Mohd. Jafni

turut memberitahu, pihaknya telah menggesa kesemua 16 PBT di negeri ini untuk memperkasa operasi melibatkan premis perniagaan yang dikendalikan warga asing.

"PBT di Johor tidak pernah mengeluarkan lesen membenarkan warga asing untuk berniaga, malah jika ada warga tempatan yang menggunakan nama mereka untuk membenarkan warga asing berniaga, tindakan batal lesen boleh diambil," katanya.

Ujar Mohd. Jafni, semua PBT perlu menubuhkan pasukan khas untuk turun ke lapangan bagi menyemak perniagaan yang dijalankan warga asing.

"Perkara ini perlu dilakukan untuk membela peniaga-peniaga kecil tempatan daripada terus mengalami kekurangan perniagaan kerana terpaksa bersaing dengan warga asing yang kebiasaannya menjual pada harga lebih murah," jelasnya.

Sehubungan itu, Mohd. Jafni turut menggesa pengguna untuk memberi sokongan kepada peniaga tempatan dengan membeli barangan dijual mereka dan bukan memilih premis perniagaan warga asing.

KOSMO

Tarikh: 1.3 FEB. 2024.

Usaha perangi rasuah, perbaiki indeks global perlu sokongan rakyat

● Sepanjang 13 bulan lalu, SPRM merekodkan kejayaan menyasiat isu rasuah berprofil tinggi membabitkan pemimpin politik dan bekas pemimpin dipercayai menyalahgunakan kedudukan ketika mentadbir negara

● Bagi meningkatkan pencapaian indeks di sektor utama kerajaan, sektor korporat dan institusi penyelidikan seharusnya menjalankan kajian indeks bagi memahami realiti sedang berlaku terhadap sektor utama



Penyelidik di Kumpulan Penyelidikan Kepimpinan & Kenegaraan, Fakulti Sains Sosial dan Kemanusiaan, Universiti Teknologi Malaysia

Oleh Prof Madya Dr Mohd Azhar Abd Hamid
bhrencana@bh.com.my

Rasuah antara isu paling serius dan sensasi dalam sesebuah kerajaan dan membabitkan hampir semua negara di dunia sama ada negara kaya, membangun dan miskin. Rasuah menjadi sebahagian daripada masalah sistemik serta lama bertapak, menjalar dan sukar dibanteras.

Bahkan, tidak keterlaluan jika dikatakan rasuah adalah punca kepada segala jenayah. Akibat rasuah, merebaknya jenayah lain seperti perdagangan manusia, pelacuran, pengedaran dadah, pembunuhan dan rompakan, perjudian dan pelacuran, bercambahnya koloni pendatang tanpa izin, kegiatan kongsi gelap, scam, pengubahan wang haram dan pelbagai jenayah terancang dan tidak terancang. Sehingga kini, pelbagai dasar, program, kempen dan inisiatif lain termasuklah penguatkuasaan dan hukuman diperkenalkan kerajaan dengan kolaborasi pelbagai pemegang taruh. Bahkan pelbagai inisiatif khusus dibentuk pada peringkat kementerian, agensi, jabatan dan unit di sektor awam, swasta serta pada peringkat komuniti.

Ia termasuk meningkatkan kesedaran bahaya rasuah pada peringkat awal dengan memperkalkan program dan kurikulum pendidikan berkaitan rasuah dan integriti pada peringkat sekolah dan institusi pengajian tinggi. Berpuluh akta dan peraturan diperkenalkan dan dikuatkuasakan, namun rasuah cuba diperangi masih belum menunjukkan kejayaan diharapkan.

Namun, selepas Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim dilantik Perdana Menteri, menerusi tekad melakukan reformasi tadbir urus kerajaan, usaha memerangi rasuah, ketirisan dan penyelewengan menjadi agenda penting dalam agenda kerajaan pimpinannya.

Sebagai contoh, Kerajaan Perpaduan tidak lagi menganugerahkan projek runding terus melainkan situasi kritikal dan memerlukan sesuatu projek disegerakan untuk kepentingan awam, seperti projek tebatan banjir yang memerlukan pelaksanaan projek segera dan cepat.

