



PENGURUSAN PEMANTAUAN KERATAN AKHBAR MBSJ
TARIKH: 17 JULAI 2024 (RABU)

MEDIA ELEKTRONIK (AKHBAR ONLINE / TELEVISYEN / RADIO)

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BERITA UTAMA PBT SELANGOR

22,352 bantahan cukai taksiran, MPAJ sedia dengar keluhan penduduk

by Sheeda Fathil · July 16, 2024 4:18 pm



SHAH ALAM, 16 JULAI: Majlis Perbandaran Ampang Jaya (MPAJ) menerima 22,352 bantahan kadar cukai taksiran baharu setakat 31 Mei lalu.

Yang Dipertuanya Dr Ani Ahmad berkata sesi pendengaran bantahan yang bermula 1 Julai lalu akan berlangsung hingga hujung bulan ini.

"Setakat 11 hari sesi pendengaran berlangsung, seramai 11,015 orang mengesahkan kehadiran tetapi yang datang hanya 951 orang. Mungkin faktor bekerja salah satu sebab mereka tidak hadir.



Yang Dipertua MPAJ Dr Ani Ahmad

"Rata-rata yang hadir membantah kenaikan (cukai taksiran) disebabkan faktor usia yang sudah tua, tiada pendapatan, rumah yang dikenakan cukai tiada penyewa, hanya bergantung pada pencen dan kos sara hidup tinggi," katanya kepada Selangorkini.

Tidak menaikkan kadar cukai selama 27 tahun sejak 1997, Dr Ani berkata setakat semalam MPAJ menghantar notis pemakluman bantahan melalui surat, WhatsApp dan emel kepada semua pembantah.

"Bagi saya sesi pendengaran seperti ini bagus diadakan kerana kita boleh mendengar keluhan dan pandangan mereka selain kita juga berpeluang menerangkan sebab kadar cukai itu perlu dinaikkan.

"Setakat ini kita hanya mendengar sebab mereka membantah dan kita tidak menolak luahan atau cadangan mereka. Semua maklumat yang diperoleh ini akan diusul kepada Kerajaan Negeri," katanya.

SELANGORKINI ONLINE

TARIKH: 17 JULAI 2024

BERITA UTAMA PBT SELANGOR

22,352 bantahan cukai taksiran, MPAJ sedia dengar keluhan penduduk

by Sheeda Fathil 16 July 2024 4:18 pm



Orang ramai menyemak dan membayar cukai serta kompaun di kaunter bergerak Majlis Perbandaran Ampang Jaya (MPAJ) yang dibuka di Sekolah Menengah Kebangsaan Seri Keramat, Hulu Kelang pada 17 Jun 2023. Foto Majlis Perbandaran Ampang

Sebanyak lapan pihak berkuasa tempatan (PBT) tidak membuat **semakan kadar cukai taksiran** antara kira-kira 20 hingga 40 tahun lalu.

Majlis Perbandaran Kajang (MPKJ) paling lama tidak menaikkan kadar itu selama 39 tahun sejak 1985, diikuti **Majlis Perbandaran Kuala Langat (MPKL)** 37 tahun sejak 1987 dan Majlis Perbandaran Selayang (MPS) 32 tahun sejak 1992.

Majlis Bandaraya Subang Jaya (MBSJ) pula tidak menaikkan cukai taksiran selama 32 tahun sejak 1992 bagi kawasan Subang Jaya dan Bandar Sunway. Manakala kawasan USJ, Puchong, Seri Kembangan dan Serdang selama 28 tahun sejak 1996.

Majlis Perbandaran Kuala Selangor (MPKS) pula selama 27 tahun sejak 1997, manakala Majlis Perbandaran Hulu Selangor (MPHS) 28 tahun sejak 1996.

Majlis Bandaraya Shah Alam (MBSA) pula tidak mengenakan sebarang peningkatan cukai taksiran selama 18 tahun sejak 2006.

Pada 30 Mei, **Dato' Menteri Besar Dato' Seri Amirudin Shari** menjelaskan proses penilaian baharu yang dijalankan PBT penting demi memastikan keberkesanan perancangan bandar.

Menegaskan rumah kos rendah tidak dikenakan kenaikan meski menerima notis itu, beliau berkata semakan tersebut bertujuan mengetahui nilai dan mutu perbandaran sesebuah kawasan.

Katanya, pentadbiran negeri juga akan meneliti pelbagai faktor sebelum memberi kebenaran kepada PBT untuk membuat kenaikan ataupun sebaliknya.

SELANGORKINI ONLINE
TARIKH: 17 JULAI 2024

Shah Alam cat play area opens with free entry until year-end

By EDWARD RAJENDRA
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CAT owners and their beloved felines now have an outdoor venue to relax in, with the opening of Catopia in Shah Alam, Selangor.

The cat park was pre-launched by Shah Alam mayor Datuk Mohd Fauzi Mohd Yatim.

"Cat owners will get to spend quality time with their pets, let their felines enjoy the outdoors and even de-stress at the park."

"Our cat park opens from 10am to 7pm and admission is free until Dec 31 this year."

"In January 2025, we will introduce a fee," he said.

He added that Shah Alam City Council (MBSA) was the first local authority in Malaysia to build a recreational cat park.

"Catopia at Persiaran Bandar Raya in Section 14 will serve as an icon of urban renewal."

"It is a facility aimed at providing an avenue for pet owners to release their cats outdoors to play, run and climb in a safe environment," said Mohd Fauzi.

He added that the council allowed only 20 cats at any one time inside the park.

"We offer 12 attractive components that include cat houses, hanging bridges, cat drinking fountain and even cat tunnels."

"Our Landscape Department has created a patch of helicopter grass and a sand box area which



(Above) Mohd Fauzi (centre, in red tie) with MBSA department heads and cat owners at Catopia.

(Right) Two cats enjoying the facilities.

cats love," he said.

Mohd Fauzi said the cat park would be officially launched in October by Tengku Permaisuri of Selangor Tengku Permaisuri Norashikin, in conjunction with Shah Alam's city day.

"This cat park has great potential to become a tourist attraction, mainly for cat lovers."

"It is also Instagram-worthy and one can take plenty of photos of the cats at the park for social media," he said.



THE STAR

Tarikh: 17 JUL 2024



A segment of Jalan Pandan Utama in Pandan Indah, Ampang, will be closed to facilitate the upcoming bridge project. Work is expected to run until February 2025. — AZMAN GHANI/The Star

(MPAJ)

13/8

Ampang road closure for bridge work starting Aug 1

By SHALINI RAVINDRAN
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A TRAFFIC dispersal project involving the construction of two vehicular bridges in Pandan Indah, Ampang, Selangor will take place starting Aug 1.

This will also involve the closure of a portion of Jalan Pandan Utama at the Jalan Pandan Mewah intersection until next February.

Ampang Jaya Municipal Council (MPAJ) Engineering Department director Zafrul Fazry Mohd Fauzi said the project was to reduce congestion at the busy intersection.

"This will allow for smoother traffic to and from Hospital Ampang as well as residential areas so motorists do not get held up at the busy intersection. "Currently, the traffic level of service (LOS) there is grade F.

"Once the project is completed it should be improved to grade D," he said.

LOS refers to traffic flow, designated by letter grades, from A (free flow) to F (near gridlock).

Grade D reflects "steady traffic at high density".

He said the estimated cost of the project was RM9.3mil and it would be fully funded by the state government.

"The initial cost of the project was RM7.29mil, which was approved by the state.

"But preliminary works indicated that there are underground utility and telecommunication cables that will need to be moved, hence the added cost," said Zafrul Fazry.

A 100m-stretch of Jalan Pandan Utama will have a lane share system during the construction period.

Upgrading and construction works include the building of two vehicular bridges over Sungai Kerayong, piling and traffic light upgrades.

He said this during a site visit

with Teratai assemblyman Yew Jia Haur.

Yew advised motorists using the area to be mindful of the traffic changes during the construction period.

"This intersection is a major road for residents in Pandan Indah, Pandan Mewah and Pandan Utama.

"There are also two schools and a hospital which means quick access is necessary.

"We advise motorists and residents to use alternative routes, if possible, to reduce congestion here during the interim."

Signs advising motorists of the road closure will be installed.

Alternative routes include Jalan Pandan Muhibbah, Jalan Bunga Mawar 4 and Jalan Pandan Mewah.

Zafrul Fazry said MPAJ would be working with the police to manage traffic flow in the area.

"We have already engaged with school and hospital representatives as well as resident groups informing them of the project to minimise disruption," he said, adding that flagmen would be placed on-site to manage traffic flow.

For details, call MPAJ Engineering Dept at 03-4285 7300 or the appointed contractor at 011-1563 4180.

THE STAR

17 JUL 2024

Tarikh:.....

By BAVANI M
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KUALA LUMPUR residents are urging the government to instal more speed breakers rather than just lowering the speed limit at school zones.

They say lowering speed limits from 40kph to 30kph alone won't deter motorists from speeding.

Brickfields Rukun Tetangga chairman SKK Naidu commended the government's decision but expressed doubts about its effectiveness.

"Speed limit signs are ineffective in busy areas like Brickfields," he said.

Naidu said Jalan Sultan Abdul Samad, which was less than 1km long with three lanes, had 13 education facilities including primary and secondary schools, kindergartens and a training centre for the disabled.

"Despite the 30kph speed limit and six speed bumps, motorists continue to speed, run red lights, and endanger pedestrians and residents.

"There have been several accidents and numerous near misses, especially at the junction between Jalan Sultan Abdul Samad and Jalan Rozario."

Naidu said they had requested Kuala Lumpur City Hall (DBKL) to put in more speed bumps particularly near the Sentral Suites condominium, but the requests were rejected due to their existing numbers.

