MBSJ
GEMILANG BERSAMA

PENGURUSAN PEMANTAUAN KERATAN AKHBAR MBSJ
TARIKH: 09 JULAI 2024 (SELASA)

MEDIA ELEKTRONIK (AKHBAR ONLINE / TELEVISYEN / RADIO)

BIL	AKHBAR	TAJUK
1.	THE STAR	• SCUPPER DRAIN WORKS IN SS14 TO ADDRESS FLOODING • CHAIN-LINK FENCES FOR SAFETY IN USJ
2.	SELANGORKINI	• KEMUKA BANTAHAN CUKAI MBSJ

MEDIA CETAK (AKHBAR / MAJALAH)

BIL	AKHBAR	TAJUK
1.	THE STAR	• SCUPPER DRAIN WORKS IN SS14 TO ADDRESS FLOODING • CHAIN-LINK FENCES FOR SAFETY IN USJ

LAIN-LAIN PBT

BIL	AKHBAR	PBT	TAJUK
1.	SELANGORKINI	MBPJ MBSA MPAJ MPS	• KEBUN KOMUNITI JANA HASIL BULANAN • KERJA RUNTUH BERMULA 14 JUN • ROBOH STADIUM TANPA BAHAN LETUP • RM20,000 SEBULAN SENGGARA PASAR • GOTONG-ROYONG HAPUS TEMPAT BIAK AEDES • RAIH RM54 JUTA CUKAI TAKSIRAN
2.	THE STAR	MBDK MBPJ MPAJ MPKj DBKL	• MBDK HEALTH DAY PROMOTES BALANCED DIET, EXERCISE • PJ CITY'S 18TH ANNIVERSARY HUNT DRAWS 50 TEAMS • SLOPE STABILISATION WORKS IN TAMAN MELAWATI COMPLETED • ALTERNATIVE ROAD TO JLN RAKAN CHERAS NEEDED • KL PLAYGROUNDS NOT SAFE FOR CHILD'S PLAY

UMUM

BIL	AKHBAR	TAJUK
1.	SELANGORKINI	• MB RASMI JEJAMBAT SAUJANA PUTRA • KEKAL MUTU PERKHIDMATAN PBT 85 PERATUS TAHAP KEPUASAN PENDUDUK • REBAT TARIF ELEKTRIK PENGGUNA RM40 • 27 PERATUS PINDAH KE AKAUN FLEKSIBEL • TIADA PENYELARASAN SUBSIDI RON95 • NIKMAT KEMAJUAN 9 DAERAH
2.	THE STAR	• RAISING AWARENESS ON MOTOR NEURONE DISEASE • MINIMUM WAGE, MAXIMUM STRESS • BUSINESSES IN A BIND OVER SAFETY
3.	SINAR HARIAN	• RINGGIT DIUNJUR DALAM JULAT 4.70-4.71 BERBANDING DOLAR • PINDAAN AKTA PENAGIH DADAH BERI PELUANG KEDUA
4.	HARIAN METRO	• MALAYSIA DIJANGKA TERIMA 27.3j PELANCONG • JEJAMBAT BSP KINI BOLEH DIGUNA • TEKANAN KEWANGAN JEJAS PRESTASI KERJA
5.	BERITA HARIAN	• TELITI PROSES KENAIKAN PANGKAT KETUA JABATAN BANTERAS RASUAH, KETIRISAN

BIL	AKHBAR	TAJUK
		• 5 TEKNOLOGI TINGKAT TAHAP KESELAMATAN KABEL RANGKAIAN • TAMBAH BAIK PRASARANA, AGENDA PULIHKAN 'PESAKIT' DADAH • PERATURAN LEBIH KETAT ATASI BULI SIBER
6.	UTUSAN MALAYSIA	• KEMBALIKAN DASAR KEBUDAYAAN KEBANGSAAN • OPR PERLU KEKAL 3.0 PERATUS UNTUK KESTABILAN EKONOMI DOMESTIK
7.	NEW STRAITS TIMES	• PM VOWS TO FIGHT GRAFT AND DIVISIVE ELEMENTS
8.	THE SUN	• BANDAR SAUJANA PUTRA FLYOVER OPEN TO PUBLIC • PROTECT OUR MARINE ECOSYSTEMS • 'HEAD GOVT'S CALL TO REJECT CORRUPTION, ABUSE OF POWER'

Scupper drain works in SS14 to address flooding

By EDWARD RAJENDRA

Workers carrying out earth works at the Jalan SS14/7C intersection to build a scupper drain.

SUBANG Jaya City Council (MBSJ) has begun construction of a scupper drain across Jalan SS14 to address recurring flash floods affecting the intersection with Jalan SS14/7F in Subang Jaya, Selangor.

This follows a StarMetro report on June 1 highlighting residents' struggles with flash floods after heavy rain.

The project overseen by MBSJ's Engineering Department aims to divert surface runoff before it overwhelms the drainage system.

The solution involves a diagonal scupper drain spanning 16m across Jalan SS14.

This will channel water into the existing drain bordering the field of SK Subang Jaya.

To accommodate increased water flow, the existing drain will be widened to one metre.

A MBSJ department engineer said the project involved widening a 30m stretch of old drainage culverts along the school field, before reaching the sump at Jalan SS14/8H.

Additionally, plans are also underway to construct a similar scupper drain some 90m before Jalan SS14/7C.

Despite initial delays due to an accidentally damaged asbestos pipe on June 28 resulting in temporary water disruption in SS14, the project is now underway and is expected to be completed within a week.

This initiative addresses the safety concerns raised by residents like Ahmad Nazli Hashim, 72, whose corner lot house in Jalan SS14/7F was affected by flooding due to overflowing drainage.

He said following road resurfacing works five years ago, Jalan SS14/7F and Jalan SS14 became slightly elevated and when it rained, drain water would overflow resulting in flash floods.

THE STAR ONLINE

TARIKH: 09 JULAI 2024

Chain-link fences for safety in USJ

By EDWARD RAJENDRA

Residents doing walking exercise next to the fence behind the goal post at the USJ 11 football field, Subang Jaya.

PARK-goers in Subang Jaya, Selangor can now enjoy their walks with peace of mind thanks to newly installed chain-link fences at the USJ 11 football field and SS17 basketball court.

These barriers measuring 6mx35m address a common concern – stray balls flying out of the fields and hitting park users especially senior citizens and joggers.

"I've been hit twice on the shoulder by stray balls this year!" said Shirley Chin, 75, a frequent visitor to the USJ 11 park.

"The fence protects us and keeps the balls from rolling onto the busy Jalan USJ11/5."

Similar sentiments were echoed by Rukun Tetangga SS17 chairman Teh Eng Hock, who said the fence provided much-needed safety buffer for the elderly, women, and children using the park.

"I always bring my children to the park but I worry for their safety as the basketball court is close to where they play. But the fence makes it safe," he said.

This initiative costing RM53,648.50 was funded by Subang Jaya assemblyman Michelle Ng's constituency allocation.

Ng said the project reflected a commitment to residents' safety and that it aligned with United Nations Sustainable Development Goal 11.7, which emphasises access to safe and inclusive green spaces.

She said the barriers were installed following residents' requests.

"Both upgrades in USJ 11 and SS17 took about two weeks to complete," she said.

THE STAR ONLINE
TARIKH: 09 JULAI 2024

selangorkini
PERCUMA PP 19570/07/2020 (035196) EDISI 4 -10 JULAI 2024 www.selangorkini.my

Kemuka bantahan cukai MBSJ

SHAH ALAM - Pemilik harta yang menerima notis nilaian baharu daripada Majlis Bandaraya Subang Jaya (MBSJ) boleh membuat bantahan sehingga 2 Ogos.

Bahagian Komunikasi Korporat Jabatan Korporat Dan Pengurusan Strategik MBSJ memaklumkan 326,646 notis nilaian baharu dihantar melalui pos kepada pemilik hartanah sejak 21 Jun.

"Bantahan nilaian boleh dibuat menerusi laman sesawang MBSJ melalui pautan bantahan.mbsj.gov.my/ sebelum atau selewat-lewatnya pada 2 Ogos," kata kenyataan baru-baru ini.

Menurut MBSJ, semakan itu bertujuan mengimbangi pendapatan, perbelanjaan dan pengurusan perkhidmatan yang kian meningkat bagi memastikan urus tadbir bandar raya itu lebih cekap.

SELANGORKINI ONLINE
TARIKH: 09 JULAI 2024

selangorkini
PERCUMA PP 19570/07/2020 (035196) EDISI 4 -10 JULAI 2024 www.selangorkini.my

Kebun komuniti jana hasil bulanan

Oleh **FITRI HAZIM HAZAM**

PETALING JAYA - Sebelas persatuan komuniti di kawasan pentadbiran Majlis Bandaraya Petaling Jaya memenangi anugerah hasil kejayaan menjayakan Kebun Komuniti di kawasan masing-masing.

Datuk Bandarnya Mohamad Zahri Samingon berkata penilaian mengambil kira tahap penglibatan masyarakat dalam pelaksanaan inisiatif mesra alam, kehijauan dan memupuk semangat kejiranan.

"Proses dibuat mengikut tahap penglibatan golongan seperti kanak-kanak, remaja, belia, orang kurang upaya dan warga emas," katanya sambil menyatakan 88 komuniti dinilai.

Beliau menyempurnakan Penyampaian Sumbangan Pasukan Keselamatan Kejiranan Petaling Jaya 2024 dan Hadiah Komuniti Bandar Pintar, Mampan dan Berdaya Tahan (PJSSR) 2023 pada 25 Jun.

Persatuan Penduduk PJS 1 South Avenue johan Anugerah Komuniti PJSSR 2030 yang membawa pulang wang tunai RM20,000 serta trofi.

Tempat kedua dimenangi Persatuan Penduduk Kampung Tunku SS1 kedua yang wang tunai RM15,000 diikuti Persatuan Penduduk & Pemilik Rumah Damansara Utama ketiga.

Presiden Persatuan Penduduk PJS 1 South Avenue Ishak Salleh kejayaan projek pertanian menggunakan teknologi pintar di kebun komunti sejak 2016 melayakkan mereka merangkul johan.

"Pelbagai tanaman diusahakan di kebun komuniti itu serta menjana pendapatan bulanan hingga RM1,500."

SELANGORKINI ONLINE
TARIKH: 09 JULAI 2024

selangorkini
PERCUMA PP 19570/07/2020 (035196) EDISI 4 -10 JULAI 2024 www.selangorkini.my

Kerja runtuh bermula 14 Jun

SHAH ALAM - Kerja-kerja meroboh Stadium Shah Alam sudah bermula selepas permit kelulusan dikeluarkan pada 14 Jun lalu, maklum datuk bandar Shah Alam.

Dato' Mohd Fauzi Mohd Yatim berkata sesi perbincangan berkumpulan turut diadakan pada 20 Jun bagi memuktamadkan penyediaan pelan cadangan pembangunan Kompleks Sukan Shah Alam (KSSA).

"Pada 20 Jun lalu, MBSA bersama Menteri Besar Selangor (Pemerbadanan), Malaysian Resources Corporation Bhd (MRCB) dan kumpulan perunding telah mengadakan sesi perbincangan di Double Tree Hotel, di sini.

"Sesi ini bertujuan menyelaras keperluan dan syarat teknikal bagi muktamad penyediaan pelan sebelum permohonan dikemuka secara rasmi kepada kita untuk kelulusan," katanya pada 26 Jun.

SELANGORKINI ONLINE
TARIKH: 09 JULAI 2024

selangorkini
PERCUMA PP 19570/07/2020 (035196) EDISI 4 -10 JULAI 2024 www.selangorkini.my

Usaha elak ganggu penduduk

Roboh stadium tanpa bahan letup

Oleh **SITI ROHAIZAH ZAINAL**

SHAH ALAM - Kerja meroboh Stadium Shah Alam bermula 1 Julai dan dijangka mengambil masa kira-kira setahun, kata ketua pegawai eksekutif Menteri Besar Selangor (Pemerbadanan) atau MBI.

Menurut Saipolyazan M Yusop, kaedah konvensional tanpa bahan letupan melalui dua jentera pemecah hidraulik bertujuan mengelak gangguan bunyi, habuk dan air terhadap penduduk berdekatan.

"Kerja perobohan berlangsung selama setahun dan kita jangka bumbung bangunan mula dibuka pada penghujung bulan ini atau awal Ogos," katanya meninjau kerja perobohan di sini.

Beliau memberitahu kontraktor memulakan kerja tanah seperti tambakan bagi mempercepat proses membina stadium baharu apabila kerja meroboh pada peringkat pertengahan iaitu Oktober.

Katanya, MBI memantau proses tersebut dan laporan dihantar setiap bulan bagi memastikan pelaksanaannya berjalan mengikut jadual.

Selain itu, Saipolyazan juga menawarkan pihak berkuasa tempatan (PBT) yang memerlukan kerusi untuk digunakan di stadium masing-masing untuk membuat permohonan.

"Ada 86,000 kerusi di stadium ini dan kerja membuka bumbung dibuat selepas semua selesai dibuka. PBT boleh memanfaatkan kerusi sedia ada dan kita asingkan yang rosak," katanya.

Sebelum ini, MBI memaklumkan pembangunan Kompleks Sukan Shah Alam (KSSA) membabitkan tiga fasa dijangka siap sepenuhnya menjelang 2029.

SELANGORKINI ONLINE
TARIKH: 09 JULAI 2024

selangorkini
PERCUMA PP 19570/07/2020 (035196) EDISI 4 -10 JULAI 2024 www.selangorkini.my

RM20,000 sebulan senggara pasar

SHAH ALAM - Cadangan kenaikan kadar sewa Pasar Moden Seksyen 6 di sini bertujuan menampung kos pengurusan dan penyelenggaraan, kata Datuk Bandar Shah Alam Dato' Mohd Fauzi Mohd Yatim.

Beliau menjelaskan Majlis Bandaraya Shah Alam (MBSA) berbelanja RM20,000 sebulan bagi memastikan keselesaan pengguna dan peniaga di pasar berkenaan.

"Berdasarkan kajian tahun lalu, hasil yang kita belanjakan lebih banyak berbanding dengan kadar sewaan. Purata subsidi yang ditanggung MBSA sebanyak RM20,000 sebulan.

"Semalam (26 Jun) kita adakan sesi libat urus bersama 93 peniaga dan mencadangkan kenaikan kadar baharu sebanyak 60 peratus," katanya yang akan mengkaji bantahan golongan peniaga.

Mohd Fauzi bagaimanapun berkata terdapat bantahan daripada peniaga. Justeru, pihaknya akan mengkaji cadangan peniaga yang mahu kadar kenaikan dikurangkan sedikit.

"Saya akan pastikan peniaga mendapat perkhidmatan dan ruang niaga yang terbaik demi keselesaan pengunjung melalui penyediaan kemudahan infrastruktur dan pembangunan berkualiti," katanya.

