



PENGURUSAN PEMANTAUAN KERATAN AKHBAR MBSJ
TARIKH: 11 NOVEMBER 2024 (ISNIN)

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Maimunah and Tan during a working visit to the pump house at Jalan Chan Sow Lin, Kuala Lumpur. — LOW BOON TAT/The Star

Pump house upgrade to address flooding at Jln Chan Sow Lin underpass

By FARID WAHAB
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THE pump house near the Jalan Chan Sow Lin underpass in Kuala Lumpur will be upgraded to address frequent flooding there.

The underpass, located in front of the Chan Sow Lin MRT Station, is often inundated during heavy rain, posing a risk to motorists.

Cheras MP Tan Kok Wai said the upgrade was among short-term measures that will be undertaken by Kuala Lumpur

City Hall (DBKL).

"As for the long-term measure, DBKL will determine how to divert excess water from the area during a downpour," he said after a working visit to the pump house with Kuala Lumpur mayor Datuk Seri Maimunah Mohd Sharif.

"The mayor has given her assurance that the issue would be given priority, though no timeframe was specified."

Last year, a video showing a policeman rescuing a driver after his car became submerged at the underpass went viral on

social media.

Another video in August this year showed cars being stuck there due to floodwaters.

StarMetro was informed that the pump house is equipped with seven pumps.

Tan said these pumps would be upgraded.

He added that the mayor had also asked Tenaga Nasional Bhd to ensure stable power supply during a downpour to ensure the pumps function properly.

It was previously reported that DBKL had installed sensors at 30 flood-prone areas.

THE STAR

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Regardless of the weather, youths can play basketball at the new covered court along Jalan 13/32 in Jinjang Selatan. — Photos: LOW LAY PHON, LOW BOON TAT/The Star

By JAROD LIM
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AS KUALA Lumpur's development accelerates, the importance of parks as essential recreational spaces becomes increasingly evident.

These green havens play a pivotal role in enhancing the urban community's physical and mental well-being.

Recognising this, representatives from the Kepong and Segambut constituencies have been proactive in upgrading park facilities and landscaping to ensure these urban oases are well-maintained and accessible to all.

Numerous projects have been carried out on existing parks and in creating new spaces with funding from the government and local authorities.

These efforts include utilising vacant spaces, repairing playground equipment and courts, and constructing new facilities.

Improving green spaces

The most recent development is the transformation of a plot of vacant land at Jalan Vista Mutiara, Kepong Baru, into a pocket park.

This is the first pocket park in Kepong that has been completed through vacant land rejuvenation.

Residents in the vicinity are delighted by the transformation of the land that was previously used as a food court.

The pocket park, located adjacent to Vista Mutiara Condominium, now serves as a recreational space.

Condominium Residents Association chairman Ng Shei Kwee said, "After the food operators moved out, the land became a breeding ground for mosquitoes, and there was at least one dengue case per month among the condominium residents."

"There were even snakes sighted on the vacant land."

"Now the pocket park serves as a green space for leisure, benefitting the residents here."

More recreational spaces for KL

Within six years, 13 parks in Kepong and 52 in Segambut have been upgraded and repaired



The reflexology path also has been upgraded at the Jalan Api-Api playground in Kepong.

The pocket park, known as Taman Laman Jalanan Hijau, is a prime example of a green space rejuvenation project aimed at providing the much-needed recreational areas that urban residents crave.

It also doubles up as a safe, scenic route for commuters to access the Kepong Baru MRT station instead of walking by the road.

Kepong MP Lim Lip Eng has been advocating for more functional recreational spaces for city residents, promoting community well-being, fostering social interaction and providing opportuni-

ties for outdoor activities.

However, after being elected, he discovered that there were many neglected neighbourhood parks in the constituency.

"These parks are of different sizes and some of them are in bad shape."

"We also found unkempt vacant land that gradually became mosquito-breeding grounds."

A good example of this is the plot that has now been transformed into the Taman Laman Jalanan Hijau pocket park.

"If the residents near these vacant lots wish for a park, we

can work together and submit an application to Kuala Lumpur City Hall (DBKL) or other government agencies," he said.

Lim said he hoped that by focusing on increasing green spaces in the constituency, it would encourage more city folk to lead active lifestyles.

"In order to get communities to come out from their homes, we must properly equip these green areas with functional facilities, shady trees and benches for recreational purposes," he said.

"Kepong is a mature constituency but it is also an ageing township with a sizeable senior population."

"We hope to provide more leisure spaces for people to hang out with their friends and families, instead of them spending time at coffeeshops."

"For youths, we also strive to provide more sporting facilities such as the covered basketball court at Pak Thian Kiong Temple on Jalan Jambu Berasa 2."

Since 2018, Lim's office has completed 13 park upgrades and green space rejuvenation projects in Kepong.

Among the parks being upgraded this year are neighbourhood parks at Jalan 13/32 Jinjang Selatan; Jalan Chiak Padang, Kepong Baru; Jalan Api-Api; Jalan 2/3, Taman Kepong; Jalan Jinjang 3/32 and Taman Laman Jalanan Hijau.

According to Lim, most public park upgrades and the creation of pocket parks were funded by DBKL.

"We also applied for other grants from various depart-

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Tarikh:.....

Kepong residents want more parking space at side of field

By MEGAT SYAHAR
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RESIDENTS of Taman Indah Perdana in Kepong are unhappy with how upgrades to their neighbourhood field is shaping up.

Social activist Yee Poh Ping said residents had proposed to Selayang Municipal Council (MPS) to build a carpark on the outer edge of the field to accommodate about 300 residences in the neighbourhood.

However, the progress of the works clearly shows the carpark does not extend towards the end of the field, he said.

Residents also said the anti-climb fence, which is being installed, was unnecessary given existing security measures in the neighbourhood.

Over 30 residents were present during the press conference by Yee to highlight these issues.

The field's upgrade is expected to be completed by Nov 25, according to a notice at the site.



Taman Indah Perdana residents claim that the parking space built by MPS is inadequate to accommodate the number of vehicles in the neighbourhood. — CHAN TAK KONG/The Star

The field also has outdoor gym equipment as well as a basketball and a badminton court.

It was previously reported in *StarMetro* on July 24, 2023, that residents had requested for a parking lot as some motorists

had resorted to parking on the field.

"Each house typically has two or three cars, but there simply aren't enough parking bays," said a 48-year-old resident who wanted to be known only as Leow.

"This will lead to people continuing to park in and around the field."

"They should extend the parking lot towards the field's edge before the project is completed," she said, adding that there was a discrepancy

between the proposed plan and its implementation.

Another resident, Tam For Sung, 60, urged MPS to build the entrance to parking lot at the field's corner instead of in front of the houses.

Resident Choo Kok Pooi expressed concern about the current state of the field.

"Trees surrounding the field have been cut down, leaving behind debris. It needs to be cleaned up."

He noted that all the walkways leading to the field had been demolished.

Tam urged MPS to share detailed plans of the field's upgrade.

Separately, a resident who wished to be known only as Chong, said despite drainage upgrades along Jalan Perdana 11, the area still experienced flooding, most recently in the middle of last month.

"The drains need to be deepened and widened to improve water flow and prevent backflow," said Chong.



The park at Jalan Dutamas Seroja 2, Taman Segambut SPPK, has new facilities.



Residents in Taman Sri Segambut have a new futsal court at the park.



A refurbished playground at Taman Tun Dr Ismail.

ments, including the Prime Minister's Department's Implementation Coordination Unit (ICU), Housing and Local Government Ministry as well as Youth and Sports Ministry to enhance recreational facilities in the area.

"ICU has an allocation of RM2mil a year for community projects for the constituencies," he said.

Recently, the Kepong MP's office also transformed vacant land along Jalan Silang into a pocket park – the second to be completed in Kepong.

Lim's aide Dic Lai said the open space directly opposite the MP's service centre on Jalan Prima 1, Metro Prima, had been upgraded.

It is one of the projects completed under Kepong MP's allocation through the ICU funding. "Four solar street lamps, two gazebos, outdoor fitness equipment and play facilities such as swings and seesaws were added to that space. The project cost RM150,000.

