



PENGURUSAN PEMANTAUAN KERATAN AKHBAR MBSJ
TARIKH: 21 MAC 2024 (JUMAAT)

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LAIN-LAIN PBT

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HARI RAYA CLOSURE

Subang Jaya City Council (MBSJ) service counters will be closed from March 30 to April 1. Operating hours on March 29 and April 2 to 4 will be adjusted as stated in the official notice.

THE STAR

Tarikh:.....**21 MAR 2025**.....

SUBANG JAYA MATTERS

- > EZY MBSJ 2.0 (sports), Ezypay MBSJ (swimming pool) and ECKMS (library) booking systems will be temporarily unavailable from 7pm on March 21 and 22 for maintenance.
- > The children's pool at Kompleks 3K MBSJ, SS13 Subang Jaya will be closed until March 23, while the adult pool remains open as usual.

THE STAR

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Tarikh:.....

BUDGET FEEDBACK

Selayang Municipal Council is calling for stakeholders to participate in its 2026 budget survey. The council is offering RM100 cash for 40 lucky respondents. To participate, visit <https://forms.gle/4fmnJszS-jKY3V2wd8>

DBKL SURVEY

Kuala Lumpur City Hall (DBKL) is testing articulated buses on four city centre routes to assess their suitability for one month. Public can provide feedback through a survey running from now until April 30. The survey is available at shorturl.at/TFTuF

THE STAR

21 MAR 2025

Tarikh:.....

Back again illegally in Jln Sepadu

Eatery resumes business on Tmn United five-foot way while 'waiting for licence'

By BAVANI M

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JUST three months after being evicted, a food operator who ran a stall illegally on a public walkway along Jalan Sepadu in Taman United, Kuala Lumpur, is back in business – again illegally.

The hawker had previously operated with a restaurant licence, but this time it is operating without any permits.

Despite the authorities demolishing the previous setup and cutting off water and electricity supplies, the trader has resumed operations, claiming that Kuala Lumpur City Hall (DBKL) officers have verbally permitted the operation in the interim.

Following complaints from residents and businesses nearby, *StarMetro* visited the site and found tables and chairs on the walkway, with cooking equipment set up once again.

The space, previously cordoned off by DBKL enforcement tape, is now fully occupied by the stall operations.

A makeshift kitchen is in place under a large tent.

Cooking equipment, food preparation counters, gas cylinders and various supplies are arranged along the walkway.

Several workers were seen preparing food, confirming that the business is actively running despite previous enforcement action.

Gas cylinders are openly placed, raising safety concerns.

Tables and chairs have been positioned along the public walkway, leaving little to no space for pedestrians.

A *StarMetro* article on Nov 12 last year titled "DBKL clears illegal eatery on Taman United pavement" reported on DBKL's



Lan says pedestrian walkways should be free of obstructions.

actions against several errant traders.

Seputeh Residents' Representatives Council (MPPWP) Zone 6 chairman Alvin T. Ariaratnam said he discovered that the illegal operator was back in business based on a tip-off from residents.

"When I questioned one of the workers at the stall, she said DBKL officers told her she could operate temporarily while waiting for a licence.

"She claimed she was approached by a middleman who had promised her a licence to operate the stall," added Alvin.

Seputeh MP Teresa Kok's assistant, Alice Lan Suet Ling said she would bring the matter up with DBKL officials.

"This is not right. Pedestrian walkways should be free of obstructions.

"Food operators who want to run restaurants should move into proper premises and not take up walking space," she said.

Apart from the illegal eatery, Lan said there were other illegal stalls along the congested and traffic-filled Jalan Sepadu.



The walkway that was cleared by DBKL three months ago now has tables, chairs, refrigerator and kitchen sink. — Photo: YAP CHEE HONG/The Star



StarMetro article on Nov 12, 2024.

Residents who had previously fought to have the illegal structures removed, are furious at the turn of events.

"This is ridiculous. What was

the point of the initial enforcement if they are just going to let them set up again?" asked Mary Loo, a resident who had lodged multiple complaints

about the obstruction.

Another resident, Salmah Hasan, questioned why DBKL was not acting swiftly to prevent repeat offences.

"It is obvious that this trader has no intention of complying with the law.

"DBKL needs to put a stop to this permanently," she said.

James Nayagam, another concerned resident, called for stricter monitoring and immediate action to prevent such defiance.

"Periodic inspections should be carried out and if a business has been found operating without a valid licence before, they should face tougher penalties.

"Otherwise, this cycle will never end," he said.

When contacted, a DBKL spokesperson said the matter would be investigated and necessary action taken.

THE STAR

Tarikh: 21 MAR 2025

Worrying start for workers' safety

Over 7,000 cases reported to PERKESO in January alone

By FAZLEENA AZIZ
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PETALING JAYA: There is an alarming number of non-work-related accidents recorded in the first month of this year with 177 cases, according to the Social Security Organisation (PERKESO).

The statistics also saw 3,906 cases recorded as work-related accidents out of a total of 7,137 accidents reported to PERKESO throughout January.

Human Resources Minister Steven Sim expressed concern as the 177 workers had no protection.

Although the Employees' Social Security Act 1969 (Act 4) provides protection for employees, it only applies if their accident is certified as a work-related accident or occupational disease, he said.

"The figures are worrying. Last year's data showed that 80,166 accident cases were reported to PERKESO, with an average of 6,680 cases per month or 219 cases per day.

In January alone, the number of non-work-related accidents reached 200 cases.

"We must remember 177 represents workers who are also hus-



Sincere gesture: Sim (left) handing out donations during the buka puasa event.
— ART CHEN/
The Star

bands, wives, mothers, fathers and children, who did not receive protection from PERKESO because their cases were not defined as work-related accidents," he said during the ministry's buka puasa event yesterday.

Also present were the ministry's deputy secretary-general for policy and international affairs Dr Mohd Shaharin Umar, PERKESO board chairman Datuk

Seri Subahan Kamal and PERKESO group chief executive officer Datuk Seri Dr Mohammed Azman Aziz Mohammed.

Sim added that the high number of work-related accidents requires special attention with more prevention and awareness programmes that should be implemented by employers and employees.

Additionally, Sim said that

PERKESO had completed benefit payments totalling more than RM5.82bil to 871,949 recipients in 2024 under Act 4.

This number is higher compared to the benefit payments in 2023 with RM5.48bil for 920,368 recipients and RM4.92bil in 2022 involving 866,666 recipients.

"Last year, the benefit payment for the survivor's pension recorded the highest number with

RM2.412bil, followed by the invalidity pension and invalidity assistance worth RM1.195bil, and RM627mil went for Permanent Disability Benefits.

"Through the enforcement of the new ceiling salary from RM5,000 to RM6,000 for contribution purposes starting from Oct 1, 2024, it has translated to better and wider benefit payments for contributors," he said.

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Tarikh:.....

Cashless payments at bazaar a boon for business

PUTRAJAYA: The cashless payment system at the Putrajaya Ramadan bazaar has caught the attention of Deputy Prime Minister Datuk Seri Fadillah Yusof, who sees the initiative as a user-friendly approach that benefits both traders and buyers.