"We requested four additional speed bumps: one just before the pedestrian traffic light beside SMK Vivekananda, another before the school's entrance, one at the Jalan Rozario junction, and another just before Jalan Berhala," he said.

On July 15, Deputy Prime

'Need for low speed limit, breakers in Brickfields'

Residents upset requests for more preventive measures rejected



Crossing Jalan Sultan Abdul Samad in Brickfields can be risky for pedestrians, especially children. — Filepic

Minister Datuk Seri Dr Ahmad Zahid Hamidi announced that the speed limit at school zones would soon be lowered to 30kph from 40kph to reduce accidents and create a safer environment for students.

Ahmad Zahid said on average, 67 people perished annually within school zones.

He added that additional speed breakers would be

installed in consultation with local councils and schools to ensure compliance with the new speed limit.

According to police statistics, 322 road accidents were reported in school zones nationwide last year.

Ahmad Zahid said international research showed that for every 1km speed reduction, the fatality rate declines by 4% to 5%, and a



Sheila says she has been almost hit by speeding vehicles on numerous occasions.

speed reduction of 5% could reduce fatal accidents by 30%.

A working committee will be formed to decide on the timing and specific road stretches where the new speed limit will be implemented, Ahmad Zahid said.

Brickfields resident Sheila S. said although her home was only a five minute walk from school, she prayed for the safety of herself and her 12-year-old son before setting out.

"Despite the short distance, our journey is dangerous due to speeding vehicles and motorists ignoring traffic signals at the Jalan Sultan Abdul Samad junction.

"Other residents have also experienced numerous near

misses even when crossing the pedestrian walkway in front of SMK Vivekananda."

She recalled almost being hit countless times, even when the traffic lights turned red for motorists.

Another resident who only wanted to be identified as Devi takes her granddaughters to the same school.

She said near misses occurred at least three to four times a week and only improved when a traffic policeman was present.

Despite the 30kph speed limit on Jalan Sultan Abdul Samad — which is surrounded by residences, schools and places of worship — motorists continue to speed.

Residents also highlighted the added danger from roadside hawkers blocking pedestrian walkways and contributing to congestion.

At Taman Bukit Indah and Seri Petaling, off Jalan Kelang Lama, residents said the inner roads needed both the reduced speed limit and speed breakers because motorists were often speeding.

"Every evening, I take my dogs for a walk and it is annoying to see people speed even within neighbourhoods, endangering others.

"I have to be extra careful and vigilant," said resident CS Tan.

THE STAR

Tarikh: 17 JUL 2024

Story and photo by JOSHUA YAP
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STUDENTS in SK Sungai Binjai now have a new covered walkway to shelter under when entering and exiting school.

The 52m-long walkway, called "Laluan Teduhan Kasih Eco World", is part of Eco World Foundation's Students Aid Programme (SAP) Special Projects, aimed to provide aid to schools in Klang, Selangor.

SK Sungai Binjai is the first of six schools to benefit from the project this year.

Last year, the foundation aided four other schools as part of its role in carrying out the corporate social responsibility (CSR) of its parent company, Eco World Development Group Bhd.

"The school has four gates, namely Gate A, B, C and D, but Gate C had no covered walkway, which meant students had to walk on grass," said Eco World Foundation chairman Tan Sri Lee Lam Thye.

With the new walkway, students now have a safer and more practical route to and from classes, whatever the weather.

Lee also expressed thanks to 25 Team Eco World volunteers from the developer's largest township Eco Grandeur in Puncak Alam, Selangor.

The volunteers painted two blocks of classrooms at the SK Sungai Binjai, the second of its projects at the school following the painting of 35 classrooms in 2016.

The entire project including

Foundation funds 52m walkway for Klang school

SK Sungai Binjai first of six schools in district to benefit from developer's 2024 CSR programme in Selangor



(From third left) Mohd Radzi, Mathews, Mohd Arif, Lee, Chang, Liew and Mohd Najib at the walkway opening ceremony.

the addition of benches and other upgrading works at waiting areas costing RM70,000.

"I request that all students also take good care of the facilities provided," said Lee, who urged students not to vandalise the walkway.

"This walkway is an important step in our efforts to ensure students' safety and also to reduce risk of accidents," said SK Sungai Binjai's principal Mohd Arif Ab Muis at the opening of the walkway.

Also at the event were Eco

World Foundation trustee board members Tan Sri Mohd Radzi Sheikh Ahmad and Philip Mathews, EcoWorld Malaysia president and chief executive officer Datuk Chang Khim Wah, deputy chief executive officer Liew Tian Xiong and divisional

general manager Ho Kwee Hong, and SK Sungai Binjai parents and teachers association chairman Mohd Najib Othman.

The foundation members and guests also took a tour to inspect the walkway and repainted classrooms.

THE STAR

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Tarikh:.....

Varsity marks 25th anniversary with 2,000km ride to campuses in each state

RAJA Muda of Selangor Tengku Amir Shah Sultan Sharafuddin Idris Shah attended the closing of a cycling event held in conjunction with the 25th anniversary of the establishment of Universiti Teknologi Mara (UiTM).

Tengku Amir cycled alongside 12 participants from the university's Puncak Alam campus to its Shah Alam campus, marking the end of the participants' 2,000km journey to UiTM's branches in each state in the peninsula.

The cycling team carried

capsules containing items emblematic of the aspirations and hopes of each university campus, reported Bernama.

The capsules will be buried in a monument to be revealed during UiTM's Gala Night on Aug 24.

The sole female cyclist involved in the event, Norlizan Wahid, who is also a senior UiTM lecturer at the Faculty of Engineering in Penang, said she was proud to be selected to join the mission.

Norlizan described the journey as mentally and physi-

cally challenging.

"I often participate in cycling activities but the farthest I've cycled was around 350km.

"Thankfully, we managed to complete the journey safely."

UiTM vice-chancellor Prof Datuk Dr Shahrin Sahib said UiTM would continuously focus its efforts on the success and employability of graduates to ensure the institution remained relevant and resilient in the future.

He said the employability rate of its graduates has now reached 89.4%.



Tengku Amir (foreground, second left) joining in the ride from UiTM Puncak Alam campus to its Shah Alam campus. — Bernama

THE STAR

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Tarikh:.....

Robot dog for risky tasks wows crowds at carnival in KL

THE debut appearance of a Robo Dog at the National Training Week (NTW) 2024 carnival captivated the attention of visitors, especially children.

Petrosains Learning Delivery Outreach executive Mohd Faisal Mat Isa said allowing visitors to get up close with the robot dog was one way to expose them and encourage their interest in science and technology.

"Robo Dog can be used to perform tasks in risky situations and areas inaccessible to humans.

"For example, in oil rigs, Robo Dog is used to inspect areas with gas leaks or deal with other hazards," he told Bernama when met at the carnival at Bukit Jalil National Stadium in Kuala Lumpur.

Robo Dog, which is 15 inches or 0.38m high, is controlled using a remote control.

It is capable of walking, running, jumping, sitting or lying down, similar to a real canine.

Additionally, Mohd Faisal said his team provided virtual reality (VR) tours of Petrosains in conjunction with NTW.

He added that the public also had the opportunity to learn how to operate drone simulations digitally and participate in puzzles.

NTW 2024 was organised by the Human Resource Development Corporation (HRD Corp) under the Human Resources Ministry.

It aimed to instil a culture of lifelong learning by providing opportunities to enhance skills for free.



Petrosains employee, Aliff Syafiz, checking Robo Dog during NTW 2024 at Bukit Jalil National Stadium. — Bernama

"Robo Dog can be used to perform tasks in risky situations and areas inaccessible to humans."

Mohd Faisal Mat Isa

THE STAR

farikh: 17 JUL 2024

By GRACE CHEN
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A SELANGOR programme on life-long learning awarded nine women scholarships to further their studies in various fields.

The funding will allow them to receive education at diploma, degree, masters and doctorate levels.

"Awarded by Wanita Berdaya Selangor (WBS), under its life-long learning programme, the nine recipients are from the third cohort," said state women and family empowerment, welfare and care economy committee chairman Anfaal Saari.

WBS acts as the implementing body for women's empowerment programmes under the Selangor National Women and Family Development Standing Committee.

It also operates as a subsidiary of state strategic investment arm Menteri Besar Incorporated.

Present at the event at the Selangor state secretariat building in Shah Alam, were Selangor Menteri Besar Datuk Seri Amirudin Shari and state secretary Datuk Haris Kasim.

In 2024, WBS received a total of 122 applications, after which 21 recipients were shortlisted following two rounds of screenings.

The final round saw the nine being chosen.

According to information provided, for the first cohort, a sum of RM200,000 was allocated to 12 beneficiaries.

Ten pursued their studies at diploma and degree level at Open University Malaysia.

Another two pursued their masters at Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia.

In the second cohort, another RM200,000 was allocated to 13 beneficiaries.

Twelve pursued their studies at diploma, degree and master's level at Open University Malaysia

Nine women empowered via higher education

Building Selangor care economy prioritised at scholarship awards



(From sixth left) Haris, Amirudin and Anfaal with the nine scholarship recipients. — KK SHAM/The Star

while one did a doctorate at Universiti Teknologi Malaysia.

For the third cohort, a budget of RM269,540 was allocated.

"The scholarships awarded are mostly in fields of study that will contribute to the advancement of the care economy in Selangor, such as Health Sciences (Physiotherapy), Occupational Rehabilitation (Developmental Disabilities) and Guidance and Counseling Education," said Anfaal.

Addressing recipients, Amirudin spoke on how the emphasis for women's higher

learning had now shifted towards courses that could offer better economic prospects.

This was unlike the past where training courses for women would focus on hobby-based activities such as beading, sewing and embroidery.