"It was officially completed and handed over to City Hall last August," he said.

Last year, there were approxi-

mately eight green lung areas that were upgraded with funding sourced from DBKL and ICU with amounts ranging from RM50,000 to RM500,000, according to Lai.

"Additionally, we recently completed the upgrade of a field in Jinjang Utara at a cost of RM200,000 to provide residents with a well-equipped recreational space.

"It now has basic outdoor exercise equipment and lighting," he said.

Lim is also considering the construction of an indoor sports complex.

"Kepong does not have a public sports complex and this will be the long-term goal for the constituency.

"We have suggested two areas for the sports complex on land that's about 1.21ha. This is still at a discussion stage.

"We have written to the relevant parties, including DBKL, the Youth and Sports Ministry and Federal Territories Department, requesting a grant of RM5mil.

"Our hopes are that the complex would be built, up to a few storeys with facilities such as a

swimming pool, football pitch, (running) track and auditorium."

Enhancing parks

Meanwhile, in Segambut, 52 parks have been upgraded over the past six years.

Segambut MP Hannah Yeoh's political secretary Yap Yee Vonne said park upgrades had been prioritised to address facilities that were in disrepair.

"According to DBKL, there are approximately 80 parks in the Segambut constituency, of which we have successfully upgraded 52 parks.

"The work includes repairing courts, building jogging tracks, installing outdoor gym sets, replacing playground equipment, etc," she said.

Yap added that currently, the primary focus was on upgrading existing parks rather than creating new ones.

"Given the high number of parks in the constituency, we took a phased approach to the upgrades — updating jogging tracks and gym equipment one year, and playgrounds the next.

"This phased approach allows

us to maximise impact, covering a larger number of parks each year.

"In addition, we also gazetted Taman Persekutuan Bukit Kiara as a Federal Park in 2020."

Among those getting new facilities are the parks at Jalan Undang Galah 1, Taman Sri Segambut; Jalan Dutamas Seroja 2, Taman SPPK; as well as Jalan Medan Athinahappan 1, Taman Tun Dr Ismail.

Yap said when Yeoh took office in 2018, she had access to government allocation and continued the efforts of her predecessor, Lim Lip Eng, to assess each

park's needs.

"It led to a series of upgradations aimed at restoring community spaces for residents' enjoyment and well-being.

"Unlike other areas, Kuala Lumpur does not have local councillors or state assemblymen, making it essential for office to address these local issues.

"We emphasise community engagement before upgrading any park, ensuring that we understand the local residents' needs and preferences, to make upgrades truly beneficial for the community," she said.

By LEW GUAN XI
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OVER 250 developers, policy-makers, investors and thought leaders from the housing and real estate sector gathered to exchange views and build partnerships at an event in Selangor.

The 3rd Real Estate and Housing Developers' Association (Rehda) Housing Convention 2024 (RSHC 2024), organised by Rehda Selangor, took place at Setia City Convention Centre in Shah Alam.

With the theme "Together we build, together we thrive", the meet aimed to drive sustainable development, innovation and strategic partnerships across the state.

Selangor housing and culture committee chairman Datuk Borhan Aman Shah, who launched the event, said the convention underscored the role of housing in creating sustainable, resilient and thriving communities.

"Houses are more than just structures. They are where people live, work and build their futures."

"With the state's population at almost 7.4 million, demand for housing is growing rapidly."

"Hence, teamwork between the state government and industry players is needed to ensure a smooth implementation of housing-related policies."

"It is vital that we meet today's demands and tomorrow's challenges," he said in his speech during the opening ceremony.

Borhan also spoke on the importance of sustainable urban planning which involves green

Meeting housing needs of 7.4 million in Selangor

Teamwork vital to fulfil demand and smooth implementation of policies, says exco member



Borhan (centre), flanked by Ng (right) and Zaini at the Rehda Selangor convention in Shah Alam.
— MUHAMAD SHAHRIL ROSLI/The Star

spaces and technologies, as well as public amenities to create more liveable environments.

"We always have special allocations for green spaces in housing projects," he said.

"The residents associations should also hold activities to cre-

ate a vibrant community."

Borhan added that the state government would continue improving and integrating digital technologies to benefit property developers.

"For example, the e-Tanah system has reduced the need of

having to go in person to land offices for related matters.

"We are seeing how technology is transforming industries and the real estate sector will not be left behind," he said.

Also present were Selangor local government and tourism

committee chairman Datuk Ng Suee Lim, Rehda Malaysia president Datuk Ho Hon Sang, Rehda Selangor chairman Datuk Zaini Yusoff and RSHC 2024 organising chairman Shanaz A. Muztaza.

Zaini described challenges such as rising construction costs and manpower shortages as growth opportunities for industry players.

"This is a chance for us to embrace digital transformation in land management, integrate sustainability in all aspects of our projects and search for innovative ways to develop more affordable housing to create a brighter future," he said in his opening address.

Zaini added that the convention provided a chance for industry players to engage in dialogues, share knowledge and forge partnerships.

The one-day convention featured over 10 presentations and panel discussions to provide insights on the housing and real estate industry.

There was also an exhibition held alongside the convention featuring booths from some 15 agencies such as Rehda Institute, Selangor Housing and Property Board (LPSH) and Selangor Water Management Board (Luas).

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Tarikh:.....

Saying 'yes' to sustainable takeouts

Many eateries moving away from single-use plastic ahead of proposed nationwide ban

By KHOO GEK SAN
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PETALING JAYA: Many restaurants have already begun using eco-friendly options ahead of a possible nationwide ban on single-use plastic bags by 2026.

Malaysia Singapore Coffee Shop Proprietor General Association president Wong Teu Hoon said a number of restaurants and kopitiam outlets have started using environmentally-friendly bags for their takeout orders.

"However, some businesses charge extra for these bags, while others absorb the cost.

"If they buy in bulk, eco-friendly plastic bags can be a little cheaper but these can't be stored for too long as they may disintegrate," he said.

Wong said the biggest challenge concerned hawkers providing takeout for food such as kuey teow soup and wantan mee, as many of them still prefer using single-use plastic bags.

The Natural Resources and Environmental Sustainability Ministry said last week it is considering a national ban on single-use plastic bags by 2026.

In a written reply to the Dewan Rakyat, the ministry said the ban was already in force in Negri Sembilan, Penang, and Kota Kinabalu. In the federal territories, the use of conventional single-use plastic bags has mostly stopped, with biodegradable ones being promoted.

The ministry said it is also reviewing the implementation of the "user pays" principle.

When contacted, Malaysian Muslim Restaurant Owners Association (Presma) president Datuk Jawahar Ali Taib Khan said most of its member restaurants are now using wax paper or water-resistant wrappers.

"For the gravy for nasi kandar, we need to consider using small containers to replace plastic bags. This may be more competitive in terms of pricing.

"So far, there have been no complaints from our customers in urban areas, as they understand the necessity of reducing plastic bag usage while maintaining the same prices."

He said there is a need to gradually shift to paper bags as an alternative to single-use plastic bags.

"We can't force anyone to change immediately. People need time and awareness to change their habits. And that is the government's role, not ours," he added.

Jawahar said the government should educate the public through campaigns.

"We have just more than a year to achieve this if the minister's statement about 2026 materialises," he added.

He said Presma was supportive of the government's efforts to reduce plastic bag usage in retail businesses, but the primary campaign should be led by government agencies.

For now, some eateries are grappling with the costs and the question of whether Malaysian diners are prepared to pay for takeaway bags.

"Customers would willing pay for their roti canai, yet when I ask for 20sen or 30sen for the use of a plastic bag, they look like they're about to beat me up," said restaurant owner C. Krishnan.

"The reaction has been intense."

Krishnan, who is Malaysian Indian Restaurant Owners Association (Primas) deputy president, said while he is shifting the cost of plastic bags to his customers, few Indian restaurants may follow suit.

He found that customers would willingly pay for plastic bags in supermarkets but resist doing so in restaurants.