He said the initiative not only

simplifies transactions, but also reduces the risk of theft.

"The cashless payment system is better and easier, reducing cash transactions," he told reporters at the launch of the QR Code Scan and Pay (Cashless) programme at the Ramadan bazaars in Presint 14 and Presint 11 here yesterday,

Bernama reported.

Fadillah noted that the multiple bazaars in the area are managed by different entities, including Putrajaya Corporation and residents associations.

The event featured sponsorships of canopies, aprons and hats for all traders by MAE in collabo-

ration with Maybank Islamic and PayNet.

MAE is also offering a RM2 cashback promotion for buyers who use the MAE QR code for transactions at stalls in Presint 14 and 11, as well as at Ramadan bazaars in Taman Melawati, Tasik Tambahan, AU2 and Belatuk.

THE STAR

Tarikh: 21 MAR 2025

A race to save edible food waste

By ZAKIAH KOYA
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PETALING JAYA: As the sun sets over Ramadan bazaars across Malaysia, the scent of freshly grilled satay and bubbling pots of fragrant curries fills the air.

But as stalls begin to close, another mission quietly unfolds – a race against waste.

Armed with collection bins and a sense of purpose, 2,100 volunteers from Gema Youth Malaysia (Gema) spring into action, salvaging edible food before it meets an unnecessary fate in the landfill.

Through the MySaveFood initiative, in collaboration with the Solid Waste and Public Cleansing Management Corporation (SWCorp), they have since 2015 gathered untouched rice, packed noodles and unopened drinks to be redistributed to those in need.

Last year alone, the volunteers saved more than 60 tonnes of edible food waste at bazaars in seven states worth more than RM720,000 before they were discarded.

Edible food waste consists of food that is still safe to eat, while inedible food waste consists of peels, shells and bones which have to be discarded at landfills.

This Ramadan, as food waste continues to rise, Gema and SWCorp push forward with an urgent message: Think before you throw, because every meal saved is a meal served.

SWCorp stated that it could only



On a mission: Volunteers from Gema starting their collection at a Ramadan bazaar in Alor Gajah, Melaka.

currently work with seven states – namely Federal Territories, Perlis, Kedah, Pahang, Melaka, Negri Sembilan and Johor – as these have adopted the Solid Waste Management and Public Cleansing Act 2007 (Act 672).

Act 672 enables SWCorp and Gema to work closely with local government authorities, which handle these bazaars.

Gema committee member Mohammad Harith Mohd Tarik, 31, said that volunteers would start collecting unsold items from traders at 7.30pm, when people are breaking fast.

"We test the food and drinks with the see and smell method. The tasting, we would leave it to

the recipients.

"However, as most of the food is fresh, they are still very much edible.

"We would start distributing by 8.30pm to those in need. Mostly, we get leftover drinks at bazaars and as they are already packed, it is easy to distribute.

"The food sent in bulk such as mee goreng and rice, we will pack and distribute to the poor and students who cannot afford to spend much on food.

"On average, one bazaar throws out almost 100kg of food daily. There are a few which can go up to 300kg," said Mohd Harith, a software engineer, who has been with the project for three years now.

SWCorp chief executive officer Khalid Mohamed said that food waste in general had increased by 11.5% in the current Ramadan compared with last year, but the edible food waste had decreased.

"We have collaborations on saving edible food with many parties but the one with Gema is really ramped up during Ramadan at 127 bazaars in seven states nationwide," said Khalid, when contacted.

"It is important for the public to realise we cannot keep filling the landfills and open more to accommodate waste as such waste releases the carbon dioxide into the air, leading to greenhouse gas emissions."

THE STAR

21 MAR 2025

Tarikh:.....

'Adopt Selangor's Zero Discharge Policy to curb pollution, save water'

By CY LEE

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SELANGOR'S Zero Discharge Policy (ZDP) should be adopted by other states to improve water sustainability, says National Water Services Commission (SPAN) chairman Charles Santiago.

The policy, introduced last June, requires all industrial wastewater to be treated and reused rather than discharged into the environment. This is to help reduce pollution while promoting recycling.

Santiago said the approach would push companies to take greater responsibility for their water usage and ensure long-term supply security.

"Selangor is doing the right thing. This year, they will enforce ZDP, meaning that companies will be charged if any waste is discharged externally.

"This pushes industries to recycle. All factories – big and small – must adopt this approach, and other states should follow suit," he said.

Since Selangor's policy was

introduced, some 30,000 businesses from 13 sectors have registered for the ZDP licence.

Santiago also pointed out Malaysia's high water consumption, with the average person using 228litres per day.

As a comparison, he said Singapore's per capita usage was 142litres with plans to reduce it further to 130litres.

"Malaysia does not need to go that low yet, but we must start reducing our consumption."

Past efforts to raise awareness have had limited success, particularly among adults.

To change this, Santiago suggested incorporating water conservation education in schools, enabling children to influence household water use.

Citing Sweden and Norway where children remind their parents to save water, he said Malaysia should encourage similar behavioural changes.

Beyond reducing household consumption, he added that industries should also adopt sustainable practices.

Santiago said this when speaking at SPAN's WaterWise



Santiago (front row, fifth from left) and SPAN Strategic Planning director Masdi Abd Karim (on his left) with non-governmental organisations and other stakeholders at the outreach programme in Petaling Jaya.

NGO Outreach Programme in Petaling Jaya, aimed at exploring ways to get the younger generation involved in water conservation.

He also urged businesses to invest in rainwater harvesting and make better use of reclaimed water.

He highlighted Indah Water Konsortium's (IWK) recycled water, which is safe for industrial use, as an alternative to relying on treated water supplies.

On industries that require vast amounts of water, such as hyper-

scale data centres, he advised state governments to be strict when approving such projects, to protect their water resource.

"If you don't have enough water, don't grant the licence," he said.

To encourage conservation, Santiago also proposed financial incentives for households to invest in water-saving devices.

He suggested that in the 13th Malaysia Plan, the Federal Government could provide RM300 to RM500 per household to support such efforts.

He also called for greater

investment in technology that improved water efficiency, including modern irrigation systems for agriculture and smart meters to monitor household usage.

The authorities, he said, must also implement stricter action to deal with excessive water consumption, particularly among industries.

"As climate patterns change and demand rises, we must act now to ensure future generations have access to clean water," he said.

THE STAR

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Tarikh:.....

Transition phase triggers more flood warnings

KUALA LUMPUR: The monsoon transition phase is expected to begin on March 25 and continue until May, marking the end of the northeast monsoon and potentially triggering flash floods.

Malaysian Meteorological Department (MetMalaysia) director-general Dr Mohd Hisham Mohd Anip said that during this phase, the country would experience weak winds from various directions.

He said this condition could encourage the formation of thunderstorm clouds, which typically bring heavy rain and strong winds over a short period, especially in the afternoon and early evening in most areas in western and inland Peninsular Malaysia, as well as western Sabah and Sarawak.