SELANGORKINI ONLINE
TARIKH: 09 JULAI 2024

selangorkini
PERCUMA PP 19570/07/2020 (035196) EDISI 4 -10 JULAI 2024 www.selangorkini.my

Gotong-royong hapus tempat biak aedes

SHAH ALAM - Majlis Perbandaran Ampang Jaya (MPAJ) dan Pejabat Kesihatan Daerah (PKD) Gombak menjayakan kempen perangi nyamuk aedes di Pangsapuri Sri Puteri, Hulu Kelang pada 30 Jun.

Program Goyong-Royong Memerangi Nyamuk Aedes anjuran pertubuhan penduduk dengan kerjasama Jawatankuasa Badan Pengurusan Bersama dan surau pangsapuri dimulakan dengan taklimat mengenai wabak denggi.

Jabatan Kesihatan dan Alam Sekitar MPAJ turut menyediakan tong sampah pukal untuk memudahkan penduduk membuang barangan yang berpotensi menjadi sarang pembiakan nyamuk.

MPAJ mengedar ubat jentik-jentik selain membuat pembelian barangan kitar semula seperti sisa minyak masak, barangan elektronik terpakai, kertas, kotak, barangan plastik serta botol kaca.

SELANGORKINI ONLINE
TARIKH: 09 JULAI 2024

selangorkini
PERCUMA PP 19570/07/2020 (035196) EDISI 4 -10 JULAI 2024 www.selangorkini.my

Portal MYMPS turut sumbang hasil

Raih RM54 juta cukai taksiran

Oleh **FITRI HAZIM HAZAM**

GOMBAK - Sebanyak RM54.11 juta cukai taksiran semasa dikutip setakat 31 Mei, kata Yang Dipertua Majlis Perbandaran Selayang (MPS) Shahman Jalaluddin.

Beliau memberitahu MPS turut meraih RM5.25 juta tunggakan cukai taksiran dalam tempoh sama.

"Kutipan cukai taksiran semasa meliputi 92.49 peratus daripada RM58.5 juta manakala tunggakan pula 49.13 peratus dikutip daripada jumlah keseluruhan RM10.68 juta," katanya dalam mesyuarat bulanan di ibu pejabatnya di sini pada 26 Jun.

Beliau menambah pihaknya turut memproses waran tahanan sejak 15 April bagi pemilik yang mempunyai tunggakan RM200 dan ke atas.

"Waran merupakan tamat notis (Borang E) yang dikenakan RM100 bagi mereka yang mempunyai tunggakan. Sehingga 31 Mei, 25,598 waran telah diproses dan 18,786 telah dihantar," jelasnya.

Selain itu, sebanyak RM568,111 kutipan hasil diperoleh menerusi portal MYMPS sehingga hujung Mei.

"Kutipan terbanyak hasil dari sewaan kedai RM287,515 diikuti lesen perniagaan (RM161,716.47), kompaun (RM58,040), permit bangunan dan perancang (RM47,642) serta cagaran (RM5,880).

"MPS telah menaik taraf portal untuk kemudahan peniaga memperbaharui dan membuat bayaran lesen perniagaan, sewaan gerai, permit bangunan, kompaun dan cagaran melalui aplikasi dalam talian," jelasnya.

SELANGORKINI ONLINE
TARIKH: 09 JULAI 2024

selangorkini
PERCUMA PP 19570/07/2020 (035196) EDISI 4 -10 JULAI 2024 www.selangorkini.my

MB rasmi jejambat Saujana Putra

HULU SELANGOR - Jejambat Bandar Saujana Putra yang memanfaat 65,000 penduduk di kawasan berkenan bakal dirasmikan Dato' Menteri Besar Dato' Seri Amirudin Shari Ahad ini.

EXCO Infrastruktur Ir Izham Hashim berkata jejambat sepanjang 820 meter itu menghubungkan Lebuhraya Utara Selatan Hubungan Tengah (ELITE) dan Lebuhraya Klang Selatan (SKVE).

"Pemeriksaan akhir berkaitan teknikal telah dijalankan, semuanya dalam keadaan baik dan jejambat akan dibuka pada 7 Julai ini," katanya selepas majlis pembukaan semula laluan B66 Jalan Batang Kali-Genting Highlands di sini pada 1 Julai.

Sebelum ini, Amirudin mengumumkan peruntukan kira-kira RM60 juta untuk membina jejambat baharu bagi mengatasi masalah kesesakan di kawasan tersebut.

SELANGORKINI ONLINE
TARIKH: 09 JULAI 2024

selangorkini
PERCUMA PP 19570/07/2020 (035196) EDISI 4 -10 JULAI 2024 www.selangorkini.my

Kekal mutu perkhidmatan PBT

85 peratus tahap kepuasan penduduk

Oleh **NORRASYIDAH ARSHAD**

SHAH ALAM - Tahap kepuasan penduduk terhadap perkhidmatan pihak berkuasa tempatan (PBT) di Selangor pada kadar 89.8 peratus pada 2023, melebihi sasaran 85 peratus menjelang 2025.

Dato' Menteri Besar Dato' Seri Amirudin Shari memberitahu ia perlu dikekal secara berterusan sekali gus menunjukkan kesungguhan dalam memberi perkhidmatan bermutu kepada rakyat.

Membentang Kajian Separuh Penggal (Rancangan Selangor Pertama (RS-1) pada 4 Julai, beliau juga mengakui beberapa sasaran berkaitan PBT belum tercapai sepenuhnya.

"(Ini) menunjukkan komitmen kuat dalam meningkatkan perkhidmatan kepada rakyat menggunakan pendekatan digital dan meningkatkan kepuasan terhadap perkhidmatan tempatan," katanya.

Bercakap dalam sidang Dewan Negeri Selangor, Amirudin berkata sebanyak 10 daripada 12 PBT memperoleh sistem penggredan 95 peratus dan ke atas mengikuti piawaian peringkat kebangsaan.

Mengingatkan prestasi itu tidak harus menyebabkan mereka leka dan menganggap tanggungjawab selesai, beliau berkata mutu perkhidmatan PBT membawa dampak terus kepada kehidupan rakyat.

Beliau merujuk prasarana awam asas meliputi jalan, kawasan riadah di taman, dewan, balai raya, kutipan pengurusan sisa serta perparitan terutama lokasi perumahan dan komersial.

SELANGORKINI ONLINE
TARIKH: 09 JULAI 2024

selangorkini
PERCUMA PP 19570/07/2020 (035196) EDISI 4 -10 JULAI 2024 www.selangorkini.my

Rebat tarif elektrik pengguna RM40

SHAH ALAM - Tiada kenaikan tarif elektrik di Semenanjung antara 1 Julai hingga 31 Disember demi memastikan pengguna domestik dilindungi melalui pelaksanaan subsidi elektrik bersasar.

Menurut Kementerian Peralihan Tenaga dan Transformasi Air, keputusan pada 28 Jun bermakna kerajaan membiayai keseluruhan subsidi elektrik bersasar RM2.192 bilion bagi tempoh tersebut.

Kementerian percaya subsidi bersasar pendekatan terbaik bagi mengurangkan komitmen kerajaan seterusnya peruntukan itu disalur dalam pelbagai bentuk bantuan lain kepada rakyat.

Dalam kenyataan pada 29 Jun, nasib golongan berpendapatan rendah yang disahkan dalam sistem e-Kasih juga terpelihara melalui Program Rebat Elektrik RM40 melalui peruntukan RM55 juta.

Selain itu, pengguna juga boleh menerima e-rebat hingga RM400 bagi pembelian peti sejuk dan penyaman udara cekap tenaga yang mendapat penarafan empat atau lima bintang daripada Suruhanjaya Tenaga.

Orang ramai boleh membuat semakan status kelayakan menerusi laman sesawang https://semakanrebat.petra.gov.my/apps/public/index.php atau hadir ke kedai utiliti terdekat.

"Walau tiada kenaikan tarif, pengguna disaran menggunakan tenaga elektrik secara berhemah dan mengamal amalan cekap tenaga," kata kenyataan lagi.

Menurut kementerian berkenaan, kerajaan berpeluang menambah baik prasarana awam, penjagaan kesihatan dan sektor pendidikan melalui penjimatan hasil pelaksanaan subsidi bersasar.

Selain tiada kenaikan tarif, surcaj 1 sen/kWj untuk kategori lampu seliaan pihak berkuasa tempatan (PBT) diturunkan melibatkan lampu jalan, taman perumahan dan kawasan rekreasi.

"Pengguna komersial dan industri mengalami penurunan kadar surcaj Pelepasan Kos Tidak Berimbang 1 sen/kWj bagi tempoh Julai hingga Disember 2024," kata kementerian tersebut.

SELANGORKINI ONLINE
TARIKH: 09 JULAI 2024

selangorkini
PERCUMA PP 19570/07/2020 (035196) EDISI 4 -10 JULAI 2024 www.selangorkini.my

27 peratus pindah ke Akaun Fleksibel

SHAH ALAM - Seramai 3.45 juta pencarum Kumpulan Wang Simpanan Pekerja (KWSP) memindah RM10.86 bilion daripada Akaun Sejahtera ke Akaun Fleksibel setakat 10 Jun.

Menurut Kementerian Kewangan, angka tersebut merangkumi 26.6 peratus daripada bilangan keseluruhan ahli KWSP bawah umur 55 tahun yang membuat pilihan sedemikian, lapor Bernama.

"Jumlah ahli yang membuat pengeluaran melalui Akaun Fleksibel sebanyak 2.93 juta atau 22.6 peratus melibatkan RM6.98 bilion," kata jawapan bertulis di Dewan Rakyat pada 26 Jun.

Penstrukturan semula akaun tidak memberi kesan signifikan kepada kedudukan kewangan berikutan KWSP memperuntuk baki tunai mencukupi bagi menampung pengeluaran, kata kenyataan itu lagi.

SELANGORKINI ONLINE
TARIKH: 09 JULAI 2024

selangorkini
PERCUMA PP 19570/07/2020 (035196) EDISI 4 -10 JULAI 2024 www.selangorkini.my

Tiada penyelarasan subsidi RON95

SHAH ALAM - Tiada cadangan untuk membuat penyelarasan subsidi petrol RON95 dalam masa terdekat, kata Perdana Menteri Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim.

Menjelaskan belum ada kertas dasar untuk dibawa ke Kabinet, beliau yang juga menteri kewangan memberitahu tumpuan kerajaan terhadap penyasaran terhadap elektrik, diesel dan ayam.

"Kita perlu lihat dulu kesannya dan bagaimana reaksi rakyat kemudian sedia berunding apa keperluannya. Apa yang penting kita mesti hentikan subsidi bagi orang kaya dan orang asing.

"Itu saya tidak tolak ansur, bagaimana kaedahnya kita kena fikirkan supaya tidak bebankan rakyat. Jangan beri subsidi kepada golongan paling kaya dan orang asing.

"Berpuluh-puluh tahun tiada kerajaan (sebelum ini) sanggup menangani masalah tersebut," katanya di Dewan Rakyat pada 2 Julai.

SELANGORKINI ONLINE
TARIKH: 09 JULAI 2024

Nikmat kemajuan 9 daerah

Rancangan Selangor Pertama (RS-1) menekankan pembangunan wilayah yang seimbang dan ingin mencapai integrasi lebih baik agar perubahan membawa kesan bermakna di peringkat akar umbi.

Pelan pembangunan wilayah yang utama: Kawasan Pembangunan Sabak Bernam (SABDA), Zon Pembangunan Ekonomi Gerbang Maritim Selangor (ZPE SMG), Wilayah Pembangunan Bersepadu di Selangor Selatan (IDRISS) dan gabungan empat bandar raya Lembah Klang Raya.

Ia bertujuan menyediakan model pembangunan yang seimbang di kawasan barat Selangor yang kurang maju dan pembinaan metropolitan yang bersepadu.

RS-1 bertindak sebagai pemangkin bagi pembangunan terancang yang membolehkan pihak berkuasa tempatan (PBT) memainkan peranan yang lebih bermakna dan aktif bersama-sama dengan Kerajaan Negeri.

Struktur pentadbiran RS-1 menyediakan pentas untuk perancang PBT bersama pegawai negeri dalam membentuk hala tuju, dasar dan prasarana kawasan pembangunan yang strategik.

Tujuan akhirnya, Kerajaan Negeri ingin melihat semua projek dan nikmat pembangunan dalam pelan lima tahun ini, 2021-2025, dapat dinikmati oleh penduduk setempat.

Sebagai dasar tidak beku, RS-1 sentiasa disemak agar berjaya mencapai 16 petunjuk kejayaan.

PDT Sabak Bernam MDSB

Kluster Ekonomi: Pertanian dan industri asas tani, Perikanan dan akuakultur

Projek RS-1: SABDA, Taman Agro Pintar Selangor, Ladang Agro Pintar Selangor

PDT Hulu Selangor MPHS

Kluster Ekonomi: Industri automotif dan sokongan, Perkhidmatan

Projek RS-1: Pelan Induk Hutan Warisan Diraja Selangor

Sorotan Baru: Zon Pembangunan Kuala Selangor dan Hulu Selangor

PDT Gombak MPAJ, MPS

Kluster Ekonomi: Pendidikan, Perkhidmatan, Ekopelancongan, Perkhidmatan ekonomi bandar

Projek RS-1: Loji WTE, Penyediaan Rancangan Pihak Berkuasa Tempatan untuk diwartakan

PDT Kuala Selangor MPKS

Kluster Ekonomi: Ekopelancongan, Perikanan dan akuakultur, Pertanian

Projek RS-1: Loji Sisa kepada Tenaga (WTE), Skim Jaminan Air Mentah

Sorotan Baru: Zon Pembangunan Kuala Selangor dan Hulu Selangor, Jajaran Rel Kita Selangor

PDT Hulu Langat MPAJ, MPKj

Kluster Ekonomi: Pendidikan, Perkhidmatan

Projek RS-1: Pelan Induk Hutan Warisan Diraja Selangor

PDT Klang MBDK, MBSA

Kluster Ekonomi: Ekopelancongan, Maritim dan pelabuhan

Projek RS-1: ZPE SMG, Stesen Janakuasa Pulau Indah

Sorotan Baru: Jajaran Rel Kita Selangor, Sebahagian daripada Lembah Klang Raya Selangor

PDT Petaling MBPJ, MBSA, MBSJ

Kluster Ekonomi: Aeroangkasa dan aerotropolis, Pendidikan, Perkhidmatan

Projek RS-1: Kompleks Sukan Shah Alam (KSSA)

Sorotan Baru: Jajaran Rel Kita Selangor, Sebahagian daripada Lembah Klang Raya Selangor

PDT Kuala Langat MPKL

Kluster Ekonomi: Ekopelancongan, Perkhidmatan

Projek RS-1: IDRISS dengan Pulau Carey (Pelabuhan Ketiga), Skim Bekalan Air Sungai Rasau, loji WTE

PDT Sepang MPSP

Kluster Ekonomi: Aeroangkasa dan aerotropolis

Projek RS-1: IDRISS, Skim Jaminan Air Mentah

—— Jajaran Rel Kita Selangor   - - - Laluan Rel Pantai Timur (ECRL)

Sumber: siaran Taklimat Khas Persediaan Perbahasan Sidang Dewan Negeri Selangor Yang Ke-15 Tahun 2024.

Workers carrying out earth works at the Jalan SS14/7C intersection to build a scupper drain.