"In 2023, Selangor's economy was worth RM400bil.

"Now, the challenge is not just to maintain this performance but to reach the RM500bil mark.

"I am of the view that for us to achieve this, the involvement of the female community, especially in the high-tech industry as well

as in the executive levels of the public and private sector, needs to be improved," said Amirudin.

Explaining that the programme's effectiveness would be seen in the next four years, he added that the shortlisting criteria included character assessment to see which applicants were capable of finishing studies and had the spirit to uplift their lives.

As the programme's aim was to narrow the economic gap, he said emphasis was given towards candidates' plans on how they were planning to give

back to their communities.

They also had to show strong interest and involvement in community work, especially where women empowerment was concerned.

"Of course, preference was also based on family background," he said.

"If a candidate was from a rich family, then they would be able to fund her education.

"Our aim is to empower those who lack the income to do so as a way to improve their chances for a better future," said Amirudin.

THE STAR

Tarikh: 17 JUL 2024

Theatre to spur interest in STEM

Performing arts competition attracts students from 16 schools in Selangor

By FARID WAHAB
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SIXTEEN secondary schools in Selangor took part in a theatre competition promoting interest in science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) through performing arts.

Selangor STEM Mini Theatre Competition was organised by the state government in collaboration with the National STEM Association.

Under the programme, the students received guidance from mentors who comprised undergraduates at higher education institutions.

Association president Prof Emeritus Datuk Dr Noraini Idris said the programme began in 2019.

"Several stakeholders and I presented the proposal to Menteri Besar Datuk Seri Amirudin Shari, who was also head of the state education committee then.

"Within five minutes of hearing the proposal, he approved and pledged support



Jamaliah (centre, front row in white) and Prof Noraini (on her right) at the launch of the Selangor STEM Mini Theatre Competition in Shah Alam. — AZLINA ABDULLAH/The Star

for the programme," she said during the launch at the Selangor State Secretariat building in Shah Alam.

She said the state government continued to provide grants for the programme during the Covid-19 pandemic.

"Due to the restrictions then, the competition was conducted online.

"We negotiated with the Selangor Education Department to allow participating students to conduct related activities at school."

Prof Noraini said they hoped to spur interest among students to take STEM subjects in school.

"There has been a decrease in the number of students pursuing such subjects, which is a worrying trend," she added.

"Through the theatre competition, students can learn outside the classroom in a fun and entertaining environment."

State public health and environment committee chairman Jamaliah Jamaluddin, who represented Amirudin, said the competition was a platform for students to showcase their talent and realise their potential.

"With the advent of new technologies such as artificial intelligence, STEM subjects have come to occupy an even more central role in education," she said.

THE STAR

Tarikh:.....17 JUL 2024

Still living with parents as adults

THERE are many young adults between the ages of 18 and 30-something in Malaysia opting to live with their parents as a way to save money.

However, this arrangement is fraught with challenges, from dealing with strained relationships to navigating boundaries.

StarMetro's Life & The City podcast returns for a third episode where hosts Aida Ahmad and Farid Wahab talk to 24-year-old StarTV video editor Imran Khaliq Mohd Khairizal, who shares his

personal experience on the pros and cons of such an arrangement.

Farid and Imran Khaliq also draw from their personal experience to offer insights on dealing with the changing dynamics.

The Life & The City podcast series, which airs fortnightly, addresses current and social issues impacting urbanites.

It is available on www.thestar.com.my/metro and on The Star's social media platforms (@thestaronline).



(From left) Life & The City podcast hosts Farid and Aida with their guest Imran.

THE STAR

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Tarikh:.....

Duo quizzed over offensive comments

PETALING JAYA: The Malaysian Communications and Multimedia Commission (MCMC) has recorded the statements of two people for allegedly posting offensive comments on a social media platform.

It said the men's statements were recorded on Monday night after a Notice of Attendance were issued to them in accordance with stipulated procedures.

The provocative comments involved a replay of a parliamentary proceeding posted on TikTok on July 9.

"In an operation following public complaints, the commission seized SIM cards and smartphones belonging to the two suspects, which were used to upload the offensive comments."

The case is being investigated under Section 233 of the Communications and Multimedia Act 1998 (Act 588).

The Act carries a maximum fine of RM50,000, a one-year prison sentence or both, upon conviction.

The section prohibits the creation or transmission of communication that is offensive, obscene, or indecent with the intent to annoy or harass others.

The MCMC also reminded the public that any misuse of communication services and social media will be taken seriously.

"The public should not use network services and online applications to make any posts or comments that are against the laws of the country," it added.

THE STAR

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Tarikh:.....

Enforcers running racket

MACC: Agents taking bribes to let unlicensed businesses operate

By JUSTIN ZACK
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KUALA LUMPUR: A six-month investigation by the Malaysian Anti-Corruption Commission (MACC) has led to the discovery of enforcement agents taking bribes to allow unlicensed stalls and traders to operate in the city.

MACC deputy chief commissioner (operations) Datuk Seri Ahmad Khusairi Yahaya (*pic*), in a statement yesterday, said investigations revealed that enforcement agents had been protecting "illegal activities in large cities" and small-scale businesses, including "shops that are being monopolised by foreigners".

"The MACC has found that local licence holders have been renting their spaces and licences to for-

eigners. Enforcement agents are then given bribes every month to protect these premises and to not take action on these shops that operate with 'Ali Baba licences'," he said.

He added that operations would be conducted in Kuala Lumpur to bring the matter to light.

"These operations will be used as proof that there are enforcement agents who have been protecting the activities of these illegal traders," he said, adding that the MACC hoped local governments would take stern action to curb such activities.

"The MACC expects to arrest



dozens of people, including foreigners, licence holders and enforcement agents who are involved," he said.

Meanwhile, in Kota Kinabalu, Bernama reported that a Keningau District Land and Survey Department administrative assistant was fined RM14,000 by the Sessions Court for using falsified documents to obtain land compensation payments for a project in Keningau 10 years ago.

Judge Jason Juga imposed the sentence on Justine Ongkomog @ Amran Mohd Osman, 54, who pleaded guilty to the five alternative charges read to him.

The MACC had earlier dropped

the five original charges against him.

The court imposed a fine of RM7,000 each for the fourth and fifth alternative charges, while the first, second and third alternative charges were taken into consideration by the court in determining the sentence.

Justine was accused of submitting falsified forms at the Keningau Office of the Land Revenue Collector on June 2, 2014, to fraudulently obtain compensation payments for land linked to the Sook-Tulid Sinua Road Upgrade Project Phase 2 in Keningau.

He was charged under Section 471 of the Penal Code which carries a maximum imprisonment of two years, a fine or both, upon conviction.

Justine settled the fine.

THE STAR

Date: 17 JUL 2024

17/7

Kenaikan gaji: Cuepacs tunggu khabar gembira

SHAH ALAM- Kongres Kesatuan Pekerja-pekerja Dalam Perkhidmatan Awam (Cuepacs) mengharapkan ada khabar gembira buat 1.5 juta penjawat awam sempena pengumuman khas berkaitan kenaikan gaji yang akan dibuat kerajaan pada 16 Ogos depan.

Setiausaha Agungnya, Abdul Rahman Mohd Nordin berkata, Perdana Menteri, Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim akan membuat perincian kadar baharu kenaikan, susulan pengumuman kenaikan gaji lebih 13 peratus yang merupakan kadar tertinggi dalam sejarah perkhidmatan awam negara mulai 1 Disember nanti.

"Kita jangka salah satu pengumuman yang akan dibuat ialah berkaitan Sistem Saraan Perkhidmatan Awam dengan kenaikan gaji.

"Cuepacs harapkan apa yang kerajaan cadangkan itu dapat dilaksanakan memandangkan sudah lama gaji tidak disemak dan diselaraskan.

"Sudah tentu harapan besar penjawat awam, kenaikan gaji ini dapat meringankan beban kos sara hidup untuk masa akan datang," katanya ketika dihubungi *Sinar Harian* pada Selasa.

Beliau berkata demikian ketika diminta mengulas mengenai pengumuman khas berkaitan dengan kenaikan gaji penjawat awam yang akan dibuat kerajaan.



“

Sudah tentu harapan besar penjawat awam, kenaikan gaji ini dapat meringankan beban kos sara hidup untuk masa akan datang.”

-Abdul Rahman

Menerusi hantaran di aplikasi X, Jabatan Perkhidmatan Awam memaklumkan, pengumuman itu akan diadakan menerusi Majlis Amanat Perdana Perkhidmatan Awam (MAPPA) yang berlangsung di Pusat Konvensyen Antarabangsa Putrajaya (PICC).

Tambah Abdul Rahman, Cuepacs mengharapkan dengan adanya kenaikan gaji, ia membantu meningkatkan motivasi, produktiviti dan kesihatan penjawat awam.

"Kita faham ada dalam kalangan mereka yang kadar gajinya terlalu rendah sehingga terpaksa mengabaikan aspek kualiti makanan bagi berjimat cermat. Secara tidak langsung, kenaikan ini dapat meringankan beban mereka.

"Ekonomi negara juga sudah semakin pulih, jadi saya rasa tidak ada masalah untuk kerajaan tampung kenaikan kos bagi membayar gaji penjawat awam," ulasnya.

SINAR HARIAN

17 JUL 2024

Tarikh:

SH
17/7

Kerajaan belum sedia laksana semula GST

KUALA LUMPUR - Kerajaan belum ber-cadang untuk melaksanakan cukai barang dan perkhidmatan (GST) kerana ia bersifat cukai kepenggunaan yang berasas luas dan bukan masa yang sesuai untuk diperkenalkan semula.