"This resistance often places restaurant



Not in the bag yet: As the government targets a nationwide ban on single-use plastic bags by 2026, some traders say that the higher cost of biodegradable plastic bags makes it tough for traders to switch to the environmentally-friendly option. — YAP CHEE HONG/The Star

owners in difficult situations, as the owners fear negative reactions from diners when they attempt to charge a small fee for the use of plastic bags," he said.

The government, he said, should do more to support businesses in transitioning from single-use plastic bags.

He said many small operators were struggling with the higher cost of using biodegradable options.

However, he believes that prices would drop as demand for these alternatives begins to rise, making them more affordable.

Petty Traders and Hawkers Association president Datuk Rosli Sulaiman said biodegradable plastic costs more than regular plastic.

"For instance, a pack of 12x16 biodegradable plastic bags costs RM6.50 while the same size for regular plastic is only RM2," he said.

This price disparity, he added, makes it tough for traders to switch to environmentally-friendly options.

Rosli said he found that many wet market traders are still using conventional plastic because of its affordability.

THE STAR

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By SHALINI RAVINDRAN
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THE naming of 139 public and private properties in Kuala Lumpur for potential redevelopment is causing some owners sleepless nights.

The properties, which are named in the Kuala Lumpur Structure Plan 2040 (KLSP2040), include 91 residential strata buildings.

Owners, especially those living in private residences, said the would-be developers and agents had been knocking on their doors to get them to agree to redevelop their properties.

Some are concerned if these developers have the resources and know-how to undertake such redevelopment projects.

Gurmit Cheema, an owner of a unit in Pangsapuri Cantik in Kuala Lumpur, said while some owners were for redevelopment, others were against it.

He said residents of the low-density flats had been approached by interested parties since May.

"We attended presentations given by the project proponent. Some of us feel that we are being pressured to agree."

"In this type of scenario, there will always be those who are willing (to redevelop), those who are against and some who are on the fence," he said, adding that the residents comprised mostly senior citizens.

Although Pangsapuri Cantik was about 40 years old, the three blocks were still in good condition, Gurmit added.

"It is not dilapidated to the extent that redevelopment is needed. Most of the 87 units are occupied by the owners."

"They (proponents) cannot move forward unless they have 100% consent."

"But we are worried that this could change if the proposed Urban Redevelopment Act (URA) is passed," he said.

Under the Act, the Housing and Local Government Ministry is proposing for an owners' consent threshold of 80% for strata properties less than 30 years and 75% for those older than 30 years.

Gurmit, whose brother and several other family members also own units at Pangsapuri Cantik, is worried that their voices will be drowned out if the proposed Act comes into force.

"It is unfair if those who do not want redevelopment are

Redevelopment plan weighs on minds

Some owners of 139 properties listed in KLSP2040 worry over their future if proposed Act becomes law



Pangsapuri Cantik is a low-density residence that has been listed as one of the 139 potential areas for redevelopment in the Kuala Lumpur Structure Plan 2040. — Photos: AZMAN GHANI/The Star

forced into agreeing," he said.

Another owner-resident is Lee Cheok Seng, who bought his unit at Pangsapuri Cantik last year.

"There is no guarantee that the projects will be completed or be abandoned halfway if redevelopment plans go ahead," he said.

Lee said if this were to happen, it would be almost impossible for owners to purchase any other property due to their age.

"At a time when we should be living peacefully, we are being pressured to start over again and face uncertainty about our future housing situation."

The redevelopment proposal includes new units for existing owners upon project completion.

In nearby Taman Segar, a group of residents have been

fighting since 2018 against a redevelopment plan which will affect some 300 units.

Property owner Elya Choong said the proposal included building new housing on public land.

The plan, she said, was for the building of a high-rise on what now houses a playground and community hall.

"If that project proceeds, residents from the surrounding three blocks of walk-up flats will be relocated there."

"The old blocks, where my current unit is, would then be demolished to make way for more housing units."

"Some have consented to the project while others have rejected it."

"It is not right for public land to be taken away for private

use," said Choong, who is also worried about the proposed Act.

Those who are not opposed to the URA said the process must be transparent.

One of them is a unit owner, who did not want to be named, of an old flat in Taman Cantik.

He has been asked to consider a redevelopment proposal.

"I think we need redevelopment. My flat is old."

"There are leaking issues, among many other problems."

"My concern is that owners can be taken advantage of if there is no regulatory framework or even a centralised authority to oversee the process."

"How are owners supposed to determine by themselves if a developer is qualified to undertake such a project?"

"Are there any safeguards if



Residents of Pangsapuri Cantik like Gurmit were approached with a redevelopment offer this year.



Choong is one of the owners against a redevelopment plan for Taman Segar flats.



Lee: At a time when we should be living peacefully, we face uncertainty about our housing situation.

the project is not completed?" he questioned.

He added that there should also be a set of regulations for developers as well as guidance given to owners on their rights in navigating redevelopment plans.

Housing and Local Government Minister Nga Kor Ming was reported to have said, in Parliament, that a mediation committee would be set up to resolve any disputes that could arise during the urban redevelopment process.

The Bill is expected to be tabled in Parliament next year.

THE STAR

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Ahmad bayangkan jalan raya sekitar Pontian bertukar empat lorong

Oleh NOR AZURA MD AMIN
PONTIAN

Pembinaan Lebuhraya Pesisiran Pantai (WCE) jajaran Banting ke Gelang Patah dengan melalui Pontian bakal memberi manfaat dan limpahan ekonomi kepada penduduk setempat.

Timbalan Menteri Kerja Raya, Datuk Seri Ahmad Maslan berkata, antara manfaat bakal dinikmati termasuklah pelebaran dan penambahan jalan raya.

"Ia sebagaimana berlaku di utara seperti Teluk Intan hingga ke Bagan Datuk dan terus ke Tanjung Karang serta Sabak Bernam, Sungai Besar sam-



AHMAD

pai ke Banting.

"WCE akan disambung ke selatan. Jadi, apabila WCE melalui daerah seperti Pontian yang mana jalan raya di daerah ini satu ketika nanti mungkin menjadi empat lorong," katanya selepas merasmikan Malaysia Iconic Rally Championship 2024 di Pusat Perdagangan Pontian di sini pada Sabtu.

Terdahulu, ketika pembentangan Belanjawan 2025 pada 18 Oktober lalu, Perdana Menteri, Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim mengumumkan Projek Lebuhraya WCE Banting-Gelang Patah mengguna pakai pendekatan Kerjasama Awam Swasta (PPP) akan diberi keutamaan tahun depan.

Ketika ini, satu-satunya lebuhraya menghubungkan Johor ke Lembah Klang bagi pengangkutan darat



Ahmad (kanan) merasmikan Malaysia Iconic Rally Championship 2024 di Pusat Perdagangan Pontian.

seperti lori, bas, kereta dan motosikal adalah Lebuhraya Utara Selatan PLUS yang mula dibuka sejak 1994.

Sementara itu, Ahmad yang juga Ahli Parlimen Pontian berkata, sukan permotoran seperti rali dilihat berpotensi di-

bangunkan di daerah itu yang sering kali menjadi tumpuan pengunjung.

Beliau berkata, usaha itu sekali gus berupaya menarik minat pelancong laur dan tempatan selain meningkatkan ekonomi penduduk setempat.

MEJA BULAT

Diskusi Mencipta Resolusi

SISTEM PENDIDIKAN MALAYSIA:
SELEPAS 60 TAHUN,
DI MANA SILAPNYA?



IMBAS UNTUK TONTON VIDEO PENJAJ

SINAR HARIAN

Tarikh: 11 NOV 2024

SPRM perlu lindungi pemberi maklumat

KUALA LUMPUR - Ketua Pesuruhjaya Suruhanjaya Pencegahan Rasuah Malaysia (SPRM), Tan Sri Azam Baki digesa memberi perlindungan kepada pemberi maklumat yang mempunyai bukti video dakwaan rasuah melibatkan beberapa Ahli Dewan Undangan Negeri (ADUN).