"This weather phenomenon has the potential to cause flash floods and damage to weak structures," he said in a statement yesterday, Bernama reported.

He advised the public to remain vigilant during this period and stay updated with weather forecasts and warnings issued by MetMalaysia via its official website, the MyCuaca mobile app and the department's official social media channels.

He said that the public can also contact the hotline at 1300 22 1638 for further details.

THE STAR

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Tarikh:.....

Jakel nafi roboh kuil, tunggu persetujuan

Syarikat tekstil itu
adakan perbincangan
berterusan selesai
isu Kuil Dewi Sri
Pathrakaliyamman

Oleh MOHD IZZATUL
IZUAN TAHIR
KUALA LUMPUR



Aiman (kiri) dan Syed Nasrul Fahmi bercakap ketika sesi sidang media penjelasan pihak Jakel mengenai isu tapak Kuil Dewi Sri Pathrakaliyamman di sebuah hotel di Kuala Lumpur pada Khamis.

Syarikat tekstil, Jakel Trading Sdn Bhd (Jakel) menegaskan rancangan pembinaan masjid di Jalan Masjid India di sini tidak akan melibatkan sebarang tindakan perobohan Kuil Dewi Sri Pathrakaliyamman yang terletak di kawasan tersebut.

Ketua Bahagian Undang-Undang dan Komunikasi Korporatnya, Aiman Darzuki berkata, perbincangan dengan pihak kuil dijalankan secara berterusan sejak 2009 bagi mencapai penyelesaian terbaik.

"Perbincangan ini sudah berlangsung lebih 10 tahun dan kita tidak pernah membawa perkara ini ke mahkamah kerana percaya kepada pendekatan harmoni dan situasi menang-menang," katanya dalam satu sidang akhbar di sini pada Khamis.

Aiman memberitahu, usaha yang dilakukan Jakel pada masa ini adalah pemindahan kuil ke lokasi baharu dengan bantuan kerajaan melalui Dewan Bandaraya Kuala Lumpur (DBKL).

"Tidak ada istilah merobohkan

kuil, sebaliknya kita menunggu proses pemindahan dan persetujuan daripada pihak kuil tersebut," ujar beliau.

Mengulas lanjut, Aiman memberitahu, tanah bagi pembangunan masjid itu adalah milik penuh syarikat sejak 2012 selepas perjanjian pembelian dengan DBKL.

Ujar beliau, tanah itu diwakafkan Pengasas Jakel, Allahyarham Mohamed Jakel Ahmad untuk tujuan pembinaan masjid.

"Jakel telah memperoleh kelulusan pembangunan pada 2020 dan pelan bangunan pada 2021 untuk pembinaan masjid tiga tingkat dengan sub-basement.

"Namun, pembinaan masih ditangguhkan bagi menghormati kedudukan kuil yang masih beroperasi," jelas beliau.

Menjawab mengenai majlis pecah tanah yang bakal diadakan pada 27 Mac ini, Aiman memberitahu, acara itu diadakan sebagai simbolik kepada komitmen Jakel terhadap pembinaan masjid selaras dengan niat wakaf peng-

asas syarikat.

Sementara itu, Ketua Pegawai Kewangan Jakel Group, Datuk Syed Nashrul Fahmi Syed Mahmud berkata, sehingga kini proses perbincangan dengan pihak kuil masih berjalan dan pihak DBKL telah mencadangkan beberapa lokasi alternatif.

"Tidak wujud istilah merobohkan kuil, sebaliknya, komitmen besar telah diberikan oleh pihak DBKL dan syarikat untuk menyediakan lokasi paling sesuai buat pihak kuil," katanya.

Beliau menjelaskan, beberapa cadangan lokasi telah dikemukakan oleh pihak DBKL kepada pihak kuil.

"Saya difahamkan pihak kuil masih belum memberi persetujuan terhadap lokasi pemindahan yang dicadangkan.

"Ini menunjukkan kerajaan dan syarikat prihatin dan dengar keperluan pihak kuil dalam memastikan proses lancar," katanya.



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Tarikh: 21 MAR 2025

Kedudukan
Kuil Dewi Sri

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DBKL kenal pasti lokasi baharu kuil



Maimunah (dua dari kanan) ketika lawatan beliau ke Kuil Dewi Sri Pathrakaliamman pada Khamis.

KUALA LUMPUR - Dewan Bandaraya Kuala Lumpur (DBKL) berperanan menjadi pemudah cara dalam memastikan urusan perpindahan Kuil Dewi Sri Pathrakaliamman di Jalan Masjid India yang terletak di atas tanah swasta ke lokasi baharu diselesaikan dengan baik.

Datuk Bandar Kuala Lumpur, Datuk Seri Dr Maimunah Mohd Sharif berkata, selaku pihak yang diamanahkan oleh kerajaan, DBKL mengambil langkah proaktif untuk tampil membantu mencari jalan terbaik buat semua pihak terlibat.

"DBKL memberi jaminan bahawa setiap langkah yang sedang dan bakal diambil adalah selaras dengan prinsip kebebasan beragama seperti dijamin oleh Perlembagaan Persekutuan," katanya kepada pemberita selepas melawat kuil berkenaan di sini pada Khamis.

Beliau berkata, pihaknya telah mengenal pasti lokasi baharu kuil berkenaan dan proses pemindahan akan dilakukan secara telus dan adil, membabitkan perbincangan dengan pihak berkepentingan bagi memastikan pelaksanaannya berjalan lancar.

"DBKL telah mengenal pasti lokasi baharu untuk pemindahan rumah ibadat terlibat bagi memastikan penganut Hindu dapat terus menjalankan aktiviti-aktiviti keagamaan mereka dengan selesa dan harmoni," katanya.

Maimunah berkata, DBKL mengambil maklum cadangan pembinaan sebuah masjid di atas tanah milik sebuah syarikat swasta yang terletak di Jalan Masjid India, Kuala Lumpur iaitu lokasi sama terletak sebahagian kecil kuil berkenaan.

Beliau berkata, projek itu juga merupakan cadangan oleh syarikat swasta berkenaan selaku pemilik tanah yang sah dan bukan daripada pihak kerajaan.

Ditanya mengenai jangkaan tempoh masa untuk proses pemindahan rumah ibadat itu, Maimunah berkata, pihaknya sedang mengadakan perbincangan dengan pihak berkepentingan.

"Kita akan ambil masa dan akan mendapatkan lokasi yang dipersetujui oleh dua pihak," katanya.

Maimunah dalam pada itu turut menyeru kepada semua pihak untuk terus mengekalkan keharmonian serta menghormati kepelbagaian agama di negara ini.

Sementara itu, Pengerusi Kuil Dewi Sri Pathrakaliamman, K Barthiban berkata, pihaknya bersedia memberi kerjasama dalam perbincangan dengan pihak DBKL berhubung proses pemindahan rumah ibadat itu.