Menteri Kewangan II, Datuk Seri Amir Hamzah Azizan berkata, ia tidak sesuai dilaksanakan kini kerana rakyat terutama yang berpendapatan rendah menghadapi cabaran kos sara hidup.

Menurutnya, dalam melaksanakan pembaharuan fiskal, kerajaan mengambil pendekatan yang progresif dalam konteks subsidi bersasar dan percukaian.

"Kerajaan akan terus mengutamakan untuk menambah baik sistem cukai sedia ada dan memperkenalkan percukaian yang tidak memberi kesan kepada golongan rentan sebelum menilai keperluan untuk memperkenalkan cukai kepenggunaan baharu seperti GST.

"Sebarang perubahan dasar kepada sistem percukaian berasaskan kepenggunaan seperti melaksanakan semula GST perlu diteliti untuk memastikan ia bersifat progresif.

"Seterusnya, mudah ditadbir, tidak memberi impak negatif kepada kos sara hidup dan pertumbuhan ekonomi serta pada masa yang sama dapat menjana

hasil yang mampan kepada kerajaan," katanya di Dewan Rakyat pada Selasa.

Beliau berkata demikian bagi menjawab soalan tambahan Datuk Mohd Suhaimi Abdullah (PN-Langkawi) mengenai strategi Lembaga Hasil Dalam Negeri (LHDN) dan Jabatan Kastam Diraja Malaysia (JKDM) bagi meningkatkan pematuhan cukai dan sama ada kerajaan akan memperkenalkan semula GST seperti negara jiran.

Sementara itu, Amir Hamzah memaklumkan, kerajaan melalui Lembaga Hasil Dalam Negeri (LHDN) telah meluluskan sebanyak 141,406 permohonan Program Khas Pengakuan Sukarela (PKPS) 2.0.

"Permohonan itu melibatkan 102,572 pembayar cukai individu, 27,707 syarikat dan selebihnya lain-lain kategori seperti pertubuhan.

"Jumlah itu melibatkan taksiran cukai dilaporkan sebanyak RM1.29 bilion dan hasil dibangkitkan didapati melepasi sasaran awal yang ditetapkan iaitu sebanyak RM1 bilion.

"Daripada jumlah taksiran tersebut, sebanyak RM512.6 juta telah berjaya dikutip,"



AMIR HAMZAH

katanya bagi menjawab pertanyaan Datuk Mohd Isam Mohd Isa (BN-Tampin) mengenai keberkesanan PKPS 2.0 mengenai bilangan syarikat dan individu yang telah menyertainya serta nilai kutipan hasil yang berjaya diperolehi.

Dalam pada itu, Amir Hamzah memberitahu, JKDM menerima sebanyak 1,542 permohonan pengakuan sukarela daripada pembayar cukai individu dan syarikat dengan jumlah cukai yang diikrarkan adalah sebanyak RM229 juta.

"Jumlah ini juga telah melebihi sasaran yang dijangkakan iaitu sebanyak 500 permohonan dengan nilai kutipan cukai berjumlah RM200 juta.

"Hasil cukai yang dikutip daripada PKPS, akan dimasukkan ke dalam Kumpulan Wang Disatukan seperti mana lain-lain hasil cukai yang dikutip oleh kerajaan," ujarnya.

Menurut Amir Hamzah, hasil berkenaan akan digunakan semula untuk membiayai perbelanjaan negara yang diluluskan oleh Parlimen melalui belanjawan tahunan, termasuk projek pembangunan awam seperti sekolah, universiti, hospital, jalan raya dan sebagainya.

SINAR HARIAN

Tarikh:1.7. JUL 2024.....

Suami isteri direman enam hari SH 17/7 kes salah guna jawatan

KUALA TERENGGANU - Pasangan suami isteri direman enam hari di Mahkamah Majistret di sini pada Selasa bagi membantu siasatan berhubung kes penyalahgunaan jawatan dalam sebuah agensi untuk mendapatkan projek pembekalan bernilai lebih RM200,000.

Majistret Noor Mazrinie Mahmood mengeluarkan perintah reman terhadap suami isteri yang berusia 30-an itu sehingga Ahad ini selepas membenarkan permohonan daripada pihak Suruhanjaya Pencegahan Rasuah Malaysia (SPRM).

Menurut Sumber, SPRM Terengganu telah menahan lelaki terbabit di pejabatnya kira-kira jam 12 tengah hari pada Isnin manakala isterinya pula ditahan kira-kira jam 1 tengah hari di kediaman pasangan

berkenaan.

Beliau berkata, siasatan awal mendapati pasangan itu dipercayai melakukan perbuatan berkenaan antara 2022 hingga 2023 melibatkan beberapa jenis kerja-kerja pembekalan berbeza.

Sumber itu memaklumkan SPRM Terengganu kini sedang meneliti kerja-kerja pembekalan lain yang diperoleh syarikat terbabit daripada agensi berkenaan.

Sementara itu, Pengarah SPRM Terengganu, Hazrul Shazreen Abd Yazid ketika dihubungi mengesahkan penahanan pasangan suami isteri berkenaan.

Beliau berkata, kes disiasat di bawah Seksyen 23(1) Akta SPRM 2009.



Suspek ketika tiba di Mahkamah Majistret di Kuala Terengganu pada Selasa.

SINAR HARIAN

Tarikh: 17 JUL 2024

Kawal selia AI tanpa sekat teknologi

91 17/7

Kerajaan perlu wujudkan undang-undang yang seimbang, kekang salah guna AI

Oleh **TUAN BUQHAIRAH
TUAN MUHAMAD ADNAN dan
ROSKHOIRAH YAHYA**
SHAH ALAM

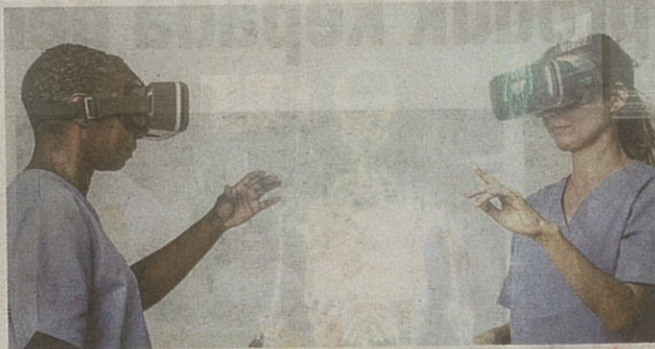
Kerajaan perlu mewujudkan satu undang-undang yang seimbang bagi mengekang masalah penyalahgunaan teknologi kecerdasan buatan (AI) dan pada masa sama tidak menyekat perkembangan teknologi, kebebasan bersuara, ekspresi dan seni.

Pakar Undang-Undang dan Perlembagaan dari Universiti Islam Antarabangsa Malaysia, Profesor Madya Dr Khairil Azmin Mokhtar berkata, oleh sebab itu satu perbincangan antara kerajaan, pemegang taruh, agensi dan syarikat terlibat perlu diadakan bagi mewujudkan satu kerangka kawal selia yang komprehensif.

Menurutnya, tidak dinafikan kewujudan undang-undang yang ketat sedikit sebanyak dapat mengekang masalah tersebut namun dikhuatiri akan menyekat perkembangan dan kemajuan AI dalam negara.

"Bagi saya undang-undang mengawal selia penyalahgunaan teknologi AI bagi tujuan jenayah difikirkan amat wajar sekali. Pihak polis pun ada buat kenyataan bahawa ia boleh mewujudkan ancaman kepada kesejahteraan awam dan negara.

"Namun perlu diingatkan, kita memerlukan kemajuan dalam bidang AI untuk berdaya saing dengan negara lain. Kita risau bila buat undang-undang yang terlampau ketat, pembangunan dalam bidang itu terbantut kerana rakyat tidak



Penggunaan AI sememangnya membantu pembangunan negara, namun ada pihak yang menyalahgunakan teknologi berkenaan. Setakat ini Malaysia tiada lagi undang-undang khas untuk kesalahan AI, hanya kod etika sahaja. - Gambar hiasan.



KHAIRIL AZMIN

SHAHUL HAMID

berani meneroka AI di Malaysia dan akhirnya akan ke luar negara.

"Sebab itu saya cadangkan Kementerian dan pihak terlibat harus mengadakan perbincangan bagi mendapatkan satu kerangka yang lebih seimbang untuk perkara tersebut," ujarnya kepada *Sinar Harian*.

Sebelum ini, Menteri Komunikasi, Fahmi Fadzil meminta masyarakat agar berwaspada dengan taktik penipuan menggunakan penyebaran video dan imej palsu atau *deepfake* yang dihasilkan

menggunakan teknologi AI.

Fahmi dilaporkan berkata, penggunaan AI sememangnya membantu pembangunan negara, namun ada pihak yang menyalahgunakan teknologi berkenaan.

Katanya, beliau akan bertemu dengan semua pengendali media sosial di Singapura pada bulan ini bagi membincangkan beberapa perkara termasuk mengenai bahaya AI di platform mereka.

Mengulas lanjut, Khairil Azmin memaklumkan, ada laporan yang mengatakan bahawa Singapura sudah mempunyai undang-undang itu, manakala Thailand dan Indonesia di fasa akhir dalam merangka undang-undang yang sama.

Jelasnya, terdapat juga saranan untuk mewajibkan platform yang menyediakan perkhidmatan AI untuk mengemukakan notifikasi bahawa sesuatu imej atau video yang dipamerkan adalah dijana oleh AI.

"Dengan cara ini, orang ramai dapat mengetahui imej atau video yang dilihat adalah sesuatu yang tulen atau sebaliknya selain dapat mengelak lebih ramai individu menjadi mangsa penipuan dalam tali-

an yang semakin berleluasa.