Bekas Menteri di Jabatan Perdana Menteri (JPM), Datuk Mohd Zaid Ibrahim berkata, tindakan itu penting bagi menghapuskan keraguan bagi individu yang ingin berbuat demikian.

"Kita harus menggalakkan pemberi maklumat untuk tampil ke hadapan dan memberitahunya bahawa dia mempunyai perlindungan sepenuhnya.



ZAID

"Sikap SPRM seperti yang dilaporkan amat dikesali. Jika saya menjadi peguam kepada pemberi maklumat, saya juga akan memintanya untuk tidak mendedahkan skandal itu (sekiranya tiada perlindungan diberikan)," katanya menerusi hantaran di X pada Ahad.

Sebuah portal berita baru-baru ini melaporkan mengenai beberapa rakaman video memaparkan ADUN didakwa menerima ratusan ribu ringgit untuk menyokong permohonan syarikat untuk projek di sebuah negeri.

Perbincangan dalam video itu melibatkan ahli perniagaan, namun wajahnya tidak kelihatan, meminta ahli politik, termasuk mereka yang memegang jawatan kanan, memulangkan wang itu kerana lesen untuk projek itu telah dibatalkan.

Sementara itu, Menteri Komunikasi, Fahmi Fadzil dilaporkan berkata, pemberi maklumat akan diberi perlindungan mengikut undang-undang.

Menurutnya, Akta Perlindungan Pemberi Maklumat 2010 jelas memperuntuk perlindungan buat pemberi maklumat dan perlindungan ini tertakluk kepada akta tersebut.

SINAR HARIAN
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Ringgit dijangka diniagakan tinggi

Susulan perbezaan kadar faedah dilihat memihak kepada ringgit

KUALA LUMPUR

Ringgit dijangka diniagakan lebih tinggi berbanding dolar Amerika Syarikat (AS) minggu ini, memandangkan perbezaan kadar faedah dilihat memihak kepada ringgit, dengan Bank Negara Malaysia (BNM) mungkin mengekalkan kadar dasar semalaman (OPR) tidak berubah sepanjang tahun depan, kata pakar ekonomi.

Ketua Ahli Ekonomi Bank Muamalat Malaysia Bhd, Dr Mohd Afzanizam Abdul Rashid berkata kebimbangan terhadap dasar Presiden AS Donald Trump tahun depan boleh mendorong peniaga dan pelabur mengambil



Ringgit sewajarnya meningkat kerana jurang kadar faedah dilihat memihak kepada ringgit. - Foto The Star

pendekatan lebih berhati-hati.

Beliau berkata ringgit sewajarnya meningkat kerana jurang kadar faedah dilihat memihak kepada ringgit kerana BNM mungkin mahu mengekalkan OPR pada kadar tidak berubah sepanjang tahun depan.

"Bagaimanapun, kebimbangan terhadap dasar Presiden AS

tahun depan boleh membuatkan peniaga dan pelabur ragu-ragu justeru, mereka akan lebih berhati-hati.

"Buat masa ini, paras sokongan dan rintangan masing-masing pada RM4.3259 dan RM4.4390 AS\$/MYR dijangka bergerak sekitar RM4.37 hingga RM4.38 minggu depan," katanya

kepada Bernama.

Mohd Afzanizam berkata data penting untuk minggu ini adalah Indeks Harga Pengguna AS dan Indeks Harga Pengeluar AS yang masing-masing akan dikeluarkan pada Rabu dan Khamis.

"Bagi Malaysia, Keluaran Dalam Negara Kasar (KDNK) suku ketiga 2024 akan diumumkan pada Jumaat dengan konsensus mengunjurkan pertumbuhan 5.3 peratus.

"Sepanjang tempoh itu, kalangan pegawai Rizab Persekutuan AS (Fed) akan berkongsi pandangan mereka mengenai ekonomi dan dasar terutamanya dalam konteks keputusan Pilihan Raya Presiden AS yang baru-baru ini dan pengaruhnya ke atas pendirian dasar monetari Fed," katanya.

Berasaskan Jumaat ke Jumaat, ringgit susut berbanding dolar AS kepada 4.3800/3850 daripada 4.3780/3835 minggu lepas.

Ringgit diniagakan lebih rendah kebanyakannya berbanding

beberapa mata wang utama.

Bagaimanapun, mata wang tempatan meningkat berbanding euro, ditutup pada 4.7212/7266 pada Jumaat daripada 5.6502/6573 minggu lepas, dan rendah berbanding pound British kepada 5.6765/6830 daripada 5.6502/6573.

Unit domestik turun berbanding yen Jepun kepada 2.8763/8798 daripada 2.8652/8690 minggu lepas.

Ringgit juga didagangkan rendah kebanyakannya berbanding mata wang negara ASEAN.

Ringgit susut berbanding peso Filipina kepada 7.51/7.53 daripada 7.49/7.51 ketika ditutup minggu lepas, dan rendah berbanding dolar Singapura kepada 3.3149/3190 daripada 3.3054/3098.

Mata wang tempatan juga lemah berbanding rupiah Indonesia kepada 279.4/279.9 daripada 278.2/278.7 namun, tinggi berbanding baht Thailand kepada 12.8710/8925 daripada 12.9103/9322 sebelum ini.

SINAR HARIAN
Tarikh: 11 NOV. 2024

Masih ramai pelanggan degil, sesuka hati merokok di kedai makan

'Mereka tidak boleh ditegur'

Oleh NOOR HASLIZA NUSI

GEORGE TOWN – Sikap degil dan keras kepala sesetengah pelanggan yang tidak mengendahkan teguran larangan merokok di premis makanan di negeri ini membuat ramai pengusaha pening kepala sehingga ada yang membawa kepada pertenggaran.

Situasi masih berlaku meskipun pengusaha restoran telah menampal pelekat larangan merokok di setiap penjuru premis sejak penguatkuasaannya pada 1 Oktober lalu.

Pengusaha Nasi Kandar Sulaiman, Mirzan Mohamed Yasin berkata, masih ada dalam kalangan pelanggan yang sesuka hati merokok di dalam restoran walaupun sudah dimaklumkan berkali-kali.

Menurutnya, pelbagai pendekatan juga sudah dilakukan termasuk memberi teguran secara baik.

"Memang ada beberapa pelanggan yang tidak mahu ikut peraturan merokok. Mereka masih mahu menghisap rokok di dalam kedai dan ada juga yang ajak berdebat.

"Apabila ditegur, mereka ma-

rahkan kami. Mereka tidak mahu dengar cakap sehingga kami terpaksa tahan telinga setiap kali berdepan situasi ini.

"Kami cuma minta mereka faham, di dalam kedai ada pelanggan kanak-kanak, wanita dan warga emas. Tidak susah pun kalau ikut peraturan demi kebaikan semua," katanya kepada *Kosmo!* di sini semalam.

Sementara itu, Pengusaha Tea Kadai, Mohamed Rizwan Abdul Ghafoor Khan mengakui ramai pelanggan mula menerima arahan larangan tersebut.

"Peraturan pelanggan yang ingkar arahan semakin berkurangan berbanding sebelum penguatkuasaannya pada 1 Oktober lalu.

"Kami tegur dan biasanya mereka akui. Selain itu, ramai juga yang mula berjaga-jaga kerana takut dikenakan tindakan oleh pihak penguat kuasa berkuasa," ujarnya.

Terdahulu, Kementerian Kesihatan (KKM) telah menguatkuasakan Akta 852 yang merangkumi peraturan pendaftaran, penjualan, pembungkusan, pelabelan serta larangan merokok di tempat awam bermula 1 Oktober.



PEKERJA di Restoran Nasi Kandar Sulaiman, George Town menampal pelekat larangan merokok di premis tersebut baru-baru ini.

KOSMO

Tarikh: 11 NOV 2024

Fasa pertama pelaksanaannya di Forest City pacu Johor yang lebih maju

Zon bebas cukai bermula Jumaat ini

Oleh KHAIRUL MOHD. ALI

ISKANDAR PUTERI – Fasa pertama pelaksanaan zon bebas cukai di Forest City, di sini, akan bermula pada 15 November ini, manakala fasa kedua dijangka bermula suku pertama 2025.