Star 9/7 (MBSJ)

Scupper drain works in SS14 to address flooding

By EDWARD RAJENDRA
edward@thestar.com.my

SUBANG Jaya City Council (MBSJ) has begun construction of a scupper drain across Jalan SS14 to address recurring flash floods affecting the intersection with Jalan SS14/7F in Subang Jaya, Selangor.

This follows a *StarMetro* report on June 1 highlighting residents' struggles with flash floods after heavy rain.

The project overseen by MBSJ's Engineering Department aims to divert surface runoff before it overwhelms the drainage system.

The solution involves a diagonal scupper drain spanning 16m across Jalan SS14.

This will channel water into the existing drain bordering the field of SK Subang Jaya.

To accommodate increased water flow, the existing drain will be widened to one metre.

A MBSJ department engineer said the project involved widening a 30m stretch of old drainage culverts along the school field, before reaching the sump at Jalan SS14/8H.

Additionally, plans are also underway to construct a similar scupper drain some 90m before Jalan SS14/7C.

Despite initial delays due to an accidentally damaged asbestos pipe on June 28 resulting in temporary water disruption in SS14, the project is now underway and is expected to be completed within a week.

This initiative addresses the safety concerns raised by residents like Ahmad Nazli Hashim, 72, whose corner lot house in Jalan SS14/7F was affected by flooding due to overflowing drainage.

He said following road resurfacing works five years ago, Jalan SS14/7F and Jalan SS14 became slightly elevated and when it rained, drain water would overflow resulting in flash floods.

THE STAR
Tarikh: 09 JUL 2024

Chain-link fences for safety in USJ

RM54,000 spent to instal barriers at Subang Jaya parks

Story and photo by EDWARD RAJENDRA
edward@thestar.com.my

PARK-GOERS in Subang Jaya, Selangor can now enjoy their walks with peace of mind thanks to newly installed chain-link fences at the USJ 11 football field and SS17 basketball court.

These barriers measuring 6mx35m address a common concern – stray balls flying out of the fields and hitting park users especially senior citizens and joggers.

"I've been hit twice on the shoulder by stray balls this year!" said Shirley Chin, 75, a frequent visitor to the USJ 11 park.

"The fence protects us and keeps the balls from rolling onto the busy Jalan USJ11/5."

> "I've been hit twice on the shoulder by stray balls this year!"
> Shirley Chin

Residents doing walking exercise next to the fence behind the goal post at the USJ 11 football field, Subang Jaya.

Similar sentiments were echoed by Rukun Tetangga SS17 chairman Teh Eng Hock, who said the fence provided much-needed safety buffer for the elderly, women, and children using the park.

"I always bring my children to the park but I worry for their safety as the basketball court is close to where they play. But the fence makes it safe," he said.

This initiative costing RM53,648.50 was funded by Subang Jaya assemblyman Michelle Ng's constituency allocation.

Ng said the project reflected a commitment to residents' safety and that it aligned with United Nations Sustainable Development Goal 11.7, which emphasises access to safe and inclusive green spaces.

She said the barriers were installed following residents' requests.

"Both upgrades in USJ 11 and SS17 took about two weeks to complete," she said.

THE STAR
Tarikh: 09 JUL 2024

MBDK Health Day promotes balanced diet, exercise

9/7

By EDWARD RAJENDRA
edward@thestar.com.my

KLANG Royal City Council (MBDK) is advising people to adopt a balanced diet and lessen consumption of sugary foods and drinks.

Its deputy mayor Mohd Zary Affendi Mohd Arif said a balanced diet means having regular meals and choosing to eat food in right quantities.

"We do not need to cut all sweet or salty foods out of our diet.

"However, we need a balanced diet containing vegetables and fruits that provide all the basic nutrients and fibre for us to be healthy," he said in his speech at the city council's Health Day at Dewan Hamzah, Klang.

Mohd Zary said people must be aware that having too much sugar or salt in their diet might affect them negatively.

"Eating right benefits both our physical and mental health.

"It gives more energy throughout the day and helps us maintain a healthy weight.

Mohd Zary (in blue jacket) talking to healthcare workers at the MBDK's Health Day while Azmi (on his right) looks on. — Courtesy photo

"It also reduces risk of heart problems and type 2 diabetes," he said to MBDK staff who had gathered for free health checks being carried out as part of the initiative.

He added that the Klang Health Office should consider a campaign to raise awareness on the need to reduce the consumption of sugar in every age group.

"As a city, we want to see people adopt a healthier lifestyle that includes exercise," he said.

MBDK Health Department director Azmi Muji said the high amount of sugar found in certain foods could negatively affect a person's health.

"Our Health Day initiative aims to encourage people to lessen their sugar intake and make simple lifestyle changes," he said.

"These steps can make a big difference, whether at home, or out and about," added Azmi.

Earlier, MBDK employees joined in the blood donation drive, basic health checks, dental and eye check-ups, and health talks.

> "As a city, we want to see people adopt a healthier lifestyle that includes exercise."
> Mohd Zary Affendi Mohd Arif

THE STAR
Tarikh: 09 JUL 2024

PJ city's 18th anniversary hunt draws 50 teams

THE *"Jom Jelajah Bahagianya Petaling Jaya 2024"* community-driven event marked the grand finale of Petaling Jaya city's 18th anniversary celebrations.

The event, which featured elements of *The Amazing Race*, treasure hunt and food hunt saw over 200 participants exploring the city's unique attractions through various engaging missions.

Key locations like the Damansara Chocolate Museum, MBPJ Museum, The Spine, ECO Plaza Recycling, Urban Orchard, Petaling Jaya Community Library and History Corridor were chosen as checkpoints, showcasing iconic spots around the city.

The venues were selected

Mohamad Zahri (second, right) presenting the prizes to the winners of the 'Jom Jelajah Bahagianya Petaling Jaya 2024' event.

with the aim to promote Petaling Jaya as an Art City, a status that it earned from the Selangor government in 2015.

The programme also aimed to promote sustainable development of culture, arts and heritage in alignment with Petaling Jaya City Council's (MBPJ) aspirations as outlined in the Petaling Jaya Smart, Sustainable and Resilient Strategic Plan 2030 (PJSSR 2030), National Tourism Policy 2020-2030 and the National Cultural Policy 2021.

Besides its goal of promoting tourism, the event also emphasised the need for integrity among government servants and the public.

This was cleverly done by integrating principles of integrity into games with puzzles and challenges.

The event attracted 50 teams comprising representatives from Housing and Local Government Ministry, Defence Ministry, Kuala Lumpur City Hall, Sepang Municipal Council, Civil Aviation Authority of Malaysia, Selangor Islamic Religious Department, Universiti Teknologi Mara, Bank Simpanan Nasional, Inland Revenue Board (LHDN), media personnel, MBPJ and the public.

The team that scored the highest points was declared the winner.

LHDN's Gold Fingers team emerged victorious, taking home RM1,800 in cash.

Ninja Warriors, a public category team, and Seekers from MBPJ won RM1,200 and RM800, respectively.

Petaling Jaya mayor Mohamad Zahri Samingon presented the prizes to winners.

– By KAVITA SIVAJI

THE STAR

Tarikh: 09 JUL 2024

Raising awareness on motor neurone disease

Ice bucket challenge leaves participants feeling immobilised momentarily to understand patients' sufferings

By ELYNA FAIZAL
metro@thestar.com.my

INSPIRED by a viral Internet trend, Persatuan Penyakit Motor Neuron Malaysia (MND Malaysia) and ATV News held a public awareness event with a catchy title.

The "Ok i love U" Ice Bucket Challenge took place at Padang Timur, Petaling Jaya to raise awareness on motor neurone disease (MND), also referred to as ALS (Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis).

Petaling Jaya MP Lee Chean Chung spoke to the audience on what ALS could entail.

"ALS is an illness that compromises the nervous system.

"It gradually affects the mobility of its patients.

"It can eventually affect your breathing and nutrition intake as well," he said.

Lee added that he would be donating RM5,000 to MND Malaysia.

For ALS warrior Albert Koo, 54, the event reminded him of his journey from diagnosis to social isolation and, finally, to regaining personal strength through educating others on the disease.

Diagnosed at age 48, Koo initially became a recluse as the disease took over his life.

"At first, I experienced foot drop, but there was no pain. Only soreness from sitting and lying down for too long.

"Then, it progressed from my left foot to my left leg, before affecting my right leg as well," recalled Koo.

Faced with an average life expectancy of two to five years from the onset of symptoms, Koo went through denial and depression.

"From 2018 to 2019, I couldn't concentrate on work and even left several WhatsApp chat groups.

"I was marking down 1,800 days on my calendar, counting down the days I had left to live," he added.

Participants dousing themselves with freezing icy cold water to be able to empathise with some of the numbness ALS patients feel. — Courtesy photos

However, at the ice bucket challenge, he redefined what it means to have ALS.

Koo spoke about accepting the diagnosis, cherishing loved ones and spreading the word on ALS so it would lose its reputation of being an unknown disease.

The ice bucket challenge was organised to create public awareness by replicating a feeling of immobility among visitors who do not have the disease.

"When you pour the bucket of ice over your body, your arms will freeze up.

"It sheds light on how ALS patients may feel," said MND Malaysia chairman Benny Ng.

MND Malaysia provides home visits where newly-diagnosed patients and their families are educated on the disease.

They will also be advised on various support services such as those that provide live-in caregivers.

Alpro Pharmacy Malaysia and Universal Nursing Care were among vendors present.

Participant Lemuel Lim, 29, said he had heard of ALS but barely had an insight into the condition before.

He said he learned more about the disease and how it affects patients, thanks to social media publicity on the event.

To donate, either visit https://mndmalaysia.org/en_gb/how-to-help/ or donate reward points via PETRONAS Mesra Reward Points Program on the Setel application (a minimum of 500 points is required to donate).

(From left) Asia Television executive director Leong Wei Ping, Lee and Ng celebrating MND Malaysia's 10th anniversary in conjunction with the challenge.

Koo's insights has helped visitors and other ALS warriors understand the disease better.

THE STAR
Tarikh: 09 JUL 2024

Remedial works on a slope along Jalan Melawati 3, Taman Melawati have been completed following soil erosion in May.

Slope stabilisation works in Taman Melawati completed

By SHALINI RAVINDRAN
shaliniravindran@thestar.com.my

WORKS to repair a slope affected by soil erosion in Taman Melawati, Selangor have been completed.

Strengthening works at the 10m-high slope along Jalan Melawati 3 took a month to complete, according to the Ampang Jaya Municipal Council (MPAJ).

MPAJ Engineering Department director Zafrul Fazry Mohd Fauzi said the remedial works cost RM130,000.

The soil erosion occurred following heavy rains on May 11, which affected the compound of one home along Jalan C 7 at the foot of the slope. No one was hurt in the incident.

"Immediate action was needed to prevent further damage and ensure the safety of residents in the area.

"The exposed slope was covered with canvas to prevent further erosion, pending remedial action.

"As a permanent measure, the surface of the slope was stabilised using concrete spray or guniting method," he said in a statement.

He added grass was also planted on the 65 degree slope to strengthen and prevent further erosion.

Zafrul Fazry said the project was completed on June 12.

"MPAJ has been monitoring the area to ensure the slope is stable."

It was previously reported that out of 356 slopes in the municipality, 116 were identified as very dangerous.

Some 47 slopes are categorised as dangerous and the remaining 193 are less dangerous.

As part of its slope maintenance, MPAJ carried out tree-felling activities on 61 high-risk slopes last year, to reduce the soil load and prevent potential landslides.

THE STAR

Tarikh: 0 9 JUL 2024

Alternative road to Jln Rakan Cheras needed

Growing number of high-rises contributing to chock-a-block situation on only route out of residential area

By LEW GUAN XI
lewguanxi@thestar.com.my

RESIDENTS living in the vicinity of Taman Rakan, Kajang are urging the authorities to build an alternative route to ease congestion on the road leading out of the area.

According to residents, Jalan Rakan Cheras is the only route for them to access Jalan Sungai Long – the main road outside their neighbourhoods.

Permata Residence joint management body chairman Tan Kuan Kit told *StarMetro* the surge in high-rise apartments around the area had caused heavy congestion on Jalan Rakan Cheras, especially during peak hours.

Tan said it takes at least 30 minutes to travel the 500m distance during peak hours.

"The population in the area has been increasing. Motorists from Tropicana Cheras, Permata Residence, Surian Tropika Apartment, Taman Cheras Idaman and Taman Rakan use the same road.

"What's more worrying is that there are a few new condominiums that are being developed. Jalan Rakan Cheras will not be enough to cater to the increasing number of motorists," he said.

Echoing the sentiment, Tropicana Cheras Residents Association vice-chairman Kam Kim Tong raised concerns over the congestion on Jalan Suria 2 which was a residential road.

"Currently, around 600 cars from Tropicana Cheras can access Jalan Rakan Cheras through Jalan Suria 2.

Kam says the traffic problem on Jalan Suria 2 needs to be looked into as well. — LEW GUAN XI/The Star

"Others from Surian Tropika Apartment and Bukit Idaman Residensi also use this road.

"The traffic volume on Jalan Suria 2 is quite high during peak hours. Some residents there are complaining that they cannot even leave their houses due to the jam," he said.

He is suggesting that Kajang Municipal Council (MPKj) widens Jalan Suria 2 to cope with traffic.

When contacted, MPKj councillor Lim Kim Eng said the council has plans to upgrade roads around Taman Rakan to reduce traffic congestion.

"The short-term plan is to widen the road between Jalan Rakan Cheras and Jalan Sungai Long, at the entrance near Masjid Taman Rakan.

"But, this plan still needs further discussion as it will affect a lot of utilities located by the roadside," said Lim, who sits on the MPKj Infrastructure Committee.

In the long-term, Lim said the council had been mulling the construction of a flyover in the area.

"Sophisticated planning is needed as this project requires a huge budget," she said.

On the widening of Jalan Suria 2, Lim said she would arrange for a site visit with MPKj councillor Siti Razimi A Razak at a later date.

THE STAR

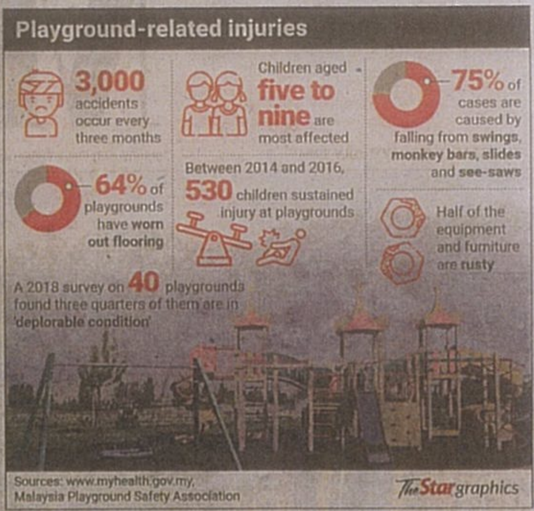
Tarikh: 09 JUL 2024

THE STAR
0 9 JUL 2024
Tarikh:..............................

