



PENGURUSAN PEMANTAUAN KERATAN AKHBAR MBSJ
TARIKH: 12 OGOS 2024 (ISNIN)

MEDIA ELEKTRONIK (AKHBAR ONLINE / TELEVISYEN / RADIO)

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2.	SINAR HARIAN	• SELANGOR CATAT KES DENGGI TERTINGGI NEGARA

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Selangor leads Malaysia in dengue cases, Petaling tops state

By JOSHUA YAP



PETALING JAYA: Petaling district leads the number of dengue cases in Selangor with 15,270 out of a statewide total of 45,325 cases so far this year.

State public health and environment committee chairman Jamaliah Jamaluddin said this was followed by Hulu Langat district with 12,830 cases, and Klang with 6,006 cases.

The number of dengue cases in Selangor as of July 28 this year had increased by 29% compared to the same period last year, which recorded 35,134 cases.

Jamaliah attributed the rise to changes in the environment and a more active variant of the Aedes mosquito.

"We need to be cautious, particularly in dengue hotspots, and protect ourselves by using mosquito repellent and wearing suitable clothing," she said at the launch of Sihat Selangor Carnival in conjunction with Subang Jaya City Council's (MBSJ) car-free day outside a mall in Jalan Kemajuan.

Selangor also leads other states in the number of dengue cases, with the next highest being Johor with 9,566 cases, and the Federal Territories of Kuala Lumpur and Putrajaya with 8,059 cases.

In a press statement, MBSJ said it had chosen "Merdeka Denggi" or "Free from Dengue" as the theme of its National Day Month to reduce the number of cases.

THE STAR ONLINE
TARIKH: 12 OGOS 2024

Selangor catat kes denggi tertinggi negara

Oleh MOHD AZLIM ZAINURY [Follow](#)

11 Ogos 2024 02:21pm **Masa membaca: 2 minit**



Jamaliah (tengah) ketika melawat reruai pada program Program Hari Tanpa Kenderaan dan Karnival Sihat Selangor Peringkat MBSJ di Subang pada Ahad.

SUBANG JAYA - Selangor mencatatkan kes denggi tertinggi dengan laporan sebanyak 45,325 kes daripada 88,255 kes yang dilaporkan di seluruh negara sehingga Julai tahun ini.

Menurut Exco Kesihatan Awam dan Alam Sekitar Negeri Selangor, Jamaliah Jamaluddin, jumlah kematian disebabkan denggi di negeri berkenaan dalam tempoh sama adalah sebanyak 14 kes.

"Sehingga 28 Julai, kes denggi secara keseluruhan di Malaysia adalah sebanyak 88,255 kes dan Selangor mencatatkan sebanyak 45,325 kes dengan 14 kes kematian dan menjadikannya kes tertinggi di Malaysia.

"Diikuti dengan negeri Johor sebanyak 9,566 kes dan Wilayah Persekutuan Kuala Lumpur dan Putrajaya sebanyak 8,059 kes.

"Perlis, Terengganu dan Wilayah Persekutuan Labuan pula menjadi antara negeri yang terendah masing-masing mencatatkan kes denggi sebanyak 186, 163 dan 28 kes," katanya.

SINAR HARIAN ONLINE

TARIKH: 12 OGOS 2024

Selangor catat kes denggi tertinggi negara

Oleh MOHD AZLIM ZAINURY

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11 Ogos 2024 02:21pm Masa membaca: 2 minit



Jamaliah ketika ditemui pada Program Hari Tanpa Kenderaan dan Karnival Sihat Selangor Peringkat MBSJ di Subang Parade pada Ahad

Beliau berkata demikian ketika ditemui pemberita pada Program Hari Tanpa Kenderaan dan Karnival Sihat Selangor Peringkat Majlis Bandaraya Subang Jaya (MBSJ) di Subang Parade pada Ahad.

Hadir sama, Datuk Bandar Subang Jaya, Datuk Amirul Azizan Abdul Rahim.

Dalam pada itu, Jamaliah memaklumkan, bilangan kes demam denggi di MBSJ sehingga minggu epid ke 31 adalah sebanyak 5,937 kes berbanding dengan 4,577 kes pada minggu epid sama pada tahun lalu.

Jelasnya, antara usaha yang dilakukan oleh kerajaan negeri melalui Jawatankuasa Tetap Kesihatan Awam ialah sejumlah peruntukan anggaran sebanyak RM3.4 juta telah disalurkan kepada sembilan pihak berkuasa tempatan (PBT) untuk membantu melaksanakan aktiviti pengawalan dan pencegahan di peringkat PBT dan komuniti.

Selain itu, beliau berkata, kerajaan negeri turut bekerjasama dengan agensi swasta seperti KAO Malaysia dan menerima sumbangan sebanyak 61,080 unit MOS Block Serum untuk diagihkan kepada orang awam melalui program komuniti.

"Kerajaan negeri juga sentiasa mengambil langkah proaktif dengan membincangkan isu denggi di peringkat negeri dan daerah dengan penglibatan pelbagai pihak melalui Mesyuarat Tindakan Denggi Peringkat Negeri dan Daerah yang dihadiri oleh Pejabat Daerah dan Tanah (PDT), PBT, Pejabat Kesihatan Daerah (PKD) dan Ahli Majlis," ujarnya lagi.

Di samping itu, Jamaliah menambah, bagi meningkatkan kesedaran komuniti tentang kepentingan penggunaan repellent dan semburan aerosol serta penubuhan pasukan Sukarelawan Kesihatan Komuniti Selangor (SUKA) dan Communication for Behavioural Impact (COMBI) yang melaksanakan aktiviti pencegahan denggi, pemusnahan tempat pembiakan aedes dan pendidikan kesihatan denggi di kawasan lokaliti.

"Bagi peringkat PBT pula, pelbagai usaha juga telah dijalankan oleh bagi menangani peningkatan bilangan kes demam denggi ini," ujarnya.

Star 1/8 (MBPJ) MBPJ spreads patriotic spirit with national flag distribution



Performers in various cultural costumes during the campaign launch at MBPJ's Dewan Sivik in Petaling Jaya.

INVITED guests were asked what "merdeka" meant to them during a National Day event organised by Petaling Jaya City Council (MBPJ).

"For me, 'merdeka' is about the patriotic spirit and remembering past leaders," said SMK Sultan Abdul Samad student Haikal.

He was replying to Petaling Jaya mayor Mohamad Zahri Samingon during the "Kibar Jalur Gemilang" Campaign 2024 launch at MBPJ's Dewan Sivik in Petaling Jaya.

"We should be thankful, as 'merdeka' means we are free from colonisation," added Haikal's teacher, Suminta.

Mohamad Zahri had asked selected members of the audience about their thoughts on National Day.

"As what the students and teachers mentioned, merdeka means we are free from colonialism and also that we need to move forward," said Mohamad Zahri.

The mayor presented a total of 2,000 flags to representatives from schools, government agencies and non-governmental organisations at the event.

Patriotic songs like *Malaysia Madani*, *Jalur Gemilang* and *Tanggal 31* were also played while the crowd waved the



Kindergarten children dressed as uniformed personnel carrying the national flag.

(Right) Mohamad Zahri distributing Jalur Gemilang to passengers on a bus. — Photos SAMUEL ONG/The Star

national flag.

The Jalur Gemilang was also distributed to passing motorists around the MBPJ headquarters.

Mohamad Zahri even boarded a bus and distributed the national flag to passengers on board. — By JOSHUA YAP



THE STAR

Tarikh:.....4..2...AUG...2024

VEHICLE SERVICE

Shah Alam City Council (MBSA) added 11 new locations into its list of medical centres accessible via its free community vehicles for people with disabilities and senior citizens. There are now 19 centres on the list. The vehicles are available every Monday to Friday from 8.30am to 5pm. Reservations can be made two weeks in advance (subject to availability) by calling 03-5522 2732 or 03-5510 5133 ext 1381.

THE STAR

Tarikh: 12 AUG 2024

THEATRE COMPETITION

Ampang Jaya Municipal Council (MPAJ) is organising a theatre competition for primary and secondary schools from Oct 1 to 3 at Auditorium MPAJ, Menara MPAJ. Last date for registration is Sept 12. For details, call 017-820 4448/ (Ashraff), 011-7302 4108 (Zakiah).

THE STAR

Tarikh: 12 AUG 2024



Road digging works taking place at Lorong Maarof in Bangsar. — Photos: KAMARUL ARIFFIN and YAP CHEE HONG/The Star

Contractors digging up in KL to submit daily reports

City Hall also steps up enforcement to ensure compliance

By BAVANI M

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AS PART of efforts to ensure contractors excavating in the city are accountable, Kuala Lumpur City Hall (DBKL) has made it compulsory for them to submit daily reports.

DBKL is also intensifying its enforcement by conducting surprise inspections and getting multiple internal departments involved, such as Civil Engineering and Drainage, Enforcement, Urban Transportation and even its integrity unit.

"Contractors and utility companies found in breach of regulations face stringent action."

"This is to ensure that contractors carry out excavation works properly in the city when upgrading infrastructure or doing road digging work, such as installing utility cables," said DBKL executive director (Project Management) Mohamad Hamim. "Apart from the conditions outlined in the Street, Drainage and Building Act 1974 (Act 133), contractors are required to submit daily reports via a dedicated WhatsApp group for excavation works exceeding 500m in size."

Mohamad added that those found in violation of DBKL guidelines or not performing in accordance with the set standards would be subject to fines under the Act.

"If contractors continue to commit repeated offences even after several compounds have been issued, action will be taken, which includes not renewing their permit until the compound



is settled.

"A stop-work order may also be imposed for a certain period or until all necessary repairs have been made."

"In severe cases, the permit can be cancelled and the contractor blacklisted for a certain period," he said.

Mohamad added that in the most recent spot checks carried out in June and July on several city roads, including Jalan Sungai Besi, Jalan Kuchai Lama, Jalan Genting Kelang, Jalan Kilang, Jalan Kepong Lama, Jalan Tasik Selatan 31 and Jalan Tasik Selatan 21, and Jalan Dutamas 2 between 10pm and 4am, multiple fines were issued.

These spot checks revealed that many contractors were breaching guidelines, including working beyond the stipulated hours, not putting up proper traffic signage, closing roads without obtaining prior permission and failing to adhere to safety and cleanliness standards by dumping construction debris on the road, endangering the public. Compounds were issued on the spot.

According to Mohamad, for city roads generally, DBKL employs four methods of road digging — open cut (direct trench or hole excavation in the



Mohamad: In severe cases, the permit can be cancelled and the contractor blacklisted.



Prof Chiang: It is no secret that because of low profit margins, contractors tend to cut corners.

ground), micro trenching (narrower and shallower trenches typically constructed to lay utility cables), pipe jacking (where pipes are pushed into the ground using hydraulic jacks) and horizontal directional drilling (this technique allows for underground drilling without disturbing the surface).

"Method selection depends on factors such as soil conditions, the presence of existing utility cables and the surrounding built environment," he said.

Among the common violations committed by contractors during excavation works are improper soil compaction and incomplete backfilling.

"This occurs when the dug trench is not filled with the appropriate materials and not properly compacted, causing voids and subsequently, depressions or uneven surfaces."

"Another issue is traffic management, where contractors fail

to implement effective traffic control measures, posing risks to road users, site workers and residents nearby," added Mohamad.

Other infringements to the standard operating procedure (SOP) include carrying out road digging beyond the stipulated time, not placing proper traffic signs, closing roads without permission, not clearing the road and endangering the public.

As such, DBKL has set conditions for carrying out excavation work on public roads in Kuala Lumpur.

To improve the quality and safety level of excavation work, various measures are being considered and implemented.

This includes workshops for contractors organised by the Malaysia Productivity Corporation (MPC).

In addition, DBKL is also reviewing its SOP to include contractors taking up practical courses organised by the

Star 148 (DBKL)

Trikha: 12 AUG 2024

Residents want better engagement with DBKL on projects

ROAD digging works to lay pipes, utility cables and other infrastructure are a major inconvenience for communities in the area, say residents interviewed by *StarMetro*.

Shoddy construction and poor site management have compounded the problem.

Often, residents say construction debris is left at the site, construction blinkers are not placed to alert motorists and pedestrians and the area is not cordoned off with sandbags.

Residents of old townships experiencing rapid development, such as Bangsar and Brickfields, are seeking more holistic engagement with Kuala Lumpur City Hall (DBKL), developers and contractors on work being carried out in their neighbourhoods.

Many are unhappy with DBKL's current policy regarding project approvals where the responsibility to communicate with those affected falls to developers and service providers, such as telecommunication and utilities companies.

"Once DBKL approves a project, it becomes the responsibility of the developers and utility companies to brief local communities about the work," said Bukit Bandaraya residents association advisor Datuk M. Ali.

"This hands-off approach by DBKL has led to significant communication gaps and frustration.