Menteri Besar Johor, Datuk Onn Hafiz Ghazi berkata, pelaksanaan zon bebas cukai itu akan dibantu dengan pengoperasian Kompleks Kastam Diraja Malaysia Forest City yang baharu.

Katanya, kompleks kastam itu merupakan antara yang terancang dalam negara bagi memastikan pergerakan keluar masuk ke pulau satu Forest City, lancar.

"Kompleks Kastam ini akan mula beroperasi pada 15 November ini. Ini adalah momentum yang kita hendak teruskan untuk Johor. Semasa pembentangan Belanjawan 2025 oleh Perdana Menteri baru-baru ini, daripada 10 permohonan kita buat lapan daripadanya diluluskan.

"Sebagaimana kita bekerjasama membina kompleks kastam di sini, sama-samalah kita beker-



ONN HAFIZ (enam dari kanan) memotong reben sempena Majlis Perasmian Kompleks Kastam Diraja Malaysia Forest City, Iskandar Puteri semalam. – RAJA JAAFAR ALI

jasama membina Johor yang lebih maju dan gemilang," katanya ketika berucap menyempurnakan Majlis Perasmian Kompleks

Kastam Diraja Malaysia Forest City, di sini semalam.

Katanya, penggunaan teknologi terkini dalam Kompleks Kas-

tam di Forest City ini selari dengan hasrat menjadikan Johor negeri maju menjelang 2030.

"Selain itu, saya akan menge-

tuai delegasi kerajaan negeri ke Dubai tidak lama lagi untuk melihat dan mempelajari industri kewangan di sana. Kita juga akan mengadakan pertemuan dengan pelabur-pelabur berpotensi di sana," ujarnya.

Sementara itu, Pengarah Eksekutif Country Garden Pacificview Sdn. Bhd. (CGPV), Datuk Md. Othman Yusof memaklumkan pihaknya telah bersedia dengan implementasi pulau satu Forest City sebagai zon bebas cukai.

"Kami yakin langkah ini akan menarik lebih ramai pelancong domestik dan luar negara sekali gus akan meningkatkan industri pelancongan tempatan.

"Zon bebas cukai ini akan memacu pembangunan perniagaan dan ekonomi sekali gus memperkukuh keseluruhan rantaian industri khususnya sektor pelancongan dan ekonomi," katanya.

Forest City diwartakan sebagai pulau bebas cukai pada September 2024 dan merupakan pulau bebas cukai kelima di Malaysia, namun yang pertama boleh diakses menggunakan kenderaan darat.

KOSMO

Tarikh: 1...1 NOV...2024

Lebuh Raya Banting-Gelang Patah lonjak ekonomi setempat

PONTIAN - Kawasan pantai barat Johor dijangka mengalami perubahan pembangunan dengan adanya projek pembinaan Lebuh Raya Persisiran Pantai (WCE) bagi jajaran Banting ke Gelang Patah.

Timbalan Menteri Kerja Raya, Datuk Seri Ahmad Maslan berkata, projek tersebut akan memberikan manfaat pelebaran dan penambahbaikan jalan di kawasan berkenaan.

Katanya, WCE akan disambung ke Selatan dan melalui daerah Batu Pahat, Tanjung Piai di Pontian dan Gelang Patah di Johor Bahru di mana mungkin akan menjadi kepada empat lorong.

"Ia sekali gus akan mengubah landskap pembangunan di kawasan tersebut yang mungkin akan terbinanya projek perumahan, aktiviti ekonomi berskala besar dan sebagainya.

"Oleh itu, kita mengucapkan terima kasih kepada kerajaan yang telah meluluskan (projek) itu," katanya selepas merasmikan Malaysia Iconis Rally Championship di Terminal Pengangkutan Awam Pontian, di sini kelmarin.

Beliau berkata demikian ketika diminta mengulas mengenai projek tersebut yang diumumkan Menteri Pengangkutan, Anthony Loke Siew Fook baru-baru ini.



AHMAD (tengah) melepaskan peserta Malaysia Iconis Rally Championship di Terminal Pengangkutan Awam Pontian kelmarin.

Anthony dilaporkan berkata, WCE bakal menjadi laluan alternatif bagi mengatasi masalah kesesakan lalu lintas yang sering dihadapi pengguna di Lebuh Raya Utara-Selatan.

Pada 18 Oktober lalu, ketika sesi pembentangan Belanjawan 2025 yang dibuat Perdana Menteri, Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim telah mengumumkan Projek Lebuh Raya WCE Banting-Gelang Patah yang mengguna pakai pendekatan Kerjasama Awam Swasta (PPP) akan diberi keutamaan

tahun depan.

Ketika ini, satu-satunya lebuh raya yang menghubungkan Johor ke Lembah Klang bagi pengangkutan darat seperti lori, bas, kereta dan motosikal adalah Lebuh Raya Utara-Selatan yang mula dibuka sejak 1994.

Sementara itu, Ahmad yang juga Ahli Parlimen Pontian berkata, sukan permotoran seperti rali dilihat berpotensi untuk dibangunkan di kawasan bandar daerah itu yang menjadi tumpuan pengunjung.

KOSMO

1 NOV. 2024

DBKL sita barangan perniagaan halang laluan di Bangsar

HM 4/11 (DBKL)

Kuala Lumpur: Dewan Bandaraya Kuala Lumpur (DBKL) mengambil tindakan menyita barangan perniagaan seperti kerusi dan meja yang menghalang laluan awam di Jalan Telawi 4 dan Lorong Ara Kiri, Bangsar di sini.

DBKL dalam satu kenyataan berkata, tindakan itu dilaksanakan melalui Jabatan Penguatkuasaan dan Pejabat Cawangan Lembah Pantai yang melakukan empat sitaan terhadap barangan perniagaan yang diletakkan di tempat awam.

"Tindakan diambil mengikut Akta Jalan, Parit

dan Bangunan 1974.

"Semua barangan yang disita dibawa ke Setor Sitaan Jalan Lombong, Taman Miharja Cheras untuk tindakan rekod dan dokumentasi," kata kenyataan itu di Facebook malam kelmarin.

Menurutnya, pihaknya akan meneruskan tindakan dan pemantauan semasa ke semasa di lokasi tumpuan yang dikenal pasti.

"Sebarang aduan, orang awam boleh berhubung atau menyalurkan maklumat mereka ada di pautan <https://adukl.dbkl.gov.my>," katanya.

DBKL menyita kerusi dan meja di Bangsar.



HARIAN METRO
Tarikh: 11 NOV 2024

Projek lebuh raya dari Banting ke Pontian bawa limpahan ekonomi

Pontian: Pembinaan Lebuhraya Pesisiran Pantai (WCE) dari Banting, Selangor ke Gelang Patah di sini merentasi Pontian bakal memberi manfaat dan limpahan ekonomi kepada penduduk setempat.

Timbalan Menteri Kerja Raya, Datuk Seri Ahmad Maslan berkata, ia termasuk pelebaran dan penambahbaikan jalan bagi memudahkan capaian pengguna ke sepanjang jajaran serta meningkatkan aktiviti pelancongan.

Menurutnya, limpahan ekonomi setempat juga dijangka berkembang dengan penawaran pekerjaan ba-



AHMAD (dua, kanan) pada majlis Malaysia Iconic Rally Championship 2024 di Pusat Perdagangan Pontian.

haru termasuk pembukaan hentian rehat dan rawat di beberapa kawasan.

"Sebagaimana sudah berlaku di utara seperti di Teluk Intan sampai ke Bagin Datuk terus ke Tanjung Karang, dan juga Sabak Bernam, Sungai Besar sampai ke Banting.

"WCE pula akan disambung ke selatan. Jadi, apabila WCE melalui pelbagai kawasan serta daerah termasuk Pontian, jalan raya di daerah ini mungkin menjadi empat lorong bagi menampung pertambahan dan peningkatan kenderaan," katanya selepas merasmikan Malaysia Iconic

Rally Championship 2024 di Pusat Perdagangan Pontian di sini, kelmarin.