Laman Rimbunan residents say stagnant water at the playground after a downpour could turn into potential breeding ground for mosquitoes. — Photos: ART CHEN/The Star

KL playgrounds not safe for child's play

Rundown recreational sites left idle as residents stay away from these hazardous spaces



Lip Eng (left) and his assistant Dic Lai showing a broken and an unusable bench at Taman Usahawan Kepong Park. — Filepic

By **FARID WAHAB**
faridwahab@thestar.com.my

SEVERAL children's playgrounds in Segambut and Kepong in Kuala Lumpur are so badly maintained that they have fallen into disrepair.

Faulty equipment, poor landscaping and water ponding are among issues identified by *StarMetro* during a visit to five locations.

In certain areas, there are piles of rubbish emanating a strong stench and attracting pests.

Residents say these problems are discouraging people from taking up outdoor activities and keeping children away.

They are urging Kuala Lumpur City Hall (DBKL) to step up maintenance and enforcement against litterbugs and rule-breakers.

Low says loose and dislodged rubber pavers at the Suria Homes playground pose a safety risk.

Cracked steps at the playground of Laman Rimbunan Mawar.

Ageing facilities

At Suria Homes in Segambut, Kuala Lumpur, the playground equipment such as swings and see-saws at a 10-year-old playground are visibly rusty.

Frequent rain has also caused the walkway around the area to be covered with algae, making it slippery and unsafe for residents.

The residential area has some 140 double-storey terrace homes.

Residents association chairman Gary Low said several complaints had been lodged with City Hall over the years.

"DBKL regularly sends workers to carry out general cleanup such as blowing away fallen leaves but they don't do much more.

"We used to have many residents coming here for leisure and exercise but these days almost no one uses the playground anymore," he said.

The association's committee member Gan Kim Peng said some rubber pavers at the playground were damaged.

"They pose safety risks as children might trip and fall," he said.

Residents are also concerned about a strip of idle land just outside the playground's fence.

It is overgrown and has piles of rubbish and residents are worried that it could be a breeding ground for mosquitoes.

It is unknown who the landowner is.

Gan said he was among a handful of residents who had contracted dengue.

"The situation gets worse after downpours as water will stagnate at the playground, sometimes for days," said Gan.

He also said many old trees had not been pruned, raising fears that their branches might fall onto residents.

At the Laman Rimbunan Mawar housing estate in Kepong, residents are upset over the old equipment and poor lighting at the neighbourhood playground.

The area has 590 terrace homes, built in early 2000s, and houses some 3,000 residents.

Residents association secretary Steven Lim said the floor and nets of the basketball court were in poor condition.

He also said the lighting at the playground only turned on after 9.30pm.

"We recently had an external repairman come to fix the lamps at the playground," he said.

Apart from water ponding at various spots, overgrown weeds can be seen jutting out of several cracked walkways.

On June 19, *StarMetro* reported about a number of trees at the playground being infested with fire ants.

The association's administrative officer Tan Siao Hue said insecticide was placed at affected trees.

Steven said that DBKL workers recently pruned these trees following residents' complaints.

Behind the Sri Segambut community hall in Taman Sri Segambut are several broken slides.

Several swings are also broken and the soft flooring beneath the play set is patchy, posing safety risks, besides being an eyesore.

"Children playing there might get injured," said a resident who wanted to be known only as Ng.

Similar conditions are observed at the Jinjang Utara field, located near the Jinjang Utara market.

Unlike the other recreational facilities, this field is not located at a housing estate.

It is often frequented by teenagers for sporting activities as well as senior citizens who come to socialise.

Here, two swings are broken while the rest are rusty and appear to be unsafe for use.

At the field and near the playground, untrimmed grass above ankle level makes the area look unkempt.

Resident Adrian Lee, who regularly takes his children to the area, expressed worry that snakes could be lurking in the grass.

Over in Taman Usahawan Kepong, Kepong MP Lim Lip Eng

THE STAR
09 JUL 2024

The flooring tiles at Taman Sri Segambut playground are damaged. — FARID WAHAB/The Star

Untrimmed grass near the Suria Homes playground.

Used food packaging left on a tree stump at Padang Jinjang Utara in Kepong.

has been calling for maintenance of the park which has fallen into disrepair.

In a *StarMetro* report on July 3, he said he requested for a RM1mil allocation from DBKL for repairs and new equipment.

Apart from two aged sepak takraw courts, the park has broken benches and messy pavements.

Lackadaisical attitude

Poor upkeep aside, indiscriminate dumping and vandalism are other problems at these playgrounds.

At Laman Rimbunan Mawar, Steven said some dog owners did not pick up their pets' droppings at the playground.

"This poor behaviour is creating an unhygienic environment and posing health risks to other residents," he said.

At the Jinjang Utara field, there are lots of food wrappings and other domestic rubbish.

Old and broken office chairs were left at one of the gazebos.

Resident CW Koh said motorcyclists could be seen riding on the walkway, damaging it, and also endangering people.

The motorcyclists, he said, did not pay heed to a DBKL signage prohibiting people from riding their vehicles at the field.

It states that those found guilty are liable to be charged under Parks (Federal Territory of Kuala Lumpur) By-Laws 1991, which provides for a RM2,000 fine or imprisonment of not more than one year, or both.

"DBKL should instal bollards to deter offenders," said Koh, stressing that City Hall must not compromise on enforcement.

Worrying statistics

It was reported on Nov 24, 2018, that a 15-year-old girl died in a freak accident while playing on the swing at the Kepong Metropolitan Park.

The incident shed light on the hazards present at playgrounds.

The Health Ministry (www.myhealth.gov.my) estimates that 3,000 accidents occur at playgrounds every three months, involving mostly children aged five to nine. (*see graphic*)

About 75% of these cases are injuries caused by falling from equipment such as swings, monkey bars, slides and see-saws.

A 2019 Universiti Putra Malaysia study titled "Applicability of Malaysian Standards in Benefitting Health and Safety of Children in Malaysia" stated that most playgrounds fail to comply with the required standards – MS2665 (Playground surfacing – Part 1: Standard guide) and MS966 (Playground equipment – Safety performance for public use).

These standards, which cover the design and safety features, were developed by the Standards Department and Sirim Bhd.

Additionally, a 2018 survey of 40 playgrounds by Malaysia Playground Safety Association classified 75% of them as being in "deplorable" condition.

It also found that half of the equipment were rusty while 64% of playgrounds had worn-out flooring.

Balance beams topped the list for damaged equipment (63%) followed by track rides (58%) and swings (47%).

It also estimated that 530 children sustained injury at playgrounds between 2014 and 2016.

DBKL had yet to respond to requests for comments at press time.

Play activity has been linked to a 20% increase in cognitive development in young children. — Filepic

Playgrounds necessary for mental development

EXPERTS in early childhood development are calling for more playgrounds to be built in urban areas, underscoring that such facilities are crucial for physical and emotional growth.

The lack of such spaces, they warned, could push children to spend more time on electronic devices, which may prove unhealthy for their progress.

Dignity for Children Foundation international travel and learning coordinator Richard Kishore Joseph said playgrounds offered imaginative play where children could explore rich sensory experiences.

The foundation is a non-profit organisation focused on education and care for underprivileged children.

"Playgrounds are like a gymnasium for the brain which help stimulate cognitive development and creativity.

"They also offer a setting for problem solving and social interaction, both vital for developing critical thinking and emotional intelligence.

"In fact, play activities have been linked to a 20% increase in cognitive function in young children," said Richard.

He said activities at playgrounds may help children develop motor skills.

"Children who lack access to these facilities may go on to lead a sedentary lifestyle, exposing them to health issues later on," he said.

Social expert Prof Datuk Dr Mohamad Shatar Sabran said youths growing up in urban areas were at risk of falling behind in their communication skills.

"Due to a lack of play spaces, more are becoming engrossed in their gadgets, which takes their focus away from developing interpersonal skills," he said.

Prof Mohamad Shatar said developers were required to build playgrounds in housing projects as per local authorities' guidelines.

"If the developers can't do this, they should at least allocate a vacant lot where children can play," he stressed.

Echoing similar sentiments, Richard said playgrounds also served as a common area for communities and neighbourhoods to bond.

"Here, parents have a chance to interact with one another, which helps foster a sense of community belonging," he said.

To ensure better upkeep of playgrounds, Richard proposed a public-private partnership to fund the maintenance works. — By FARID WAHAB

Richard says playgrounds offer children rich sensorial experiences.

Prof Mohamad Shatar says youths growing up in urban areas are at risk of falling behind in their communication skills.

Minimum wage, maximum stress

Govt aims to improve on areas that sank Malaysia's work-life ranking

By FAZLEENA AZIZ
fazleena@thestar.com.my

PETALING JAYA: Malaysia may have been ranked as the second worst in the world for work-life balance, but the rating was possibly dragged down by two of the nine metrics used, says an employment legal practitioner.

Chia Swee Yik said the minimum wage (about US$1) and LGBTQ+ inclusivity (score 15) seem to have affected Malaysia's ranking.

Commenting on the study by a human resource company called Remote, which looked at 60 of the highest gross domestic product (GDP) nations globally, he said Malaysia is quite competitive in six factors used in the study.

"From how I see it, these two (minimum wage and inclusivity) caused our ranking to be such. Compare that with Singapore scoring 50 in terms of LGBTQ+ inclusivity although they do not openly recognise the status of LGBTQ+ (individuals).

"But at least they have a legal regime to prevent discrimination or other human rights laws," he added.

Nine key factors were evaluated in producing the ranking: the number of statutory annual leave days, minimum statutory sick pay, the number of statutory maternity leave days, the percentage of the wage for statutory maternity leave, minimum wage, healthcare, happiness index, average weekly working hours, and LGBTQ+ inclusivity.

The study used analysed data collected in March 2023.

Chia said the current 45-hour work-week is on par with many developed countries like Singapore's 44 hours per week and Britain's 40 hours per week.

He said the competitiveness factors used for Malaysia took into account amendments to the Employment Act (that came into effect on Jan 1, 2023) and applicable to Peninsular Malaysia): increasing maternity leave and separating hospitalisation from non-hospitalisation sick leave, new provisions on flexible working, and the introduction of paternity leave.

Following the release of the Remote report, Human Resources Minister Steven Sim said the government is committed to ensuring Malaysians have a healthy, safe and more humane workplace and working conditions.

He added that the government has been making various improvements towards that goal including ratifying Convention C155 of the International Labour Organisation (ILO) on June 11.

He said the move is also in line with the enforcement of the Occupational Safety and Health (Amendment) Act 2022 from June 1. In the study, Malaysia scored 27.51 out of 100, with an average work-week of 40.8 hours and a minimum wage of US$1.07 (RM5.04) an hour.

Only Nigeria, which has five days of statutory leave, 40.8 hours of work per week, and a minimum wage of US$0.43 (RM2) per hour scored lower than Malaysia.

Malaysian Trades Union Congress (MTUC) president Mohd Effendy Abdul Ghani said the poor ranking may have been caused by long working hours, high work pressure, and lack of time for personal and family activities.

Mohd Effendy suggested a flexible work culture to enable employees to manage their time better while balancing work and having time to restore energy.

He also said there should be well-being support programmes such as counselling, mental health programmes, and leisure activities at work, which can also help employees manage work stress and improve their overall well-being.

"Employees must be encouraged to take appropriate annual leave or rest leave without any stress or workload during their vacation," he said, adding that they should get assistance to manage the workload efficiently and systematically.

THE STAR
Tarikh: 09 JUL 2024

Businesses in a bind over safety

Groups: Lack of awareness, resources keep SMEs from complying with new Osha rules

Better safe than sorry: Under the new Osha rules, employers must appoint at least one occupational safety and health coordinator from among their staff.

By HO JIA WEN
and TEH ATHIRA YUSOF
newsdesk@thestar.com.my

PETALING JAYA: Bosses are keen on keeping workplaces safe but they simply do not have the resources to do it.

It has been a month since the new occupational safety and health rules were implemented but many employers are still in the dark about the details of the law, and those who are aware are struggling to comply due to a lack of resources.

Under the Occupational Safety and Health Act (Osha) (Amendment) 2022 which came into effect on June 1, employers, especially those from small businesses, must appoint at least one occupational safety and health coordinator from among their staff (*see infographic*).

SME Association Malaysia president Ding Hong Sing said only a small percentage of small and micro enterprises trained their employees under the new Osha rules.

These enterprises, especially those with 10 or fewer employees, need additional resources to comply with the new ruling, he added.

Many are still unaware about the new occupational safety and health rules, he said, and those that were, simply do not have the funds to pay for employee training.

"And, employers will need to give up a staff member for three days of training, which may affect their daily operations," he added.

He said many are also unaware of where to go for the occupational safety and health training.

"The government should give SMEs a step-by-step guide, continuously remind us of the new rules, and show us what we need to do to comply with the ruling," he said, while proposing that the Social Security Organisation (Socso) provide free training to support SMEs as it has the resources.

"Employers are familiar with Socso, so at least SMEs will have a point of reference if there is a need to clarify things or if we are unsure about the new ruling."

Medium enterprises, he said, were in a better position to comply with the new Osha as they could use the Human Resource Development Corporation levy for training.

"Also, businesses involved in exports already have to comply with international occupational health safety standards," he said.

Small and Medium Enterprises Association of Malaysia (Samenta) national president Datuk William Ng said many SMEs were struggling to implement the new provisions.

"The challenge is not just cost-related nor is it about whether one is willing to comply.

"There is a lack of trained occupational safety and health consultants to help SMEs perform the risk assessment and to develop protocols to address those risks," he said, adding that appointing in-house employees to the role was hard due to limited manpower.

Describing the new law as "a one-size-fits-all solution", he said every business was different and had varied risk profiles.

"It will be better to adopt a rating system to reward and recognise businesses for compliance instead," he said.

Occupational safety and health trainer Daman Huri Mohammad said many SMEs were concerned about compliance but some were adopting a wait-and-see approach due to a lack of enforcement.

He said training courses for occupational safety and health coordinators cost between RM500 and RM900 per person.

Malaysian Trades Union Congress (MTUC) president Mohd Effendy Abdul Ghani said reactions from employers had been mixed.

"In some cases, existing staff have been forced to take on the role of health and safety coordinator without proper training or additional compensation, leading to dissatisfaction among employees and challenges in implementing safety measures effectively," he said.

Federation of Malaysian Manufacturers (FMM) president Tan Sri Soh Thian Lai said employers should not view the requirement to appoint an occupational safety and health coordinator as a burden.

"A coordinator ensures all workplaces, regardless of size, have a systematic approach to managing safety and health and that there is a consistent application of safety standards across all sectors.

"Hiring a coordinator is also more cost-effective than employing a full-time safety health officer," he said.

Soh said compliance with the new Osha starts with understanding the legal requirements, selecting the right person to be a coordinator and ensuring that the person is given training to carry out the role.

This, he said, must be accompanied with developing a safety and health policy, conducting risk assessments, maintaining records and documentation and ensuring continuous improvements for the overall betterment of the organisation.

"It is critical that the top management supports the coordinator by allocating sufficient funds and time to implement and maintain effective safety practices.

"We hope the government will consider providing financial support for the SMEs in Budget 2025 as this can enhance the effectiveness of Osha," he said.