"DBKL should be the one directly engaging with local



Ali says DBKL should be the one directly engaging with local communities and representatives.



Naidu says regular meetings with residents can promote transparency.

communities and representatives such as residents associations (RAs), Rukun Tetangga (RTs) and community organisations," Ali said.

The lack of engagement from DBKL could lead to situations



Contractors should never leave construction debris on walkways. — Filepic

where contractors might disregard residents' concerns, he added.

"One contractor would carry out work at irregular hours," he said.

Ali added that the RA had to intervene to halt further works because of the absence of effective engagement and communication from DBKL.

"If DBKL had organised a proper engagement session,

such hardships for the local community could have been avoided."

Ali said DBKL's presence could ensure contractors were held accountable for their work quality, reducing instances of subpar repairs and potholes.

Brickfields RT chairman SKK Naidu said keeping the communication channel open between the local authority and residents' groups would help

build trust.

"Regular meetings with residents can promote transparency in how projects are planned and executed.

"Proper planning and communication can minimise disruption to daily life, ensure high-quality infrastructure and enhance civic participation by engaging residents in the process," said Naidu. — By BAVANI M



Contractors laying out water pipes in a housing area in Seri Petaling.

Construction Industry Development Board (CIDB) or any training provider.

City Hall has been grappling with complaints from the public about shoddy road digging works for many years, said Mohamad.

Contractors, especially utility contractors, were not resurfacing the road properly, with some doing such a bad job that potholes would appear soon after.

"Some didn't even clean up the project site when the job was completed," he said.

There have been cases where their shoddy patch-up work resulted in scupper drains being covered up.

To prevent bad patch-up jobs, DBKL even banned utility companies from hiring their own contractors for a period of time.

In 2015, DBKL said the task of

hiring contractors for road digging projects fell under the local authority but the move proved ineffective and was shelved after some time.

Later, the local authority set up a pothole task force for the public to send their complaints and photos for further action.

"There are several steps taken in addressing public complaints regarding poor quality work.

"We regularly carry out on-site inspections and investigations to identify any violations that have occurred.

"If it involves the assets of utility companies, we will forward the complaints to the company for further action," he said.

Mohamad encouraged the public to file complaints via City Hall's Adu@KL platform, as complaints would be recorded and



DBKL enforcement team carrying out a spot check at a construction site in downtown Kuala Lumpur. — Courtesy photo

sent to the relevant department.

Institution of Engineers Malaysia (IEM) president Prof Dr Jeffrey Chiang said in cases of big projects that required road digging and traffic diversions, it was always good practice to keep the community informed.

Prof Chiang added that it was the responsibility of a site supervisor to ensure project site safety. "The site engineer must be aware of what's happening at the site and not the contractor.

"If he sees something that is not right, then he must get the contractor to correct it," he said.

Prof Chiang added that in the case of shoddy work, repairs might keep getting damaged because of cost-cutting measures.

"It is no secret that because of low profit margins, contractors tend to cut corners.

"And one of the first things to be compromised is cutting down on human resources.

"So that extra worker that is supposed to clean up the site and ensure safety could be the one that gets the boot.

"Nowadays, developers and main contractors avoid keeping permanent staff to cut costs associated with salaries, medical benefits and other expenses."

Prof Chiang said they preferred hiring freelancers, with the main contractor typically having only one or two supervisors.

He added that back in the day,

projects that used to have a 5% profit margin could now be as low as 1% because of intense competition.

And some projects were subcontracted, sometimes multiple times, making it harder to maintain a profit margin, he said.

"Some companies bid for jobs even if they are not qualified because they have connections.

"They act as a front to secure the job. If the profit margin is 5%, they might give the subcontractor only 2%.

"Often, the blame lies not with the contractor but with the client, who frequently makes changes and expects it done without extra cost," said Prof Chiang.

By BAVANI M

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THERE is an even chance that Kuala Lumpur may soon have a new mayor, with the possibility that the city could also see its first female leader.

Datuk Seri Kamarulzaman Mat Salleh's tenure as the 14th mayor is set to end on Aug 14, having assumed the post on April 17 last year.

With his 60th birthday, the retirement age for civil servants, approaching on Aug 15, speculation is mounting over whether a successor will be named or if Kamarulzaman will be given an extension.

"It's a 50-50 situation right now. Kamarulzaman is competent at his job. His technical expertise is top notch, but he's not particularly media-savvy," said a source.

"He has his strengths and weaknesses. There have been concerns that he isn't a people person and tends to avoid community events where public engagement is required.

"But that said, the Prime Minister is keen to advance his Madani policies, a significant part of which involves building Madani housing in every new residential development."

This initiative, the source said, was aimed at enabling low-income earners to become homeowners, and it was a top priority.

"Therefore, we need a mayor who is already on board with this vision.

"If a new mayor is appointed, there are concerns that he or she might struggle to catch up. We need immediate implementation.

"Ultimately, it's up to the Prime Minister," the source added.

Others believe that Kuala Lumpur City Hall (DBKL) will benefit from an external appointment as Kamarulzaman

Will KL have a new mayor this week?

Woman among candidates tipped for top post



Maimunah has headed two local councils.

has been part of the organisation for many years.

Kamarulzaman, who began his career in DBKL in 1991, graduated from Universiti Teknologi Malaysia in 1987 with a bachelor's degree in surveying (property management).

There is also talk that the city may see its first female mayor, with Datuk Seri Maimunah Mohd Sharif's name frequently mentioned.

Some believe that it is time for Kuala Lumpur, as the capital city, to have a woman in its top position.

The idea of a female mayor is not new, as other city councils in Malaysia have had women in this role before.

In 2012, Datin Paduka Alinah Ahmad became the first female mayor in Malaysia when she



Fadlun is currently Putrajaya Corp president.

was appointed to lead Petaling Jaya City Council (MBPJ).

Earlier this year, Datin Paduka Noraini Roslan was appointed the mayor of Klang (MBDK), following its upgrade to a royal city.

These appointments reflect a broader trend towards greater gender equality in public service roles in Malaysia, though female mayors remain relatively rare compared to their male counterparts.

Maimunah, the former executive director of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat), is now Malaysia's Special Envoy on Sustainable Urbanisation, based in Kuala Lumpur.

Maimunah held the position of UN-Habitat executive director from 2018, based in



Nor Muhammad is with the Federal Territories Department.

Nairobi, Kenya.

She is well-equipped to handle the role, having previously served as mayor of Penang Island City Council (MBPP) from July 1 2017 to Jan 19, 2018.

Before that, she was Seberang Prai Municipal Council (MPSP) president, the first woman ever to hold the post.

Another name being considered is Lands and Mines Department director-general Datuk Muhammad Azmi Mohd Zain.

His public service career began in 1996 as an administrative and diplomatic officer, initially serving as assistant director in the Economic Planning Unit (EPU) at the Prime Minister's Department.

Over the years, he has held various positions, including at



Kamarulzaman turns 60 on Aug 15.



Muhammad Azmi's civil service career began in 1996.

the Public Service Department and Federal Territories Ministry (now Federal Territories Department).

He also served as Putrajaya Corporation (PPJ) president from Oct 1, 2020 to Dec 15, 2021.

Two other names being mentioned are current PPJ president Datuk Fadlun Mak Ujud along with Federal Territories Department development management director Datuk Nor Muhammad Che Dan.

Before his current role, Fadlun was PPJ's senior vice-president (corporate services) and Nor Muhammad was with the Finance Ministry.

THE STAR

Tarikh: 12 AUG 2024

MB: More ponds will be gazetted as raw water source in Selangor

By SHALINI RAVINDRAN
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SOME 100 ponds in Selangor have been identified as alternative water sources and will be gazetted to reduce dependence on the state's seven main dams.

Selangor Menteri Besar Datuk Seri Amirudin Shari said 20 ponds had been officially gazetted as Protection Zones under the Selangor Water Management Board (Luas) Enactment 1999, while the remaining 80 were in the process of being gazetted.

"Once this process is completed, Selangor's raw water storage capacity will be increased by three months, bringing it to a total of nine months, even in the absence of rainfall.

"These ponds will also be connected to the state's rivers through a dual-function pumping system, serving both as a water storage and flood mitigation system," he said during the state-level World Water Day celebration in Pandan Perdana in Ampang.

During the same event, Amirudin also launched the Zero Discharge Policy (ZDP), which aims at compelling indus-



Amirudin (right) launching the Zero Discharge Policy during the Selangor World Water Day celebration in Pandan Perdana. Looking on (from left) are Hasrolnizam, Izham and Ani. — KAMARUL ARIFFIN/The Star

tries to recycle their effluents, instead of dumping them into drains, rivers and water sources.

Under ZDP, businesses and premises in Selangor will now be charged a fee based on the volume of effluents discharged.

"The more they discharge, the higher the fee they will

have to pay.

"This will also motivate them to implement waste management and recycling efforts," Amirudin said.

Some 13 scheduled activities that operate near water sources and rivers will be regulated via ZDP, including aquaculture, earthworks, poultry and live-

stock farming, sand mining, slaughterhouses, sewage treatment and solid waste management services, among others.

He said the policy was gazetted on June 20 and would take effect on Aug 12.

"We will give operators and owners of premises one year to register, after which we will start enforcing.

"But if there is a serious breach, action will be taken immediately."

Luas, which manages the ZDP, will enforce it via a new regulation under the Luas Enactment 1999.

This includes the Polluters Pay Policy (PPP), where those found discharging effluents into the river would have to pay for any amount released beyond the regulated limit.

In an effort to increase the effectiveness of monitoring the state's water sources, Luas has entered into a strategic partnership with the Science, Technology and Innovation Ministry through Malaysian Space Agency (MySA).

MySA has developed the Selangor Earth Surface Activity Monitoring Systems (Sesams) for Luas to monitor land use

activities, particularly those related to water bodies and areas with potential to contribute to water source pollution.

The system is based on space technology and utilises remote sensing, geographical information systems (GIS), Global Positioning Systems (GPS).

At the same event, Luas revealed its rebranded Skwad Pantas team, which will now be known as Luas Elite Water Squad (SKEAL).

"The team will be at the frontline in addressing water source pollution issues on-site and will be equipped with upgraded uniforms and improved equipment for better efficiency of monitoring, patrolling and mitigation operations at the site," said Luas director Hasrolnizam Shaari.

Also present during the event were state infrastructure and agriculture committee chairman Izham Hashim, public health and environment committee chairman Jamaliah Jamaluddin, MySA director-general Azlikamil Napiah, state financial officer Datuk Dr Ahmad Fadzli Ahmad Tajuddin and Ampang Jaya Municipal Council (MPAJ) president Dr Ani Ahmad.

THE STAR

12 AUG 2024

Tarikh:.....

Ringgit likely to continue uptrend

8th 178
KUALA LUMPUR: The ringgit is expected to continue its uptrend against the US dollar this week on the back of positive sentiment ahead of the release of macroeconomic data, says an analyst.

Bank Muamalat Malaysia Bhd chief economist Dr Mohd Afzanizam Abdul Rashid opined that investors' focus will be on Malaysia's gross domestic product data for the second quarter of 2024 (2Q24) due Friday.

Apart from that, he said the United States consumer price index (CPI) for July due on Wednesday will also be the key highlight, with a consensus estimate pencilling in 2.9% after moderating at 3% in June.

"It appears that the ringgit against the US dollar might want to test its immediate support level of 4.40 next week given the positive vibes in the market," he told *Bernama*.

On the other hand, Kenanga Investment Bank Bhd in its ringgit weekly outlook noted that despite the ringgit's bullish momentum, the greenback might regain its safe-haven appeal.

This is due to the lower-than-expected US weekly initial jobless claims, coupled with anticipation of a better US CPI next week that could temper expectations for aggressive rate cuts.

THE STAR

Tarikh: 1.2 AUG 2024

Govt dept ⁸⁷⁴⁹ director, deputy ^{12/8} held over graft

MELAKA: A 50-year-old government department director and his deputy are among four people arrested for bribery.

The four, including a woman, are aged between 34 and 60.

They were arrested at the Malaysian Anti-Corruption Commission's (MACC) state headquarters in Alai here after being called in to record their statement on Saturday.

The civil servants had allegedly received bribes close to RM177,000 as inducements for approvals of payments relating to contract works while the other two were said to be linked to the company which was awarded the contracts.

A remand order was granted by the Magistrate's Court here yesterday.

Melaka MACC director Adi Supian Shafie said the suspects were being investigated under Section 18 of the MACC Act 2009.

THE STAR

Tarikh:.....1.2. AUG 2024

MCMC holds awareness programme on online fraud

Am
12/8

ALOR SETAR: The Malaysian Communications and Multimedia Commission (MCMC) has organised a programme to create awareness on the various tricks and tactics used by scammers in online fraud.