Bagaimanapun, kerajaan melakukan saringan ketat iaitu hanya memilih kontraktor dan pemaui berkelayakan serta memiliki sejarah kementerian projek cemerlang.

Komitmen kerajaan memerangi rasuah dapat dilihat apabila Anwar berikrar akan memecat mana-mana menteri Kabinet didapati melakukan rasuah dan penyelewengan selain mengarahkan dan memberi jaminan Suruhanjaya Pencegahan Rasuah Malaysia (SPRM), Bank Negara Malaysia (BNM), Polis Diraja Malaysia (PDRM) dan Lembaga Hasil Dalam Negeri (LHDN) meneruskan siasatan ke atas isu Pandora Papers.

Pada Mei 2023, Perdana Menteri mengingatkan sesiapa sahaja merompak kekayaan negara akan diperangi habis-habisan tanpa menyasar kepada bangsa tertentu sambil menegaskan tidak pernah campur tangan dalam mana-mana

kes rasuah termasuk berprofil tinggi.

Pada September 2023 ketika ucapan Pembentangan Usul Kajian Separuh Penggal (KSP) Rancangan Malaysia Ke-12 (RMK12) Anwar mencadangkan diwujudkan Akta Tatakelola Sektor Awam dan Pelan Integriti sebagai panduan kepada semua entiti, sama ada sektor awam atau swasta.

Pada Januari lalu, Anwar menyatakan usaha memberantas rasuah dengan cara 'menekan jerung bukan bilis'. Sepanjang 13 bulan pentadbiran Anwar, SPRM merekodkan kejayaan menyasiat isu rasuah berprofil tinggi membabitkan pemimpin politik dan bekas pemimpin negara dipercayai menyalahgunakan kedudukan ketika mentadbir negara untuk mengumpul kekayaan luar biasa.

Sementara itu, pencapaian Malaysia dalam indeks utama global sejak tiga dekad lalu adalah sederhana. Secara purata, pencapaian indeks Malaysia dalam kebanyakan indeks global berada pada kedudukan 30 hingga 70 daripada lebih 130 negara menyertainya.

Indeks utama global ini memberi gambaran dan petunjuk penting kepada pemimpin, organisasi dan negara akan apa saja dasar serta gerak kerja pembangunan dilaksanakan dalam tempoh setahun.

Sasar CPI pada kedudukan 25

Indeks Persepsi Rasuah (CPI-TI) Malaysia contohnya pada 2023 berada pada kedudukan 57 berbanding 61 (2022). Pengurangan empat mata ini menunjukkan kerajaan aktif dan agresif memberantas rasuah dalam kalangan pemimpin serta sesiapa saja yang terbabit.

Perdana Menteri turut menyasarkan CPI negara berada pada kedudukan 25 menjelang 2040. Jika rasuah dapat dibanteras, pencapaian indeks dapat ditingkatkan dan keyakinan rakyat serta

pelabur terhadap kemampuan kerajaan akan terus bertambah.

Memberantas rasuah tidak mudah jika ia dapat direalisasikan tentunya ia akan menjadi *game changer* kepada kedudukan ekonomi, kewangan dan pelaburan asing.

Indeks Daya Saing Global turut mencatat peningkatan iaitu berada pada kedudukan ke-27 berbanding 32 pada 2022. Sebagai negara bergantung hampir 40 peratus kepada sektor industri dan perkhidmatan, peningkatan Indeks Daya Saing memberi kelebihan positif kepada masa hadapan generasi muda.

Peluncuran beberapa dasar penting seperti pelan Hala Tuju Peralihan Tenaga, Gaji Progresif Pendidikan Teknikal dan Latihan Vokasional (TVET) tinggi serta program peningkatan dan mengasah semula kemahiran pada tahap awal memberi kesan positif terhadap pencapaian Indeks Daya Saing Global.

Sepanjang 14 bulan lalu, Kerajaan Perpaduan berjaya meningkatkan pencapaian indeks dalam beberapa sektor utama global. Bagaimanapun terdapat beberapa pencapaian indeks yang semakin merudum dan rendah seperti Program Pentaksiran Pelajar Antarabangsa (PISA) dan isu pemerdagangan manusia.