In January, a worker died after falling from a height of 5m while carrying out construction while another died while repairing the body of a palm kernel polishing drum due to oxygen deficiency.

Osha – What's new

The Occupational Safety and Health Act (Osha) (Amendment) 2022, which came into effect on June 1, expanded the Act to cover all workplaces, except those in the armed forces, workers on board ships and domestic (household) employment.

In April, Human Resources Minister Steven Sim said the amended Act would provide workers with better benefits as there are more provisions to ensure employee welfare is taken care of.

The provisions include:

- Employers (with five or more employees at the place of work) must appoint a safety and health officer from among their staff to monitor, coordinate and advise on matters related to occupational safety and health at the workplace;
- Employers who fail to appoint an occupational safety and health officer shall be guilty of an offence and shall, on conviction, be liable to a fine not exceeding RM50,000 or not more than six months' jail or both;
- Section 18B specifies that every employer or self-employed individual must conduct a thorough risk assessment on the safety and health risks posed to anyone affected by their operations at the workplace;
- 'Risk assessment' is defined as the process of evaluating the risks to safety and health arising from hazards at work and determining the appropriate measures for risk control;
- Section 18B (2) stipulates that where risk assessment indicates that risk control is required to eliminate or reduce the safety and health risk, the employer, self-employed person or principal, shall implement such control;
- Section 26A provides the right for employees to remove themselves from "an imminent danger at their workplace" if they have 'reasonable grounds' to do so or if the employer has failed to take action to address said danger; and
- 'Imminent danger' is defined as a serious risk of death or serious bodily injury to any person that is caused by any plant, substance, condition, activity, process, practice, procedure or place of work hazard.

The Star graphics

THE STAR
09 JUL 2024
Tarikh:..............................

SH 9/7

Ringgit diunjur dalam julat 4.70-4.71 berbanding dolar

KUALA LUMPUR - Ringgit diunjur diniagakan dalam mod berkecuali kepada positif sekitar 4.70 hingga 4.71 berbanding dolar Amerika Syarikat (AS) minggu ini ketika pasaran dijangka menumpukan keterangan Pengerusi Rizab Persekutuan AS (Fed) Jerome Powell di Kongres negara maju itu.

Ketua Ahli Ekonomi Bank Muamalat Malaysia Bhd Dr Mohd Afzanizam Abdul Rashid berkata tumpuan itu penting bagi mendapatkan petunjuk mengenai penilaian terkini Fed ke atas risiko inflasi.

"Pada masa sama, ahli Jawatankuasa Dasar Monetari Bank Negara Malaysia (BNM) akan membincangkan kadar dasar semalaman pada 11 Julai ini dengan kebanyakan ahli ekonomi menjangkakan kadar itu kekal pada 3.00 peratus," katanya kepada Bernama.

Perkembangan itu, kata Mohd Afzanizam, sedikit sebanyak menyuntik kelebihan sekiranya pihak Fed didapati mula mengurangkan kadar faedah utama manakala BNM mengekalkan pendirian dan menjurus kepada perbezaan kadar faedah yang lebih kecil antara kedua-dua negara.

Sementara itu, Kenanga Investment Bank Bhd mengekalkan prospek ringgit yang positif ringgit pada minggu depan, walaupun sesetengah pelabur mungkin masih memilih dolar AS selagi Donald Trump mendahului tinjauan pendapat berkaitan pemilihan presiden negara itu.

"Di peringkat tempatan, ringgit mungkin kekal disokong oleh dasar BNM dan prospek makroekonomi yang lebih positif dengan syarat jualan runcit dan Indeks Pengeluaran Perindustrian kekal kukuh," katanya.

Bagi minggu baru berakhir, ringgit diniagakan kebanyakannya meningkat ketika data ekonomi AS yang lebih lemah menyaksikan mata wang negara membangun, termasuk ringgit mengukuh berbanding dolar AS.

Pada awal minggu ini, MIDF Amanah Investment Bank Bhd menjangkakan ringgit meningkat pada separuh kedua 2024 dan mengakhiri tahun ini dengan lebih kukuh pada RM4.43 berbanding dolar AS ketika pihak Fed semakin menghampiri langkah menurunkan kadar faedah.

Bagi perbandingan Jumaat hingga Jumaat, ringgit meningkat ke paras 4.7065/7110 berbanding dolar AS daripada 4.7160/7190, seminggu lepas.

Ringgit juga diniagakan kebanyakannya rendah berbanding kumpulan mata wang utama.

Ini termasuk susut berbanding pound Britain kepada 6.0182/0240 daripada 5.9639/9676 pada minggu lepas, rendah berbanding euro pada 5.0953/1001 daripada 5.0494/0526 namun mengukuh berbanding yen Jepun pada 2.9286/9315 daripada 2.9345/9365.

Unit tempatan itu juga diniagakan kebanyakannya rendah berbanding mata wang ASEAN.

Ringgit naik berbanding peso Filipina kepada 8.04/8.05 daripada 8.05/8.05 seminggu sebelumnya dan susut berbanding rupiah Indonesia kepada 289.1/289.5 daripada 287.9/288.3. - *Bernama*

SINAR HARIAN
Tarikh: 09 JUL 2024

Kekal pulih bergantung kepada kualiti hidup, sokongan

SH 9/7

Pindaan Akta Penagih Dadah beri peluang kedua

Oleh AHMAD ISMADI ISMAIL
KUALA LUMPUR

Pindaan Rang Undang-Undang (RUU) Akta Penagih Dadah (Rawatan dan Pemulihan) 1983 memberi peluang kepada penagih dadah mendapatkan rawatan dan pemulihan selain bertanggungjawab kepada diri, keluarga, masyarakat dan negara.

Pakar Kaunseling Penagihan, Datuk Dr Abd Halim Mohd Hussin berkata, penagihan dadah merupakan penyakit kronik serta boleh berulang dan pemulihan kekal bergantung kepada kualiti kehidupan yang memerlukan pelbagai sokongan.

"Mereka yang mengalami pengulangan penagihan dalam keadaan ketidakfungsian psikologi, maka adalah tidak wajar dikenakan hukuman penjara atau mana-mana hukuman, selain meneruskan rawatan kaedah farmakoterapi.

"Pengurusan penjagaan lanjutan yang menjamin kualiti kehidupan individu ini bagi menangani pengulangan penagihan," katanya dalam kenyataan pada Isnin.

Beliau berkata, pendekatan penjagaan lanjutan kualiti kehidupan merangkumi proses rawatan bersepadu dan bersifat bimbingan vokasional diperkukuhkan dengan program pendampingan sosial yang lebih berstruktur.

"Hukuman penjara adalah tindakan terakhir yang mana Agensi Antidadah Kebangsaan (AADK) telah beri ruang dan peluang terhadap kes tidak patuh atau *relaps* (berulang) yang berpanjangan," katanya.

Abd Halim yang juga bekas Ketua Pengarah AADK berkata, dengan kelulusan RUU itu beliau mencadangkan agar rawatan dan pemulihan dilaksanakan dengan menggunakan pendekatan *psychosocial therapy* dan *pharmacotherapy*.

"Pendekatan melalui penempatan saintis sosial dan saintis perubatan. Kerajaan perlu bersedia untuk menempatkan seorang pegawai perubatan di setiap Puspen dan pusat khidmat daerah melalui kaedah yang bersesuaian," katanya.

> *"Pengurusan penjagaan lanjutan yang menjamin kualiti kehidupan individu itu bagi menangani pengulangan penagihan."*
>
> \- Abd Halim

Pada 26 Jun lalu, *Sinar Harian* melaporkan Menteri Dalam Negeri, Datuk Seri Saifuddin Nasution Ismail berkata, Pindaan Akta Penagih Dadah 1983 yang akan dibahaskan di Parlimen pada persidangan kali ini bakal menjadi 'senjata baharu' kerajaan dalam menangani penagih dadah di negara ini.

Jelasnya, langkah meminda akta sedia ada itu bertujuan memberi peluang kepada penagih yang telah mendapat kesedaran untuk menawarkan diri menerima rawatan dan pemulihan secara sukarela.

Menurutnya, pendekatan baharu yang dilaksanakan dalam pindaan akta baharu itu mahu menjadikan individu terlibat dengan najis dadah perlu didekati sebagai klien atau pesakit, bukannya sebagai penagih yang ditahan di penjara.

Tambahnya, jika langkah melakukan pindaan akta tersebut berjaya, ia akan memudahkan lagi usaha memulihkan penagih tanpa perlu menempuhi banyak karenah birokrasi.

SINAR HARIAN
Tarikh: 0 9 JUL 2024

HM 7/7

Malaysia dijangka terima 27.3j pelancong

Kuala Lumpur: Ketibaan pelancong yang kukuh setakat ini dijangka akan terus menyokong penggunaan domestik, sekali gus menyokong pertumbuhan ekonomi negara meskipun berdepan persekitaran global yang tidak menentu, kata penganalisis.

TA Securities berkata, pelancongan adalah penyumbang penting kepada ekonomi Malaysia dengan menjana pendapatan pertukaran asing, mewujudkan peluang pekerjaan dan menyumbang kepada keluaran dalam negara kasar (KDNK).

Ia berkata, pada 2022, industri pelancongan menyumbang RM251.5 bilion kepada KDNK Malaysia, menyumbang 14 peratus daripada jumlah KDNK negara.

Malah, katanya, industri itu menggaji 3.61 juta orang pada 2022 dan menyumbang 23.4 peratus kepada jumlah guna tenaga di Malaysia.

"Ketibaan pelancong dijangka melonjak sebanyak 36.5 peratus kepada 27.3 juta pada 2024 berbanding 20 juta tahun lalu dan menyumbang kepada resit pelancongan lebih tinggi sebanyak RM102.7 bilion berbanding RM71 bilion pada tahun sebelumnya.

> "Ini lebih kukuh berbanding 26 juta ketibaan pelancong dan RM85 bilion hasil pelancongan pada 2019
>
> TA Securities

"Jangkaan ini adalah lebih kukuh berbanding 26 juta ketibaan pelancong dan RM85 bilion hasil pelancongan pada 2019," katanya dalam nota penyelidikannya.

TA Secuiritues berkata, kerajaan telah mempertingkatkan sambungan udara, melonggarkan keperluan visa terutama dari China dan India dan meningkatkan aktiviti promosi untuk mencapai sasaran itu.

Ia berkata, kesan positif daripada faktor itu sudah kelihatan dengan peningkatan yang dilihat dalam indeks perdagangan pengedaran, yang telah meningkat secara purata 3.9 peratus dalam empat bulan tahun ini.

Katanya, peruntukan belanjawan terbesar sebanyak RM394 bilion tahun ini akan mempunyai kesan limpahan yang besar daripada perbelanjaan dan pelaburan awam, terutamanya daripada peruntukan RM90 bilion untuk perbelanjaan pembangunan.

"Ini akan dilengkapkan dengan aliran masuk pelaburan langsung asing (FDI) yang besar dan peningkatan yang sama dalam pelaburan swasta.

"Ini akan mengekalkan kekuatan dalam pasaran pekerjaan dan menjadi penting untuk menyokong tingkah laku perbelanjaan pengguna, yang seterusnya akan memacu pelaburan swasta, mewujudkan kitaran positif yang boleh bertahan untuk beberapa tahun akan datang melainkan dicemari oleh kelembapan luaran yang drastik, tekanan inflasi, ketegangan geopolitik yang merosakkan dan peristiwa negatif yang tidak dijangka," katanya.

HARIAN METRO
Tarikh 09 JUL 2024

Jejambat BSP kini boleh diguna

Projek jejambat diumum LBS pada 2019 kini mula dibuka untuk kegunaan orang ramai

Oleh Sri Ayu Kartika Amri
kartika@mediaprima.com.my

HM 9/7

Kuala Lumpur

LBS Bina Group Berhad (LBS) melancarkan jejambat Bandar Saujana Putra (BSP), projek yang dinanti-nantikan penduduk BSP dan pengguna sekitarnya.

Projek jejambat BSP terbabit yang diumumkan pada 2019, kini dibuka untuk kegunaan awam yang menghubungkan Lebuhraya Utara-Selatan Hubungan Tengah (Elite) dan Lebuhraya Lembah Klang Selatan (SKVE).

Pada masa ini, populasi BSP mencecah hampir 20,000 orang dan jejambat ini dijangka membantu mengawal aliran trafik di kawasan ini.

Pengerusi Eksekutif Kumpulan LBS, Tan Sri Ir (Dr) Lim Hock San berkata, penyempurnaan jejambat ini juga menandakan satu pencapaian penting dan tepat pada masanya, selaras dengan pelancaran projek BSP Sutera pada April lalu.

"Di sebalik pelbagai cabaran yang dihadapi oleh LBS terutama sewaktu pandemik, saya gembira projek ini berjaya disiapkan.

"Saya percaya jejambat ini akan membantu mengurangkan kesesakan lalu lintas dan membantu meningkatkan aliran trafik di lokasi kritikal ini," katanya.

Menurutnya, pembangunan terdiri daripada unit pangsapuri dan rumah bandar dengan nilai pembangunan kasar (GDV) sebanyak RM207 juta, di mana ia akan memberi nilai tambah di BSP.

"Perbandaran ini terdiri daripada pembangunan bercampur yang strategik dengan pilihan komprehensif kediaman dan unit komersial yang memenuhi keperluan rakyat," katanya.

AMIRUDIN (tengah) dan Hock San pada majlis perasmian jejambat BSP.

Jejambat BSP ini dirasmikan oleh Menteri Besar Selangor, Datuk Seri Amirudin Shari dan disaksikan Ketua Pegawai Eksekutif Permodalan Negeri Selangor Berhad (PNSB), Raja Ahmad Shahrir Iskandar Raja Salim, Exco Infrastruktur dan Pertanian, Izham Hashim dan Yang Dipertua Majlis Perbandaran Kuala Langat, Datuk Amirul Azizan Abd Rahim.

Sementara itu, Amirudin berkata, pelancaran jejambat BSP ini bertujuan untuk meningkatkan kualiti hidup penduduk dengan mengurangkan masa perjalanan dan kesesakan lalu lintas.

Beliau turut merakamkan ucapan terima kasih kepada LBS atas sumbangan syarikat terhadap pembinaan jejambat terbabit.

HARIAN METRO
Tarikh: 09 JUL 2024

TEKANAN KEWANGAN JEJAS PRESTASI KERJA

26 peratus pekerja dewasa di Malaysia alami tekanan kewangan pelbagai tahap

Oleh Sri Ayu Kartika Amri
kartika@mediaprima.com.my

Kuala Lumpur

Sebanyak 26 peratus daripada pekerja dewasa di Malaysia mengalami tekanan kewangan pada pelbagai tahap dan 65 peratus di antara mereka mengatakan bahawa tekanan kewangan mempengaruhi prestasi kerja.

Ketua Pegawai Eksekutif Agensi Kaunseling dan Pengurusan Kredit (AKPK), Azaddin Ngah Tasir berkata, penyelidikan AKPK mendapati bahawa kesejahteraan kewangan dan mental saling berkaitan.