The Kuala Kedah Parliamentary Community Empowerment Initiative through the Klik Dengan Bijak (KDB) Programme was held at the Kuala Kedah National Information Dissemination Centre to educate the public about Internet safety in line with the rapid development of communication and multimedia technology.

Kuala Kedah district head Salleh Mahmud said the initiative was a commendable step in edu-

cating the public, who heavily rely on social media for information.

He said this reliance exposed them to the threat of scammers.

"Nowadays, certain parties are misusing the Internet to scam people, especially those in rural areas.

"So programmes like this are very good and effective in educating the public about the dangers of scams," he told Bernama on Saturday.

A visitor, Muhamad Syater Awang Kechik, 30, said the MCMC initiative would help raise public awareness about actions that should be taken to avoid being scammed.

"Most victims might be those who haven't been exposed to these scams, so to avoid being cheated, one must be cautious when receiving any suspicious links or phone calls.

"It's best not to entertain them but if you do fall victim to a scam, report it to the police immediately," he said.

At the KDB programme, various agencies also set up booths to provide the public with information about products and services offered.

Participating agencies included Bank Simpanan Nasional (BSN), the Inland Revenue Board, Employees Provident Fund, Tabung Haji, Tekun Nasional,

Telekom Malaysia and Pos Malaysia.

According to Kedah/Perlis BSN Deposit manager Shafinaz Shafie, the bank took the opportunity to join the KDB programme to provide information and advice to the public regarding irresponsible parties who might misuse BSN's name for scam activities.

"Scammers use various tactics, so before you believe in something, make sure to seek information from legitimate sources. Don't believe everything you see advertised on social media," she said.

Kedah Tekun Nasional Entrepreneur Development executive officer Mohamad Saidi

Azizan advised the public to be cautious of scammers using the names of certain agencies to carry out fraud.

"For example, Tekun has faced situations where some parties were selling our loan application forms for RM200 or RM300, and we had to clarify this to the public.

"Tekun does not charge anything for these forms; we distribute them for free, so don't easily trust external parties," he said.

About 400 local residents attended the programme. They also had the opportunity to purchase various daily necessities at the Jualan Rahmah programme held at the event.

THE STAR

Tarikh: 12 AUG 2024

Selangor paling tinggi kes denggi, 14 maut dalam tujuh bulan

SUBANG JAYA - Selangor mencatatkan kes denggi tertinggi di seluruh negara dengan 14 kematian sehingga Julai lalu pada tahun ini.

Menurut Exco Kesihatan Awam dan Alam Sekitar Selangor, Jamaliah Jamaluddin, berdasarkan laporan sehingga 28 Julai lalu, sebanyak 88,255 kes dilaporkan di seluruh negara dengan 45,325 kes direkodkan di negeri ini.

"Ia diikuti Johor sebanyak 9,566 kes manakala 8,059 kes dilaporkan di Kuala Lumpur dan Putrajaya.

"Perlis (186 kes), Terengganu (163 kes) dan Wilayah Persekutuan Labuan menjadi negeri terendah dengan 28 kes," katanya ketika Program Hari Tanpa Kenderaan dan Karnival Sihat Selangor Peringkat Majlis Bandaraya Subang Jaya (MBSJ) di sini pada Ahad.

Hadir sama, Datuk Bandar Subang



Jamaliah (tengah) ketika menghadiri Program Hari Tanpa Kenderaan dan Karnival Sihat Selangor Peringkat MBSJ di Subang Jaya.

Jaya, Datuk Amirul Azizan Abdul Rahim.

Dalam pada itu, Jamaliah berkata, bilangan kes demam denggi di bawah pentadbiran MBSJ adalah 5,937 kes ber-

banding 4,577 kes bagi tempoh sama tahun lalu.

Jelasnya, kerajaan negeri melalui Jawatankuasa Tetap Kesihatan Awam

sudah menyalurkan peruntukan RM3.4 juta kepada sembilan pihak berkuasa tempatan (PBT) untuk membantu melaksanakan aktiviti pengawalan dan pencegahan.

"Kerajaan negeri sentiasa mengambil langkah proaktif dengan membincangkan isu denggi di peringkat daerah dan negeri dengan penglibatan pelbagai pihak melalui Mesyuarat Tindakan Denggi Peringkat Negeri dan Daerah yang dihadiri Pejabat Daerah dan Tanah, PBT, Pejabat Kesihatan Daerah dan Ahli Majlis," ujarnya.

Jamaliah berkata, bagi meningkatkan kesedaran komuniti mengenai kepentingan penggunaan penghalau dan semburan aerosol, pihak berkaitan ada melaksanakan aktiviti pencegahan denggi, pemusnahan tempat pembiakan aedes dan pendidikan berkaitan denggi.

SINAR HARIAN
12 AUG 2024
Tarikh:

Tiga pegawai penguat kuasa direman 5 hari

KOTA KINABALU - Tiga penguat kuasa sebuah jabatan kerajaan ditahan reman lima hari bagi membantu siasatan berkaitan kes menerima suapan berjumlah RM120,000 di Mahkamah Majistret Kota Kinabalu di sini pada Ahad.

Majistret Aslanlydia Asneh membenarkan permohonan dibuat Suruhanjaya Pencegahan Rasuah Malaysia (SPRM) Sabah terhadap tiga lelaki berusia antara 30 hingga 40 tahun sehingga 16 Ogos ini.

Menurut sumber, semua suspek ditahan dalam satu operasi di pekan

Keningau antara jam 4 petang hingga 11 malam pada Sabtu.

Katanya, suspek yang juga pegawai penguat kuasa disyaki menerima rasuah kira-kira RM120,000 bagi melindungi aktiviti penyeludupan rokok dan melepaskan barang seludup.

"Tangkapan terbaharu melibatkan dua lagi pegawai penguat kuasa susulan tangkapan pertama berkaitan kes sama termasuk melepaskan lori dan barang seludup ditahan," katanya.

Sementara itu, Pengarah SPRM Sabah, Datuk S Karunanithy ketika dihubungi, mengesahkan tangkapan itu.



Tiga pegawai penguat kuasa dibawa ke Mahkamah Majistret Kota Kinabalu untuk perintah reman.

SINAR HARIAN

Tarikh: ...1.2.AUG 2024.....

SPRM tahan pengarah, timbalan pengarah agensi kerajaan negeri

MELAKA - Empat individu termasuk pengarah dan timbalan pengarah agensi kerajaan direman selepas dipercayai berkomplot menerima suapan bernilai kira-kira RM176,000 di Mahkamah Majistret Melaka di sini pada Ahad.

Menurut sumber, penahanan semua suspek berusia antara 34 hingga 60 tahun bagi membantu siasatan berhubung kelulusan tuntutan kerja dengan butiran palsu.

Majistret Rafidah Che Aziz membenarkan tiga suspek lelaki direman selama tiga hari bermula Ahad manakala seorang suspek wanita berusia 34 tahun direman selama sehari.

Sementara itu, Pengarah Suruhanjaya Pencegahan Rasuah Malaysia (SPRM) Melaka, Adi Supian Shafie ketika dihubungi, mengesahkan perkara itu dan semua individu terbabit disiasat mengikut Seksyen 18 Akta SPRM 2009.

Difahamkan, semua suspek ditahan ketika hadir memberi keterangan di Pejabat SPRM Melaka, kira-kira jam 5 petang pada Sabtu.



Tiga suspek lelaki dibawa ke Mahkamah Majistret di Ayer Keroh, pada Ahad.

SINAR HARIAN

Tarikh:12 AUG...2024.....

Sentiasa waspada, cuaca ekstrem berlaku bila-bila masa

'SUDAH terhantuk baru tengadah' merupakan peribahasa yang sering diucapkan masyarakat.

Merak Jalanan melihat peribahasa yang bermaksud sesudah terkena baru beringat-ingat itu memang tepat dengan perangai orang kita.

Sebagai contoh, peringatan kejadian kepala air yang sering berlaku apabila hujan melanda, masih lagi tidak dihiraukan hingga menyebabkan kecederaan parah malah meragut nyawa.

Jabatan Meteorologi Malaysia

(MetMalaysia) yang sering menguar-uarkan ramalan cuaca seperti panas melampau dan hujan berserta ribut juga sering dipandang enteng.

Merak Jalanan ingin mengambil satu pengajaran daripada cuaca panas yang berlaku sekarang. Baru-baru ini, anak kepada jiran Merak Jalanan suka bermain di atas padang dalam keadaan panas terik di atas kepala.

Walaupun ibunya sudah berbuih mulut menasihatkan agar tidak bermain dalam cuaca panas, tegurannya itu lang-

sung tidak dipedulikan.

Apa yang berlaku selepas itu benar-benar memberi kesan kepada ibunya. Anak itu pengsan secara tiba-tiba, berlaku kekejangan dan akhirnya menghembuskan nafas terakhir.

Meraung-raung si ibu memeluk anaknya yang sudah tidak bernyawa itu. Ia benar-benar meruntun jiwa Merak Jalanan.

Pengajaran yang boleh diambil daripada peristiwa itu ialah janganlah sekali meremehkan peringatan yang

diberikan pihak berkuasa terutamanya berkaitan dengan cuaca ekstrem ini.

Merak Jalanan melihat kita bukannya tidak peka dengan peringatan yang dikeluarkan, tapi bersikap acuh tak acuh dan mengambil mudah dengan cuaca ekstrem yang mungkin berlaku ini.

Pesan Merak Jalanan, sentiasalah berhati-hati dengan cuaca panas atau ribut yang boleh menjadi ekstrem pada bila-bila masa. Jangan pula termenung di pusara kemudian hari. Bak kata pepatah, ibarat nasi sudah menjadi bubur.

SINAR HARIAN

12 AUG 2024

Tarikh:

MTUC gesa kerajaan segera umum kenaikan gaji minimum



MATKAR

SHAH ALAM - Kerajaan perlu segera mengumumkan segera kadar kenaikan gaji minimum yang sepatutnya dinikmati golongan pekerja bermula Mei lalu.

Pemangku Presiden MTUC, Matkar Siwang berkata, langkah itu perlu kerana ia mampu membela nasib pekerja swasta.

Menurutnya, kemampuan kewangan golongan pekerja bawahan menyeksakan bagi meng-

harungi kehidupan mendatang jika tiada kenaikan gaji.

"Kadar gaji minimum sekarang iaitu RM1,500 tidak munasabah dan tidak relevan disebabkan oleh peningkatan kos barangan.

"Seseorang pekerja yang dibayar gaji minimum sekarang akan membawa pulang pendapatan bersih sebanyak RM1,330 setelah ditolak caruman wajib," katanya dalam kenyataan pada Ahad.

Jelasnya, pendapatan bersih sebanyak RM1,330 adalah rendah dan ia merupakan antara punca Malaysia berada di kedudukan kedua terburuk di dunia berkaitan keseimbangan hidup dan kerja (*work life balance*) daripada 60 negara.

Beliau mengakui, terdapat pekerja yang terpaksa bekerja lebih masa atau melakukan kerja sampingan selepas waktu kerja

sebenar bagi menambah pendapatan.

"Kerajaan boleh merujuk beberapa kajian yang telah dibuat Bank Negara Malaysia (BNM), Tabung Kanak-Kanak Pertubuhan Bangsa-Bangsa Bersatu (UNICEF) dan Wang Simpanan Persaraan (KWSP) yang menunjukkan gaji yang sesuai adalah melebihi RM2,000," katanya.

SINAR HARIAN

Tarikh: ...1.2.AUG.2024.....

Rakyat Malaysia bertanggungjawab kekalkan kemerdekaan negara

KUALA LUMPUR - Usaha mengekalkan kemerdekaan negara perlu digalas oleh semua lapisan masyarakat termasuk golongan pemimpin walaupun berbeza latar belakang dan fahaman politik, kata Menteri Perlindungan dan Komoditi, Datuk Seri Johari Abdul Ghani.

Beliau berkata, meskipun membawa ideologi berbeza, namun kestabilan politik, pembangunan ekonomi serta kesejahteraan rakyat tidak boleh dikompromi bagi memastikan kemerdekaan negara dapat dipertahankan sampai bila-bila untuk generasi akan datang.

"Maksudnya apabila kita merdeka, negara tidak boleh kembali seperti dahulu (keadaan sebelum merdeka). Politik hari ini adalah menjual ideologi tetapi mana-mana ideologi sekalipun kita kena pastikan bahawa kemerdekaan itu tetap dan kekal sampai bila-bila untuk generasi akan datang merangkumi kestabilan politik, pembangunan ekonomi yang teratur dan kesejahteraan rakyat," katanya.

Ahli Parlimen Titiwangsa itu berkata demikian pada sidang



Johari menyempurnakan Pelepasan Konvoi Kembara Merdeka Peringkat Wilayah Persekutuan sempena Sambutan Bulan Kebangsaan 2024 di Pasar Wirawati Taman Maluri, Kuala Lumpur pada Ahad.

akhbar selepas Majlis Pelancaran dan Pelepasan Konvoi Kembara Merdeka di Pasar Wirawati di sini pada Ahad.