Untuk rekod, Kuil Dewi Sri Pathrakaliamman yang terletak berhampiran Jakel Mall berhampiran Jalan Masjid India dibina pada akhir abad ke-19 dan kini wujud di antara bangunan pencakar langit di kawasan tersebut.

Difahamkan, tanah yang diduduki kuil itu dijual kepada sebuah syarikat swasta yang turut memiliki sebuah pusat beli-belah di kawasan sama.

DBKL memaklumkan, pihaknya tidak akan melakukan sebarang aktiviti perobohan struktur kuil di tapak tersebut dan ia boleh beroperasi seperti biasa sehingga proses pemindahan selesai.

SINAR HARIAN
21 MAR 2025
Tarikh:

KDEBWM, LHDN teruskan tradisi edar 2,500 pek bubur lambuk

5/4 2025

FOTO: MOHD HALIM ABDUL WAHID

SHAH ALAM - KDEB Waste Management (KDEBWM) bersama Lembaga Hasil Dalam Negeri (LHDN) Selangor (lokaliti Shah Alam) meneruskan acara tradisi tahunan dengan mengagihkan 2,500 pek bubur lambuk kepada masyarakat sekitar Seksyen 14 sempena Ramadan ini.

Pengurus Besar Kanan Perkhidmatan Korporat KDEBWM, Ahmad Rizal Mohd Daud berkata, daripada jumlah itu, pihaknya menerima dua periuk bersamaan dengan 600 pek bubur lambuk untuk diedarkan.

Menurut beliau, program tersebut yang turut mendapat kerjasama daripada Kumpulan Perangsang Selangor (KPS) bertujuan merapatkan ukhuwah bersama masyarakat.

"KDEBWM menyumbangkan RM4,000 kepada LHDN dan kakitangan kami juga terlibat dalam gotong-royong memasak bubur lambuk bagi menjayakan program yang memasuki tahun ketiga dilaksanakan.

"Daripada jumlah keseluruhan 2,500 pek bersamaan dengan tujuh periuk, sebanyak tiga periuk untuk

LHDN Selangor manakala KDEBWM dan KPS masing-masing menerima dua periuk dengan anggaran 600 pek.

"Bubur lambuk ini seterusnya akan diagihkan kepada masyarakat sekitar termasuk surau berdekatan, warga kerja KDEBWM, KDEB ICI Sdn Bhd (KDEB ICI), *Sinar Harian* dan Media Selangor," katanya.

Beliau berkata demikian ketika ditemui dalam program Bubur Lambuk Cinta Ramadan di Plaza Perangsang, di sini, pada Khamis.

Hadir sama, Penolong Pengurus Besar Komunikasi Korporat KDEBWM, Mahfuzah Muhammad Tarmidi dan Pengarah Operasi Negeri Seksyen Audit Cukai Syarikat Selangor, Shahrul Niza Bishahrin.

Mengulas lanjut, Ahmad Rizal berkata, pihaknya memperuntukkan hampir RM1 juta setahun bagi melaksanakan pelbagai program CSR merangkumi aktiviti bersama masyarakat.

"Tumpuan lebih diberikan pada Ramadan yang mana kami ambil peluang melakukan CSR seperti program agihan bubur lambuk, berbuka puasa dan membeli kelengkapan raya kepada anak yatim serta memberi sumbangan.

"Kami beroperasi di Selangor,



Dari kanan: Mahfuzah, Ahmad Rizal dan Shahrul Niza mengacau bubur lambuk ketika program Bubur Lambuk Cinta Ramadan di Plaza Perangsang, Shah Alam pada Khamis.

jadi banyak kawasan yang telah kami bantu dan mana-mana yang memerlukan sumbangan, kita berikan ikut kemampuan.

"Di kesempatan ini juga, sempena Ramadan dan menjelang Aidilfitri, saya menasihatkan seluruh masyarakat membuat pengasingan sampah dan

meletakkan sampah di tempat betul mengikut jadual ditetapkan supaya kebersihan dapat dijaga," ujarnya.

Dalam pada itu, Shahrul Niza turut menzahirkan penghargaan kepada KDEBWM dan KPS kerana menjayakan program berkenaan dan berharap akan diteruskan pada masa depan.

"Alhamdulillah, acara tradisi tahunan ini dapat dijayakan untuk kita berkongsi rezeki bersama masyarakat sekitar Shah Alam serta warga kerja yang terlibat.

"Dan, saya berharap kerjasama ini akan dapat berterusan pada masa depan," katanya.

SINAR HARIAN

Tarikh:2-1-MAR-2025.....

Telupid, Putrajaya Bandar Paling Bahagia

SH 21/3

PUTRAJAYA - Daerah Telupid, Sabah dinobatkan Bandar Paling Bahagia 2025 menewaskan penyandanganya, Cameron Highlands.

Pusat Pentadbiran Persekutuan, Putrajaya pula turut dinobatkan Bandar Paling Bahagia kategori Majlis Perbandaran dan Bandaraya.

Perkara itu diumumkan Menteri Perumahan dan Kerajaan Tempatan (KPKT), Nga Kor Ming sempena Sambutan Hari Kebahagiaan Sedunia Peringkat Kebangsaan di sini pada Khamis.

Selain Telupid dan Cameron Highlands, turut tersenarai bagi kategori Majlis Daerah adalah Lipis, Pahang; Kuala Krai, Kelantan di tempat ketiga; diikuti Bandar Baharu, Kedah; Kuala Pilah, Negeri Sembilan; Jerantut, Pahang; dan Jelebu, Negeri Sembilan.

Bintulu, Sarawak; Temerloh, Pahang; Johor Bahru, Johor; Bandaraya Diraja Klang, Selangor; Port Dickson, Negeri Sembilan; dan Jasin, Melaka tersenarai dalam kategori Majlis Bandaraya dan Perbandaran.

Turut disenarai Pontian, Johor; Bandar Ampang Jaya, Selangor; Bandar Batu Pahat, Johor; Bandaraya Melaka Bersejarah, Melaka; dan Petaling Jaya, Selangor.

Menurut Kor Ming, Indeks Kebahagiaan Malaysia telah menunjukkan peningkatan sebanyak 5.5 mata dari lima tahun sebelum ini, iaitu daripada pencapaian 83.34 peratus pada tahun 2020 kepada 88.84 peratus tahun ini.

"Saya difahamkan bagi pengukuran Indeks Kebahagiaan pada tahun ini, sebanyak 153 pihak berkuasa tempatan (PBT) telah menyertai kaji selidik indeks ini," katanya.

Ujar beliau, daripada jumlah itu, 75 peratus bandar telah mencapai tahap bahagia dan 25 peratus lagi mencapai tahap sederhana bahagia.

"Ini jelas menunjukkan peningkatan positif dalam usaha mewujudkan komuniti lebih harmoni dan inklusif," jelasnya.

Kor Ming berkata, pengukuran Indeks Kebahagiaan Bandar dilaksanakan bermula pada tahun 2015 melalui sistem MURNInets.