Pada pembentangan Belanjawan 2025 lalu, Perdana Menteri Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim mengumumkan projek Lebuhraya WCE dari Banting-Gelang Patah, mengguna pakai pendekatan Kerjasama Awam Swasta (PPP) akan diberi keutamaan tahun depan.

Ketika ini, satu-satunya lebuh raya menghubungkan Johor ke Lembah Klang bagi pengangkutan darat seperti lori, bas dan kereta ialah Lebuhraya Utara-Selatan (Plus) yang mula dibuka sejak 1994.

HARIAN METRO

Tarikh: ...1..1..NOV..2024..

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Kuala Lumpur

Penarikan subsidi bagi barangan asas dan tenaga dilihat dapat mencetuskan beberapa mekanisme ekonomi yang memberi kesan langsung kepada kadar inflasi dan kuasa beli rakyat, kata penganalisis ekonomi Dr Mohamad Khair Afham Muhammad Senan.

Menurutnya, secara asas subsidi berfungsi sebagai instrumen kawalan harga yang menyokong keseimbangan pasaran terutamanya dalam menstabilkan harga keperluan asas.

Katanya, apabila subsidi ini ditarik, harga pasaran akan disesuaikan semula mengikut keseimbangan penawaran dan permintaan yang sebenar.

"Subsidi kerajaan selama ini memainkan peranan penting dalam membantu meringankan kos sara hidup bagi golongan berpendapatan rendah dan sederhana di Malaysia.

"Mereka sering menghadapi cabaran dalam memenuhi keperluan asas, terutamanya dalam aspek seperti makanan, bahan api, dan utiliti.

"Dengan penarikan subsidi, kumpulan ini berhadapan dengan risiko kenaikan harga barangan asas, yang boleh menambah beban dalam belanjawan keluarga," katanya kepada *Bisnes Metro*.

Menurutnya, bagi memastikan kumpulan ini tidak terjejas secara berlebihan, kerajaan boleh mempertimbangkan pelbagai bentuk sokongan tambahan seperti bantuan tunai bersasar atau skim diskaun bagi barangan ke-

perluan asas.

Beliau berkata, langkah ini boleh membantu mengimbangi kenaikan kos hidup, memberikan mereka peluang untuk menyesuaikan diri dengan perubahan dasar subsidi dan pada masa sama menyokong matlamat negara untuk membangunkan eko-

nomi yang lebih mampan tanpa menjejaskan kumpulan memerlukan bantuan.

"Selain itu, salah satu mekanisme paling efektif adalah pemberian bantuan tunai

bersasar yang dapat meningkatkan kuasa beli golongan terkecas secara langsung.

"Dengan memberikan bantuan tunai, kerajaan dapat membantu golongan ini me-

SUBSIDI kerajaan selama ini memainkan peranan penting dalam membantu meringankan kos sara hidup bagi golongan berpendapatan rendah.

Bisnes



PENARIKAN SUBSIDI BAGI BARANGAN ASAS DAN TENAGA

ADA RISIKO KOS SARA HIDUP NAIK

Pemberian bantuan tunai bersasar dapat tingkatkan kuasa beli

nampung perbelanjaan asas tanpa memerlukan subsidi besar-besaran," katanya.

Menurutnya, bantuan tunai yang bersasar ini juga mengelakkan ketirisan dana kerajaan kerana ia hanya disalurkan kepada mereka yang benar-benar memerlukan.

HARIAN METRO
Tarikh: 1 NOV 2024

Tinjauan kemudahan lokasi perniagaan

Infrastruktur asas kawasan niaga perlu dinaik taraf

Kemudahan uzur, tidak terjaga jejas daya tarikan pengunjung ke lokasi penjaja

Oleh Mohamad Fahd Rahmat, Hazira Ahmad Zaidi dan Azhar Shahrulnizam
bhnews@bh.com.my

Kuala Lumpur: Orang ramai khususnya penjaja menggesa supaya pihak berkuasa menaik taraf infrastruktur, menyediakan kemudahan tandas, surau, kabin dan memperindahkan kawasan pusat perniagaan makanan serta warung bagi memberi keselesaan kepada pengunjung.

Mereka juga mahu tindakan segera perlu diambil bagi menangani pelbagai isu termasuk aduan daripada peniaga.

Di **Kluang**, kemudahan tandas, surau serta kabin di pusat penjaja berhampiran bulatan MARDI, di sini uzur dan tidak dihiraukan pihak berkuasa sejak lebih empat tahun lalu. Ada aduan diajukan kepada pihak berkuasa, seolah-olah dipandang sepi hingga menyebabkan pengunjung kurang gemar singgah dan berbelanja di situ.

Peniaga, Ramli Reduan, 52, berkata walaupun lokasi di situ strategik, tetapi ia tidak menjadi pilihan persinggahan utama pelanggan terutama yang berkeuarga.

"Saya sudah puas mengadu ke sana sini, tetapi keadaan masih tetap sama tak berubah. Saya me-

ngambil inisiatif membina sendiri tandas kecil di belakang kedai untuk kegunaan kami dan pelanggan.

"Surau juga daif dan keadaan ini menyebabkan pelanggan kurang selesa dan kurang mengunjunginya hingga menjejaskan peniaga di sini.

"Jika boleh, saya minta pihak berkenaan naik taraf kemudahan di sini secepat mungkin," katanya gerai makanannya beroperasi dari jam 8 pagi hingga 10 malam.

Kemudahan tak berfungsi

Sebelum ini, Perdana Menteri, Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim menggesa supaya semua kerajaan negeri memberi perhatian untuk menaik taraf infrastruktur serta mencantikkan gerai makanan dan warung.

Ramli berkata, tiang lampu sudah lama tak berfungsi menyebabkan suram pada waktu malam. Gerai mudah didatangi binatang berbisa seperti ular, lipan, selain monyet sering mencari makanan hingga menyebabkan sebuah gerai buah di sini tutup," katanya kini hanya tiga daripada lapan gerai masih beroperasi.

Pelanggan yang juga bekas tentera, Md Omar Jaafar, 66, berharap pihak berkuasa menaik taraf kemudahan di situ kerana lokasinya terletak di tengah laluan ke Kota Tinggi, Simpang Renggam, Mersing dan bandar Kluang.

"Apabila kemudahan awam di sini uzur, memang kurang orang datang singgah. Jika boleh bilalah tandas, surau, kedai serbaneka dan gerai makan di bangunan kekal. Tandas dan surau kabin sudah reput, bocor di sana

sini dan tiada elektrik," katanya.

Di **Ampang, Selangor**: Peniaga mencadangkan pihak berkuasa tempatan (PBT) mempermudah proses pelesenan.

Peniaga nasi berlauk, Aini Talib, 51 berkata prosedur rumit menyukarkan peniaga kecil mendapatkan lesen.

"Penyelesaian isu lesen perlu menjadi keutamaan sebelum langkah seperti menyediakan kiosk untuk peniaga kecil dilaksanakan.

"Selepas isu lesen diselesaikan saya cadangkan kiosk untuk peniaga diberikan kepada peniaga sudah puluhan tahun berniaga. "Ini bukan sahaja dapat membantu peniaga, malah dapat meningkatkan pendapatan PBT melalui bayaran sewa.

"Di **Johor**, kiosk sudah diberikan kepada peniaga kecil menggantikan khemah. Kami berharap PBT dapat mempertimbangkan perkara ini," katanya.

Peniaga makanan, Syazana Mohd Zawawi, 27, mahu peniaga diberi lokasi strategik jika kawasan penjaja mahu dinaik taraf.

"Selain itu, pihak berkuasa perlu membantu dari segi infrastruktur seperti perkhidmatan kebersihan. Kami sanggup membayar untuk perkhidmatan ini kerana kami faham ia juga dapat meningkatkan pendapatan kerajaan

"Kami tidak mahu gerai kami disita dan paling penting mempermudah urusan untuk semua pihak, peniaga, pelanggan dan pihak berkuasa," katanya keluarganya berniaga sejak tahun 90-an.