Justeru, kerajaan perlu cakna dan memberi perhatian sewajarnya bagi memperbaikinya supaya tidak terus terjeram dan merosot. Paling merisaukan apabila kedudukan PISA pada 2022 dalam bidang Sains, Teknologi, Kejuruteraan dan Matematik (STEM) dalam kalangan pelajar berumur 15 tahun merosot teruk berbanding negara ASEAN lain seperti Brunei, Kemboja dan Vietnam.

Begitu juga dengan indeks lain mengalami kemerosotan seperti Indeks Pemerdagangan Manusia berada pada Tier 3. Kedudukan Tier 3 menunjukkan Malaysia menjadi hab penting pemerdagangan manusia di Asia Tenggara dan dunia.

Justeru, bagi mengekang isu ini berlanjutan, kerajaan perlu membekalkan petugas barisan hadapan negara dengan teknologi canggih seperti peralatan, senjata dan sistem pengesanan terkini khususnya di pintu masuk utama negara.

Paling penting, negara sangat memerlukan petugas barisan hadapan berintegriti dalam menjalankan kewajipan supaya pintu masuk negara tidak mudah dicerobohi sindiket pemerdagangan manusia dan pendatang asing.

Bagi meningkatkan pencapaian indeks di sektor utama, kerajaan, sektor korporat dan institusi penyelidikan seharusnya menjalankan kajian indeks untuk memahami realiti sedang berlaku terhadap sektor utama terbabit.

Pencapaian tinggi indeks tidak memberi makna besar kepada kelestarian negara jika realiti kehidupan rakyat masih bergelut dengan bebanan kelangsungan hidup selain diselubungi rasuah, penyelewengan dan ketirisan.

Dalam hal ini, Perdana Menteri tidak akan mampu melakukannya berseorangan untuk menayakan agenda memerangi rasuah dan memulihkan indeks utama negara di peringkat global. Sokongan dan dukungan semua pihak serta setiap rakyat diperlukan kerajaan untuk mencapai harapan terbabit.





Keadaan trafik ketika tinjauan di Lebuhraya Utara Selatan menghala ke arah Seremban menjelang perayaan Tahun Baru Cina baru-baru ini. (Foto Aizuddin Saad/BH)

4,764 nahas dalam 3 hari Op Selamat

69 peratus kes kemalangan maut babitkan motosikal

Oleh Nor Azizah Mokhtar
bhnews@bh.com.my

Kuala Lumpur: Sebanyak 4,764 kemalangan dicatat dalam tempoh tiga hari Op Selamat 21 sempena Tahun Baharu Cina dilancarkan Khamis lalu, dengan 44 daripadanya adalah nahas maut.

Pengarah Jabatan Siasatan dan Penguatkuasaan Trafik Bukit Aman, Datuk Mohd Azman Ahmad Sapari, berkata 5,891 kenderaan direkod terbabit nahas jalan raya dalam perangkaan itu.

"Sebanyak 44 kemalangan maut direkod membabitkan 46 kematian dan daripada jumlah itu, 69 peratus atau 32 mangsa adalah penumpang

dan pembonceng motosikal," katanya dalam kenyataan, semalam.

Dalam tiga hari Op Selamat 21 dilancarkan, katanya, 5.78 juta kenderaan memasuki Lebuhraya Utara Selatan (PLUS) menuju utara, selatan dan timur tanah air dengan purata 1.97 juta kenderaan pada satu-satu masa.

Kenderaan meningkat

"Rekod konsesi lebuhraya utama menunjukkan pada hari pertama Op Selamat (Khamis), sebanyak 2.02 juta direkodkan, 1.97 juta kenderaan

(Jumaat) dan 1.78 juta kenderaan semalam.

"Di Lebuhraya Karak menuju Pantai Timur, sebanyak 886,106 kenderaan direkod menggunakan lebuhraya terbabit dalam tempoh sama dengan purata 295,369 kenderaan dalam satu-satu masa," katanya.

Beliau berkata, JSPT menjangkakan peningkatan kenderaan sepanjang Op Selamat 21.

Mohd Azman berkata, ia membabitkan pergerakan melalui lebuhraya, jalan persekutuan dan jalan negeri serta jalan bandaran.