Terdahulu Johari menerima Baton Jalur Gemilang sebagai kesinambungan jelajah Kembara Merdeka Jalur Gemilang (KMJG) 2024 peringkat Wilayah

Persekutuan Kuala Lumpur dan Putrajaya (WPKLP).

Pada Sabtu, Baton Jalur Gemilang diserahkan kepada Menteri Komunikasi merangkap Ahli Parlimen Lembah Pantai, Fahmi Fadzil sebagai simbolik permulaan jelajah KMJG 2024 peringkat WPKLP. - Bernama



Johari (empat dari kanan) bersama para peserta dan orang ramai.



Antara peserta konvoi yang mengambil bahagian.

SINAR HARIAN

Tarikh: 12 AUG 2024

Adu jika ada maklumat kilang e-waste haram

M18 Sinar

FOTO HALIM ABDUL WAHID

KPKT giat buat kempen kesedaran di kampung, taman perumahan

Oleh IZWAN ROZLIN
SEPANG

Orang ramai boleh mengemukakan aduan secara dalam talian kepada Kementerian Perumahan dan Kerajaan Tempatan (KPKT) sekiranya mempunyai maklumat berkenaan kilang haram memproses sampah elektronik atau e-waste.

Timbalan Menteri, Datuk Aiman Athirah Sabu berkata, isu berkenaan sentiasa diberi perhatian oleh kementerian itu kerana ia melibatkan kesejahteraan komuniti setempat.

"Ada kita terima aduan sebelum ini. Cuma di Selangor tindakan adalah di bawah kerajaan negeri dan pejabat daerah kerana Selangor tidak menandatangani Akta 672," katanya pada sidang akhbar selepas Majlis Pelancaran Projek Lampu Solar Parlimen Sepang di sini pada Ahad.

Sebanyak 113 unit lampu solar



Aiman Athirah (duduk, tengah) bersama wakil penerima sumbangan lampu solar pada Majlis Pelancaran Projek Lampu Solar di Parlimen Sepang pada Ahad.

bernilai RM700,000 akan dipasang di 16 kampung di kawasan Parlimen Sepang untuk mengelak kejadian vandalisme dan jenayah di lokasi yang dikenal pasti.

Mengulas lanjut, Aiman Athirah berkata, pihaknya juga sentiasa menggerakkan kempen kesedaran menerusi



AIMAN ATHIRAH

SWCorp bagi mengelak orang ramai membuang sampah elektronik dengan sewenang-wenangnya.

"Kempen-kempen kesedaran sedang giat dijalankan di peringkat kampung dan taman perumahan," kata beliau.

Sinar Harian menerusi laporan eksklusif, mendedahkan aktiviti kilang haram di Segamat, Johor yang dipercayai beroperasi melalai, memproses dan melebur sampah e-waste diseludup tanpa mengikut spesifikasi ditetapkan.

Mengulas lanjut mengenai cadangan pindaan Akta Kerajaan Tempatan 1976 [Akta 171] bagi kesalahan membuang sampah agar tindakan lebih tegas dikenakan ke atas pelaku, Aiman Athirah berkata, syor itu sedang dikaji.

"Saya dan YB Menteri KPKT adalah sebagai satu pasukan apa yang disebutkan menteri itu telah dibincangkan dan KPKT sedang memerhati keperluannya dari masa ke masa," katanya.



Laporan muka depan Sinar Harian pada 6 Ogos lalu.

SINAR HARIAN
Tarikh: 7 2 AUG 2024



LULUS TUNTUTAN RM176,000

Dua penjawat awam ditahan SPRM

Melaka: Dua penjawat awam jabatan kerajaan antara empat individu ditahan Suruhanjaya Pencegahan Rasuah Malaysia (SPRM) Melaka membantu siasatan dakwaan menerima rasuah meluluskan tuntutan kerja-kerja di jabatan berkenaan bernilai lebih RM176,000 yang mempunyai butiran matan palsu.

Suspek pengarah dan timbalan pengarah berusia 50 dan 49 tahun serta dua orang awam, seorang wanita berusia 34 tahun dan lelaki berusia 62 tahun.

Menurut sumber, kesemua suspek ditahan di Pejabat SPRM Melaka kira-kira jam 5 petang kelmarin ketika hadir memberi keterangan bagi membantu siasatan yang sedang dijalankan.

Semua suspek dibawa ke Kompleks Mahkamah Ayer Keroh menaiki kenderaan SPRM.

Mereka kemudian dibawa ke hadapan Timbalan Pendaftar Mahkamah Tinggi, Rafidah Che Aziz bagi permohonan reman.

Selepas meneliti permohonan pegawai penyiasat SPRM, Rafidah membenarkan tiga suspek lelaki di reman tiga hari bermula semalam hingga Selasa manakala suspek keempat, wanita dibenarkan reman sehari.

Pengarah SPRM Melaka, Adi Supian Shafie ketika dihubungi mengesahkan tangkapan semua suspek dan memaklumkan siasatan kes masih dijalankan mengikut Seksyen 18 Akta SPRM 2009.



EMPAT individu diiringi pegawai SPRM untuk proses mendapatkan perintah reman di Mahkamah Ayer Keroh.

HARIAN METRO
Tarikh: ...1.2.AUG.2024...

HM 148

Pegawai penguat kuasa terima RM120k diberkas

Kota Kinabalu: Seorang pegawai penguat kuasa sebuah jabatan ditahan, disyaki menerima rasuah kira-kira RM120,000 bagi melindungi aktiviti penyeludupan rokok dan melepaskan barang penyeludupan.

Suspek lelaki berusia 30-an ditahan dalam operasi yang dijalankan Su-

ruhanjaya Pencegahan Rasuah Malaysia (SPRM) Sabah di Keningau, kelmarin.

Menurut sumber, suspek dipercayai melakukan perbuatan berke-

Upah sebagai balasan melindungi aktiviti penyeludupan rokok di sekitar Keningau

baru-baru ini, dengan upah sebagai balasan melindungi aktiviti penyeludupan rokok di sekitar Keningau.

"Suspek turut didakwa melepaskan lori serta barang penyeludupan yang ditahan

oleh jabatan itu," katanya.

Pengarah SPRM Sabah, Datuk S Karunanithy ketika dihubungi mengesahkan tangkapan itu dan kes disiasat mengikut Seksyen 17(a) Akta SPRM 2009.

"SPRM tidak menolak kemungkinan beberapa tangkapan susulan mengenai kes ini akan dibuat," katanya.

HARIAN METRO
1 2 AUG 2024
Tarikh:

HM 1/8 Syor platform khas penjawat awam lapor kesalahan rasuah

Kuala Lumpur: Satu platform perlu dibangunkan khusus bagi membolehkan penjawat awam membuat aduan berhubung gejala rasuah di dalam agensi masing-masing secara tanpa nama.

Ia penting bagi mengelakkan 'pembalasan' daripada pihak atasan yang mungkin mengenakan tindakan seperti turun pangkat, gangguan di tempat kerja atau lebih parah dibuang kerja.

Presiden Pemerhati Ra-

suah Malaysia (MCW), Jais Abdul Karim berkata, undang-undang berkaitan perlindungan kepada pemberi maklumat atau *whistleblowers* juga perlu diperluas terutama dalam kalangan penjawat awam.

Menurutnya, ramai penjawat awam memilih untuk menutup sebelah mata sekiranya berlaku amalan rasuah kerana khuatir karier mereka bakal terjejas jika membuka mulut.

"Dalam sesetengah or-

ganisasi, budaya 'tidak apa' dan sikap sambil lewa terhadap rasuah menyebabkan penjawat awam merasa bahawa melaporkan salah laku adalah tidak berfaedah kerana tiada tindakan yang akan diambil.

"Walaupun terdapat undang-undang untuk melindungi pemberi maklumat, ramai yang tidak yakin bahawa mereka akan dilindungi sepenuhnya jika mereka melaporkan kesalahan rasuah.

"Persepsi terhadap kelemahan dalam pelaksanaan undang-undang ini menyebabkan ramai memilih untuk berdiam diri," katanya dalam kenyataan semalam.

Beliau berkata demikian sebagai respon kepada saranan Pengerusi Suruhanjaya Integriti Agensi Penguatkuasaan (EAIC), Tan Sri Dr Ismail Bakar yang menyeru semua pihak terutama penjawat awam menentang rasuah dengan berani sempena Hari Ke-

bangsaan ke-67.

Jais berkata, pihaknya menyokong kenyataan Dr Ismail itu bagaimanapun berpendapat beberapa langkah perlu dilaksanakan dengan tegas bagi melindungi pemberi maklumat dengan lebih baik.

Katanya, selain sistem tanpa nama, pemberi maklumat wajar diberi jaminan bahawa tiada tindakan balas dalam apa jua bentuk akan dikenakan terhadap tukang adu dan hak serta perlindungan

akan diberikan ke atas mereka secukupnya.

"Sistem ini perlu dipantau oleh badan bebas untuk memastikan kerahsiaan maklumat dan tindak balas yang adil.

"Pemberi maklumat juga perlu diberikan sokongan psikologi dan perundangan sepanjang proses laporan dan penyiasatan.

"Ini akan membantu mereka menghadapi tekanan dan mengekalkan keberanian untuk melaporkan salah laku," katanya.

HARIAN METRO
Tarikh: 1.2.AUG...2024...

4 termasuk pengarah direman kes suapan RM176,000

KOSMO
12/8

MELAKA - Empat individu termasuk pengarah dan timbalan pengarah sebuah agensi kerajaan negeri direman tiga hari selepas disyaki berkomplot menerima suapan bernilai kira-kira RM176,000 bagi meluluskan tuntutan kerja dengan butiran palsu, tahun lalu.

Tiga suspek masing-masing berusia 40, 50 dan 60 direman bermula semalam manakala seorang lagi suspek wanita berusia 34 tahun direman selama sehari.

Perintah reman itu dikeluarkan Majistret Rafidah Che Aziz susulan permohonan Suruhanjaya Pencegahan Rasuah Malaysia (SPRM).

Terdahulu, kesemua sus-

pek yang memakai baju lokap SPRM berwarna jingga tiba di pekarangan Mahkamah Melaka dengan diringi penguat kuasa.

Difahamkan kesemua suspek ditahan kira-kira pukul 5 petang kelmarin di Pejabat SPRM Melaka selepas disyaki menerima suapan dianggarkan berjumlah RM176,000 sebagai balasan meluluskan tuntutan kerja di jabatan tersebut yang mempunyai butiran matan palsu.

Pengarah SPRM Melaka, Adi Supian Shafie ketika dihubungi mengesahkan tahanan reman tersebut dan siasatan dibuat mengikut Seksyen 18 Akta SPRM 2009.



PENGUAT KUASA SPRM membawa tiga daripada empat individu untuk permohonan reman di Mahkamah Majistret Melaka semalam.

KOSMO

Tarikh: 12 AUG 2024

Pelaksanaan gaji minimum RM1,500 tidak lagi relevan

Kuala Lumpur: Kongres Kesatuan Sekerja Malaysia (MTUC) menegaskan pelaksanaan gaji minimum RM1,500 tidak lagi relevan dan tidak mencukupi untuk menampung kos sara hidup di bandar besar khususnya Lembah Klang, Pulau Pinang dan Johor Bahru.

Presiden MTUC, Mohd Effendy Abdul Ghani, berkata dengan kadar inflasi yang masih kekal, nilai sebenar RM1,500 semakin menurun, sekali gus menyebabkan kuasa membeli pekerja yang menerima gaji minimum itu semakin berkurangan, menjadikannya tidak lagi relevan tanpa semakan dan kenaikan secara berkala.

Sehubungan itu, beliau berpendapat kerajaan perlu mempercepatkan kajian semakan semula kadar gaji minimum melalui Perintah Gaji Minimum (PGM) dalam tempoh lebih sesuai tanpa perlu menunggu sehingga setiap dua tahun untuk penilaian semula.

Katanya, adalah penting untuk kerajaan menimbangkan pelarasan gaji minimum yang lebih fleksibel bagi memastikan kesejahteraan pekerja seimbang dengan kos hidup setempat.

"Kos sara hidup di bandar besar antaranya Kuala Lumpur, Pulau Pinang dan Johor Bahru adalah jauh lebih tinggi berbanding kawasan luar bandar.

"Dalam konteks ini, gaji minimum RM1,500 tidak mencukupi untuk menampung keperluan asas seperti perumahan, makanan dan pengangkutan, terutama bagi mereka yang mempunyai tanggungan keluarga.

"Ini menyebabkan ramai pekerja di bandar besar terpaksa mengurangkan perbelanjaan penting atau mencari sumber pendapatan tambahan bagi me-

menuhi keperluan harian mereka," katanya kepada BH.