"Setakat ini Malaysia tiada undang-undang khas untuk kesalahan AI, hanya kod etika sahaja. Penyalahgunaan media sosial ini sangat kompleks kerana ia melibatkan banyak perkara antaranya isu hak cipta, fitnah malah sivil juga," ulasnya.

Sementara itu, pakar kriminologi, Datuk Shahul Hamid Abd Rahim menegaskan, undang-undang sedia ada dilihat tidak mencukupi untuk membendung penyalahgunaan AI.

"Saya fikir perlu ada satu akta khusus AI di bawah multimedia dan digital. *Deepfake* (video, imej dan suara palsu) ini amat bahaya bukan sahaja kepada individu malah terhadap keselamatan dan ekonomi negara," jelasnya.

Deepfake merupakan penipuan wajah, suara individu dengan menggunakan perisian yang dijana oleh cabang AI, antaranya *worm GPT*, *fraud GPT* dan lain-lain serta boleh dibeli di pasaran gelap.

Ia digunakan untuk tujuan memanipulasi kandungan bagi seseorang walhal individu sebenar tidak pernah melakukan seperti apa dipertontonkan.

Kebiasaannya mangsa melibatkan individu berpengaruh seperti pernah dilaporkan sebelum ini, iaitu bekas Perdana Menteri Singapura dan penyanyi Amerika Syarikat, Taylor Swift.

Penyanyi nombor satu negara, Datuk Seri Siti Nurhaliza Tarudin mendedahkan beliau turut menjadi mangsa *deepfake* yang meniru suara dan wajahnya demi mengaut keuntungan.

Pada 13 Mac lalu, Parlimen Kesatuan Eropah (EU) menjadi yang pertama di dunia meluluskan satu set peraturan penting untuk mengawal selia AI.

Tambah Shahul Hamid, sekiranya tiada hukuman setimpal terhadap *deepfakes*, ia mengundang lebih ramai yang teraniaya.

"*Deepfake* AI ini akan menjadi punca segala jenayah kerana ia menyerupai segenap segi," ulasnya.

SINAR HARIAN

17 JUL 2024

Tarikh:

Purata suhu Semenanjung meningkat

9/17/74

KUALA LUMPUR - Purata suhu permukaan bagi Semenanjung Malaysia menunjukkan peningkatan sebanyak 0.24 darjah Celsius per dekad.

Menteri Sumber Asli dan Kelestarian Alam, Nik Nazmi Nik Ahmad berkata, berdasarkan rekod dari tahun 1969 hingga 2019, purata suhu bulanan di Semenanjung pada bulan Mei 2024 ialah 28.8 darjah Celsius.

Manakala purata suhu bulanan pada bulan Mei 1974 iaitu 50 tahun yang lalu pula katanya, ialah 26.6 darjah Celsius.

"Peningkatan suhu ini dipengaruhi oleh pelbagai faktor iaitu faktor semula jadi dan kesan daripada aktiviti manusia.

"Peningkatan pelepasan gas rumah kaca di atmosfera secara global menyebabkan perubahan iklim yang memberi kesan terhadap peningkatan suhu global dan impaknya dapat juga dirasakan di Semenanjung," katanya.

SINAR HARIAN

Tarikh:1..7..JUL....2024.....

Hutang meningkat kepada RM1.22 trilion

8th 17/7

Kerajaan juga telah membuat pinjaman kasar berjumlah RM70.5 bilion bagi tempoh Januari hingga April tahun ini

Oleh **NURUL HUDA HUSAIN**
dan **NOR SYAMIRA LIANA**
NOR ASHAHA
KUALA LUMPUR

Hutang kerajaan Persekutuan meningkat RM50 bilion kepada RM1.22 trilion setakat akhir April tahun ini berbanding RM1.17 trilion pada akhir tahun lalu.

Perdana Menteri, Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim berkata, kerajaan juga telah membuat pinjaman kasar berjumlah RM70.5 bilion bagi tempoh Januari hingga April tahun ini.

Menurutnya, pinjaman kasar itu meliputi terbitan Sekuriti Kerajaan Malaysia sebanyak RM30 bilion, Terbitan Pelaburan Kerajaan Malaysia (RM34.5 bilion) dan bil Perbendaharaan (RM6 bilion).

"Terimaan pinjaman ini digunakan untuk membayar hutang yang matang sebanyak RM20.6 bilion dan baki RM49.9 bilion untuk menampung defisit dalam tempoh tersebut serta hutang yang akan matang.

"Secara amnya, peningkatan hutang kerajaan Persekutuan saban tahun adalah berikutan keperluan kerajaan membuat pinjaman bagi membiayai defisit fiskal iaitu untuk menampung perbelanjaan pembangunan (DE).

"Pinjaman ini akan me-



ANWAR

tingkatkan paras hutang kerajaan selagi mana kedudukan kewangan kerajaan mengalami defisit. DE penting kerana ia merupakan pelaburan awam yang mempunyai kesan penganda besar dan berimpak tinggi dalam memacu pertumbuhan ekonomi negara."

katanya dalam jawapan bertulis, menjawab soalan Datuk Ahmad Amzad Hashim (PN-Kuala Terengganu) mengenai justifikasi kepada kenaikan hutang kerajaan Persekutuan RM64 bilion dalam tempoh 4 bulan bermula

Januari 2024.

Menurut Anwar, kerajaan komited untuk mengekalkan trajektori konsolidasi fiskal dengan defisit pada 2023 mencatat pengurangan kepada 5.0 peratus Keluaran Dalam Negara Kasar (KDNK) iaitu sebanyak RM91.4 bilion, berbanding 5.6 peratus pada 2022 atau RM99.5 bilion.

Beliau berkata, defisit fiskal pada 2024 diunjur untuk terus berkurang kepada 4.3 peratus KDNK iaitu RM85.4 bilion.

"Usaha ini mampu untuk menambah baik kedudukan kewangan awam seterusnya mengurangkan beban hutang dalam jangka sederhana dan panjang," katanya.

SINAR HARIAN

Tarikh:17 JUL 2024.....

Bukan masa terbaik untuk kembali laksana GST

Kosmo 17/7

KUALA LUMPUR – Kementerian Kewangan (MOF) belum berca- dang untuk melaksanakan cukai barang dan perkhidmatan (GST) kerana ia bersifat cukai kepeng- gunaan yang berasas luas dan bukan masa sesuai untuk diper- kenalkan semula.

Menteri Kewangan II, Datuk Seri Amir Hamzah Azizan berka- ta, ia tidak sesuai dilaksanakan kini kerana rakyat terutama yang berpendapatan rendah mengha- dapi cabaran kos sara hidup.

Ujar beliau, dalam melak- sanakan pembaharuan fiskal, kerajaan mengambil pendekatan yang progresif dalam konteks subsidi bersasar dan percukaian.

"Kerajaan akan terus mengu- tamakan untuk menambah baik sistem cukai sedia ada dan mem- perkenalkan percukaian yang tidak memberi kesan kepada golongan rentan sebelum menilai keperluan untuk memperkenalkan cukai kepenggunaan baharu seperti GST.

"Sebarang perubahan dasar kepada sistem percukaian ber- rasaskan kepenggunaan seperti melaksanakan semula GST perlu diteliti untuk memastikan ia ber- sifat progresif.

"Seterusnya mudah ditadbir, tidak memberi impak negatif ke- pada kos sara hidup dan pertum-



SISTEM percukaian sedia ada akan ditambah baik sebelum cukai kepenggunaan baharu seperti GST diperkenalkan. – GAMBAR HIASAN

buhan ekonomi serta pada masa yang sama dapat menjana hasil yang mampan kepada kerajaan," katanya ketika sesi Jawapan Menteri di Dewan Rakyat di sini semalam.

Beliau berkata demikian ke- tika menjawab soalan tambahan Datuk Mohd Suhaimi Abdul- lah (PN-Langkawi) mengenai strategi Lembaga Hasil Dalam Negeri (LHDN) dan Jabatan Kas- tam Diraja Malaysia (JKDM) bagi meningkatkan pematuhan cu- kai dan sama ada kerajaan akan

memperkenalkan semula GST seperti negara jiran.

Mengulas mengenai mening- kat pematuhan cukai, Amir Hamzah memberitahu, LHDN melaksanakan empat strategi bagi tujuan kesedaran awam tentang kepentingan membayar cukai terhadap pembangunan negara.

"Langkah pertama adalah dengan menjalin kerjasama ber- sama pempengaruh dan selebriti melalui Program Rakan Strategik Hasil," katanya.

KOSMO

Tarikh: 17 JUL 2024



PROSPEK pertumbuhan ekonomi kukuh, selain jangkaan paras OPR yang stabil antara faktor positif yang bakal menyokong prestasi ringgit tahun ini. – GAMBAR HIASAN

Ringgit mampu capai 4.60 akhir 2024

PETALING JAYA – Kedudukan ringgit diramalkan terus mengukuh untuk mencapai 4.60 berbanding dolar Amerika Syarikat (AS) menjelang hujung tahun ini, menurut laporan Unjuran Sepuluh Tahun Kedua 2024 Malaysia yang diterbitkan Maybank Investment Bank (IB) semalam.

Katanya, ringgit telah kembali stabil berbanding dolar AS berikutan campur tangan Bank Negara Malaysia (BNM), selain langkah dan komunikasi yang diselaraskan antara BNM dan Kementerian Kewangan.

"Faktor positif yang menyokong ringgit termasuk prospek pertumbuhan ekonomi domestik bertambah baik, serta jangkaan Kadar Dasar Semalaman (OPR) yang stabil pada paras

tiga peratus.

"Selain itu, kami menjangkakan pemotongan kadar faedah sebanyak dua hingga tiga kali oleh Rizab Persekutuan AS bermula September hingga Disember 2024," katanya.