SINAR HARIAN

Tarikh: 21 MAR 2025

KEBAGIAAN BANDAR MALAYSIA 2025



Kor Ming (tengah) merasmikan Majlis Sambutan Hari Kebahagiaan Sedunia Peringkat Kebangsaan Tahun 2025 di Kementerian Perumahan dan Kerajaan Tempatan pada Khamis.

Penganjurannya bukan sahaja 'menghangatkan' Ramadan, malah menonjolkan keharmonian masyarakat berbilang kaum

Iftar Ala Madinah promosi pelancongan di Selangor

Oleh MOHD IZZATUL IZUAN
TAHIR
SHAH ALAM

Program Iftar Ala Madinah hasil kolaboratif Majlis Bandaraya Shah Alam (MBSA) dan Kumpulan Karangkrak mampu diangkat sebagai platform promosi pelancongan terbaik sempena Tahun Melawat Selangor 2025.

Datuk Bandar Shah Alam, Mohd Fauzi Mohd Yatim berkata, program diadakan sepanjang Ramadan ini memperkenalkan identiti unik Selangor sebagai negeri yang memelihara tradisi, harmoni dan daya tarikan antara-bangsa.

"Ini contoh terbaik bagaimana acara keagamaan boleh menjadi daya tarikan pelancong kerana ramai peserta antarabangsa hadir, mereka pasti sebak kisah positif tentang Selangor," katanya ditemui ketika program itu di Dataran Karangkrak Seksyen 15 di sini pada Rabu.

Hadir sama, Penasihat Kumpulan Karangkrak, Datuk Hussamuddin Yaacob.

Program Iftar Ala Madinah turut melibatkan penyertaan maahad tahfiz di sekitar Shah Alam dan pelbagai agensi kerajaan.

Agensi hadir terdiri daripada Polis Diraja Malaysia (PDRM), Jabatan Bomba dan Penyelamat Malaysia (JBPM) Selangor, Jabatan Imigresen Malaysia (JIM) Selangor, Jabatan Sukarelawan Malaysia (RELA) dan Tourism Selangor.

Antara pengisian dijalankan termasuk tarannum al-Quran daripada pelajar Maahad Integrasi Tahfiz Selangor Alam Impian, Muhammad Akmal Nashrul Azam; sesi tazkirah bertajuk Detox Hati oleh Imam Masjid Shah Alam, Mohd Luqman Hakkim Rizuan selain solat berjemaah Maghrib, Isyak serta Tarawih.

Menurut Mohd Fauzi, penganjuran ini bukan sahaja mengimarah Ramadan, malah menonjolkan keharmonian masyarakat berbilang kaum di bandar ini.

"Kita menonjolkan elemen Madinah" selaku kota suci bagi mempromosikan negeri ini sebagai destinasi pelancongan berteraskan nilai murni," ujarnya.

Beliau berkata, program ini juga mendapat penyertaan penuntut antarabangsa dari Babson College, Massachusetts, Amerika Syarikat dan Management and Science University (MSU).

"Ini menggambarkan satu kejayaan kita untuk ditunjukkan bahawa inilah masyarakat Shah Alam sebenar yang hidup dalam keadaan harmoni dan



Mohd Fauzi (tengah) dan Hussamuddin (dua dari kiri) bergambar bersama pelajar tahfiz selepas Majlis Penyampaian Sumbangan sempena Program Iftar Ala Madinah.



Mohd Fauzi (tengah) beramah mesra bersama pengunjung terdiri daripada pelancong asing.



Mohd Fauzi menyantuni anggota RELA di Dataran Karangkrak pada Rabu.

aman," tambahnya.

Selain itu, katanya, penganjuran ini juga sempena sambutan ulang tahun Jubli Perak Bandaraya Shah Alam ke-25 pada Rabu.

Beliau berkata, inisiatif program ini diadakan bagi meraikan komuniti dan agensi di Shah Alam, sekali gus menyemarakkan semangat Ramadan.

"MBSA menyediakan 900 set juadah berbuka secara percuma kepada peserta program," katanya.

Sementara itu, turut diadakan penyampaian sumbangan kepada Maahad Integrasi Tahfiz Selangor Alam Impian dan Madrasah al-Quran 'Ibaadur Rahman sebanyak RM3,000.

"Sumbangan ini merupakan salah satu program kemasyarakatan dilaksanakan MBSA dalam merapatkan hubungan perpaduan, ukhuwah dan silaturahmi antara warga MBSA dengan masyarakat," jelasnya.



Suasana meriah Program Iftar Ala Madinah menghimpunkan masyarakat pelbagai latar belakang untuk berbuka puasa dalam suasana harmoni dan penuh keberkatan.

Dalam pada itu, Mohd Fauzi turut menyatakan komitmen untuk mengadakan program sama pada tahun akan datang bagi memastikan orang ramai merasai pengalaman berbuka ala Madinah.

"Kami mahu menjadikan Iftar Ala Madinah sebagai acara yang bukan sahaja membawa keberkatan tetapi menjadi tarikan utama pelancong dan masyarakat setempat," tambahnya.

Scammer guna nama Ketua Polis Negara

Kosmo
21/3

- **Taktik penipuan terbaru hantar e-mel kepada agensi media**
- **Diarah jawab notis kes jenayah siber, laporan pornografi**

PETALING JAYA - Sindiket penipuan kini dilihat semakin berani apabila menggunakan nama Ketua Polis Negara, Tan Sri Razarudin Husain untuk memperdaya orang ramai.

Lebih mengejutkan, taktik penipuan terbaharu itu disasarkan kepada agensi media menerusi kiriman e-mel kepada Meja Berita Kosmo! kelmarin.

Menerusi kiriman e-mel itu, pihak Kosmo! diberi amaran dan diminta supaya menjawab laporan berkaitan jenayah siber atas alasan menyiarkan gambar pornografi kanak-kanak dalam

masa 72 jam.

Sekiranya gagal menjawab berkaitan laporan tersebut, tindakan undang-undang akan diambil terhadap pihak syarikat.

E-mel tersebut menggunakan nama Razarudin dan alamat lengkap Ibu Pejabat Polis Bukit Aman berserta notis 'Pemeriksaan Polis Siasatan Kehakiman'.

Notis itu turut ditandatangani oleh pemimpin tertinggi Polis Diraja Malaysia (PDRM) tersebut.

Razarudin ketika dihubungi Kosmo! semalam berkata, helah scammer menggunakan nama beliau untuk memperdaya orang

ramai pertama kali dilaporkan setakat ini.

"Pelbagai helah digunakan untuk menakutkan mangsa dan yang terbaharu menggunakan nama Ketua Polis Negara dengan menghantar kiriman e-mel kepada syarikat media.

"Sindiket penipuan sanggup melakukan apa sahaja (taktik) untuk memperdaya mangsa. Orang ramai diingatkan supaya sentiasa berhati-hati dan tidak mudah terjerat dengan taktik mereka," katanya.

Jelas Razarudin, pihaknya tidak menggunakan e-mel peribadi untuk urusan rasmi termasuk siasatan.