PGM sebelum ini dikuatkuasakan pada Mei 2022 membabitkan pelaksanaan gaji minimum sebanyak RM1,500 berbanding RM1,200 sebelum itu.

Sebelum ini, Menteri Sumber Manusia, Steven Sin dilaporkan berkata, Majlis Perundingan Gaji Negara (MPGN) kini sedang dalam proses menyediakan laporan mengenai cadangan perubahan gaji minimum untuk dikemukakan kepada Kabinet.

Sim dilaporkan berkata, MGN yang ada wakil majikan, pekerja dan kerajaan sudah mengadakan pertemuan pada akhir Jun lalu bagi membincangkan perkara berkenaan.

Mohd Effendy berkata, gaji minimum juga perlu disesuaikan



dengan kadar inflasi, peningkatan harga barang semasa dan perkhidmatan dari semasa ke semasa.

"Justeru, penyelarasan gaji minimum perlu dilakukan secara berkala untuk mengekalkan keseimbangan antara pendapatan pekerja dan kos sara hidup yang semakin meningkat.

"Adalah penting untuk memastikan bahawa gaji minimum yang disemak dan dinaikkan pada kadar yang selaras dengan inflasi dan peningkatan kos sara

hidup," katanya.

Beliau berkata, dengan ekonomi Malaysia sedang menuju ke arah negara berpendapatan tinggi, gaji minimum perlu ditingkatkan untuk menyokong pertumbuhan ekonomi dan meningkatkan taraf hidup serta kesejahteraan pekerja.

Minggu lalu, kerajaan mengumumkan kenaikan gaji kakitangan awam antara 15 hingga 42.7 peratus menerusi Sistem Saraan Perkhidmatan Awam (SSPA) jangka dilaksanakan Disember.



Mohd Effendy

BERITA HARIAN
12 AUG 2024
Tarikh.....

PAC gesa tetap garis siling gaji ketua badan berkanun

12/8 04

Langkah pastikan kadar diterima pengurusan tertinggi tidak keterlaluan

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Kuala Lumpur: Jawatankuasa Kira-Kira Wang Negara (PAC) meminta kerajaan menetapkan garis siling bagi gaji ketua eksekutif atau pengarah urusan Badan Berkanun Persekutuan (BBP) supaya tidak keterlaluan. Pengerusinya, Datuk Mas Ermieyati Samsudin, berkata setakat ini, pihaknya difahamkan tiada garis siling bagi gaji jawatan ketua BBP dan jumlah diterima juga berbeza-beza.

"PAC mahu kerajaan, khususnya Kementerian Kewangan menetapkan garis siling gaji ini supaya tidak keterlaluan sehing-

Eksklusif

ga ada BBP yang gagal membayar dividen kepada kerajaan, tetapi sebaliknya mampu membayar tinggi gaji pengurusan tertinggi," katanya kepada BH.

Beliau berkata demikian ketika diminta mengulas Garis Panduan Mengenai Pengurusan dan Tatakelola BBP yang dilancarkan Perdana Menteri, Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim, Jumaat lalu.

Ia bagi memastikan pengurusan BBP di negara ini lebih telus, berintegriti dan mempunyai kebertanggungjawaban.

Mengikut Akta Badan-Badan Berkanun (Akaun dan Laporan Tahunan) 1980 (Akta 240), Badan Berkanun Persekutuan ialah mana-mana pertubuhan perbadanan, yang diperbadankan menurut peruntukan Undang-Undang Persekutuan dan yang menjadi pihak berkuasa awam atau agen-

si Kerajaan Malaysia.

Matlamat penubuhan BBP adalah bagi membolehkan kerajaan bertindak lebih cekap tanpa terikat dengan peraturan pentadbiran kerajaan melalui suatu badan yang boleh bergerak lebih pantas, seiring dengan syarikat swasta.

Antara BBP ialah Lembaga Kemajuan Tanah Persekutuan (FELDA), Lembaga Tabung Haji (TH), Perbadanan Pembangunan Perdagangan Luar Malaysia (MATRADE), Lembaga Penduduk dan Pembangunan Keluarga Negara (LPPKN), Lembaga Kemajuan Ikan Malaysia (LKIM), Lembaga Pemasaran Pertanian Persekutuan (FAMA) dan Lembaga Penggalak Pelancongan Malaysia (LPPM).

Mengulas lanjut, Mas Ermieyati bagaimanapun berkata, pihaknya tidak mempunyai maklumat mengenai julat gaji pengurusan tertinggi dalam BBP itu.

Pada 2018, Perdana Menteri, Tun Dr Mahathir Mohamad pernah mengarahkan gaji dan elaun pengerusi badan berkanun, suruhanjaya dan juga syarikat ber-

kaitan kerajaan (GLC) disemak semula.

Menteri Pengangkutan, Anthony Loke Siew Fook dilaporkan berkata, arahan itu dikeluarkan susulan isu gaji dan elaun Pengerusi Eksekutif Suruhanjaya Penerbangan Malaysia (MAVCOM) ketika itu, yang mencecah RM85,000 sebulan.

Sentiasa kemas kini akta

Mengenai Garis Panduan Mengenai Pengurusan dan Tatakelola BBP, Mas Ermieyati berkata, PAC berpandangan, ia perlu dibaca bersekali dengan undang-undang berkaitan, termasuk akta tubuh BBP, yang mungkin bercanggah dan boleh menolak terma yang digariskan dalam garis panduan itu.

"Justeru, amat penting dan kritikal bagi Kementerian dan Menteri untuk sentiasa mengemaskini dan melihat semula akta tubuh serta undang-undang yang berkaitan BBP supaya sentiasa mendokong dasar kerajaan dan mengikut ketetapan amalan terbaik terkini.

"Pada masa sama, PAC juga

PAC mahu kerajaan, khususnya Kementerian Kewangan menetapkan garis siling gaji ini supaya tidak keterlaluan sehingga ada BBP yang gagal bayar dividen kepada kerajaan, tetapi mampu bayar tinggi gaji pengurusan tertinggi

Mas Ermieyati Samsudin, Pengerusi PAC



mahu kerajaan mengambil langkah proaktif dengan menyemak semula memorandum dan artikel (M&A) BBP yang dilihat kurang berkesan dalam memastikan tabir urus yang baik serta campur tangan kerajaan sehingga mengakibatkan berlaku penyalahgunaan kuasa serta ketirisan," katanya.

Garis Panduan Mengenai Pengurusan dan Tatakelola BBP yang mula dikuatkuasakan kerajaan menerusi arahan pekeling yang dikeluarkan pada 30 April lalu itu bertujuan memberi panduan kepada Kementerian, agensi pengawal dalam pelaksanaan peraturan dan prosedur berkaitan pengurusan serta tatakelola BBP.

Pengarah, timbalan antara 4 ditahan kes rasuah

Melaka: Dua penjawat awam membabitkan pengarah dan timbalan pengarah sebuah jabatan kerajaan ialah antara empat individu direman Suruhanjaya Pencegahan Rasuah Malaysia (SPRM) Melaka berkait kes disyaki penerimaan rasuah bagi meluluskan tuntutan kerja di jabatan itu bernilai lebih RM176,000 yang mempunyai butiran matan palsu.

Menurut sumber, kedua-dua pegawai lelaki berusia 50 dan 49 tahun itu serta dua orang awam terdiri daripada seorang lelaki berumur 62 dan wanita berusia 34 tahun, ditahan di Pejabat SPRM Melaka kira-kira jam 5 petang kelmarin ketika hadir memberi keterangan bagi mem-

bantu siasatan.

Berikutan permohonan SPRM, Timbalan Pendaftar Mahkamah Tinggi, Rafidah Che Aziz, membenarkan tiga suspek lelaki berkenaan ditahan reman selama tiga hari bermula semalam hingga esok, manakala suspek wanita pula direman sehari saja.

Terdahulu, kesemua suspek tiba di Kompleks Mahkamah Ayer Keroh pada jam 9.22 pagi tadi dengan menaiki kenderaan SPRM.

Sementara itu Pengarah SPRM Melaka, Adi Supian Shafie, ketika dihubungi mengesahkan penahanan kesemua suspek terbabit bagi membantu siasatan mengikut Seksyen 18 Akta SPRM 2009.



Empat individu ditahan ketika memberi keterangan di Pejabat SPRM Melaka. (Foto Meor Riduwan Meor Ahmad/BH)

BERITA HARIAN
Tarikh..... 12 AUG 2024

Rakyat bertanggungjawab kekalkan kemerdekaan negara

12/8 BX

Johari tegaskan kestabilan politik, pembangunan ekonomi tak boleh dikompromi

Kuala Lumpur: Usaha mengekalkan kemerdekaan negara perlu digalas oleh semua lapisan masyarakat, termasuk golongan pemimpin walaupun berbeza latar belakang dan fahaman politik, kata Menteri Perladangan dan Komoditi, Datuk Seri Johari Abdul Ghani.

Beliau berkata, meskipun membawa ideologi berbeza, namun kestabilan politik, pembangunan ekonomi serta kesejahteraan rakyat tidak boleh dikompromi, bagi memastikan kemerdekaan negara dapat dipertahankan sampai bila-bila untuk generasi akan datang.

"Maksudnya apabila kita merdeka, negara tidak boleh kembali seperti dulu (keadaan sebelum merdeka).

"Politik hari ini adalah menjual ideologi, tetapi mana-mana ideologi sekalipun kita kena

pastikan bahawa kemerdekaan itu tetap dan kekal sampai bila-bila untuk generasi akan datang merangkumi kestabilan politik, pembangunan ekonomi yang teratur dan kesejahteraan rakyat," katanya.

Beliau itu berkata demikian selepas Majlis Pelancaran dan Pelepasan Konvoi Kembara Merdeka di Pasar Wirawati, di sini, semalam.

Terdahulu, Johari yang juga Ahli Parlimen Titiwangsa menerima Baton Jalur Gemilang sebagai kesinambungan jelajah Kembara Merdeka Jalur Gemilang (KMJG) 2024 peringkat Wilayah Persekutuan Kuala Lumpur dan Putrajaya (WPKLP).

Kelmarin, Baton Jalur Gemilang diserahkan kepada Menteri Komunikasi merangkap Ahli Parlimen Lembah Pantai, Fahmi Fadzil sebagai simbolik permulaan jelajah KMJG 2024 peringkat WPKLP.

Tamat siri penjelajahan

Sementara itu, KMJG 2024 menamatkan penjelajahannya di Semenanjung semalam selepas melalui perjalanan sejauh 119 kilometer (km) di sekitar Wilayah Persekutuan Kuala Lumpur dan WPKLP.

Pengarah Bahagian Perkhidmatan Komunikasi dan Pem-



Johari menyempurnakan Majlis Pelancaran dan Pelepasan Konvoi Kembara Merdeka di Pasar Wirawati, Kuala Lumpur, semalam. (Foto BERNAMA)

angunan Masyarakat Jabatan Penerangan, Muhammad Najmi Mustapha, berkata sebanyak 30 motosikal berkuasa tinggi bersama kenderaan beberapa agensi kerajaan menamatkan siri penjelajahan itu di hentian terakhirnya di Dataran Putra, Putrajaya.

"Semua peserta dilihat begitu

teruja untuk sama-sama menyemarakkan Bulan Kebangsaan dan di setiap checkpoint yang dilalui di Semenanjung mereka menggalakkan seluruh lapisan masyarakat mengibarkan Jalur Gemilang.

"Selain Semenanjung, kembara ini juga melibatkan Sarawak, Sabah dan Labuan dengan

keseluruhan perjalanan sejauh 8,551km," katanya.

Beliau berkata, KMJG 2024 kini meneruskan perjalanan ke Sarawak yang dijangka berakhir pada 26 Ogos ini sebelum ke Sabah yang akan tamat pada 16 September, manakala KMJG Labuan pula diadakan semalam.

BERNAMA



Peserta mengibarkan Jalur Gemilang pada Majlis Pelancaran Bulan Kebangsaan dan Kibar Jalur Gemilang 2024 Peringkat Wilayah Persekutuan Labuan di Anggerik Square, Kompleks Ujana Kewangan Labuan, semalam. (Foto BERNAMA)



Kanak-kanak berlari mengibarkan Jalur Gemilang di sekitar taman permainan Taman Klebang Putra 1, Ipoh, semalam. (Foto BERNAMA)



Ahli Pengakap mengibarkan Jalur Gemilang pada Perasmian Kempori Pengakap MADANI Peringkat Kebangsaan 2024 di Kem Pengakap Tengku Muhammad Ismail, Kuala Nerus. (Foto BERNAMA)



Taman rekreasi kucing

12/8 2024

SEBAGAI inisiatif meningkatkan tahap kesedaran dalam komuniti di Shah Alam, Selangor berkaitan pemilikan haiwan peliharaan, Majlis Bandaraya Shah Alam (MBSA) mewujudkan taman rekreasi kucing berkonsepkan "kawasan permainan luar" bagi kucing peliharaan dinamakan Catopia Shah Alam.