Pada masa sama, Maybank IB menyemak naik unjuran pertumbuhan Keluaran Dalam Negara Kasar (KDNK) Malaysia kepada 4.7 peratus tahun ini daripada 4.4 peratus, sementara unjuran pertumbuhan KDNK tahun depan dinaikkan kepada 5.1 peratus, daripada lima peratus.

Jelasnya, terdapat tiga faktor utama yang menyokong ekonomi Malaysia, pertama ialah kitaran menaik dalam pelaburan langsung asing (FDI) dan pelaburan langsung domestik (DDI), yang

mencerminkan momentum berterusan sejak 2021.

Selain itu, terdapat pemulihan permintaan luar terutamanya dalam elektronik/teknologi dan pelancongan yang menyumbang kepada pertumbuhan kukuh sektor perkhidmatan dan pembuatan, serta lantunan semula eksport barangan dan perkhidmatan.

Ketiga ialah perbelanjaan pengguna yang berdaya tahan, di sebalik pasaran pekerjaan kukuh dan kadar pengangguran rendah, selain pertumbuhan pendapatan dan langkah sokongan kerajaan.

Maybank IB turut mengekalkan sasaran petunjuk utama Bursa Malaysia, FBM KLCI untuk mencapai 1,680 mata pada hujung tahun ini.

KOSMO

Tarikh: 17 JUL 2024

MBI, 3 firma China bangun ekosistem teknologi hijau

04 17/7

Perbadanan Menteri Besar (MBI) memeterai Memorandum Persefahaman (MoU) dengan tiga syarikat dari China bagi membangunkan ekosistem teknologi hijau di Pulau Indah, Selangor.

Sebanyak dua MoU dimeterai oleh MBI bersama China Association for International Science and Technology Cooperation, Asia ICM Resources Sdn Bhd dan China Harbour Engineering Company Ltd.

Menerusi kerjasama antara MBI dengan syarikat berkenaan, projek Taman Perindustrian Digital dan Teknologi Hijau China-Malaysia akan dibangunkan di tapak pembangunan Selangor Bio Bay (SBB), Pulau Indah.

Majlis menandatangani MoU itu disempurnakan oleh Ketua Bahagian Kewangan Kumpulan dan Ketua

Pegawai Kewangan MBI Selangor, Zaniffa Azura Ahmad sambil disaksikan oleh EXCO Agama Islam & Kebudayaan Inovasi Selangor, Dr Fahmi Ngah dan Pegawai Kewangan Negeri, Ahmad Fadzli Ahmad Tajuddin.

Zaniffa Azura berkata, kerjasama strategik itu akan menawarkan pelbagai manfaat buat Selangor dan China.

"Kerjasama ini juga akan menyokong pembangunan Rancangan Selangor Pertama (RS-1) dan inisiatif pelepasan gas rumah hijau (GHG).

"Melalui kerjasama strategik, kemudahan infrastruktur akan dinaik taraf serta membina masa depan yang lebih mampan di Pulau Indah," katanya semasa Majlis Menandatangani MoU antara MBI dan tiga syarikat dari China itu di Subang

Jaya, semalam.

Beliau berkata, MoU itu juga akan menyuntik peluang pelaburan dan pekerjaan di Pulau Indah selain meningkatkan nilai Kadar Keluaran Dalam Negara Kasar (KDNK) di Selangor.

"Untuk China, ini akan memperkukuh kerjasama antarabangsa dalam menyokong pembangunan mampan, selain mempamer kemajuan teknologinya di peringkat global serta menarik minat untuk lebih banyak syarikat dan syarikat berkaitan kerajaan (GLC) untuk menjalin kerjasama.

"Kerjasama dengan China juga akan membuka kunci akses kepada teknologi termaju dan pasaran yang luas untuk menarik perniagaan mewah dan memacu sektor perindustrian dan komersial Selangor ke hadapan," katanya.

BERITA HARIAN

Tarikh.....1..7..JUL..2024

Operasi khas SPRM tahan PBT 'wayang'

17/7 34

Risikan, intipan dibuat sejak enam bulan lalu

Oleh Ilah Hafiz Aziz
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Kuala Lumpur: Suruhanjaya Pencegahan Rasuah Malaysia (SPRM) dijangka akan melakukan operasi khas untuk mengesan pegawai pihak berkuasa tempatan (PBT) didakwa bersubahat dan melindungi kegiatan haram sekitar bandar besar seluruh negara, termasuk ibu negara.

Perkara itu disahkan Timbalan Ketua Pesuruhjaya (Operasi) SPRM, Datuk Seri Ahmad Khusairi Yahaya, yang memaklumkan, sekurang-kurangnya dua operasi khas diatur oleh pihaknya dalam tempoh terdekat.

BH dimaklumkan, SPRM sudah menjalankan risikan sejak

enam bulan lalu selepas mengesan tindakan penguatkuasaan seolah-olah tidak serius atau 'sekadar wayang' dimainkan kakitangan PBT yang bersengkokol.

Tindakan itu menyebabkan kegiatan haram itu menjadi terlalu aktif seperti 'cendawan selepas hujan', walaupun laporan demi laporan didadu orang awam.

Difahamkan juga, intipan SPRM mendapati kegiatan rasuah berbentuk suapan bulanan menjadi antara punca tindakan tidak berkesan terhadap pemilik lesen 'Ali Baba'.

Bocorkan maklumat

Penguat kuasa juga dikatakan bertindak secara bermusim dan seolah-olah berdiam diri terhadap beberapa kawasan tertentu, yang sememangnya diketahui



Ahmad Khusairi

umum menjalankan aktiviti itu.

Risikan SPRM turut mendapati, perniagaan berskala kecil seperti penjaja dan kedai yang kini dimonopoli warga asing disyaki dilindungi penguat kuasa agar perniagaan disewakan pemilik sah tidak dikenakan tindakan.

Antara lokasi dikenal pasti adalah seki-

tar kawasan pasar di Kuala Lumpur, yang masih dimonopoli warga asing biarpun penguatkuasaan dilakukan, dipercayai kerana dilindungi 'tangan ghaib' yang disyaki turut membocorkan maklumat operasi dirancang pihak berkuasa.

Ahmad Khusairi mengesahkan, dua operasi khas diatur di sekitar ibu negara bagi memberantas rasuah memberi dan menerima membabitkan pemilik premis dan penguat kuasa.

BERITA HARIAN
17 JUL 2024
Tarikh.....

Perlu tindakan komprehensif tangani buli siber



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Statistik mengenai buli siber di Malaysia menunjukkan masalah ini semakin serius, terutama dalam kalangan remaja. Menurut kajian Ipsos, Malaysia berada di tempat kedua di Asia selepas India dalam isu buli siber dalam kalangan belia.

Kajian membabitkan 20,793 responden dari seluruh dunia itu menunjukkan 23 peratus atau satu daripada empat ibu bapa di Malaysia melaporkan anak mereka pernah mengalami buli siber dilakukan pelaku melalui media sosial, SMS, e-mel dan laman web.

Buli siber berlaku dalam pelbagai bentuk tindakan seperti memberi komen menghina dan mengeji seseorang secara berterusan, menyebarkan khabar angin, menghantar mesej berunsur kebencian atau ancaman dan menyebar gambar atau video memalukan.

Terdapat pelbagai faktor yang mendorong seseorang menjadi pembuli siber antaranya masalah psikologi, kurang rasa empati, anonimiti internet, dinamika kelompok dan algoritma media sosial.

Bagi individu menghadapi masalah psikologi seperti gangguan emosi, stress, trauma atau pernah menjadi mangsa buli, akan membuli orang lain sebagai cara melepaskan rasa marah atau rasa tidak berdaya dihadapi.

Sebagai contoh, seseorang berasa terasing atau marah kerana masalah keluarga mungkin mencari cara meluahkan perasaan itu dengan membuli orang lain di alam siber.

Selain itu, media sosial biasanya menjadi platform bagi seseorang mempamerkan identitinya. Individu memiliki nilai diri rendah cenderung berperilaku biadab untuk menarik perhatian pengguna lain.

Kurang rasa empati

Kurang rasa empati pula lahir daripada masalah psikologi dialami seseorang. Orang ini tidak mampu memahami atau merasai emosi orang lain lalu tidak ambil peduli kesan tindakan mereka terhadap mangsa.

Contohnya, pembuli siber yang menghantar mesej berunsur kebencian tidak akan peduli bagaimana mesej itu boleh menyebabkan tekanan emosi kepada penerima. Pembuli siber pula tidak melihat reaksi langsung mangsa dibuli dan dihina, menyebabkan hilang rasa empati serta tanggungjawab terhadap orang dibuli atau dihina.

Dalam aspek anonimiti internet, seseorang mempunyai ruang dan peluang untuk menyembunyikan

identiti sebenar. Ia seolah-olah memberikan perlindungan kepada pembuli bersembunyi di sebalik identiti palsu atau nama samaran.

Kesannya, individu menggunakan akaun palsu untuk menghantar ancaman atau komen negatif berasa lebih berani kerana identiti sebenar mereka tidak diketahui.

Ada pengguna yang dalam dunia nyata mungkin bersikap pendiam, pemalu serta punyai nilai diri rendah, tetapi mampu menjadi pemarah, agresif dan biadab di media sosial.

Sementara itu, media sosial juga membentuk kelompok atau komuniti menjadikan tingkah laku negatif sebagai suatu yang normal dan boleh diterima termasuk melakukan buli siber beramai-ramai. Ia boleh lahir sama ada daripada tekanan kelompok atau keinginan diri untuk mendapat perhatian dalam kelompok berkenaan.