Peniaga di **Medan Selera Asrama FELDA, Sarina Man, 54,**



Keadaan kebersihan di sekitar Pasar Besar Siti Khadijah yang kurang terjaga menjejaskan kehadiran pengunjung. (Foto Nik Abdullah Nik Omar/BH)



Medan Selera Asrama FELDA, Taman Keramat perlu dinaik taraf bagi menarik kehadiran pelanggan. (Foto Fathil Asri/BH)

mencadangkan meja dan kerusi digunakan peniaga dapat diseragamkan, selain kemudahan parkir dinaik taraf kerana pelanggan kadangkala terpaksa melintas jalan untuk ke medan selera.

"Saya sarankan medan selera diindahkan seperti dilakukan Dewan Bandaraya Kuala Lumpur (DBKL) di ibu kota," katanya.

Operasi perniagaan terjejas

Di **Kota Bharu**, kebanyakan peniaga kecil dan penjaja di daerah ini mahu kemudahan infrastruktur dinaik taraf supaya dapat menjalankan perniagaan dengan selesa dan kondusif.

Peniaga kedai makan, Che Yah Awang Hamat, 69, berkata dia sudah berniaga di Medan Selera Pasar Besar Siti Khadijah sejak lebih 10 tahun lalu mahu kawasan di sekitar pasar berkenaan ditambah baik dengan mencantikkan gerai makan bagi menarik lebih ramai pelanggan dari dalam dan luar negeri.

"Sebelum ini, bekas Ahli De-

wan Undangan Negeri (ADUN) Kota Lama pernah menaik taraf laluan pejalan kaki berhadapan medan selera dengan membina bumbung di sepanjang laluan berkenaan," katanya.

Penjaja minuman, Siti Aisyah Osman, 33, berterima kasih kepada Perdana Menteri kerana prihatin nasib penjaja kecil terutama yang berniaga tepi jalan tanpa kemudahan sempurna.

"Kalau berniaga di tepi jalan, sumber air jauh dan tidak ada bekalan elektrik. Belum masuk lagi keadaan cuaca buruk sehingga ada ketikanya pendapatan terjejas," katanya.

Pelanggan, Zainun Mail, 56, berkata keselesaan, kebersihan gerai wajar diberi keutamaan, selain susun atur kemas mampu menarik pengunjung.

"Saya gembira dengan usaha kerajaan apabila mahu menaik taraf kemudahan infrastruktur kepada peniaga kecil dan juga penjaja agar mereka dapat perniagaan dengan selesa begitu juga dengan pelanggan," katanya.



Ramli menunjukkan kabel elektrik yang terjuntai di pusat penjaja dekat bulatan MARDI di Kluang. (Foto Mohamad Fahd Rahmat/BH)



Penjaja kecil di sekitar Kota Bharu berniaga tepi jalan tanpa kemudahan yang sempurna.



Keadaan gerai di Medan Selera Asrama FELDA, Taman Keramat. (Foto Fathil Asri/BH)

Sinergi sektor awam, swasta asas pembangunan Malaysia MADANI



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Landskap ekonomi dan sosial Malaysia sedang melalui fasa transformasi di bawah kerangka Malaysia MADANI, bercita-cita membina negara makmur, inklusif dan mampan.

Antara kunci utama untuk mencapai matlamat ini adalah melalui kerjasama strategik antara sektor awam dan swasta melalui model Perkongsian Awam-Swasta (PPP). Pendekatan ini, berlandaskan kerjasama muncul sebagai mekanisme penting dalam menyokong agenda pembangunan negara, khususnya merealisasikan aspirasi MADANI.

Kerangka Malaysia MADANI membayangkan sebuah negara mendukung kemampuan, inovasi dan perpaduan sosial. Kerangka ini menekankan nilai seperti inklusiviti, keadilan dan kemakmuran untuk membina masyarakat berdaya tahan rakyat maju bersama.

Bagi mencapai matlamat ini, apa yang diperlukan ialah kolaborasi antara sektor kukuh, yang mana sumber, kepakaran dan risiko dikongsi dalam pembangunan ekonomi mewujudkan kesejahteraan sosial dan infrastruktur.

PPP mempunyai sejarah panjang dengan lebih empat dekad projek meliputi pembangunan infrastruktur dan perkhidmatan awam. Di bawah kerangka MADANI, PPP menjadi semakin penting kerana kemampuannya mengurangkan beban fiskal dan melaksanakan projek berskala besar dengan pantas.

Ia menggabungkan kawalan strategik kerajaan dan rangka peraturan dengan kecekapan, teknologi dan inovasi sektor swasta. Menerusi gabungan kekuatan ini, PPP memenuhi keperluan utama dalam tiang pembangunan MADANI iaitu:

- Kemakmuran ekonomi dan kemampanan

Dalam aspek ini, PPP mendorong pembangunan ekonomi mampan dengan mempromosikan infrastruktur hijau dan amalan mesra alam. Sektor swasta, khususnya industri mempunyai teknologi hijau canggih boleh memainkan peranan penting mengurangkan pelepasan karbon dalam infrastruktur awam dan memajukan inisiatif tenaga bersih.

Ini melengkapi penekanan MADANI terhadap tanggungjawab alam sekitar sambil memastikan pertumbuhan ekonomi tidak mengorbankan sumber semula jadi.

● **Inklusiviti sosial dan kesejahteraan**
Dalam bidang kesihatan, pendidikan dan perumahan, PPP membolehkan kerajaan memperluas perkhidmatan awam serta memastikan akses sama bagi semua rakyat.

Rawatan perubatan mampu milik

Sebagai contoh, melalui PPP, kerajaan boleh bekerjasama dengan penyedia kesihatan untuk menawarkan rawatan perubatan mampu milik di kawasan kurang mendapat perkhidmatan.

Dalam pendidikan, kerjasama dengan institusi swasta boleh meningkatkan akses pendidikan berkualiti melalui pembiayaan infrastruktur dan sokongan kepada inovasi pembelajaran digital, memastikan komuniti di lokasi terpencil tidak ketinggalan.

● **Teknologi dan inovasi digital**
Jika hendak bersaing dalam ekonomi global, MADANI menekankan keperluan untuk Malaysia yang maju dari segi teknologi. PPP boleh mempercepatkan pelaksanaan infrastruktur digital, penyebaran pantas projek bandar pintar dan platform pendidikan digital.

Kerjasama bersama syarikat swasta pakar dalam bidang AI, keselamatan siber dan internet kebendaan (IoT), kerajaan boleh melaksanakan projek ini dengan cepat dan meningkatkan keupayaan digital negara.

Walaupun PPP menawarkan pelbagai manfaat me-

mastikan kejayaannya dalam kerangka MADANI memerlukan persekitaran kondusif. Pembuat dasar mesti mereka bentuk rangka kerja telus untuk melindungi kepentingan awam sambil menyediakan insentif wajar bagi menarik pelaburan swasta.

Ia membabitkan beberapa pertimbangan utama termasuk:

● **Rangka kerja pengawal seliaan yang jelas**
Projek PPP yang berkesan bergantung pada garis panduan peraturan jelas untuk menggalakkan ketelusan, keadilan dan akauntabiliti. Proses pengawal seliaan dipermudah membina keyakinan pelabur dan mengurangkan kelewatan birokrasi, memudahkan sektor swasta menyertai projek sejajar dengan prinsip MADANI.

● **Mekanisme pembahagian risiko**
Pengagihan risiko optimum antara sektor awam dan swasta adalah penting. Dalam hal ini kerajaan boleh menanggung risiko membabitkan kepentingan awam, manakala sektor swasta menumpukan kecekapan operasi. Pengaturan seperti ini mengurangkan beban kewangan dana awam sambil memenuhi matlamat MADANI.

● **Komitmen jangka panjang**
PPP memerlukan komitmen berterusan kedua-dua sektor. Perancangan jangka panjang selaras dengan objektif MADANI boleh membantu mengekalkan projek ini dari masa ke masa, memastikan mereka menyesuaikan diri dengan keperluan dan cabaran yang muncul.