Ia juga sebagai platform untuk

bersama mendidik dan member pendedahan yang lebih meluas kepada orang ramai terhadap kepentingan kesejahteraan haiwan dalam mewujudkan keseimbangan ekosistem.

Catopia Shah Alam dibuka secara percuma kepada pengunjung yang ingin membawa kucing mereka dan beriadah bersama keluarga

dari pukul 10 pagi hingga 7 petang setiap hari dan boleh memuatkan sehingga 20 ekor kucing dalam satu-satu masa.

■ PENGUNJUNG bersama kucing mereka ketika berkunjung ke Catopia Shah Alam di Dataran Kemerdekaan, Seksyen 14, Shah Alam, Selangor. - UTUSAN/ MUHAMAD IQBAL ROSLI

UTUSAN MALAYSIA
Tarikh:12 AUG 2024.....

Empat termasuk pengarah agensi kerajaan direman

12/8
utusan

MELAKA: Empat individu termasuk pengarah dan timbalan pengarah sebuah agensi kerajaan negeri direman selepas disyaki berkomplot menerima suapan bernilai hampir RM176,000, untuk meluluskan tuntutan kerja dengan butiran palsu, tahun lalu.

Majistret Mahkamah Melaka, Rafidah Che Aziz memerintahkan tiga suspek berusia 40, 50 dan 60 tahun, direman tiga hari bermula semalam, manakala seorang lagi suspek wanita berusia 34 tahun direman sehari.

Perintah reman dikeluarkan bagi membolehkan siasatan dilakukan mengikut Seksyen 18 Akta Suruhanjaya Pencegahan Rasuah Malaysia (SPRM) 2009.

Mereka ditahan kelmarin di Pejabat SPRM Melaka selepas disyaki menerima suapan sebagai balasan meluluskan tuntutan kerja di jabatan tersebut yang mempunyai butiran matan palsu.

UTUSAN MALAYSIA
Tarikh:12 AUG 2024

Naikkan 10% gaji minimum pekerja swasta - MTUC

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PETALING JAYA: Kerajaan digesa meneliti semula kadar gaji minimum selain menaikkan sekurang-kurangnya 10 peratus berbanding RM1,500 yang ditetapkan dua tahun lalu kerana jumlah itu tidak lagi relevan.

Presiden Kongres Kesatuan Sekerja Malaysia (MTUC), Mohd. Effendy Abdul Ghani berkata, kenaikan gaji minimum pekerja swasta sebanyak 10 peratus perlu bagi mengimbangi kenaikan kos sara hidup terutama di bandar-bandar besar di Lembah Klang, Johor Bahru dan Pulau Pinang.

Menurut beliau, gaji minimum sebanyak RM1,500 kepada pekerja di bandar-bandar khususnya yang sudah berkeluarga memberi implikasi kewangan sehinggakan memaksa golongan itu mengurangkan perbelanjaan penting atau mencari pekerjaan tambahan bagi memenuhi keperluan sekeluarga.

"Justeru, MTUC mencadangkan pelarasan gaji minimum yang lebih fleksibel disesuaikan mengikut kos sara hidup



MTUC juga mengesyorkan penyelarasan gaji minimum dilakukan secara berkala, tanpa perlu menunggu sehingga dua tahun untuk dilakukan penilaian semula."

di kawasan setempat. Ini adalah untuk memastikan kesejahteraan pekerja di bandar-bandar besar dapat dikekalkan, seiring dengan peningkatan kos hidup.

"MTUC juga mengesyorkan penyelarasan gaji minimum dilakukan secara berkala, tanpa perlu menunggu sehingga dua tahun untuk dilakukan penilaian semula.

"Ia bertujuan untuk memastikan kadarnya kekal relevan dan mencerminkan perubahan

ekonomi serta kos hidup semasa," katanya kepada *Utusan Malaysia*.

Kali terakhir kerajaan menyemak kadar gaji minimum adalah pada Mei 2022 di bawah pentadbiran bekas Perdana Menteri, Datuk Seri Ismail Sabri Yaakob.

Kerajaan ketika itu menaikkan kadar gaji minimum daripada RM1,200 kepada RM1,500 untuk syarikat swasta yang mempunyai lima pekerja dan ke atas.

Mengulas lanjut, Mohd. Effendy berkata, penyesuaian gaji minimum tetap diperlukan untuk memastikan bahawa ia selaras dengan kadar inflasi dan peningkatan harga barang serta perkhidmatan dari semasa ke masa.

Katanya, penyesuaian berkala ini penting untuk memastikan kuasa beli pekerja tidak merosot sekali gus membolehkan mereka memenuhi keperluan asas secara konsisten.

"Kadar inflasi yang berterusan menyebabkan nilai sebenar RM1,500 semakin menurun. Ini menyebabkan kuasa beli pekerja tersebut merosot, menjadi-

kannya tidak lagi relevan jika tidak disemak dan dinaikkan secara berkala.

"Oleh itu, amat penting untuk memastikan bahawa gaji minimum disemak dan dinaikkan selaras dengan inflasi serta peningkatan kos sara hidup.

"Langkah ini akan membantu menjaga kesejahteraan pekerja dan memastikan mereka mampu memenuhi keperluan asas dengan pendapatan yang diperolehi," katanya.

Pada masa sama, Mohd. Effendy menegaskan bahawa kesedaran mengenai pelaksanaan gaji minimum sangat penting kerana masih terdapat kelemahan dalam pelaksanaannya.

"Terdapat laporan bahawa masih ada majikan tidak melaksanakan gaji minimum RM1,500 seperti ditetapkan. Oleh itu, penguatkuasaan yang berterusan perlu dilaksanakan untuk memastikan dasar ini dipatuhi semua pihak secara konsisten.

"Ini akan membantu dalam melindungi hak pekerja dan memastikan keadilan dalam sistem pengajian negara," katanya.

UTUSAN MALAYSIA
Tarikh:1.2.AUG.2024

Semua bertanggungjawab kekalkan kemerdekaan



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KUALA LUMPUR: Rakyat Malaysia tidak kira latar belakang bertanggungjawab mengekalkan kemerdekaan negara pada masa akan datang.

Ahli Parlimen Titiwangsa, Datuk Seri Johari Abdul Ghani berkata, rakyat pada hari ini memainkan peranan penting dalam mempertahankan kemerdekaan dalam erti yang sebenar.

"Maksudnya, apabila kita merdeka, negara tidak boleh kembali seperti dahulu. Kita perlu memastikan (dengan kemerdekaan ini) kestabilan politik, pembangunan ekonomi yang teratur dan kesejahteraan rakyat boleh dikecapi.

"Sangat penting untuk kita pastikan setiap daripada kita, termasuk pemimpin, tidak kira parti politik bertanggungjawab supaya perkara tersebut dapat dicapai.

"Politik kini menjual ideologi, tetapi mana-mana ideologi kita kena memastikan kemerdekaan itu tetap dan kekal sampai bila-bila untuk generasi



JOHARI Abdul Ghani mengagihkan Jalur Gemilang kepada orang ramai selepas pelancaran Konvoi Kembara Merdeka di Pasar Wirawati, Titiwangsa, semalam.

akan datang merangkumi memastikan kestabilan politik, pembangunan ekonomi yang teratur dan kesejahteraan rakyat," katanya kepada pemberita pada Majlis Pelancaran *Flag Off* Konvoi Kembara Merdeka di Pasar Wirawati di sini, semalam.

Terdahulu, Johari menerima Baton Jalur Gemilang sebagai kesinambungan jelajah Kembara Merdeka Jalur Gemilang (KMJG) 2024 peringkat Wilayah Persekutuan Kuala Lumpur dan

Putrajaya (WPKLP).

Johari turut mengagihkan Jalur Gemilang kepada komuniti setempat sebelum melepaskan Konvoi Kembara.

Kelmarin, Baton Jalur Gemilang diserahkan kepada Menteri Komunikasi merangkap Ahli Parlimen Lembah Pantai, Fahmi Fadzil sebagai simbolik permulaan jelajah KMJG 2024 peringkat WPKLP.

Lokasi terakhir akan berlangsung di Institut Latihan De-

wan Bandaraya Kuala Lumpur (DBKL) dan akan disambut isteri Perdana Menteri, Datuk Seri Dr. Wan Azizah Wan Ismail yang juga Ahli Parlimen Bandar Tun Razak.

Baton Jalur Gemilang akan diserahkan semula kepada urus setia KMJG 2024 yang akan meneruskan konvoi sebagai Kontinjen KMJG dalam Acara Perbarisan dan Perarakan Hari Kebangsaan pada 31 Ogos 2024 di Dataran Putrajaya.

UTUSAN MALAYSIA
Tarikh:1.2.AUG.2024..

Hentikan impak gangguan siber dalam talian

12/8 Utusan

SAUDARA PENGARANG,

INSIDEN tragis baru-baru ini menunjukkan bahawa terdapat keperluan segera untuk langkah-langkah berkesan bagi menangani isu buli siber yang semakin meningkat, yang boleh menyebabkan akibat buruk di dunia nyata, termasuk masalah kesihatan mental yang serius, pengasingan sosial dan juga kehilangan nyawa.

Peningkatan gangguan dalam talian yang membimbangkan telah memberi kesan buruk kepada individu dan komuniti. Statistik terbaru dari Suruhanjaya Komunikasi dan Multimedia Malaysia (MCMC) menunjukkan trend yang membimbangkan, dengan 51,638 kes kandungan berbahaya yang tersebar di media sosial dan platform digital dalam hanya tiga bulan pertama tahun ini.

Kesan lebih luas hasil dari interaksi dalam talian terhadap kesihatan mental dan kesejahteraan tidak dapat dinafikan. Keperluan mendesak untuk pendekatan yang berperikemanusiaan dan saling menghormati dalam interaksi digital kini semakin jelas, ketika kita berusaha mengurangkan akibat negatif dari tingkah laku berbahaya oleh pengguna dalam talian.

Selain itu, laporan dan perkongsian berita bunuh diri yang bertanggungjawab adalah penting untuk menghormati ahli keluarga yang berduka dan menggalakkan wacana dalam talian yang berempati. Masyarakat mempunyai tanggungjawab kolektif untuk memastikan perbincangan tentang kejadian bunuh diri lebih menjurus kepada kesedaran mengenai kepentingan pencegahan dan bukannya menuding jari atau menyalahkan mangsa.

Sehubungan itu, CMCF akan terus berdedikasi untuk mempromosikan konsep kawalan sendiri dan penciptaan kandungan yang bertanggungjawab, sebagai sebahagian dari misi kami untuk memupuk budaya hormat dan empati dalam semua interaksi di antara pengguna dalam talian.

Baru-baru ini, CMCF telah mengadakan webinar untuk membincangkan mengenai isu ucapan kebencian dalam talian, yang

merupakan sebahagian dari usaha berterusan kami untuk mengadakan dialog dan sesi latihan berkala bersama dengan universiti, sekolah, guru, dan ahli akademik mengenai usaha untuk memerangi isu buli siber dan mengenalpasti langkah-langkah bagi melindungi diri dalam talian.

Dalam terus memacu inisiatif ini, kami di CMCF percaya bahawa usaha dalam memupuk budaya digital empati dan hormat, di mana tingkah laku yang berbahaya dicegah, memerlukan tanggungjawab bersama.

Usaha ini bukan sahaja melibatkan tindakan oleh pihak kerajaan tetapi juga penglibatan aktif dari organisasi belia, pakar kesihatan mental, kumpulan masyarakat sivil, pendidik, ibu bapa, agensi penguatkuasaan undang-undang dan syarikat teknologi.

Platform media sosial mesti terus memperbaiki proses moderasi kandungan mereka dan meneroka alat berasaskan kecerdasan buatan (AI) yang mengesan kandungan berbahaya dalam masa nyata, kerana ini berpotensi menghentikan buli siber sebelum ia meningkat.

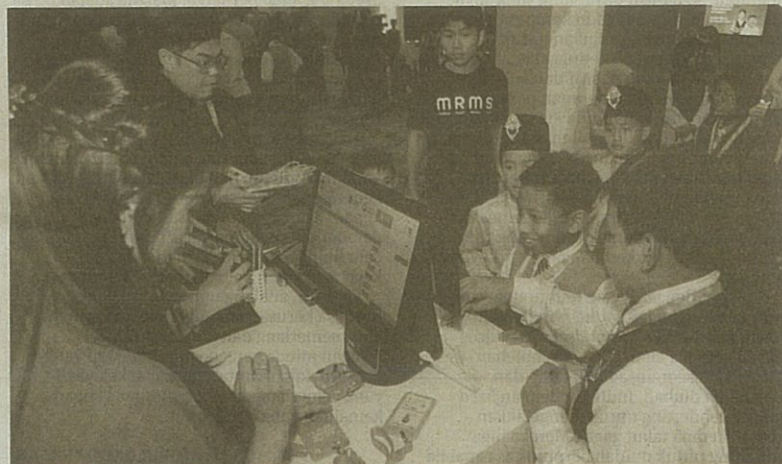
Pendekatan ini harus merangkumi algoritma yang lebih canggih yang dapat mengenal pasti dan menandakan bahasa kasar, gangguan dan tingkah laku berbahaya lain dengan tepat tanpa menjejaskan kebebasan wacana yang sah.