“Dalam tiga hari Op Selamat 21 dilancarkan, 5.78 juta kenderaan memasuki PLUS menuju utara, selatan dan timur tanah air dengan purata 1.97 juta kenderaan pada satu-satu masa”

Mohd Azman Ahmad Sapari,
Pengarah JSPT Bukit Aman



BERITA HARIAN
Tarikh.....1.3.FEB.2024.....

'Hanya guna 60 peratus gaji bersih untuk tampung kos sara hidup'



Pekerja disaran mantapkan kewangan nikmati persaraan lebih baik

Oleh Alzahrin Alias
zahrin@bh.com.my

Pekerja di Malaysia disaran sentiasa mencari peluang memperkuatkan tahap kewangan dengan menasaskan hanya 60 peratus daripada pendapatan bersih digunakan untuk kos sara hidup.

Perancang kewangan berlesen, Mohd Hasan Mohd Amini, berkata saranan itu bagi memastikan pekerja dapat menikmati tempoh persaraan dengan lebih baik.

Beliau berkata, apabila hanya 60 peratus daripada pendapatan bersih digunakan untuk kos sara hidup, ia membolehkan bakinya digunakan untuk perkara lain.

Katanya, antara lain 10 peratus boleh digunakan untuk perlindungan kewangan yang menyeluruh

(pengganti pendapatan semasa meninggal, melangsaikan hutang semasa sakit dan dana perubatan tahunan).

Baki 30 peratus lagi pula, katanya, boleh digunakan untuk dana kecemasan bagi tempoh perbelanjaan enam hingga 12 bulan perbelanjaan serta pelaburan.

"Ramai yang risau mengenai persaraan dan sama ada simpanan Kumpulan Wang Simpanan Pekerja (KWSP) mencukupi.

"Setiap pekerja harus mempunyai portfolio kewangan yang kuat seperti simpanan KWSP yang tidak terusik, ada simpanan risiko rendah di Tabung Haji (TH), Amanah Saham Bumiputera (ASB) dan Amanah Hartanah Bumiputera (AHB), selain pelaburan dengan risiko serta peluang pulangan lebih tinggi di unit amanah, saham, emas serta hartanah," katanya kepada BH.

Mohd Hasan bagaimanapun berkata, secara jujur pelaburan risiko sederhana dan tinggi tidak boleh menjamin pulangan tinggi tanpa kawalan risiko yang baik.

Namun, tegasnya, risiko paling merugikan dalam mana-mana

pelaburan adalah ditipu atau terjerat dengan skim penipuan yang menjanjikan pulangan tinggi.

Memahami dan belajar

Selain itu, katanya, ramai pekerja meletakkan harapan terlalu tinggi kepada satu-satu pelaburan dan inginkan pulangan lebih besar, justeru mereka memahami dan belajar mengenai ilmu pelaburan serta celik kewangan demi masa depan ketika persaraan.

"Pekerja disaran tidak terlalu mengejar konsep persaraan pasif, 100 peratus tanpa pendapa-

tan selepas capai umur persaraan, sebaliknya cuba untuk sasar persaraan aktif atau separa aktif setelah berumur 60 tahun bergantung tahap kesihatan ketika itu.

"Bagi mengadaptasikan konsep persaraan aktif atau separa aktif, kita mesti membina reputasi bermula sekarang untuk menjadi lebih berilmu dan bermanfaat.

"Bina kemahiran yang boleh diteruskan dan pada masa yang sama, bina portfolio kewangan kukuh sebagai benteng kewangan jika terpaksa bersara sepenuhnya pada umur 60 tahun," katanya.

Pekerja disaran tidak terlalu mengejar konsep persaraan pasif, 100 peratus tanpa pendapatan selepas capai umur persaraan, sebaliknya cuba untuk sasar persaraan aktif atau separa aktif setelah berumur 60 tahun bergantung tahap kesihatan ketika itu

Mohd Hasan Mohd Amini,
Perancang kewangan berlesen



BERITA HARIAN
13 FEB 2024
Tarikh.....

Anak bulan Ramadan diunjur terbit, namun gagal penuhi kriteria imkanur rukyah

Kita dijangka mula puasa 12 Mac

UM
13/2

Oleh AMREE AHMAD
utusannews@mediamula.com.my

PUTRAJAYA: Umat Islam di Malaysia dijangka mula berpuasa pada 12 Mac ini.