Orang ramai diminta supaya menghubungi pihak berkaitan terlebih dahulu bagi mendapatkan kesahihan sebelum memberikan maklum balas terhadap e-mel yang mencurigakan bagi mengelak ditipu.

RAZARUDIN menegaskan helah scammer menggunakan namanya untuk menipu adalah kali pertama dilaporkan.





KAMARUL Amilin diiringi pegawai SPRM keluar dari Mahkamah Sesyen 2, Kuantan. - Gambar NSTP/MUHAMMAD DELIMA ATAN

Dedah maklumat operasi serbuan

Pegawai imigresen nafi 22 pertuduhan terima RM47,600

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Kuantan

Seorang pegawai imigresen mengaku tidak bersalah di Mahkamah Sesyen di sini, semalam atas 22 pertuduhan menerima suapan berjumlah RM47,600 antara 2018 dan 2021.

Tertuduh, Kamarul Amilin Zainal Ariffin, 39, membuat pengakuan itu selepas semua pertuduhan dibacakan di hadapan Hakim Sazlina Safie.

Berdasarkan kertas pertuduhan pertama hingga 10, tertuduh yang bertugas di Bahagian Penguat Kuasa dan Risiko Temerloh, Jabatan Imigresen Malaysia Pahang didakwa menerima suapan antara RM900 dan RM3,000 daripada dua individu.

Semua suapan berjumlah RM15,800 itu sebagai dorongan untuk mendedahkan maklumat operasi serbuan imigresen.

Perbuatan itu dilakukan di sebuah bank di Temerloh antara 28 Mac 2018 dan 30 September 2021.

Tertuduh didakwa mengikut Seksyen 17(a) Akta Suruhanjaya Pencegahan Rasuah Malaysia (SPRM) 2009 yang boleh dihu-

kum mengikut Seksyen 24 akta yang sama.

Bagi pertuduhan 11 hingga 22, Kamarul Amilin didakwa menerima sesuatu benda yang berharga iaitu wang antara RM1,000 dan RM5,000 yang dipindahkan secara dalaman talian di bank yang sama dengan tanpa balasan daripada dua individu yang diketahui mempunyai hubungan kerja rasmi tertuduh bermula 2 Januari 2018 sehingga 8 November 2021 yang keseluruhan berjumlah RM31,800.

Tertuduh didakwa mengikut Seksyen 165 Kanun Keseksaan yang membawa hukuman penjara hingga dua tahun atau denda atau kedua-duanya sekali, jika sabit kesalahan.

Pada prosiding itu, Pegawai Pendakwa SPRM Pahang Kamariah Seman menawarkan jaminan RM20,000.

Bagaimanapun, peguam Datuk Syed Azimal Syed Abu Bakar memohon jaminan rendah dikenakan terhadap anak guamnya.

Sazlina kemudian membenarkan tertuduh diikat jamin RM10,000 dengan seorang penjamin selain pasport antarabangsa diserahkan kepada mahkamah dan 29 April depan untuk sebutan semula kes.

Mahkamah membenarkan tertuduh diikat jamin RM10,000 dengan seorang penjamin

HARIAN METRO

21 MAR 2025

Agong, Anwar buat tinjauan mesra di Bukit Bintang ^{HM} 21/3

Kuala Lumpur: Yang di-Pertuan Agong, Sultan Ibrahim semalam, berkenan melakukan tinjauan mesra bersama Perdana Menteri Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim di sekitar ibu negara.

Muat naik di Facebook Sultan Ibrahim Sultan Iskandar memaklumkan, Seri Paduka dalam suasana

penuh mesra bersama Perdana Menteri berjalan kaki menyusuri Jalan Bukit Bintang.

Turut dikongsi beberapa keping foto mengenai sesi tinjauan mesra itu.

Terdahulu, Seri Paduka berkenan menerima menghadap Perdana Menteri untuk mesyuarat mingguan.



SULTAN Ibrahim (tengah) bersama Anwar berjalan menyusuri Jalan Bukit Bintang ketika tinjauan mesra.

Pasak nilai integriti penjawat awam tepis godaan rasuah



Perunding Latihan Institut Tadbiran Awam Nasional (INTAN)

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Kepemimpinan berkesan seperti ditegaskan Perdana Menteri, Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim dalam dialog eksklusif, *A Conversation with Anwar Ibrahim* pada Forum Ekonomi Dunia (WEF) 2025 di Davos, perlu menunjukkan komitmen tinggi terhadap usaha membasmi rasuah.

Malah, ia selaras dengan peranan Malaysia selaku Kepengerusan ASEAN tahun ini dan tentunya antara fokus utama Anwar adalah untuk memperkasa usaha memerangi rasuah.

Justeru, semangat ini perlu disambut seluruh sektor agar ia dapat direalisasikan berte-raskan prinsip kebertanggungjawaban bersama.

Namun, realiti pahit terpaksa ditelan adalah rasuah terus menjadi 'duri dalam daging' menagguhkan kemajuan negara dan memberi dampak kepada setiap lapisan masyarakat.

Apabila meresap ke dalam urat nadi, ia bukan sahaja meruntuhkan institusi negara, bahkan menghakis nilai murni membentuk jati diri bangsa.

Kemajuan negara sebenar tidak akan tercapai dengan merelakan keruntuhan jati diri bangsa meskipun bangunan pencakar langit tersergam indah dibina.

Jati diri bangsa bukan hanya mengenai sejarah, budaya atau adat resam, sebaliknya roh membentuk setiap tindakan rakyat dan mencorak sebuah negara. Jati diri sebenar adalah apabila individu

berpegang teguh kepada nilai murni seperti kejujuran, keadilan dan integriti.

Dalam konteks perkhidmatan awam, usaha memperkukuh jati diri penjawat awam jelas terpancar tatkala penekanan terhadap penghayatan nilai murni menjadi antara fokus utama di bawah Agenda Reformasi Perkhidmatan Awam dilancarkan Ketua Setiausaha Negara, Tan Sri Shamsul Azri Abu Bakar.

Di bawah agenda ini, 'Penghayatan Nilai dan Tatakelola' diposisikan sebagai Teras Keberhasilan Reformasi (TKR) pertama daripada lima TKR dirangka, menjadi petanda keseriusan pentadbiran hari ini untuk memberikan penekanan terhadap nilai seperti integriti, akauntabiliti dan patriotisme.

Hayati nilai integriti

Penghayatan nilai integriti sebenar dan dipasak perasaan cinta kepada negara perlu menjadi ikhtiar ampuh sebagai pelindung dari sebarang ruang dan peluang untuk wabak rasuah menjangkiti.

Seperti kata-kata Mahatma Gandhi, 'hiduplah seperti kau akan hidup selamanya', usaha membentuk jati diri penjawat awam utuh perlu dipacu dengan proses latihan dan pembelajaran berterusan.