"Merujuk kepada laporan yang dihasilkan oleh Financial Education Well-being Research Centre (FEWRC) AKPK sendiri yang bertajuk *From Nine to Five: Navigating Employees' Financial Well-Being at the Workplace*, sebanyak 26 peratus pekerja dewasa di negara ini mengalami tekanan kewangan pada pelbagai tahap.

"Manakala, 65 peratus di antara mereka mengatakan bahawa tekanan kewangan telah mempengaruhi prestasi kerja mereka.

"Bayangkan potensi peningkatan produktiviti sekiranya kita dapat mengurangkan jurang 26 peratus itu kepada peratusan yang lebih rendah," katanya dalam kenyataan.

Menurutnya, secara purata, berdasarkan laporan FEWRC, 70 peratus pekerja dewasa Malaysia berada pada tahap kesejahteraan kewangan terendah adalah pekerja berprestasi rendah.

Beliau berkata, sebanyak 78 peratus daripada mereka yang mempunyai kesejahteraan kewangan tertinggi melebihi jangkaan produktiviti yang diharapkan.

70%
Peratusan pekerja dewasa Malaysia pada tahap kesejahteraan kewangan terendah

"Angka ini menyorot peranan penting pendidikan kewangan dalam meningkatkan tahap produktiviti tempat kerja.

"Apabila kesejahteraan kewangan seseorang meningkat, ia turut meningkatkan kesetiaan pekerja, mewujudkan tenaga kerja yang lebih stabil dan komited," katanya.

Selain itu, Azaddin berkata, hasil kajian AKPK menunjukkan bahawa 91 peratus daripada pekerja dewasa Malaysia yang memiliki kesejahteraan kewangan tinggi lebih setia kepada syarikat mereka, manakala 89 peratus daripada mereka yang menghadapi kesejahteraan kewangan yang rendah aktif mencari peluang pekerjaan baru.

"Wang tidak dapat membeli kesetiaan, tetapi kesejahteraan kewangan mampu melakukannya kerana kedua-duanya saling berkait rapat.

"Dengan kesejahteraan kewangan, kami menggariskan kepada pengetahuan dan kemahiran dalam menguruskan sumber yang ada seperti wang dan pembiayaan untuk kebaikan diri," katanya.

HARIAN METRO
Tarikh: 0 9 JUL 2024

Teliti proses kenaikan pangkat ketua jabatan banteras rasuah, ketirisan

Timbalan Pendaftar, Fakulti Perhutanan dan Alam Sekitar, Universiti Putra Malaysia (UPM)

Oleh Noor Mohamad Shakil Hameed
bhrencana@bh.com.my

Laporan Ketua Audit Negara (LKAN) 2/2024 masih mendedahkan naratif kelemahan sama membabitkan beberapa kementerian dan agensi awam dengan rumusan kurang pemantauan atau penyeliaan, tiada penyelarasan antara agensi, pangkalan data tidak lengkap serta kelemahan dasar dan prosedur kerja ketara.

Walaupun ketirisan didedahkan hampir setiap tahun dan teguran diberikan serta pelbagai tindakan diambil, ternyata masalah ini tidak mampu dinoktahkan lagi. Malah, keluhan ini turut diluahkan kolum Belalang Jalan Riong di *BH Ahad*, kelmarin.

Justeru, perlu ada reformasi menyeluruh dalam proses pemberian perkhidmatan, pengurusan projek dan perolehan menggunakan dana awam serta kaedah pemantauan proses kerja, selain melaksanakan penambahbaikan drastik dalam soal penyelarasan antara agensi dan prosedur kerja.

Segala kelemahan didedahkan itu bukan baharu, sebaliknya mungkin sudah menjadi sebahagian amalan dan proses kerja sistematik di agensi terbabit. Hanya rombakan menyeluruh mampu mengubah dan memperbetulkan kelemahan, sekali gus mengelak ia berulang. Agensi lain tidak terbabit juga wajar mengambil iktibar.

Hakikatnya, laporan audit mendedahkan kelemahan ketara dalam proses pemantauan dan penyeliaan pastinya membabitkan ketua dan anak buah. Ini menunjukkan berlaku pengabaian serius dari segi pelaksanaan tanggungjawab oleh pegawai penyelia atau ketua jabatan yang sepatutnya memantau segala operasi terutama gerak geri anggota bawahan.

Timbul persoalan, adakah pegawai penyelia cuai dan tidak cekap mengurus serta menyelia staf bawahan atau sengaja tutup mata dan turut terbabit atau bersekongkol meraih laba haram.

Ini perkara serius perlu segera ditangani kerana kegagalan ketua melaksanakan tugas penyeliaan secara efisien dan efektif bukan saja merosakkan imej jabatan dengan membiarkan anggota bawahan bertindak sesuka hati, malah menghancurkan organisasi.

Justeru, proses kenaikan pangkat dan pelantikan ketua jabatan yang memikul tanggungjawab pegawai penyelia perlu diteliti semula supaya hanya benar-benar layak dan cekap secara merit dilantik.

Nilai kemampuan laksana tugas

Dalam konteks ini, penilaian terhadap kemampuan menyelia staf dan berkeupayaan melaksanakan tanggungjawab dengan nilai integriti tinggi wajar dijadikan kriteria dan asas pemilihan.

Ketiadaan penyelarasan antara agensi juga menarik untuk dibincangkan kerana isu pertindihan fungsi dan peranan serta cara kerja secara silo sudah lama didebatkan dan tidak wajar berlaku lagi.

Perkhidmatan awam bermatlamat memberi perkhidmatan terbaik kepada rakyat, justeru budaya kerja mementingkan jabatan masing-masing bukan saja merugikan, malah membazir sumber di pelbagai peringkat.

Penyelarasan antara agensi bukan saja memudahkan pelaksanaan kerja penjawat awam, malah akan memberi manfaat berganda kepada rakyat apabila sesuatu perkhidmatan dapat disampaikan secara berpusat lebih cepat dan mudah, selain mengurangkan kerenah birokrasi yang sering menimbulkan kekeliruan rakyat.

Ketua jabatan terbabit perlu duduk bersama membincangkan keperluan kerjasama dan agihan tugas dengan jelas untuk memudahkan penyelarasan dalam menyedia dan melaksanakan sesuatu perkhidmatan.

Secara lazimnya perkhidmatan awam sudah dilengkapi pelbagai dasar dan prosedur kerja terbaik, maka apabila kelemahan didedahkan sudah tentu ia membabitkan penghayatan dan amalan oleh penjawat awam yang gagal membudayakannya.

Justeru, setiap agensi awam perlu melipatgandakan usaha menerapkan budaya mematuhi dasar dan prosedur kerja.

Penemuan audit ini membuktikan sehebat manapun prosedur dan dasar diperkenalkan, ia tidak akan berkesan dan mencapai objektif andai penjawat awam gagal menghayati dan membudayakannya sebagai amalan kerja seharian.

Ketua jabatan perlu memikul tanggungjawab memastikan setiap anggota organisasi peka dan mematuhi segala dasar serta prosedur kerja. Tidak boleh ada sebarang kompromi dalam soal mematuhi peraturan ketika melaksanakan tugasan.

Kita berharap semua agensi kerajaan berlapang dada menerima teguran audit, sekali gus segera bertindak mengatasi segala kelemahan dalam sistem kerja untuk mengelak ketirisan dalam pengurusan dana awam daripada terus berulang.

Harus diingat pihak audit bukan sengaja mencari kesalahan sebaliknya melaksanakan tanggungjawab untuk memastikan dana awam diuruskan dengan cekap tanpa sebarang ketirisan dan penyelewengan demi memberi manfaat optimum kepada rakyat dan negara.

BERITA HARIAN
Tarikh........0.9..JUL...2024..

5 teknologi tingkat tahap keselamatan kabel rangkaian

Oleh Prof Madya Dr Mahyuddin Daud
bhrencana@bh.com.my

Profesor Madya Jabatan Undang-Undang Sivil, Kulliyyah Undang-Undang Ahmad Ibrahim, Universiti Islam Antarabangsa Malaysia (UIAM)

Akta Komunikasi dan Multimedia 1998 yang bertujuan mengawal selia industri komunikasi dan multimedia, sudah berusia lebih dua dekad. Ia secara amnya menumpukan peranan Suruhanjaya Komunikasi dan Multimedia (SMKM) dan mengawal selia pembangunan industri terbabit, termasuk berkaitan kemudahan rangkaian telekomunikasi fizikal, peranti serta kandungan digital.

Justeru, wujud keperluan untuk akta ini dipinda seperti dimaklumkan Timbalan Menteri Komunikasi, Teo Nie Ching pada sesi Parlimen lepas yang dirancang untuk dibentangkan pada sesi kali ini.

9 BH

Antara faktor yang menyebabkan akta ini perlu dipinda adalah untuk mengekang jenayah kecurian kabel, meskipun ia bukan perkara baharu dan sudahpun disenaraikan dalam Seksyen 235 yang melarang mana-mana individu sama ada tindakan sengaja atau meninggalkan, tidak jujur atau cuai, memanjangkan, mengusik, mengubah suai, mengubah, mengeluarkan memusnahkan atau merosakkan apa-apa kemudahan rangkaian.

Sekiranya didapati bersalah, pelaku boleh didenda tidak melebihi RM300,000, dipenjarakan tidak melebihi tiga tahun atau kedua-duanya.

Bagaimanapun, jenayah ini semakin kritikal terutama dengan pelaksanaan Fasa 1 Inisiatif Jalinan Digital Negara (JENDELA) bermula sejak 2020 hingga 2022 membabitkan kos RM28 bilion.

Dengan kos perlu dilaburkan kerajaan dari semasa ke semasa, tentunya isu seperti kecurian kabel boleh memberikan impak negatif untuk merealisasi perancangan. Selain itu, isu ini turut boleh menjejaskan imej kerajaan akibat tindakan vandalisme sesetengah pihak tidak bertanggungjawab.

Hukuman lebih berat kekang jenayah

Memandangkan peruntukan seperti Seksyen 235 sudah berusia lebih dua dekad, adalah wajar peruntukan ini perlu disemak semula dan hukuman lebih tinggi dipertimbang selaras amalan antarabangsa.

Ini mengambil kira kerugian terpaksa ditanggung kerajaan dan syarikat berkaitan apabila berlaku kes kecurian kabel. Tidak terkecuali pengguna turut menerima kesan negatif apabila gangguan perkhidmatan berlaku dan aktiviti dalam talian terjejas untuk tempoh lama.

Pada masa sama, pihak berkuasa perlu mengambil tindakan proaktif untuk mencegah daripada jenayah kecurian kabel rangkaian dengan memanfaatkan teknologi terkini.

Pertama, pengawasan bukan saja menggunakan kamera litar tertutup (CCTV), bahkan dron. CCTV perlu dipasang di kawasan sering berlaku kecurian kabel kerana ia instrumen wajib untuk mengawasi dan merakam aktiviti mencurigakan, sekali gus membantu pihak berkuasa dalam siasatan.

Bagaimanapun dengan turut menggunakan penggunaan dron untuk rondaan udara di kawasan luas juga dapat membantu dalam pemantauan.

Kedua, penggunaan sensor dan sistem penggera yang boleh mengesan sebarang gangguan pada kabel. Sensor ini boleh diprogram untuk menghantar isyarat amaran kepada pihak keselamatan atau polis apabila terdapat percubaan kecurian.

Malah, sistem penggera dilengkapi dengan sistem kedudukan geografi (GPS) boleh memberikan lokasi tepat kejadian kecurian memudahkan tindakan segera diambil.

Ketiga, penggunaan kabel alternatif diperbuat daripada bahan kurang menarik bagi pencuri seperti aluminium atau serat optik yang mempunyai nilai jualan semula rendah berbanding tembaga.

Keempat, penanda unik dan teknologi mikrocip yang boleh diimbas untuk pengesahan asal usul, sekali gus akan menyukarkan pencuri untuk menjual kabel dicuri.

Kelima, peningkatan keselamatan fizikal seperti pemasangan pagar elektrik atau pintu keselamatan di lokasi kritikal. Kombinasi dengan teknologi biometrik untuk akses terhad juga dapat meningkatkan tahap keselamatan.

Dengan menggunakan teknologi ini, kita dapat mengurangkan insiden kecurian kabel rangkaian dan memastikan kelancaran operasi rangkaian komunikasi dan internet di negara ini.

BERITA HARIAN
Tarikh......09 JUL 2024.....

Tambah baik prasarana, agenda pulihkan 'pesakit' dadah

9/7 BH

- Inisiatif pindaan RUU ini menterjemahkan komitmen kerajaan laksana amalan terbaik menguruskan pesakit ada masalah pergantungan kepada bahan terlarang
- Diharap pindaan RUU segera dilulus bagi membolehkan kerajaan menyelamatkan anak bangsa, sekali gus menamatkan polemik kriminalisasi dalam kalangan pesakit

Bekas Ketua Pengarah Agensi Antidadah Kebangsaan (AADK) dan pakar kaunseling penagihan

Oleh Datuk Dr Abd Halim Mohd Hussin
bhrencana@bh.com.my

Pindaan Rang Undang-Undang (RUU) Akta Penagih Dadah (Rawatan dan Pemulihan) 1983 sedang dibahaskan di Dewan Rakyat ketika ini perlu diluluskan kerana selari dengan prinsip dunia menerusi Pejabat Pertubuhan Bangsa-Bangsa Bersatu Mengenai Jenayah dan Dadah (UNODC) yang mengklasifikasikan penagih sebagai pesakit.

Bahkan, dasar Agensi Antidadah Kebangsaan (AADK) sejak beberapa tahun lalu turut mengetengahkan konsep rawatan dan pemulihan sepenuhnya lebih mesra pelanggan.

Dasar baharu dilaksanakan AADK terhadap kumpulan itu bukan lagi bersifat menghukum atau pemenjaraan, sebaliknya menyediakan ruang dan peluang seluasnya untuk merawat pulih pesakit daripada penagihan dan penyalahgunaan bahan terlarang berkenaan.

Justeru, pindaan RUU itu membawa semangat amat jelas dalam usaha menyahjenayahkan penagih dan penyalahgunaan dadah dan bahan terlarang agar mereka tidak dihukum penjara, tetapi diberi peluang sebagai pesakit untuk mendapat rawatan dan pemulihan terbaik bagi membolehkan berfungsi sebagai manusia normal.

Inisiatif pindaan RUU ini sebagai terjemahan kepada komitmen kerajaan melaksanakan amalan terbaik dalam menguruskan pesakit mengalami masalah pergantungan kepada bahan terlarang.

Kita sebenarnya merancang untuk melaksana pindaan ini lebih awal lagi, namun proses pemindaan mengambil masa kerana membabitkan libat urus komprehensif lagi menyeluruh.

Usaha menyahjenayahkan penagih atau penyalahgunaan dadah dibincang sejak 2016 melalui pelbagai platform termasuk siri wacana libat urus, sumbang saran berfokus, penilaian kebolehlaksanaan, kajian lapangan dan forum diadakan secara terbuka mahupun tertutup.

Kita juga melaksanakan pelbagai siri simulasi pemakaian undang-undang pindaan ini sejak beberapa tahun lalu.