Walaupun hilal atau anak bulan Ramadan dijangka terbit pada waktu cerapan pada petang 10 Mac tetapi ia gagal memenuhi kriteria imkanur rukyah (KIR).

Demikian pandangan pakar falak terkenal tanah air, Datuk Dr. Azhari Mohamed ketika ditanya tarikh 1 Ramadan 1445 Hijrah.

Sekiranya jangkaan itu tepat, ia tidak akan mengulangi situasi pada tahun lalu apabila 10 lokasi cerapan hilal berjaya merekodkan anak bulan menepati KIR ditetapkan.

"Berdasarkan kiraan umum, altitud atau ketinggian hilal ketika matahari terbenam hanya sifar darjah 42 minit iaitu gagal melepasi KIR yang kena tidak kurang tiga darjah," jelasnya kepada *Utusan Malaysia* semalam.

Tahun lalu, Urus Setia Bahagian Penyelidikan Jabatan Kemajuan Islam Malaysia (Jakim)



MENARA Kuala Lumpur adalah salah satu daripada 29 lokasi yang diwartakan oleh Majlis Raja-raja untuk proses cerapan anak bulan.

melakar sejarah apabila berjaya merekodkan 10 lokasi cerapan kelihatan hilal Ramadan.

Kesemua tempat diwartakan itu menepati KIR pada petang 22 Mac 2023 malah bilangan terse-

but melebihi jangkaan awal banyak pihak yang mengunjurkan hanya ada lima lokasi.

Imej anak bulan yang tampak seumpama sehelai lembaran benang halus berwarna putih di atas hamparan langit itu turut dapat disaksikan dengan mata kasar di lokasi berkenaan.

Azhari yang juga bekas Ketua Pengarah Jabatan Ukur dan Pemetaan Malaysia berkata, keputusan muktamad akan diputuskan menerusi pengisytiharan secara rasmi oleh Penyimpan Mohor Besar Majlis Raja-Raja pada tarikh berkenaan," tambah beliau.

Malaysia ujarnya, mula menerima pakai standard baharu penentuan awal bulan yang merujuk pengiraan ketat KIR tertentu sejak awal Muharam 1443 Hijri atau 2021 lalu.

Sejumlah 29 lokasi telah diwartakan oleh pihak Majlis Raja-Raja untuk melakukan proses cerapan secara serentak penetapan tarikh permulaan bulan Islam termasuk Ramadan.

Ia selaras keputusan mesyuarat kali ke-92 majlis tersebut pada 1972 lalu yang bersetuju

pengisytiharan 1 Ramadan di seluruh Malaysia berdasarkan rukyah atau cerapan hilal.

Malaysia turut menjadi antara beberapa negara di dunia yang mengamalkan penetapan tarikh Hijrah dengan menggunakan kaedah hisab atau pengiraan sejak tahun berkenaan.

"Memandangkan KIR tidak dipenuhi, maka saya menjangkakan keesokan hari iaitu pada 11 Mac kelak perlu digenapkan cukup pula sebagai 30 Syaaban 1445 Hijrah," kata Azhari.

Malah hasil kiraannya yang pernah berkhidmat sebagai panel rujukan pakar falak Jakim itu mendapati azimut atau jarak lengkung pusat bulan ke matahari tidak pun menepati KIR.

Ketika matahari terbenam ujar beliau, jarak berkenaan hanya didapati satu darjah 52 minit adalah amat kurang daripada KIR yang perlu melebihi piawaian enam darjah 24 minit.

Hilal boleh dilihat secara mata kasar selain menerusi bantuan beberapa jenis teleskop, teodolit, binokular dan kamera, namun bergantung suasana langit yang bebas awan tebal.

UTUSAN MALAYSIA

Tarikh: ...1..3..FEB..2024.....

14 kes kematian hari keempat Op Selamat 21

12/2

KUALA LUMPUR: Hari keempat Op Selamat 21 sempena sambutan Tahun Baharu Cina merekodkan 14 kes kematian akibat kemalangan maut di seluruh negara, semalam.

Jabatan Siasatan dan Penguatkuasaan Trafik (JSPT) dalam kenyataan menunjukkan sebanyak 1,203 kes kemalangan direkodkan di seluruh negara.