Berdasarkan Strategi Pembantasan Rasuah Nasional (NACS) 2024-2028, antara inisiatif perlu dilaksanakan ketua setiausaha dan ketua jabatan di kementerian, jabatan dan agensi adalah Substrategi 1.10: Menjamin Pelaksanaan Modul Pengukuhan Governans, Integriti dan Antirasuah (MPGIA).

Susulan itu, surat edaran Ketua Pengarah Perkhidmatan Awam (KPPA) menjelaskan inisiatif terbabit dapat direalisasikan melalui pelaksanaan kursus khas MPGIA.

Pelaksanaan kursus khas ini ditetapkan kekerapan pelaksanaannya sekurang-kurangnya sekali setahun, membabitkan seluruh warga kementerian, jabatan dan agensi serta perlu dilaporkan kepada Bahagian Pengurusan Integriti (BPIA), Suruhanjaya Pencegahan Rasuah Malaysia (SPRM).

Justeru, semboyan ini sudah pasti menzahirkan penekanan dalam pembentukan jati diri penjawat awam menerusi penghayatan nilai murni seperti integriti dan tadbir urus baik.

Di Institut Tadbiran Awam Negara (INTAN), pelbagai latihan kursus menarik ditawarkan dalam usaha membentuk jati diri penjawat awam seperti Kursus Etika Perkhidmatan Awam, Kursus SMART Integriti dan Kursus Pembentukan Minda Beretika.

Kursus seperti ini penting untuk dijadikan ruang pembelajaran, peringatan dan suntikan semangat kepada penjawat awam kerana setiap tugas serta tanggungjawab digalas hadir bersama pelbagai ujian dan cabaran yang kadangkala akan menguji jati diri sebenar.

Penjawat awam mempunyai jati diri kukuh akan berani mengatakan tidak kepada rasuah, meskipun dikelilingi godaan dan tekanan.

Misi besar untuk mensifikan rasuah seharusnya menjadi impian seluruh rakyat Malaysia. Usaha biarkan segelintir kumpulan manusia rakus menjadikan rasuah sebagai lubang memperoleh nikmat untuk berleluasa serta meruntuhkan nilai murni diwarisi leluhur bangsa.

Elak rakyat terperangkap dalam perumahan usang

Penjelasan Perdana Menteri, Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim mengenai Rang Undang-Undang (RUU) Pembaharuan Semula Bandar (PSB) bukan sekadar menjawab kebimbangan rakyat, terutama warga kota yang mungkin terbabit, pertubuhan bukan kerajaan (NGO) dan masyarakat sivil, malah satu langkah ke hadapan dalam memastikan perumahan bandar berkembang seiring dengan matlamat pembangunan lestari dan mampan.

Sebelum ini ada pihak menyuarakan kebimbangan terhadap isu pengambilan tanah, hak pemilik asal dan keperluan pampasan sewajarnya serta implikasi terhadap demografi sosiopolitik. Sememangnya reaksi itu ada asasnya, apatah lagi isu pembangunan semula bandar memiliki 'bagasi sejarah' apabila dilaksanakan dalam dekad-dekad sebelum ini.

Oleh itu, penjelasan Perdana Menteri diharap dapat memberikan pencerahan terhadap hasrat besar di sebalik RUU yang dijadualkan untuk dibentang di Parlimen, Jun atau Julai nanti. Untuk rekod, RUU ini dalam proses semakan Jabatan Peguam Negara dan akan dibawa ke Mesyuarat Jemaah Menteri dalam tempoh terdekat.

Antaranya, sebarang cadangan dijalankan menerusi perundingan dengan pemilik, hartanah dibangunkan akan memiliki nilai masa depan dan bukan pampasan berdasarkan nilai semasa seperti diamalkan sekarang. Malah, pemilik juga akan menerima semula hartanah diperbaharui, pampasan, manfaat sara hidup dan beberapa faedah lain.

Realitinya, isu perumahan usang, flat lama yang tidak lagi selamat dan projek terbengkalai menjadi 'duri dalam daging' kepada pembangunan lestari, terutama di ibu kota dan bandar raya di negara ini. Banyak kawasan perumahan bandar yang asalnya didirikan puluhan tahun lalu dan didiami generasi pertama kini tidak lagi memenuhi keperluan semasa, terutama kepada generasi ketiga yang mewarisinya.

Struktur bangunan semakin uzur, sistem saliran dan utiliti semakin tidak cekap, malah ada yang berisiko tinggi terhadap keselamatan penghuni. Apatah lagi, pembangunan semula bukan sekadar soal membina kembali bangunan baharu, tetapi memastikan kawasan bandar lebih tersusun dengan kemudahan lengkap seperti akses kepada sistem pengangkutan awam, sekolah, klinik, rumah ibadat, pusat komuniti dan rekreasi serta kawasan hijau.

Ini semua tidak mungkin dapat disediakan atau dinaik taraf dengan realiti penempatan sedia ada. Dalam hal ini, kita juga maklum peranan pembangkang sebagai instrumen menjadi seimbang kepada dasar kerajaan. Namun, mereka perlu bersikap terbuka dan tidak menolak pembangunan semula secara membuta tuli. Menolak sebelum mendengar butiran penuh hanya akan merugikan rakyat yang masih terperangkap dalam perumahan lama yang semakin usang dan tidak selamat.

Justeru, pendekatan terbaik adalah dengan memastikan semua pihak, daripada kerajaan Persekutuan dan negeri hingga semua pemegang taruh, termasuk pemaju dan masyarakat bekerjasama dalam merangka dasar adil serta berkesan. Proses libat urus telus dan terbuka perlu menjadi keutamaan agar rakyat tidak berasa diketepikan dalam proses pembangunan semula ini.

Malaysia sedang menuju ke arah negara maju dengan pembangunan lestari dan mampan adalah antara ciri penting perlu diutamakan. Jika kita terus membiarkan bandar berkembang secara tidak terancang, kesannya bukan sahaja kepada generasi sekarang, tetapi juga masa depan. RUU PSB ini sepatutnya dinilai berdasarkan merit dan keperluannya kepada negara serta kepentingan rakyat, termasuk pemilik asal.

BERITA HARIAN
Tarikh..... 21 MAR 2025

Selangor gempur kilang haram proses sisa elektronik

Oleh MOHAMAD ATHIR ISMAIL
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SHAH ALAM: Kerajaan negeri akan melaksanakan operasi bersepadu bersama pelbagai agensi penguat kuasa bagi menerjah satu persatu kilang haram yang memproses sisa elektronik (*e-waste*) di seluruh negeri.

Ini kerana, kilang-kilang tersebut dikenal pasti beroperasi di tempat yang tersorok sama ada dalam kawasan ladang sawit ataupun hutan untuk mengelak daripada dikesan oleh pihak berkuasa.

Exco Pelancongan dan Kerajaan Tempatan, Datuk Ng Suee Lim berkata, premis pemprosesan *e-waste* adalah kilang haram yang tidak diberikan lesen ataupun kebenaran pihak berkuasa untuk menjalankan aktiviti tersebut.