Algoritma media sosial pula cenderung mempromosikan kandungan mendapat banyak perhatian. Malangnya kandungan sering mendapat perhatian adalah isu negatif serta kontroversi. Ia lebih cepat tersebar dan menerima lebih banyak perhatian dibandingkan kandungan positif.

Ini memberi dorongan kepada seseorang untuk melakukan hal negatif demi kandungan semata-mata termasuk membuli orang lain. Maka, langkah mengatasi buli siber juga perlu komprehensif membabitkan aspek pendidikan, kempen kesedaran, penguatkuasaan undang-undang, perangkaan dasar bersesuaian, sokongan emosi dan psikologi serta intervensi kepada pembuli siber.

Ini termasuk mengenakan tindakan terhadap pemilik platform media sosial sekiranya buli siber berlaku di platform mereka.

“Individu memiliki nilai diri rendah cenderung berperilaku biadab untuk menarik perhatian pengguna lain”

BERITA HARIAN
Tarikh..... 17 JUL 2024

5,648 lokasi 'hotspot' banjir seluruh negara

17/7 HB

Kuala Lumpur: Kementerian Peralihan Tenaga dan Transformasi Air (PETRA) melalui Jabatan Pengairan dan Saliran (JPS) mengenal pasti 5,648 lokasi 'hotspot' atau kawasan pasti banjir di seluruh negara.

Timbalan Perdana Menteri yang juga Menteri Peralihan Tenaga dan Transformasi Air, Datuk Seri Fadillah Yusof, berkata JPS merancang penyelesaian jangka pendek dan panjang untuk kawasan terbabit.

Bagi penyelesaian jangka pendek, katanya, JPS melakukan persediaan kesiapsiagaan untuk mengurangkan risiko banjir kepada penduduk, antaranya dengan mengaktifkan Bilik Kawalan Operasi Pusat Ramalan dan Amaran Banjir (PRABN).

Beliau berkata, PRABN ini beroperasi 24 jam dalam menghasilkan ramalan kejadian banjir tujuh hari ke hadapan dan memberi hebahan seawal dua hari selepas mendapat ramalan cuaca dari Jabatan Meteorologi Malaysia (MetMalaysia) kepada agensi berkaitan untuk dihebahkan kepada orang awam.

BERITA HARIAN
Tarikh.....17 JUL 2024.....

Suhu di Semenanjung catat peningkatan setiap dekad

BH 17/7

Kenaikan 0.24 darjah Celsius berpunca faktor semula jadi, aktiviti manusia

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Kuala Lumpur: Purata suhu permukaan Semenanjung Malaysia menunjukkan peningkatan 0.24 darjah Celsius setiap dekad, dengan pelbagai faktor sama ada semula jadi atau kesan aktiviti manusia antara penyebab.

Menteri Sumber Asli dan Kelestarian Alam, Nik Nazmi Nik Ahmad, berkata purata suhu bulanan di Semenanjung Malaysia pada Mei lalu adalah 28.8 darjah

Celsius, manakala purata suhu bulanan pada Mei 1974 iaitu 50 tahun lalu adalah 26.6 darjah Celsius.

"Peningkatan suhu ini dipengaruhi pelbagai faktor iaitu faktor semula jadi dan kesan daripada aktiviti manusia. Faktor semula jadi adalah seperti perubahan iklim global dan perubahan pola cuaca.

"Peningkatan pelepasan gas rumah kaca di atmosfera secara global menyebabkan perubahan iklim yang memberi kesan terhadap peningkatan suhu global dan impaknya dapat juga dirasakan di Semenanjung Malaysia," katanya melalui jawapan bertulis di Parlimen.

Perubahan pola cuaca

Beliau berkata demikian menjawab pertanyaan Datuk Ngeh Koo Ham (PH-Beruas) mengenai purata suhu di Semenanjung Malaysia sekarang berbanding 50 tahun lalu, selain punca perubahan itu.

Mengulas lanjut, Nik Nazmi berkata, perubahan pola cuaca seperti perubahan hujan dan musim pula boleh mempengaruhi suhu tempatan.

Selain itu, katanya, aktiviti manusia seperti penebangan hu-

tan, pertanian dan pembangunan infrastruktur menyebabkan hilangnya kesan penyejukan semula jadi, mengubah aliran air semula jadi dan iklim tempatan turut menyumbang peningkatan suhu.



BERITA HARIAN

Tarikh.....1.7.JUL.2024..

Penguat kuasa ambil rasuah lindungi kegiatan haram

12/7
Utusan

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PETALING JAYA: Suruhanjaya Pencegahan Rasuah Malaysia (SPRM) mengesan penglibatan penguat kuasa dalam melindungi kegiatan haram di bandar-bandar besar terutama aktiviti penaja yang dikuasai oleh warga asing.

Kegiatan itu dikesan selepas premis-premis perniagaan yang dijalankan warga asing kian bertambah ibarat tumbuh selepas hujan.

Bukan itu sahaja, walaupun pelbagai tindakan penguatkuasaan dijalankan oleh pihak berkuasa, ia seakan-akan tidak memberi kesan.

Penguat kuasa juga seolah-olah dilihat bermain wayang dan tidak bersungguh dalam



AHMAD KHUSAIRI YAHAYA

tindakan. Kadangkala mereka dikatakan bertindak mengikut musim dan berdiam sahaja di beberapa kawasan tertentu.

Ia turut membabitkan perniagaan berskala kecil seperti lesen

penaja dan kedai-kedai yang kini dimonopoli oleh warga asing.

Timbalan Ketua Pesuruhjaya (Operasi) SPRM, Datuk Seri Ahmad Khusairi Yahaya berkata, dua operasi khas akan dijalankan SPRM di sekitar Kuala Lumpur bagi mendedahkan isu pemberian dan penerimaan rasuah melibatkan pemilik premis berkenaan kepada penguat kuasa.

Kata beliau, risikan dijalankan SPRM mendapati, ada pemilik lesen warga tempatan yang menyewakan tapak dan lesen perniagaan mereka kepada warga asing.

"Penguat kuasa ditawarkan suapan rasuah secara bulanan bagi melindungi dan tidak mengambil tindakan ke atas premis yang menggunakan

'Lesen Ali Baba' ini.

"Mengambil contoh Pasar Kuala Lumpur, biarpun tindakan penguatkuasaan telah dibuat beberapa kali, warga asing tetap memonopoli kawasan terbabit," katanya di sini.

Beliau berkata, SPRM juga mengesan terdapat 'tangan-tangan ghaib' yang melindungi dan membocorkan maklumat-maklumat operasi kepada mereka.

Tambah beliau, SPRM mempunyai kekuatan dan bajet yang terhad untuk memantau dan bertindak ke atas aktiviti-aktiviti haram yang berlaku.

"Operasi ini akan menjadi kajian kes untuk membuktikan kepada pihak bertanggungjawab bahawa wujud amalan rasuah dan perlindungan dalam aktiviti peniaga haram ini," katanya.

UTUSAN MALAYSIA
17 JUL 2024
Tarikh:

Kaji perundangan khusus berkaitan sampah plastik

KUALA LUMPUR: Kementerian Sumber Asli dan Kelestarian Alam sedang melihat keperluan untuk mewujudkan satu perundangan khusus berkaitan penggunaan plastik di negara ini.

La susulan laporan mendedahkan Malaysia dikategorikan sebagai negara yang rakyatnya paling banyak memakan mikroplastik dianggarkan sebanyak 15 gram sebulan.

Menerusi jawapan bertulis di laman sesawang Parlimen semalam, Kementerian berharap ia dapat mempercepatkan peralihan pengurusan plastik daripada ekonomi linear kepada ekonomi kitaran.

"Berkenaan penggunaan mikroplastik, kajian tersebut mengaitkan dengan tabiat pemakanan ikan dan makanan laut.

"Dalam hal ini, berkemungkinan perkara ini terjadi akibat daripada pencemaran sisa plastik yang 'terlepas' atau 'tidak dapat dikutip' atau 'terbuang' sama ada secara sengaja atau tidak sengaja ke dalam persekitaran yang akhirnya akan mengalir ke sungai, saliran dan seterusnya ke laut. Perkara ini juga dikaitkan dengan sampah marin atau buangan marin," kata beliau.

Selain itu, Kementerian akan mengambil pelbagai langkah dalam menangani isu sampah marin dan mengurangkan



Perkara ini terjadi akibat daripada pencemaran sisa plastik yang 'terlepas' atau 'tidak dapat dikutip' atau 'terbuang' sama ada secara sengaja atau tidak sengaja ke dalam persekitaran."

KEMENTERIAN SUMBER ASLI DAN KELESTARIAN ALAM

penggunaan plastik sekali guna berpandukan Pelan Tindakan dan Polisi Sampah Marin Kebangsaan 2021-2030, Hala Tuju Kelestarian Plastik Malaysia (MPSR) 2021-2030, Hala Tuju Ke Arah Sifar Penggunaan Plastik Malaysia 2018-2030," katanya.

Dalam jawapan bertulis sama, Kementerian turut menjelaskan secara keseluruhan pelaksanaan dasar-dasar berkaitan menangani sampah marin dan galakan untuk mengurangkan penggunaan plastik sekali guna masih perlu diperkasakan.

UTUSAN MALAYSIA
Tarikh:1.7.2024.

Platform Facebook paling tinggi buli siber

PETALING JAYA: Platform media sosial Facebook paling banyak digunakan untuk tujuan buli siber sejak 2022 hingga 9 Julai lalu.

Suruhanjaya Komunikasi dan Multimedia Malaysia (MCMC) berkata, sebanyak 3,966 aduan diterima pihaknya membatik platform Facebook berkaitan kes buli siber.

"Sejak 2022 hingga 9 Julai lalu, MCMC menerima sebanyak 9,483 laporan buli siber. Daripada jumlah terbabit, medium Facebook dikesan paling tinggi berlaku kes buli siber membatik 3,955 laporan.