Dalam konteks kebolehan pegawai pemulihan memikul tanggungjawab penting itu, kemampuan kakitangan AADK tidak diragui lagi untuk melaksanakan kerja rawatan dan pemulihan.

Pegawai AADK melaksanakan tugas mencegah, memulih dan menguatkuasakan undang undang dalam bidang kuasa mereka.

Mungkin masyarakat masih terbawa-bawa stigma terhadap penagih sehingga mengandaikan AADK tidak mempunyai pegawai berkompetensi dan berkemahiran dalam menguruskan pelanggannya.

AADK mempunyai lapan pegawai memiliki ijazah doktor falsafah (PhD), sarjana (36) dan *Diploma in Substance Abuse* atau *Special Program for Alcohol and Drug Abuse* (54), manakala semua pegawai melalui latihan jangka pendek dan program *Continous Professional Development* (CPD) berfokus kepada penyalahgunaan bahan.

Selain itu, AADK mempunyai pusat latihan tersendiri dengan melaksanakan latihan kemahiran dan kecekapan tanpa henti untuk pegawainya, khususnya Program Persijilan AADK menyediakan modul rawatan dan pemulihan, pencegahan serta penguatkuasaan dan keselamatan.

Sehingga kini, 400 pegawai AADK ditauliah dengan *Certified Psyhoeducation Pravtitioner* melalui Sijil Amalan Rawatan dan Pemulihan, bahkan sijil itu diiktiraf Pertubuhan Akreditasi Antarabangsa.

AADK turut mempunyai 100 pegawai pakar psikologi kaunseling dan 100 pegawai pakar psikologi klinikal melalui program pembangunan profesional AADK.

Melalui kepakaran itu, pegawai AADK tidak bergantung kepada alat ujian *Alcohol, Smoking Substance Involmenet Screening Test* (ASSIST) yang melihat kepada biologi semata-mata, sebaliknya penentuan penagihan itu mengambil kita aspek psikologi dan sosial.

Penilaian psikososial

Sebanyak lima alat ujian saringan, tujuh alat ujian penilaian psikososial dan mental, dua alat ujian klinikal bagi menentukan keparahan penagihan antaranya alat ujian *Stage of Changes* dan DSM-5. Pegawai AADK juga diberi latihan mengenai aplikasi psikometrik membabitkan latihan pentadbiran instrumen pentaksiran psikologi berkaitan penyalahgunaan bahan digunakan dalam membuat penilaian dan diagnosis awal, selain mempunyai kaunselor berdaftar dengan Lembaga Kaunselor Malaysia.

> Setiap inisiatif mesti bermula dari satu garis titik dan selepas kita melaksanakan, pastinya akan ada penambahbaikan dalam membuat pertimbangan

Bagi memastikan pegawai AADK dilengkapi pengetahuan dan kemahiran profesional, aplikasi DSM-V juga diperkenalkan melalui kursus CPD dilaksanakan di Pusat Latihan AADK sama ada dalaman mahupun menyertai latihan luar.

Namun, cabaran dijangkakan ialah peningkatan pelanggan atau pesakit tentunya memerlukan penambahan perjawatan serta naik taraf premis.

Pindaan RUU ini juga menjadi pemangkin kepada pengiktirafan pusat pemulihan dadah persendirian sebagai penyedia perkhidmatan rawatan dan pemulihan yang akan menjadi rakan kongsi Pusat Pemulihan Penagihan Narkotik (PUSPEN).

Justeru, kita berharap pindaan RUU dapat dilulu[s] segera bagi membolehkan kerajaan menyelamatka[n] anak bangsa, sekali gus menamatkan polemik kriminalisasi dalam kalangan pesakit.

Setiap inisiatif mesti bermula dari satu garis titi[k] dan selepas kita melaksanakan, pasti akan ada penambahbaikan dalam membuat pertimbangan.

Struktur perjawatan lebih baik

Dengan pindaan ini juga, kerajaan diharap turut sama mendukung semangat dibawa RUU melalui pembangunan kapasiti sumber manusia dan penam[...] bahbaikan prasarana serta premis PUSPEN dan Pu[...]sat Khidmat Daerah.

Bagi pelan jangka panjang pula, kementerian pe[r]lu menyediakan struktur perjawatan lebih baik se[r]ta Majlis Profesion Pegawai Pemulihan bagi memastikan kredibiliti terjamin.

Perkara itu hendaklah bersifat konsultatif dan merentas disiplin agar apa dilaksanakan AADK mempunyai penilaian dan semak imbang supaya segala bentuk atau kaedah diperkenalkan mendap[at] perhatian pemikir dan pakar.

Kerajaan juga mesti mengambil langkah baharu dengan membantu semua pusat pemulihan dadah persendirian memenuhi Piawai Minimum Penyed[...] Perkhidmatan Rawatan dan Pemulihan Narkotik.

Dalam erti kata lain, kerajaan perlu menyediak[an] geran pengurusan tahunan, geran pembangunan [...] kali beri dan insentif bersifat pendorong atas pencapaian perkhidmatan standard, seterusnya memberikan pengiktirafan kepada semua pusat ini me[...]lalui kaedah pengurusan strategik.

Bagi memastikan perkhidmatan rawatan ini dilaksanakan dengan baik sama ada di premis AAD[K] atau pusat pemulihan dadah persendirian, satu b[...] dan akreditasi perkhidmatan rawatan dan pemulihan perlu ditubuhkan sama ada secara langsun[g] di bawah AADK atau sebagai entiti Majlis Profesi[on] Pegawai Pemulihan Negara.

Semua artikel penulis tamu adalah pendapat peribadi, bukan pendirian rasmi BH

BERITA HARIAN
Tarikh 09 JUL 2024

Peraturan lebih ketat atasi buli siber

9/7

Kuala Lumpur: Undang-undang lebih ketat perlu digubal bagi menangani buli siber, termasuk hukuman penjara dan denda tinggi terhadap pelaku, selain melakukan pindaan Akta Perlindungan Data Peribadi untuk melindungi maklumat peribadi mangsa.

Undang-undang berkaitan tatacara penggunaan media sosial secara beretika juga perlu digubal menghalang perbuatan buli siber terus berlaku.

Pakar Keselamatan Siber, Fong Choong Fook, berkata pada masa sama, undang-undang khusus yang memberi kuasa kepada pihak berkuasa perlu diperkenalkan supaya dapat mengesan dan mendakwa pelaku menggunakan akaun palsu.

"Pengendali platform media sosial juga perlu bertanggungjawab dan mempunyai mekanisme berkesan mengenal pasti dan menghapuskan akaun palsu serta kandungan bersifat buli.

"Pihak terbabit juga perlu bekerjasama dengan pihak berkuasa membantu siasatan dan pendakwaan kes buli siber," katanya kepada *BH*, semalam.

Beliau berkata demikian mengulas kenyataan Menteri Komunikasi, Fahmi Fadzil mengenai isu buli siber di media sosial yang akan dibentangkan pada mesyuarat Kabinet Jumaat ini bagi mencari penyelesaian terbaik, termasuk aspek perundangan dan penguatkuasaan.

Fahmi dilaporkan berkata, pembentangan itu diminta sendiri Perdana Menteri, Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim dan ia juga akan menyentuh laporan berhubung insiden membabitkan seorang pempengaruh di aplikasi TikTok yang didakwa membunuh diri kerana tertekan akibat buli siber.

Dalam memastikan buli siber dapat dikekang, Choong Fook berkata, pendidikan dan kesedaran awam perlu dipertingkatkan bagi menangani kesan negatif buli siber.

"Selain itu, platform media sosial perlu menyediakan ruang atau saluran untuk mangsa melaporkan kes buli dengan mudah dan cepat.

"Pihak berkuasa juga perlu bertindak segera terhadap laporan buli siber untuk melindungi mangsa, manakala program sokongan psikologi bagi mangsa buli siber wajar disediakan membantu mereka mengatasi trauma dan tekanan," katanya.

Sementara itu, Presiden Persatuan Psikiatri Malaysia, Dr Mohd Fadzli Mohamad Isa, berkata undang-undang berkaitan tatacara penggunaan media sosial secara beretika perlu digubal dalam mengekang perbuatan buli siber daripada terus berlaku.

Katanya, syor itu supaya undang-undang berkaitan kumpulan umur bersesuaian serta pengenalpastian butiran peribadi dapat mewujudkan rasa bertanggungjawab dalam kalangan pengguna media sosial.

"Penggunaan media sosial perlu membuktikan usianya dan kanak-kanak hanya boleh dibenarkan mengakses ciri tertentu media sosial kerana bahagian otak kanak-kanak dikenali sebagai *pre-frontal cortex* yang berperanan membuat keputusan serta mengawal impulsiviti belum matang dan ia mendedahkan mereka jadi mangsa buli siber.

BERITA HARIAN
Tarikh......09 JUL 2024...

Kembalikan Dasar Kebudayaan Kebangsaan

SEWAJARNYA Dasar Kebudayaan Kebangsaan 1971 dikekalkan dan tidak pun digantikan Dasar Kebudayaan Negara 2021 yang memberi gambaran bahawa negara ini bersifat majmuk sepenuhnya tanpa ada tuannya langsung. – UTUSAN/AMIR KHALID

tidak pernah pun sesekali disekat daripada dibenarkan mengamalkan warisan tradisi masing-masing, baik dalam kehidupan nasional, apatah lagi kehidupan domestik dan komuniti.

DAKEN sebaliknya memberi gambaran bahawa negara ini bersifat majmuk sepenuhnya tanpa ada tuannya langsung. Ini mungkin dilakukan untuk bukan sahaja menjamin, juga mengukuhkan keharmonian masyarakat yang penting untuk perpaduan negara, melalui pelestarian dan ekspresi pelbagai warisan etnisiti di Malaysia.

Sesungguhnya keharmonian ini masih dapat terus dilakukan, malah dengan lebih terarah lagi, apabila adanya peringatan yang selalu menegaskan bahawa Malaysia ialah negara Melayu-Islam.

Dengan ini, tatasusila, tatacara dan segala macam yang seumpamanya tentang kebudayaan negara hendaklah bertonggakkan amalan Melayu dan ajaran Islam.

Bukan sahaja ia harus begitu, juga dinyatakan secara jitu lagi tegas seperti yang dilakukan pada DKK. Ia tidak boleh seperti dalam DAKEN yang langsung tidak menyatakannya.

Ini kerana pernyataan umum sebegitu pada DAKEN akan membina naratif bahawa Malaysia negara majmuk yang mengamalkan multikulturalisme yang sama sekali tidak betul. Sebaliknya Malaysia adalah negara Melayu-Islam di mana etnik bukan Melayu-Islam bukan sahaja dibenarkan dapat hidup dengan aman damai, malah dijamin sebegitu tentang amalan dan anutan masing-masing.

Sepatutnya etnik Melayu-Islam Malaysia kesemuanya wajib mempunyai jati diri posesif kuat seperti yang ada pada kelompok asal di segenap tempat lain di seantero dunia. Sehubungan ini, ia adalah jiwa pemilikan negara sendiri sebagai naluri yang tidak boleh sesekali dikongsikan dengan sewenang-wenangnya, apatah lagi dikesampingkan dengan mudah sekali oleh sesiapa sahaja.

Sebenarnya DKK 1971 itu memperlihat jiwa dan naluri yang dimaksudkan itu.

Meskipun begitu, ia tidak sesekali bersifat cauvinis Melayu-Islam, apatah lagi rasis terhadap etnik bukan Melayu-Islam. Sebaliknya ia fitrah yang memang pun sebegitu di mana-mana tempat pun, iaitu keperluan aspirasi penduduk asal bukan sahaja dihormati, juga dipertahan dari segenap segi.

Sebetulnya ungkapan Melayu-Islam tidak perlu pun diangkat secara berulangan dalam setiap hal. Namun ia harus terus dilakukan kerana kini terdapat terlalu banyak pihak, termasuklah etnik Melayu-Islam sendiri, apatah lagi yang bukan Melayu-Islam, yang didapati sudah lupa tentang fakta yang sudah terang lagi bersuluh ini. Ia tidak lain tidak bukan bahawa negara ini adalah negara Melayu-Islam dan mengakomodasikan etnik bukan Melayu-Islam di dalamnya dengan penuh keadilan.

Oleh itu, ia wajib bukan sahaja terus-terusan diulangi. Juga ia wajib dikembalikan kepada status quo ini untuk kebudayaan negara dan lain-lain. Ini kerana tindakan sedemikian didapati telah banyak mencairkan identiti nasional untuk negara dan identiti budaya bagi rakyat dalam konteks Malaysia adalah politi, yakni pemerintahan dari segi perlembagaannya ialah Melayu-Islam.

Sewajarnya tidak boleh ada seorang pun etnik Melayu yang bersifat liberal dalam hal primordial mereka. Ini kerana ia akan diambil kesempatan oleh pihak yang mahu meliberalkan sentimen pada dasar Melayu-Islam itu. Lebih mudarat lagi ialah ia akan menafikan seluruh sejarah etnik Melayu-Islam di tanah watannya sendiri. Sesungguhnya etnik Melayu harus lebih pintar untuk tidak sesekali bertoleransi dengan liberalisasi sedemikian dan lain-lain yang seumpamanya.

PROFESOR Emeritus Datuk Dr. Teo Kok Seong ialah Felow Majlis Profesor Negara (MPN) dan Institut Masa Depan Malaysia (MASA).

UTUSAN MALAYSIA
Tarikh: 09 JUL 2024

OPR perlu kekal 3.0 peratus untuk kestabilan ekonomi domestik

um
9/7

Oleh ZAKKINA WATI AHMAD TARMIZI
zakkina.tarmizi@mediamulia.com.my

PETALING JAYA: Bank Negara Malaysia (BNM) dijangka mengekalkan kadar dasar semalaman (OPR) pada 3.0 peratus dalam mesyuarat keempat Jawatankuasa Dasar Monetari (MPC) minggu ini.

MPC BNM dijadualkan mengadakan mesyuarat keempat bagi 2024 pada Rabu dan Khamis ini dan Pernyataan Dasar Monetari akan diumumkan pada pukul 3 petang pada hari terakhir setiap mesyuarat.

Penganalisis Ekonomi UniKL Business School, Prof. Madya Dr. Aimi Zulhazmi Abdul Rashid berkata, pengekalan kadar tersebut perlu kerana ia akan terus memberikan kestabilan kepada ekonomi domestik yang sedang berkembang dengan baik.

Ujarnya, eksport negara juga sudah menunjukkan lonjakan yang lebih baik daripada penyusutan jumlah eksport yang dialami pada tahun lepas.

"Perubahan ekonomi global pasti membantu dalam mencapai pertumbuhan Keluaran Dalam Negara Kasar (KDNK) 4.5 peratus seperti yang telah diunjurkan oleh kerajaan.

"Dengan pelbagai faktor yang sentiasa berubah disekeliling kita, sebaiknya OPR dikekalkan oleh BNM untuk memberikan sokongan kewangan yang stabil kepada rakyat dan juga perniagaan terutama sekali kepada sektor Perusahaan Mikro, Kecil dan Sederhana (PMKS)," katanya ketika dihubungi *Utusan Malaysia*.