Bagi Malaysia untuk mencapai visi MADANI, penting mewujudkan persekitaran kondusif dalam PPP. Kerajaan membuat kemajuan signifikan mengiktiraf nilai PPP dalam pembangunan ekonomi dan sosial.

Maka, dengan mengintegrasikan model PPP dalam kerangka MADANI, ia dapat memanfaatkan kekuatan kedua-dua sektor untuk membina masyarakat lebih berdaya tahan, inklusif dan mampan.

BERITA HARIAN
Tarikh... 11 NOV 2024

Rakyat Malaysia dijangka belanja RM4 bilion tahun ini

200,000 ke Thailand sebulan

Oleh MOHD. HAFIZ
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KANGAR: Trend rakyat Malaysia bercuti ke Thailand khususnya Hatyai masih berterusan dengan dianggarkan 100,000 sehingga 200,000 pelancong dari negara ini mengunjungi negara gajah putih itu setiap bulan.

Jumlah tersebut hanya dikira secara purata dengan jumlah pelancong terus meningkat khususnya cuti hujung minggu, musim cuti persekolahan dan cuti umum.

Malah, dalam tempoh tiga hari dari Jumaat sehingga Ahad baru-baru ini iaitu ketika cuti Deepavali, lebih 90,000 pengunjung Malaysia bercuti di Thailand terutama di lokasi tumpuan seperti Hatyai, Songkhla, Satun dan Krabi.

Kerancangan sektor pelancongan di Thailand yang menjadi fenomena tersebut menyaksikan kemasukan 4.8 juta pelancong Malaysia tahun lalu dengan tahun ini pula dijangka bakal mencecah sehingga lima juta pengunjung.

Seterusnya dianggarkan lebih RM4 bilion duit rakyat negara ini mengalir ke negara jiran sepanjang tahun ini.

Bercakap kepada *Utusan Malaysia*, Presiden Persatuan Pelancongan dan Perdagangan Halal Thailand-Asia Tenggara, Aida Oujeh berkata, Thailand khususnya di kawasan lima wilayah selatan terus menjadi pilihan pengunjung Malaysia.

Menurut beliau, fenomena tersebut dijangka berterusan memandangkan Thailand sentiasa ke depan dalam mempromosi sektor pelancongan selain men-



PILIHAN makanan dan barangan yang murah menjadi antara punca rakyat Malaysia berterusan bercuti ke Thailand khususnya Hatyai setiap bulan. - UTUSAN

jadi pilihan kerana makanan serta barangan yang murah.

Selain itu, katanya, lokasi lokasi pelancongan di negara ini juga sentiasa ditambah baik serta diketengahkan tempat-tempat baharu menarik.

"Meskipun nilai mata wang Thailand ketika ini sedikit lebih tinggi berbanding Malaysia namun apabila barangan dan makanan yang murah ia tidak terlalu memberi kesan kepada pengunjung Malaysia.

"Thailand menjadi pilihan apabila ramai memberi maklum balas positif seperti makanan, barangan murah, layanan yang baik, tempat menarik dan moden seperti kafe-kafe baharu yang sentiasa menepati citarasa pengunjung.

"Secara purata pengunjung atau keluarga berbelanja ketika bercuti di Thailand adalah antara RM600 sehingga RM3,000," katanya.

Pintu sempadan negeri ini dan di Bukit Kayu Hitam, Kedah baru-baru ini di sini mengalami kesesakan apabila rakyat negara ini mengambil peluang cuti sambutan Deepavali.

Dalam pada itu, kadar tukaran mata wang Ringgit Malaysia (RM) dengan Thai Baht ketika ini pula RM100 bersamaan 780 bath.

Dalam pada itu, antara tarikan lain dalam tinjauan *Utusan Malaysia* baru-baru ini adalah seperti pasar minggu di Khlong Ngae yang menjadi lubuk atau 'syurga' barangan terpakai yang

menjadi tumpuan pengunjung.

Pasar minggu setiap Sabtu itu terkenal dalam kalangan rakyat Malaysia bagi mendapatkan barangan terpakai seperti pakaian, kasut serta beg berjenama termasuk untuk kanak-kanak serta pelbagai barangan lain dengan harga yang cukup murah.

Sementara itu, Aida memberitahu, rakyat Thailand mengunjungi Malaysia juga menunjukkan peningkatan daripada 300,000 tahun lalu kepada 500,000 tahun ini.

Katanya, antara lokasi yang menjadi tumpuan rakyat Thailand bercuti adalah seperti di Cameron Highland, Genting Highland, Kuala Lumpur, Melaka, Pulau Pinang dan pelbagai destinasi lagi.

UTUSAN MALAYSIA

Tarikh: 11 NOV. 2024.

Pelaksanaan gaji minimum, caruman wajib KWSP pekerja asing: Kos F&N diunjur naik RM5.7 juta

PETALING JAYA: Pelaksanaan gaji minimum dan caruman wajib Kumpulan Wang Simpanan Pekerja (KWSP) untuk pekerja asing pada tahun hadapan diunjur meningkatkan kos Fraser & Neave Holdings Bhd. (F&N) kepada RM5.7 juta, menurut CIMB Securities.

Firma penyelidikan itu berkata, F&N menganggarkan bahawa 27 peratus daripada tenaga kerjanya akan terjejas oleh kenaikan gaji minimum yang ditetapkan berkuat kuasa pada Februari 2025, selain cadangan caruman wajib KWSP untuk pekerja asing.

"Ini akan menyebabkan kos tahunan tambahan sebanyak RM5.7 juta, mewakili satu peratus daripada unjuran keuntungan bersih teras bagi tahun kewangan 2025.

"Bagi mengurangkan kos buruh yang semakin meningkat, F&N telah memanfaatkan gudang sistem penyimpanan dan



F&N menganggarkan sebanyak 27 peratus daripada tenaga kerjanya akan terjejas oleh kenaikan gaji minimum pada Februari 2025.

perolehan automatik (ASRS) yang menyumbang penjimatan sebanyak RM24 juta pada ta-

hun kewangan 2024 disebabkan pengurangan perbelanjaan buruh dan tenaga.

"Penjimatan daripada sistem ASRS akan meningkat apabila jumlah jualan meningkat, menekankan fokus F&N terhadap automasi dalam menyokong keuntungan di tengah-tengah peraturan buruh yang ketat," katanya dalam satu nota penyelidikan.

Sementara itu, CIMB Securities juga mengunjurkan bahawa pertumbuhan pendapatan negatif sebanyak -2.3 peratus pada tahun kewangan 2025, diikuti keuntungan sederhana masing-masing sebanyak 2.8 peratus dan 1.9 peratus pada tahun kewangan 2026 dan 2027.

"Ini berikutan peningkatan kos komoditi dan kos persediaan berterusan berkaitan dengan ladang tenusu bersepadu di Gemas yang dijangka menghadkan pertumbuhan pendapatan dalam jangka pendek.

"Selain itu, sebagai tindak balas kepada kenaikan cukai minuman manis yang akan da-

tang daripada 50 sen kepada 90 sen seliter pada Januari 2025, F&N menjangkakan impak minimum ke atas hasilnya.

"Ini kerana di bawah satu peratus daripada jualan tahun kewangan 2024 datang daripada produk yang tertakluk kepada cukai itu.

"Sementara itu, F&N akan menerapkan tambahan RM1.2 juta dalam kos untuk memastikan harga berpatutan tetapi akan terus membangunkan produk rendah gula untuk sejajar dengan trend kesihatan pengguna," katanya.

Secara keseluruhan, CIMB Securities mengekalkan saranan 'pegang' dengan harga sasaran (TP) RM32.30.

Firma itu melihat penilaian semasa F&N sebagai adil, memandang kedudukan pasarnya yang kukuh dalam sektor F&B namun pertumbuhan pendapatan jangka pendek yang terhad.

UTUSAN MALAYSIA

Tarikh:1...1...NOV...2024.