Literasi digital dan kesedaran dalam kalangan pengguna adalah penting. Semua pihak harus bekerjasama dan terlibat dalam kempen pendidikan yang mengajar pengguna tentang tingkah laku dalam talian yang bertanggungjawab, akibat buli siber, dan kepentingan empati dan hormat dalam interaksi digital.

Dengan kerjasama ini, kita dapat membangunkan strategi menyeluruh yang menangani punca buli siber, menyediakan sokongan kepada mangsa dan memudahkan persekitaran dalam talian yang lebih selamat.

RAFIQ RAZALI

Pengerusi Forum Kandungan Komunikasi dan Multimedia Malaysia (CMCF)



USAHA dalam memupuk budaya digital empati dan hormat, di mana tingkah laku yang berbahaya dicegah, memerlukan tanggungjawab bersama.

UTUSAN MALAYSIA

Tarikh: 12 AUG 2024



TANYALAH mana-mana pemandu kenderaan atau penunggang motosikal, siapa di antara mereka tidak pernah melanggar lubang di jalan raya? Saya percaya tiada siapa mengakuinya. Sebaliknya mereka pula yang akan mendedahkan berapa jumlah kos yang terpaksa ditanggung akibat kerosakan pada kenderaan.

Mana tidaknya, akibat jalan berlubang, pengguna berisiko untuk memperbaiki atau menukar ekzos, roda, tayar dan pelbagai komponen kereta.

Saya juga pernah melalui pengalaman sama. Saya perlu menukar tayar baharu dan pembaikan ketuk rim selain membuat pengimbangan tayar. Tidak pasal-pasal perlu mengeluarkan belanja yang besar untuk memperbaiki kerosakan kenderaan.

Saya juga pernah membuat aduan kepada pihak berkuasa tempatan (PBT), Majlis Perbandaran Kajang (MPKJ) ekoran beberapa jalan berlubang berdekatan kawasan perumahan saya. Jalan berlubang itu ketika itu tidak diselenggara melebihi tempoh dua minggu. Mungkin kerana tiada aduan daripada penduduk setempat. Kelakarnya, mereka hanya menukar satu daripada dua jalan berlubang yang jaraknya tidak sampai 50 meter, selepas saya membuat aduan mengenainya.

Walaupun kita boleh dianggap bersyukur kerana sejak beberapa tahun ini ada pihak membantu menyelesaikan masalah pengguna dengan menukar jalan berlubang secara sukarela tetapi sampai bila kita harus bergantung kepadanya sedangkan negara ini mempunyai pihak berwajib yang ditugaskan untuk menyelesaikan masalah berkaitan jalan yang tidak diselenggara ini. Bahkan, peruntukkan yang besar disediakan untuk kerja-kerja pembaikan itu.

Kita juga perlu sedar, kematian jalan raya membabitkan penunggang motosikal akibat keadaan yang tidak sempurna bukanlah perkara baharu. Menurut statistik yang dideklarkan pada 2018, sebanyak 840 orang maut dalam kemalangan jalan raya akibat insiden yang berkaitan dengan jalan berlubang dari 2000 hingga 2011.

Jalan berlubang, jangan pandang sebelah mata



ALEXANDER Nanta Linggi turun padang untuk melihat sendiri keadaan jalan berlubang yang tidak diselenggara sehingga boleh menjejaskan keselamatan pengguna jalan raya. - FACEBOOK ALEXANDER NANTA LINGGI

“Kitalah yang perlu menjadi PBT itu. Maka, gunakan saluran yang ada untuk membuat aduan berhubung perkara ini.”

Sementara, sebanyak 285 kes kematian dicatat antara 2014 hingga 2018 juga berpunca dari jalan berlubang.

Lubang pada jalan berlaku akibat daripada ketidaksempurnaan pada permukaan jalan apabila tanah mampat di bawah turapan menjadi lemah. Ia biasanya disebabkan oleh air dalam struktur tanah di bawahnya dan lalu lintas yang melalui kawasan yang terjejas.

Ia bermula dengan rekahan kecil tetapi menjadi lebih besar dari semasa ke semasa jika ia tidak diperbaiki segera.

Pengguna jalan raya seolah meletakkan nyawa di hujung tanduk terutama ketika waktu malam dan awal pagi.

Masalah jalan berlubang ini sudah acap kali disuarakan tetapi sukar diselesaikan secara total memandangkan punca utamanya adalah kenderaan

lebih muatan.

Ada juga kerosakan akibat penggunaan asfalt tidak mengikut spesifikasi seperti kurang kandungan bitumen, kawalan kualiti kurang sempurna ketika proses turapan seperti suhu rendah dan proses pemadatan tidak mengikut spesifikasi.

Selain itu, saluran longkang tepi jalan tidak dapat menampung kapasiti air dan bertakung menyebabkan pavemen menjadi lemah, terutama ketika musim hujan.

Berhubung isu ini, Menteri Kerja Raya, Datuk Seri Alexander Nanta Linggi memberitahu perbincangan bagi penyelesaian jangka panjang sudah dibuat khususnya dengan Kementerian Pengangkutan yang bertanggungjawab dalam aspek penguatkuasaan kerana melibatkan kenderaan.

Bahkan aplikasi MyJalan KKR yang dilancarkan pada 24 Ogos tahun lalu merupakan salah satu inisiatif bagi memudahkan pengguna jalan raya melaksanakan aduan berkaitan kerosakan jalan. Aplikasi ini bertujuan meningkatkan tahap keselamatan dan keselesaan pengguna jalan raya serta dapat mengurangkan kes kemalangan jalan raya yang disebabkan oleh kerosakan jalan.

Namun, saya percaya juga ramai yang masih tidak mengetahui tentang aplikasi ini walaupun ia sudah hampir setahun ‘menemani’ kita. Masih ramai memilih untuk butakan mata sekiranya berdepan jalan rosak atau berlubang. Natijahnya, orang lain terutama mereka yang tidak biasa dengan jalan itu menjadi mangsa kemalangan.

Kementerian Kerja Raya (KKR) melaporkan sebanyak 17,157 jumlah aduan diterima sejak permulaan kempen MyJalan pada 1 Ogos sehingga 29 Julai lalu. Berdasarkan statistik itu, sebanyak 5,178 aduan atau 30.18 peratus dari jumlah keseluruhan aduan diterima membabitkan jalan di bawah seliaan agensi kementerian berkenaan.

Sebanyak 11,979 aduan atau 69.82 peratus pula adalah milik PBT, Kementerian Kemajuan Desa dan Wilayah (KKDW), KKDW, Pejabat Tanah dan Galian (PTG), Jabatan Pengaliran dan Saliran (JPS) serta lain-lain. Aduan-aduan diterima disalurkan kepada jabatan berkenaan untuk dilaksanakan.

Difahamkan, sepanjang tempoh itu, dari 5,178 aduan milik KKR yang diterima dengan sebanyak 4,772 atau 92.16 peratus aduan diselesaikan oleh agensi berkenaan manakala baki 406

aduan sedang dalam proses tindakan.

Difahamkan juga, sebuah jawatankuasa bertindak disertai tiga kementerian iaitu KKR, Kementerian Pengangkutan dan Kementerian Perumahan dan Kerajaan Tempatan (KPKT) diwujudkan bagi mengatasi isu kerosakan dan penyelenggaraan jalan raya di Malaysia.

Alexander juga pernah menyatakan bahawa tidak semua jalan raya di Malaysia adalah di bawah kawal selia KKR atau Jabatan Kerja Raya (JKR) negeri. Tanggapan bahawa jalan itu JKR, JKR itu jalan perlu diubah memandangkan setiap jalan di negara ini mempunyai pemiliknya sendiri. Satu lagi, JKR bukanlah pemilik semua jalan-jalan yang ada di Malaysia.

Tahun lalu, Kerajaan Perpaduan memperuntukkan sebanyak RM2.8 bilion dalam Belanjawan 2024 bagi kerja-kerja penyelenggaraan jalan dan jambatan persekutuan pada tahun ini.

Malah, pada ketika itu, Perdana Menteri yang juga Menteri Kewangan memberi jaminan aspek keselamatan jalan raya akan terus diberi pertimbangan utama kerajaan dengan setakat Ogos tahun lalu, lebih 4,100 jalan berlubang di jalan persekutuan telah dikenal pasti dan dibaik pulih.

PERANAN RAKYAT

Justeru, isu berkaitan jalan berlubang tidak lagi boleh dipandang sebelah mata. Kita sebagai rakyat dan pengguna jalan raya perlu memainkan peranan dengan melaporkan aduan sekiranya terdapat jalan berlubang kerana apa jua yang bermain di fikiran anda, ia masih tentang keselamatan dan nyawa seseorang.

Kita tidak lagi boleh mengharap PBT membuat kerja-kerja rondaan atau pemantauan secara berskala. Kitalah yang perlu menjadi PBT itu. Maka, gunakan saluran yang ada untuk membuat aduan berhubung perkara ini. Semoga langkah kecil ini dapat membantu mengurangkan kadar kemalangan mahupun kematian akibat jalan berlubang.

PENULIS ialah wartawan Utusan Malaysia.

2025 BUDGET

EASE COST OF LIVING BURDEN

THE Federation of Malaysian Consumers Associations (Fomca) lauds the prime minister's announcement that the 2025 Budget will focus on easing the increasing cost of living impacting Malaysian consumers, especially those in the B40 and M40 groups.

The Institute of Strategic Analysis and Policy Research reported that the top concern among the people is the ability to sustain themselves amid stagnant incomes and escalating expenses.

The prime minister said the budget would address the issue of cartels and monopolies.

It should be mentioned that the Competition Commission Market Review on the Food Sector 2019 found that one key reason for high food prices was distortions and manipulations in the supply chain by monopolistic practices, burdening the poor, whose expenditure on food is between 40 and 60 per cent.

The second reason is our dependence on imported food, which is subjected to currency fluctuations, conflicts and climate change.

We need a viable agricultural sector to ensure affordability and accessibility of food supply.

The price of medicine is also soaring. Again, the Competition Commission Market Review on the pharmaceutical sector in 2018 identified various monopolistic practices pushing up prices.

The recommendations in the report should be implemented to bring prices down. We should also look at housing, healthcare, and childcare issues.

Policies that would make houses more affordable should be adopted, including price controls, reducing mortgage periods and the policy of building and selling so that houses are only sold after they have been completed.

The Health Ministry has sought to increase public investment in healthcare. Many consumers, due to urgency or other immediate needs, resort to private healthcare.

But many do not have medical insurance. In fact, about 38 per cent of consumers pay their hospital bills out of their own pocket, considered the most risky form of payment.



Low-income families need support in terms of nutritious food, education and care for their children. FILE PIC

Private hospital prices are exorbitant and unaffordable. The government should examine why medical inflation in Malaysia is 12.6 per cent while the global average is only 5.6 per cent.

Medical insurance premiums are too high, making it unaffordable, including for the M40.

One of the measures being introduced is the co-payment, where the patient pays a portion of the medical bill while the insurer takes care of the rest. It is believed this ought to reduce premiums.

However, health economist Professor Syed Mohamed Aljunid, president of the Health Economic Association, has challenged the notion that co-payments would lower insurance premiums, citing historical trends in private insurance.

He said that private insurance premiums had never decreased and co-payment merely shifted

costs to individuals who would now need to pay more when accessing services.

Thus, policymakers need to ensure that co-payment policies do not merely shift the healthcare burden to consumers while insurance companies maintain, or worse, increase their premiums.

Finally, due to the increasing costs of childcare and the limited means of families, especially low-income families, Fomca supports the proposal by the United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund for the introduction of a universal childcare allowance for mothers.

Low-income families need support for nutritious food, education and care for their children. We hope the coming budget will reduce the burden of consumers and enhance their quality of life.

DR PAUL SELVA RAJ
Deputy president, Fomca

NEW STRAITS TIMES

Tarikh: 12 AUG 2024

Regulation will hold social media platforms accountable

AFTER 25 years in academia, it is sad to observe the decline of critical thinking in society.

This is apparent on social media, which is full of abusive and insulting content. It's clear that certain users lack decorum in using these platforms.

It seems that some are trapped within their emotional domain, which restricts their ability to develop critical-thinking skills and become competent users of social media.

Consider, for example, how certain netizens comment on the efforts of our athletes in the Paris Olympics. Even getting an Olympic medal won't shield them from rude and hurtful comments.