"Ia membabitkan 1,480 kenderaan bagi hari keempat Op Selamat 21," katanya.

Op Selamat 21 dilaksanakan di seluruh negara bermula Khamis lalu sehingga esok sempena musim perayaan Tahun Baharu Cina.

Polis turut menjalin kerjasama dengan rakan kolaborasi strategik Plus Malaysia Berhad (Plus), Lembaga Lebuhraya Malaysia (LLM), Jabatan Bomba dan Penyelamat Malaysia (JBPM), Jabatan Pengangkutan Jalan (JPJ) dan Persatuan Bulan Sabit Merah (PBSM).

Semalam, kira-kira 6.65 juta kenderaan menggunakan lebuh raya utama di seluruh negara dalam tempoh tiga hari sejak Khamis lalu ekoran perayaan



ALIRAN trafik di Lebuhraya Kuala Lumpur-Karak dari Bentong menuju ke Gombak sesak berikutan orang ramai mula pulang ke ibu kota selepas cuti Tahun Baharu Cina, semalam. - UTUSAN/FAUZI BAHARUDIN

Tahun Baharu Cina 2024.
Pengarah Jabatan Siasatan

dan Penguatkuasaan Trafik
(JSPT) Bukit Aman, Datuk Mohd.

Azman Ahmad Sapri berkata,
secara keseluruhan sebanyak

5.78 juta kenderaan menggunakan Lebuhraya PLUS mengahala ke utara dan selatan serta timur dengan purata 1.92 juta kenderaan dalam satu masa.

Katanya, selain itu, Lebuhraya Karak arah Pantai Timur merekodkan sebanyak 886,106 kenderaan dengan purata 295,369 kenderaan pada satu masa.

Sementara itu, jumlah kenderaan di lebuh raya utama menuju ke ibu negara meningkat sejak tengah hari semalam apabila orang ramai mula kembali selepas bercuti sejak minggu lalu.

Tinjauan Utusan Malaysia mendapati, kenderaan dilihat bergerak perlahan berikutan jumlah kenderaan yang bertambah sehingga berlaku kesesakan di beberapa bahagian lebuh raya terutama dari plaza tol Bentong hingga ke plaza tol Gombak di Lebuhraya Kuala Lumpur-Karak.

Kesesakan juga berlaku di Lebuhraya Utara Selatan dari Nibong Tebal hingga ke Taiping, dari Simpang Pulai hingga ke Tapah manakala dari Rawang ke Sungai Buloh, kenderaan bergerak perlahan.

UTUSAN MALAYSIA

Tarikh: ...1.3.FEB.2024...

Risiko ditipu, diancam jenayah siber

um
12/2

PETALING JAYA: Orang ramai perlu mempunyai pengetahuan ketika mencari komputer riba terpakai atau yang diperbaharui bagi mengelak menjadi mangsa penipuan atau berhadapan isu keselamatan siber.

Malah mereka juga perlu mendapatkan maklumat seperti sumber komputer riba yang sah bagi memastikan spesifikasi dan kualiti komputer berkenaan berada dalam keadaan terbaik.

Bercakap kepada *Utusan Malaysia*, Timbalan Dekan Fakulti Teknologi & Sains Maklumat Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia (UKM), Dr. Ibrahim Mohamed berkata, laman web palsu oleh *online scammer* selalu menawarkan harga lebih rendah dan menarik perhatian pembeli yang kurang mahir tentang penipuan mereka.

"Biasanya bakal pembeli diminta bayar terlebih dahulu dan berakhir dengan pembeli ditipu tidak menerima barangan, barangan lain yang dihantar atau barangan yang rosak.

"Jangan sekali-kali membayar ke akaun bukan milik platform tersebut," katanya yang juga Juruaudit Sistem Pengurusan Keselamatan Maklumat

(ISMS).

Pensyarah Fakulti Teknologi dan Sains Maklumat Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia (UKM), Prof. Madya Dr. Khairul Akram Zainol Ariffin pula berkata, terdapat risiko keselamatan siber yang boleh mengancam dua pihak.

Yang pertama adalah penjual yang menjual laptop tersebut secara terus kepada pihak ketiga.