Tambah beliau, kenaikan kadar inflasi negara kepada dua peratus baru-baru ini disebabkan pelaksanaan penyasaran bahan api diesel sudah dijangkakan BNM yang mengunjurkan kadar inflasi tahun ini di antara 2.0 ke 3.5 peratus sahaja.

Turut berpandangan sama, Ketua Ahli Ekonomi Bank Muamalat Malaysia Bhd., Mohd. Afzanizam Abdul Rashid berkata, kadar OPR dijangka akan kekal pada 3.0 peratus kerana BNM perlu mengekalkan dasar monetari sesuai dengan lanskap inflasi dalam tempoh terdekat ini.

Jelasnya, ini kerana jangkaan inflasi yang kekal agak tinggi pada separuh kedua tahun ini.

"Berdasarkan pemberat diesel di dalam Indeks Harga Pengguna (IHP) adalah 0.2 peratus.

"Secara teorinya, impak langsung adalah agak minimum. Namun, apa yang membimbangkan adalah impak tidak langsung seperti kegiatan pengambilan untung berlebihan dalam kalangan para peniaga yang boleh menyebabkan harga meningkat," katanya.

Pada mesyuarat MPC ketiga 9 Mei lalu, BNM mengekalkan OPR pada 3.0 peratus.

Kali terakhir BNM menaikkan OPR adalah daripada 2.75 peratus kepada 3.0 peratus pada Mei 2023.

Pada Januari sehingga Mac 2023, OPR dikekalkan pada kadar 2.75 peratus selepas empat kenaikan berturut-turut bermula Mei, Julai, September dan November 2022, dengan masing-masing meningkat 25 mata asas kepada 2.75 peratus berbanding paras rekod terendah 1.75 peratus sebelumnya.

UTUSAN MALAYSIA
Tarikh: 09 JUL 2024

'MAJOR TASK'

PM VOWS TO FIGHT GRAFT AND DIVISIVE ELEMENTS

9/7 N54

All races must work together and protect the interests of the country, says Anwar

ZAHRATULHAYAT MAT ARIF
IPOH
news@nst.com.my

PRIME Minister Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim yesterday pledged that the unity government will spare no effort to eradicate corruption and protect the country from racial and religious extremism.

Describing this as a major task, Anwar called for the people's trust and support in his efforts to save the nation from divisive elements.

"As long as I am the prime minister, I will do everything I can to save this country.

"You must trust me. We have a major task ahead. We really need to work hard. We need to save this country.

"We are going to stop corruption and end racial ridicule. Of course, among the Malays they talk about this and that, Indians talk about this, Chinese too, then Sabah and Sarawak.

"We can't afford this. Everyone in this country must work together. We must understand that in this country, we must protect the interests of everyone," he said in his speech when meeting the Indian community at the Chemor community hall in his Tambun parliamentary constituency.

Anwar said that time was of the essence as the country entered the digital age and the era of artificial intelligence.

"Our children must be provided with the best computers and have access to good teachers.

"So, I appeal to you all to join me in making this country a better place, and I will continue to repeat this without hesitation.

"We will work hard, and I don't care what people say. What matters is that we need to save this country from greedy leaders who steal from us.

"We need to protect this country from racists and religious fanatics who will destroy it," he said.

NEW STRAITS TIMES
Tarikh: 09 JUL 2024

Bandar Saujana Putra flyover open to public

Amirudin gives thumbs-up to a driver using the flyover.

9/7 sun

PETALING JAYA: Bandar Saujana Putra (BSP) flyover constructed by LBS Bina Group Bhd is now open to the public.

The BSP flyover project, announced in 2019, is now open and links to the North-South Expressway Central Link (Elite) and South Klang Valley Expressway (SKVE) highways. Currently, BSP boasts a population of approximately 20,000 people, excluding nearby residents. This flyover is expected to significantly improve traffic flow in the area.

LBS group executive chairman Tan Sri (Dr) Lim Hock San said: "Despite facing challenges, including those during the pandemic, I am pleased that we have completed this project. I believe that this flyover will alleviate traffic congestion and enhance traffic flow at this critical location."

He added that the flyover was completed at the right time, aligning with their newly launched BSP Sutera last April.

"This low-density development comprises apartments and townhouses, projected to generate a GDV of RM207 million, and it will add value to Bandar Saujana Putra. This township is a strategically developed mixed development that offers a comprehensive selection of serviced residences, houses, and commercial units that cater to the needs of every Malaysian," said Lim.

Permodalan Negeri Selangor Bhd (PNSB) CEO Raja Ahmad Shahrir Iskandar Raja Salim said that as a result of the construction of the flyover and the Bandar Saujana Putra intersections connected to the main highway network, he is optimistic that the value of real estates in this area and its environs will rise dramatically.

Selangor Mentri Besar Datuk Seri Amirudin Shari who launched the opening of the flyover said the Bandar Saujana Putra flyover aims to improve residents' quality of life by reducing travel time and traffic congestion.

THE SUN
09 JUL 2024
Tarikh: ....

Protect our marine ecosystems

Malaysia ranks third among the world's major marine polluters, significantly contributing to plastic waste in the oceans. – *AFPPIC*

IN Malaysia, the issue of releasing invasive fish into public waters is addressed through strict laws and regulations. The Fisheries Act 1985 prohibits the release of foreign fish species without permission and imposes heavy penalties on individuals or entities that violate these regulations.

However, the effectiveness of enforcing these laws is often questioned due to the lack of human and logistical resources for continuous monitoring.

Recently, the Selayang Parliamentary Office released invasive fish into Tasik Biru, in Kundang, to facilitate a fishing competition, which was widely reported by local media.

This incident has raised concerns that the released invasive fish could potentially cross into river systems and eventually reach the ocean or marine ecosystems, posing a serious threat to environmental sustainability.

In response to the incident and after the release of Chao Phraya catfish (*Pangasius sanitwongsei*), an invasive predatory fish species, was shared on social media, the Malaysian Fisheries Department issued an official statement that nets would be installed at the lake's exit routes.

Despite the severity of the issue, the competition went on. This situation should not be taken lightly. Proactive measures are necessary to ensure that this incident does not recur, and to prevent the released fish from escaping into public waters and disrupting the marine ecosystem. Once out of control, the problem will become increasingly difficult to manage if not addressed immediately.

Invasive fish refers to fish species that are not native to an ecosystem and have the capability to disrupt or dominate the new habitats they enter.

The impact of invasive fish on aquatic ecosystems is deeply concerning. These fish are often more aggressive and adaptive than local species, leading to unfair competition and eventual domination over natural resources, such as food and habitat space. This will not only threaten local fish species but can also disrupt existing food chains, alter ecosystem dynamics and degrade water quality.

Furthermore, invasive fish can introduce new diseases and parasites to which local species have no immunity or resistance, accelerating the mortality rate of native species. This situation also has a domino effect on local fishing industries, which rely on the health of ecosystems and biological diversity for their economic sustainability.

What is the meaning of the law if its enforcement is weak? We frequently see cases where such violations are not taken seriously or incur only light penalties, signalling to violators that their actions have no significant consequences. This legal perspective aims to protect local aquatic biodiversity and maintain ecosystem balance but in reality, more robust efforts are needed to ensure effective enforcement.

The organisers of the fishing competition cannot be entirely blamed because Malaysia, as a maritime country, still lacks a comprehensive policy on water issues, especially marine and maritime.

Without concrete guidelines and regulations, activities such as the release of invasive fish for a fishing competition can have serious ecological impacts. Uncontrolled release of invasive fish can make conservation efforts more challenging and costly. Therefore, it is critical for the authorities to formulate and implement comprehensive policies to protect our aquatic ecosystems.

Moreover, it is disappointing to see that no academic or research institution has yet spoken out on this issue. These institutions should be at the forefront of research and dissemination of information on serious ecological threats such as this.

This indicates a worrying gap in the delivery of knowledge and awareness to the general public. With the facilities and expertise available, educational and research institutions should play a larger role in leading public education initiatives and proposing more effective policies to address critical environmental issues, especially those concerning water.

The gap between policy and society is one of the main causes of the inefficiency in policy implementation in this country.

Often, policies are not accompanied by sufficient awareness campaigns, leading to the public not understanding the importance or implications of their actions on ecosystems.

It is essential to integrate a comprehensive educational approach with law enforcement to ensure maximum effectiveness.

More broadly, our country also faces issues of marine pollution, overfishing and the destruction of marine habitats such as coral reefs and mangrove forests.

Malaysia ranks third among the world's major marine polluters, significantly contributing to plastic waste in the oceans.

Plastic pollution has become a significant threat to marine life, with microplastics found in the stomachs of fish and other marine creatures eventually entering our food chain.

Awareness and proactive measures are needed to address all these issues comprehensively.

Recently, the media reported that Malaysia ranks highest among 109 countries in the discovery of microplastics, and more alarmingly, over 50% of these microplastics originate from the consumption of seafood such as fish.

Alongside the ongoing issue of plastic pollution, there is also the widespread bleaching of coral reefs globally due to rising sea surface temperatures.

Malaysia is undoubtedly not exempt from this phenomenon as our country is part of the Coral Triangle, one of the largest coral reef areas in the world. This event is also said to be one of the worst to hit Malaysia's coral reef ecosystems and is expected to become more frequent in the coming years due to climate change.

Malaysian waters also hold significant economic importance. Citing a report by the Economic Research Institute for Asean and East Asia, a substantial portion of Malaysia's gross domestic product is contributed by the Blue Economy.

Billions of ringgit are contributed by the fisheries sector to the national income each year, providing a vital source of protein for Malaysians.

Additionally, our waters play a crucial role in global maritime trade, with major ports like Port Klang and Tanjung Pelepas Port serving as trade hubs connecting Southeast Asia with the rest of the world.

The ocean is no longer just about fish and ships. The rapidly growing aquaculture industry offers job opportunities and boosts the local economy. The potential hydrocarbon resources on the seabed and the tourism potential of marine activities, including diving and ecotourism, add further economic value that can be derived from our waters.

Therefore, the protection and sustainable management of marine ecosystems are critical to ensuring the country's economic sustainability and the well-being of its people.

What is disappointing and worrying is that to date, we still do not have a comprehensive national plan for managing and monitoring marine resources. This also provides more reasons to establish a dedicated ministry for the management of the country's waters, including marine and maritime issues.

Calls for the establishment of a specific ministry are not new and have been repeatedly recommended by experts in the country due to issues such as overlapping jurisdictions among government agencies, leading to inefficiency and confusion in policy or initiative implementation, the absence of centralised management and the lack of data and technical expertise.

In neighbouring countries such as Indonesia and Korea, these dedicated ministries already exist and play roles in managing maritime logistics systems, sustainable ocean management, achieving maritime security and prospering fishing communities.

The establishment of a dedicated ministry responsible for marine and maritime affairs is critical to ensure that all aspects related to the country's waters, including fisheries, marine biodiversity conservation, pollution management and maritime security, are managed more systematically and comprehensively.

This ministry can also serve as a coordination centre for all agencies involved in marine management, ensuring no task overlaps and that resources are used efficiently.

It will also ensure that Malaysia's waters remain productive and resilient. Furthermore, marine policies can be formulated and implemented more effectively, ensuring the sustainability of a healthy and sustainable marine ecosystem for future generations.

The Madani government can take several proactive steps to overcome and prevent ongoing issues:

- Establishing a comprehensive policy covering all aspects of marine management and protection, including controlling invasive species, pollution management and conserving critical habitats such as coral reefs and mangroves.
- Strengthening the enforcement of existing laws by increasing the resources and capabilities of enforcement agencies, ensuring that penalties are severe enough to deter violations, and implementing continuous monitoring and research programmes to assess the condition of marine ecosystems, identify new threats and evaluate the effectiveness of measures taken.
- Enhancing cooperation among government agencies, research institutions, the private sector and NGOs to ensure an integrated and effective approach to managing marine issues.
- Encouraging educational and research institutions to play a more active role, not only in educating future generations and conducting research activities but also in being a voice that expresses professional and non-partisan opinions on marine issues. These institutions need to be involved in information dissemination, policy advocacy and providing evidence-based guidance from scientific studies to policymakers.
- Establishing a dedicated ministry to ensure that all aspects related to the country's waters, including fisheries, marine biodiversity conservation, pollution management and maritime security, are managed more systematically and comprehensively.

What is the price of Malaysian waters? Its priceless ecological value and direct impact on the economy and public well-being should not be neglected. Firm measures and effective cooperation must be taken before we pay a higher price for today's mistakes.

The writer is a youth climate advocate, National Consultative panel member to the Natural Resources and Environmental Sustainability Ministry and a PhD candidate at Universiti Putra Malaysia. Comments: letters@thesundaily.com

THE SUN
Tarikh: 0 9 JUL 2024

'Heed govt's call to reject corruption, abuse of power'

9/7/24 Sun

NGOs, youth movements need to leave behind practices of injustice, oppression to ensure country's progress: PM

IPOH: Prime Minister Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim has urged NGOs and youth movements in the country to heed the government's call to reject corruption, abuse of power and oppression.

Anwar said Prophet Muhammad, with strong faith, belief and morals, defended rights and upheld justice by rejecting corruption, oppression and bribery within society.

He said the country will progress and develop if the people emulate these qualities, understand the true meaning of *hijrah* (to emigrate), and wake up from their slumber to uplift their dignity, Bernama reported.

"*Hijrah* means leaving behind outdated practices and *syirik* (the sin of ascribing a partner or rival to Allah in Lordship), practices of injustice, oppression and rampant slander. Only by doing this will we change, and I believe Malaysian Five Generation Organisation will have the same spirit that we will save our nation and our people.

"I happen to belong to the older generation, but when defending our rights and sovereignty, I don't care. You can criticise and condemn me as much as you want, throw me in jail, (but) I get out and continue fighting," he said at the organisation's launching ceremony here on Sunday night.

Perak Menteri Besar Datuk Seri Saarani Mohamad, Deputy Youth and Sports Minister Adam Adli Abd Halim, state Communications, Multimedia and NGO Committee chairman Mohd Azlan Helmi and organisation president Datuk Abdullah Ghani Kassim were also present at the event.

Anwar said Malaysians could not be complacent as the country was now competing to develop, so everyone needed to be equipped with knowledge, raise their understanding of justice and unite to make Malaysia a great country.

"We need investment, digital, artificial intelligence, poverty eradication, and leadership from youths, national political leaders who reject tyranny and stop power abuse for self-enrichment.

"I guarantee that with the power invested in me, I will ensure that the organisaiton or *silat gayung* or any other machinery will be strengthened in lifting our country to become great."

The prime minister said he wants everyone to stop fighting and use the spirit of *hijrah* to show that they are knowledgeable, conscientious, hard-working people capable of upholding justice for the country and its people.

"We need this spirit among the Malay, Chinese, Indian, Dayak, and Kadazan youths; this is our country, and we will save our country," he said.

At the event, Anwar also presented donations from the organisation to five students in the state who excelled in their examinations – two who scored four As in their Sijil Tinggi Persekolahan Malaysia (STPM) Term 1 2024, one who scored four As in the STPM Term 2 2024 and two who achieved excellent scores for their Sijil Pelajaran Malaysia 2023.

THE SUN
Tarikh: 0 9 JUL 2024