Such harsh words are bound to impact their athletes and may even break their spirit.

These same Netizens will then wonder why our country has not won an Olympic gold medal.

Their way of expressing their opinion demonstrates a serious

lack of ability to evaluate issues, besides analysing the consequences of their messages and online conduct.

Given the increasingly negative way people express themselves on social media, it seems that there is no safe place in the digital world, particularly for young users.

Despite measures and guidelines put in place by educational institutions to teach people on the use of social media, more measures are needed.

In this regard, I commend the Malaysian Communications and Multimedia Commission's (MCMC) move to regulate social media and Internet messaging service providers.

MCMC states on its website that "this regulatory framework will hold the Internet messaging service and social media service providers accountable in conducting their business operations in Malaysia, including managing illegal and harmful content, as

well as strengthening their systems and processes to mitigate the prevalence of cyber crimes on their platforms".

If those in the industry want to stay in the market, they should improve their systems and processes to offer a safe environment for users and safeguard them from all forms of cybercrimes.

**ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR
DR ROHAYA MOHD NOR**
Universiti Malaysia Sarawak

NEW STRAITS TIMES

Tarikh:1..2..AUG..2024..

'Fight corruption for meaningful Merdeka'

PUTRAJAYA: While the flutter of the Jalur Gemilang and shouts of *merdeka* (freedom) grow louder as National Day approaches, the patriotic spirit would be more meaningful if citizens join the government to free the nation of corruption and abuse of power.

In the past, the people were willing to risk their lives to fight the colonialists to free their homeland. Today, they must be brave in taking action against those who involved in bribery.

Indeed, fighting this "enemy within" is not easy, but it can be achieved through integrity and public participation in the government's efforts to combat corruption and power abuse.

Therefore, Enforcement Agency Integrity Commission (EAIC) chairman Tan Sri Dr Ismail Bakar is calling on all Malaysians to embody the spirit of independence in conjunction with the 67th National Day by courageously opposing misconduct and corruption.



Tan Sri Dr Ismail Bakar

He said the government's aspiration was for civil servants to have high integrity in ensuring that there were no more leakages in the management of government finances, thus improving the delivery system of services to the people.

"There should be no more injustice in public service delivery, no more favouritism. This is the spirit of independence from the perspective of integrity."

"It means that if we have a free spirit, we are free to receive government services fairly and equitably without the need to participate in government tenders that require middlemen," he said recently.

Ismail said if the public service delivery system was transparent, the government's allocations would be fully utilised for projects without any leakage, thus ensuring that the people fully benefit from the allocations.

"Government projects are funded by the people; if there is leak-

age, the people have to pay back, the lifespan of the project becomes shorter and the quality declines.

Eventually, the project requires additional maintenance costs. There is no funding due to leakage, so the government has to borrow and raise taxes. Therefore, corruption and integrity issues need to be viewed from a broader perspective."

He said significant losses of national revenue could occur due to negligence of government agencies, such as at ports and entry points, and the presence of elements providing protection to illegal activities and the underground economy.

"In line with the National Day theme, 'Malaysia Madani — Jiwa Merdeka', EAIC appeals to all government agencies with power to engage in self-reflection.

"We need to reflect on whether what we have been doing is right, especially for agencies with the power to act, but instead protect activities that harm society and the nation by losing opportunities to generate revenue by protecting illegal activities. I believe this is a serious betrayal of the king," he said. **Bernama**

NEW STRAITS TIMES
Tarikh: 12 AUG 2024

MACC organising programme to combat financial crimes

KUALA LUMPUR: The Malaysian Anti-Corruption Commission (MACC) will organise a programme to strengthen accounting and auditing practices to combat financial crimes, corruption and abuse of power.

The initiative will take place on Wednesday, spearheaded by MACC's Financial Analysis Division.

It involves several government and professional bodies, including the National Audit Department, the Accountant General's Department, the Inland Revenue Board and the Companies Commission of Malaysia.

Others involved are the Malaysian Institute of Accountants, the Malaysian Institute of Chartered Secretaries and Administrators, Universiti Teknologi MARA and Multimedia University.

MACC Chief Commissioner Tan Sri Azam Baki will launch the programme.

MACC Financial Analysis Division director Mohd Azwan Ramli said the programme would see officials from MACC, government agencies, professional bodies and universities share their experience.

Attendees will share insights and expertise to identify best practices in accounting and auditing to address financial crimes, he said.

"This programme will indirectly support the government's goal of implementing the National Anti-Corruption Strategy 2024-2028, focusing on the effectiveness of anti-corruption measures and

improving governance and integrity in the public and private sectors.

"This effort is also in line with the requirements of Article 12 of the United Nations Convention Against Corruption to strengthen accounting and auditing standards," said Azwan.



Mohd Azwan Ramli

NEW STRAITS TIMES

Tarikh:1.2.AUG.2024.

'RM1,500 WAGE NOT ENOUGH IN BIG CITIES'

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He said it was important for



Mohd Effendy Abdul Ghani

The Minimum Wage Order enforced in May 2022 involved increasing the minimum wage to RM1,500 from RM1,200.



Steven Sim

"This will help in protecting workers' rights and ensuring fairness in the employment system," he said.



Workers' minimum wage should be reviewed and increased at a rate consistent with inflation and the rising cost of living. BERNAMA PIC

Teen depression rising in tandem with smartphone use

THE teenage years can be challenging. Between physical changes in the body, intense peer pressure and an increased sense of social anxiety, teenagers often have difficulties finding their place in society.

Some want to fit in while others want to stand out, which can cause them to rebel.

Teen depression is also becoming an alarmingly frequent trait in these transition years and there are distinct gender differences in teen depression.

The National Health and Morbidity Survey 2022 (NHMS2022) indicates that one in eight adolescents in Malaysia have suicidal thoughts and one in 10 have attempted suicide, with more girls than boys having suicidal thoughts.

Even more worryingly, one in four adolescents feel depressed and twice as many girls compared with boys are depressed.

Teen depression is no different medically from adult depression explains KPJ Ampang Puteri Specialist Hospital psychiatrist Datuk Dr Azhar Md Zain.

However, the brains of adolescents are structurally different than those of adults.

Teens with depression may also have hormone differences and different levels of neurotransmitters, which are key chemicals in the brain that affect how brain cells communicate with one another. These play an important role

Feelings of hopelessness, conflict with family and friends and changes in appetite and weight are among the signs of teen depression.

PICTURE CREDIT: FREEPIK



Heal

By Meera Murugesan



The use of smartphones and social media appears to correlate with the increase in depression among teenagers, with more girls than boys impacted. PICTURE CREDIT: PROSTOLEH — FREEPIK

FACTORS THAT INCREASE RISK OF DEPRESSION

- Personal/personality issues.
- Trouble adjusting socially.
- Having no social or emotional support.
- Living in a violent household — victim or witness of violence, such as physical or sexual abuse.
- Having issues that negatively impact self-esteem, such as obesity, peer pressure or being bullied.
- Having a chronic illness or mental health condition — such as bipolar, anxiety and personality disorders.
- Suffering from anorexia or bulimia.
- Having a learning disability or Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder.

in regulating mood and behaviour.

Depression can be associated with high levels of stress, anxiety and in the worst case scenario — suicide.

However, symptoms in teens may manifest in different ways than in adults, says Dr Azhar. This may be because teens face different social and developmental challenges.

"Depression can also affect aspects of their personal life, school, social and family life, and lead to social isolation and other problems."

Teen depression is also gender rela-

tive, he adds. Females are three times as likely as males to report a depressive episode.



Datuk Dr Azhar Md Zain

This difference can be attributed to differences in the rate of physical changes between boys and girls.

"Puberty typically starts earlier, and hormonal changes tend to be more evident in young girls. Teenage girls are also more concerned about how others perceive them."

THE IMPACT OF SOCIAL MEDIA

Dr Azhar says the rise in depression among teenagers coincides with the

popularity of smartphones.

Today's teenagers have not known a world that does not include social media. Both young men and women spend a significant amount of time on their smartphones and the impact of this is being felt in many ways, he explains.

NHMS2022 indicates that one in five adolescents have been bullied and harassed by somebody through the Internet, cell phones, or other electronic devices.

Another study by the United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund, reports that Malaysia ranked second in Asia in 2020 for cyberbullying among youths.

Dr Azhar says the use of smartphones and social media appears to correlate with the increase in depres-

SPOTTING THE SIGNS

Symptoms of depression can often be difficult for parents to spot and may be confused with typical feelings of puberty and teenage adjustment. Symptoms can vary in severity, too, but generally, may include:

PERSONALITY CHANGES

- Feeling sad, which can include crying spells for no apparent reason.
- Frustration/anger even over small matters.
- Feeling hopeless, helpless or empty.
- Irritable/annoyed, having self-injurious behaviour.
- Loss of interest or pleasure in usual activities.
- Conflict with family and friends.
- Low self-esteem.
- Feelings of worthlessness, unrealistic guilt.
- Fixation on past failures/exaggerated self-blame/self-criticism.
- Extreme sensitivity to rejection/failure and the need for excessive reassurance.
- Frequent thoughts of death, dying or suicide.

PHYSICAL CHANGES

- Changes in appetite and weight, less attention to personal hygiene or appearance.
- Alcohol or drug misuse.
- Major changes in sleeping habits/insomnia.
- Frequent complaints of unexplained body aches and headaches.
- Trouble thinking, concentrating, making decisions and remembering things, poor school performance.

sion among teenagers. However, it seems to have impacted girls more than boys.

"One reason for this could be that girls spend more time socialising on their smartphones, including texting and interacting on social media. Boys also text and use social media, but tend to use their smartphones more for playing games."

One study found that the rate of depression also aligns with the amount of time spent on social media, he adds. In that study, girls who spent six hours or more on social media daily were significantly unhappier than those who spent only 30 minutes a day. The differences for boys were less noticeable.

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NEW STRAITS TIMES
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Call to monitor proper e-waste management

Sun
12/8

► Need for better incentives to motivate public to practise right way of disposal to avoid significant health risks, says expert

■ BY QIRANA NABILLA MOHD RASHIDI
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PETALING JAYA: The authorities must consistently monitor e-waste management as public awareness of sustainable practices and its proper disposal is "alarmingly low", said Universiti Putra Malaysia Faculty of Forestry and Environment senior lecturer Dr Mohd Yusoff Ishak.

"There is widespread improper disposal of e-waste, and this poses significant dangers to public health. However, while raising awareness is crucial, it is insufficient as the people should be motivated to practise proper e-waste disposal."

He said according to the Universiti Malaya Ungku Aziz Centre for Development Studies, Malaysia generates an estimated 365,000 tonnes of e-waste annually. By 2025, the country is expected to produce around 24.5 million units of e-waste.

Malaysia's definition of e-waste encompasses six items, including mobile phones, computers, televisions, air-conditioners, refrigerators and washing machines.

The 12th Malaysia Plan targets a 40%

recycling rate by next year. But in 2020, Malaysia's recycling rate was only 36.67%, trailing behind Singapore, Taiwan and South Korea.

Mohd Yusoff said current incentives such as low monetary rewards for recycling e-waste may not be enough to motivate younger people, and that more engaging ways are needed to encourage the public to properly dispose of e-waste, adding that amendments to the Environmental Quality Act 1974, which increased penalties for illegal import of electrical and e-waste to a maximum fine of RM10 million, is a positive step to combating the issue.

"However, we have to stop the illegal import of e-waste. This is critical as domestic e-waste in Malaysia has never been properly assessed or managed, which contradicts the circular economy framework that promotes the 'waste to wealth' concept."

"The environmental and social impacts caused by illegal e-waste operations in suburban areas are already significant, and Malaysia's growing reputation as a dumping ground for plastic waste, and now e-waste, highlights the urgent need to address the problem," he said.

Mohd Yusoff added that although there are a few companies registered with the Environment Department that handle e-waste responsibly, their capacity is limited.

He said with the growing volume of e-waste in the country, there are challenges in its proper management.

"Unfortunately, some individuals may take advantage of these shortcomings, leading to improper disposal methods such as burning e-waste, which worsens the problem of air pollution and causes public health risks."

Universiti Teknologi Mara School of Civil Engineering senior lecturer Dr Marfiah Ab Wahid, who is also an expert in environmental management, said the improper disposal of e-waste impacts public health and affects those living near recycling or disposal sites.

"E-waste contains toxic materials like lead, mercury and other harmful chemicals, which when not properly managed or recycled, may be burned in incinerators, releasing harmful chemicals into the air."

"Exposure to these toxins can result in various health issues, including respiratory problems from inhaling pollutants, reproductive disorders due to toxic substances affecting reproductive health, and neurological damage, especially in children, leading to brain damage and developmental issues," she said.

Marfiah added that more than 200 illegal e-waste recycling facilities are operating in Segamat, Johor, Gurun in Kedah and Teluk Penglima Garang in Selangor.

THE SUN

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