Katanya, jika ia tidak disanitasi dengan cara betul dan selamat, katanya, terdapat risiko data-data terbuka masih tersimpan di dalam perkakas tersebut sebagai contoh di dalam *hard disk*.

"Kemungkinan juga terdapat perisian berniat jahat seperti 'Keylogger' yang merekod setiap aktiviti dalam komputer dan menghantar maklumat ini kepada pihak ketiga.

"Penggunaan aplikasi keselamatan seperti antivirus di peringkat *operating system Windows* tidak akan membantu dalam mengesan perisian berbahaya ini. Ia memerlukan perisian antivirus khas sewaktu komputer riba tersebut dihidupkan untuk menjejak perisian berbahaya (malware)," katanya.

UTUSAN MALAYSIA

Tarikh:1..3..FEB..2024...

Drop in dengue cases 13/2

PUTRAJAYA: The number of dengue cases dropped to 3,631 in the 6th Epidemiological Week (EW06) from Feb 4-10 compared with 3,969 cases in the previous week, with one death due to dengue fever complications.

Health Director-General Datuk Dr Muhammad Radzi Abu Hassan said cumulative dengue cases reported so far this year totalled 22,058, compared with 13,094 cases in the corresponding period last year.

"A total of 10 deaths due to dengue fever complications have been reported, compared with nine fatalities for the same period last year," he said in a statement.

He added that the number of reported dengue hotspots increased to 199 localities in EW06, compared with 180 in the previous week.

A total of 158 cases were reported in Selangor, 18 in Kuala Lumpur and Putrajaya, 10 in Negeri Sembilan, six in Perak, two each in Penang and Kedah, and one each in Pahang, Johor and Sabah.

"Based on the trend for dengue cases in the past 10 years, dengue fever cases usually peak every four or five years. The rise in cases started in 2023 and the trend is expected to rise in 2024," he said. - Bernama

THE SUN

Tarikh: 13 FEB 2024

Navigating the boundaries of workplace monitoring

EMPLOYEE-MONITORING practices have surged in recent years due to the Covid-19 pandemic. Driven by the need to pursue greater efficiency and security, employers are turning to different surveillance methods to track employee activities, but is this legal?

The legal tightrope of workplace monitoring

While the law generally allows for such monitoring, there are circumstances where employees may have a reasonable expectation of privacy within the workplace.

In Malaysia, the Personal Data Protection Act of 2010 (PDPA) guides data handling for commercial transactions but without specific directives on workplace privacy.

Section 6(3) of the PDPA highlights three conditions for processing personal data:

- There must be a valid reason directly linked to the employer's

activities.

- Processing the data should be necessary for that reason.

- The data collected should be appropriate and not excessive for that purpose.

Thus, recording phone conversations, accessing emails and text messages, or using CCTV for monitoring is allowed so long as it meets these criteria. But where such monitoring inadvertently captures sensitive information such as health status, political beliefs or alleged offences, handling such data must meet certain PDPA criteria, including obtaining explicit consent from the employee, if the circumstances are necessary, or if the employee has deliberately made the information public.

Where is the line?

In the absence of legislation on workplace privacy, navigating employer monitoring can be complex – to what extent can employers monitor

private conversations on company-provided devices?

Does content posted on personal social media accounts fall under the purview of employer scrutiny?

Can your online presence get you fired?

While employers typically do not control employees' activities outside work, there are exceptions when personal conduct intersects with professional representation.

It is now common for people to mention where they work on their social media profiles, and just stating this does not mean everything you share is tied to your workplace. However, this link to your employer can make personal actions connect back to your job, given how easily such information is accessible online.

If you post something controversial on your personal account that inadvertently drags your employer into a social media

conflict, your employer may dismiss you if the misconduct is "severe" i.e., when your actions, after investigation, have been found to seriously damage the trust and good faith between you and the company.

The upshot

The comments above underscore how employers may access aspects of their employees' personal lives, and without clear-cut boundaries, employees must be mindful of their words and actions as accountability starts at the source.

However, if the individual believes they have been unfairly dismissed, they should seek legal counsel to understand the proper procedure and timeline for seeking reinstatement and compensation.

This article is contributed by Cheam Yean Qun of Christopher & Lee Ong (www.christopherleeong.com).

Tarikh: **THE SUN 13 FEB 2024**