"Ia diikuti dengan aplikasi Whatsapp iaitu 1,712 aduan serta Instagram (981)," katanya kepada *Utusan Malaysia* di sini semalam.

Menurut MCMC, wanita paling ramai menjadi mangsa buli siber iaitu 4,878 orang.

"Kes buli siber paling banyak berlaku di Selangor iaitu 3,702 kes diikuti Kuala Lumpur (1,031 kes) dan Johor (826 kes)," katanya.

Semalam, akhbar ini melaporkan lawak jenaka atau gurauan sehingga mengaibkan individu antara 9,483 laporan buli siber diterima MCMC sejak 2022 hingga 9 Julai lalu.

MCMC berkata, ramai menganggap komen atau tindakan di media sosial adalah berbentuk gurauan perkara biasa namun apabila sehingga mengaibkan seseorang ia merupakan satu buli siber.

Jelasnya, sikap terlalu selesa dengan tindakan membuli di alam siber turut menyumbang kepada peningkatan kes secara berterusan.

"Sikap masyarakat yang meluapkan lebih masa di media sosial sekali gus membuka ruang dan peluang berlakunya kes 'membuli' di media sosial.

"Justeru, kerajaan perlu meneliti segala aspek undang-undang bagi gejala yang dilihat membimbangkan itu," katanya.

UTUSAN MALAYSIA

Tarikh:1..7...JUL...2024....



Finance Minister II Datuk Seri Amir Hamzah Azizan answering questions in the Dewan Rakyat yesterday.
BERNAMA PIC

BURDEN TO VULNERABLE GROUPS

'GOVT HAS NO PLANS TO REVIVE GST'

It is inappropriate due to challenges faced by people, says Amir Hamzah

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ANY proposed revisions to the consumption-based tax system, such as reintroducing the Goods and Services Tax (GST), require careful evaluation to ensure they are progressive, easy to implement, do not negatively impact the cost of living or economic growth and reliably generate government revenue.

Finance Minister II Datuk Seri Amir Hamzah Azizan said the government had no plans to revive the GST, which was abolished in 2018, due to its broad application as a consumption tax.

"At present, it is deemed inappropriate to reintroduce it, especially considering the financial challenges faced by individuals with lower incomes. Therefore, the government will focus on enhancing the current tax system and introducing taxes that do not burden vulnerable populations, before considering the necessity of implementing new consumption taxes such as GST," he said in

response to an additional question from Datuk Mohd Suhaimi Abdullah (PN-Langkawi).

Suhaimi had asked whether the government intended to reintroduce GST.

In a reply to an additional question from Datuk Mohd Isam Mohd Isa (BN-Tampin), Amir Hamzah said the government had no plan to extend the Special Voluntary Disclosure Programme (SVDP) 2.0, which was conducted from June 6 last year to May 31 this year.

"The government does not intend to extend the SVDP 2.0 programme beyond the set period.

"This timeframe is deemed sufficient to allow taxpayers to report their income or tax liabilities related to sales or service transactions from previous periods.

"Despite not extending SVDP 2.0, both the Inland Revenue Board (IRB) and the Customs Department have devised strategies to enhance tax compliance."

The SVDP 2.0 under the IRB allowed new and existing taxpayers to voluntarily report income, asset disposals and the stamping of documents or agreements that have been completed according to specified conditions, while under the Customs Department, it included voluntary disclosures for taxes above the liable amount under sales tax, service tax, GST and tourism tax, subject to specific conditions.

He said during the period, the IRB had approved 141,406 voluntary disclosure applications in-

volving 102,572 individual taxpayer cases and 27,707 company cases, with the rest involving other categories, such as organisations.

"The amount involves a tax assessment of RM1.29 billion. The amount was found to have exceeded the initial target set of RM1 billion. From the total assessment, as much as RM512.6 million has been successfully collected."

The Customs Department, he said, received 1,542 voluntary disclosure applications from individual taxpayers and companies, with the total taxes pledged amounting to RM229 million.

"This amount also exceeded the target expected with 500 applications with a tax collection value of RM200 million."

He said the revenue collected from SVDP 2.0 and other tax revenues were channelled to the consolidated fund.

"The fund is then used to finance national expenses approved by Parliament through the annual budget, including public development projects such as schools, universities, hospitals and roads."

He said this in response to the initial question from Isam, who inquired about the effectiveness of SVDP 2.0 and the number of companies and individuals who had participated in the programme, and the value of the proceeds collected for the interest and welfare of the people.

LOCAL AUTHORITIES INVOLVED

MACC ZOOMS IN ON GRAFT IN ALI BABA BUSINESSES

Intel op expected to result in dozens of arrests soon, says deputy chief commissioner

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ALI Baba businesses run by foreigners are popping up nationwide like mushrooms after rain. Continuous enforcement efforts by local authorities also

seemed to have no effect in deterring them.

Their operations seemed to be conducted seasonally and selectively, and the foreigners always return after a short lull.

And now, several underlying factors that made the problem so persistent had been identified.

The Malaysian Anti-Corruption Commission (MACC) conducted intelligence gathering operations for six months and found that illegal business activities in big cities nationwide were allegedly protected by the local enforcement officers.

The "protection" allegedly provided by these officials also covered small-scale businesses, including hawkers and shops that

were monopolised by foreigners.

Through the intelligence gathering operations, the MACC also found that local licence holders were renting out their premises and business licences to foreign nationals.

The operations further revealed that enforcement officers were offered bribes on a monthly basis to protect and turn a blind eye to these Ali Baba businesses.

Although multiple enforcement actions were conducted, the foreigners continued to dominate stalls in various business centres under the jurisdiction of the local authorities.

Besides bribery, it is learnt that "hidden hands" had also been protecting these businesses by



MACC deputy chief commissioner (operations) Datuk Seri Ahmad Khusairi Yahaya says the operations will be a case study to prove that there is corruption among local authorities and illegal traders.
FILE PIC

leaking information on enforcement operations to the foreign stall operators.

MACC deputy chief commissioner (operations) Datuk Seri Ahmad Khusairi Yahaya said the issue of giving and receiving bribes involving premises owners to law enforcement personnel would be exposed in two special operations around Kuala Lumpur.

"These operations will be a case study to prove to the responsible parties that there is corruption and protection activities involv-

ing illegal traders.

"While the MACC has limited strength and budget to monitor and act on illegal activities, it is hoped that through these operations, the local authorities will take drastic and serious measures to curb the businesses run by foreign hawkers," he said.

Khusairi added that the MACC expected to make dozens of arrests soon, whose targets included foreign nationals, local business licence holders and enforcement officers involved in protecting these activities.

NEW STRAITS TIMES
Tarikh: 17 JUL 2024

Air Selangor moves to find solution to water issues

■ BY JOSHUA PURUSHOTMAN
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KUALA LUMPUR: As of June 30, and based on a three-month average, only 63% or 1.7 million Pengurusan Air Selangor Sdn Bhd customers in Selangor, Kuala Lumpur and Putrajaya were consistently paying their water bills on time, while the remaining 37% remain overdue.

Its spokesman told *theSun* that the figures translate to total outstanding bills of RM383 million involving more than 850,000 customer accounts, with some bills dating as far back as 2018.

"Inconsistent or non-payments are usually due to issues involving the Joint Management Body (JMB) or Management Corporation (MC) of high-rise buildings. While they

try to be consistent with their payments, their hands are tied as some residents or tenants do not pay their maintenance fees.

➤ Various initiatives being implemented to alleviate customer woes, enhance operational efficiency

"To address the issue, Air Selangor has collaborated with JMBs and MCs to facilitate migrations from bulk accounts to individual meters. This is one solution since customers often dispute high water bills caused by internal pipe leaks."

The spokesman said the issue is also about who is responsible for fixing the leak since Air Selangor is

only responsible for the pipe laid up to the point of the customer's meter, as provided under the Water Services Industry Act 2006.

He said pipes laid after the point of the customer's meter and entering the unit falls under the customer's responsibility.

"Air Selangor carries out educational and outreach programmes for customers on the clauses under the Water Services Industry Act through email, official letters or face-to-face meetings.

"When there is a dispute over the

meter reading, we will monitor and analyse the customer's water trends using a 'smart meter' for three consecutive days, and if it is consistently high, we will inform the customer of a possible internal leak in their water pipe."

The spokesman said the Selangor government *Skim Air Darul Ehsan* provides 20m3 of free water every month to eligible low-income households. A total of 285,673 recipients have benefitted from the scheme since its inception in 2019.

He said the Selangor government also introduced the Selangor Free Water Apartment Scheme, which provides 20m3 of free water every month to eligible bulk water meters. A total of 129 recipients have benefitted under this scheme since its inception in 2020.

Meanwhile, he said substantial progress has been made in reducing the rate of non-revenue water (NRW) in 2023, which was recorded at 27.75%, and met the matching grant target set by the National Water Services Commission at 28.5%.

"Air Selangor has embarked on a significant pipe replacement programme to tackle the water losses. Starting this year, we will double our pipe replacement efforts from 150km per year to 300km per year.

"Air Selangor has consistently achieved lower NRW rates through the implementation of targeted programmes like the Physical Loss Reduction and Commercial Loss Reduction initiatives."

He said on June 26, 2023, Air Selangor launched Hydrolytics MetLab, which aims to provide accurate records of water usage and mitigate the degradation of its records, especially given the increasing number of customers.



In the event of a dispute, Air Selangor will monitor the customer's water trends using a 'smart meter' for three consecutive days to establish the possibility of internal leakage in the water pipe. —BERNAMAPIC

THE SUN

Tarikh: 17 JUL 2024