"Mereka menyorok di sana, sini untuk mengelak daripada dicekup atau ditangkap kerana tidak dapat mematuhi piawaian atau kriteria ditetapkan oleh pihak berkuasa, jadi mereka terpaksa masuk hutan dan sebagainya untuk menjalankan aktiviti haram itu.



PENDUDUK di sekitar Kuala Langat, Klang dan Hulu Selangor mendakwa kilang memproses sisa elektronik (*e-waste*) yang beroperasi di sekitar daerah itu sering melepaskan bahan toksik yang mencemarkan kualiti udara, air dan tanah di kawasan tersebut.

"Biasanya operasi bersepadu bersama Jabatan Alam Sekitar (JAS), polis, pejabat tanah dan pihak berkuasa tempatan kena turun sekali baru boleh terjah dan cekup mereka yang melakukan pemprosesan *e-waste*," katanya kepada *Utusan Malaysia*.

Terdahulu, akhbar ini melaporkan penduduk di sekitar Kuala Langat, Klang dan Hulu Selangor mendakwa, kilang memproses *e-waste* yang beroperasi di sekitar penempatan mereka sering melepaskan bahan toksik yang mencemarkan kualiti udara, air dan tanah di

kawasan tersebut.

Akibat tindakan tidak bertanggungjawab itu, penduduk di sekitar daerah itu termasuk di Banting, Jenjarom, Sijangkang, Olak Lempit, Teluk Panglima Garang, Pulau Carey, Meru, Kapar, Rasa dan lain-lain kini menderita akibat pencemaran.

Wakil penduduk, Pua Lay Peng dari Kampung Baru Sungai Jarom, Jenjarom berkata, mereka sudah berulang kali menyuarakan kebimbangan mengenai operasi kilang *e-waste* haram sejak 2019 lagi.

Selain itu, Suee Lim turut memberitahu kilang pemproses *e-waste* tidak termasuk dikategorikan dalam premis dibenarkan untuk melalui program pemutihan kilang tanpa kebenaran (KTK) yang sedang dikuatkuasakan oleh kerajaan negeri ketika ini.

"Kita memang dalam proses membuat pemutihan, kalau mereka dalam kategori zon A, memang boleh buat pemutihan. Kalau bukan zon A, kita akan beri mereka lesen sementara selama tiga tahun, kemudian mereka kena cari tempat dan menjadi zon B," ujarnya.

'TOUR' ON APRIL 29

MPs, SENATORS TO VISIT RUN-DOWN FLATS

Nga wants them to understand the importance of proposed Urban Renewal Act

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THE Housing and Local Government Ministry will conduct a working visit to dilapidated flats with members of parliament and senators on April 29 to help them understand the importance of the proposed Urban Renewal Act.

Housing and Local Government Minister Nga Kor Ming said invitations had been extended to all MPs and senators, particularly those from the opposition, to witness firsthand the housing conditions there.

"I will personally take the bus with them from Parliament to visit four sites: two in very poor condition and two that have been successfully redeveloped.

"This is to allow them to witness firsthand how important it is for the (Urban Renewal) Bill to be enacted to help the people," he said during the "Sembang Kopi Bersama Menteri Perumahan

dan Kerajaan Tempatan" event on Wednesday.

Also on Wednesday, Prime Minister Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim said one of the main principles of the bill was that housing renewal projects must be carried out in consultation with the owners.

The prime minister's senior press secretary, Tunku Nashrul Abaidah, had said such consultations were crucial to obtaining the owners' consent to participate in the projects.

Nga said 534 areas across the country were in need of redevelopment, including 139 under the Kuala Lumpur City Hall.

He said this redevelopment would not only help owners obtain better housing but also increase the property value.

"For example, Desa Mahsuri in Penang and Razak Mansion in Bangsar. Before this, the property value was RM70,000 for a 39 sqm unit.

"However, after redevelopment, it increased five-fold to RM418,000 for a 76 sqm unit."

He also said Khazanah Nasional Bhd had agreed to invest RM700 million for the redevelopment of seven national landmarks, including the Sultan Abdul Samad Building and Carcosa Seri Negara.

He said this redevelopment was enshrined in the bill, which should not be opposed.

He questioned the opposition's

stance against the bill, as it was not new and had already been agreed upon during the previous administration.

"Previously, when Perikatan Nasional was in power, they supported it.

"The urban renewal guidelines have existed for 13 years. It's not a new product.

"Don't stop the government from helping the people."

Nga said the ministry was also targeting the enforcement of the Solid Waste Management and Public Cleansing Bill (Amendment) 2025, Local Government Bill (Amendment) 2025 and Streets, Drains, and Buildings Bill (Amendment) 2025 this year.

He said this was because the enforcement of these laws was crucial in supporting Visit Malaysia 2026.

"We cannot wait any longer. I don't want foreign tourists to come to Malaysia and feel our country is dirty. That would be embarrassing. We need to ensure the country's image is maintained."

He added that the ministry had presented the first reading in the Dewan Rakyat, with provisions allowing the court to impose a community service order of up to 12 hours for minor littering offences.

He said the second reading was expected to take place during the next Dewan Rakyat session.

NEW STRAITS TIMES
Tarikh: 21 MAR 2025

RAMANAN: REFRAIN FROM RAISING RACIAL ISSUES

He says any politicisation of temple relocation must stop

KUALA LUMPUR

DEPUTY Entrepreneur Development and Cooperatives Minister Datuk Seri R. Ramanan has advised all parties, including the public and political leaders, to refrain from raising racial and religious issues.

He said the prevalence of racial and religious remarks by irresponsible individuals has been rampant of late.

"Everything is being racially incited.

"Just look at the comments (on social media), not only from ordinary people, but also from political leaders. Stop exploiting religious and racial issues.

"Is there really no other topic

to discuss?

"This is just my opinion. Recently, some opposition leaders questioned whether the prime minister can serve for 10 years or two terms.

"Some have even argued that doing so would be religiously inappropriate. What kind of madness is this? Why must everything be tied to religion and race? I am very upset about this issue, so please, it needs to stop."

He said this after visiting the Dewi Sri Pathrakaliyamman temple in Jalan Masjid India here yesterday.

When asked if the relocation of the temple had also been politicised, Ramanan said if it was, it must stop.

Ramanan, who is Sungai Buloh member of parliament, said the government has never used the term "demolish" but instead has consistently used the words "relocate" in reference to the issue concerning the temple.

As such, he urged all parties to choose their words carefully, as certain statements could hurt or



Deputy Entrepreneur Development and Cooperatives Minister Datuk Seri R. Ramanan speaking to reporters after visiting the Dewi Sri Pathrakaliyamman temple in Jalan Masjid India, Kuala Lumpur, yesterday. BERNAMA PIC

offend others.

He gave his assurance that the government would not demolish the temple and that the matter had been discussed with Prime Minister Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim.

"The issue here is that the land belongs to a private entity, but the government is still taking this matter seriously.

"The prime minister has discussed this with me and is concerned about this issue. He also wants to find a fair and harmonious solution," he added.

Meanwhile, Kuala Lumpur City Hall said it is playing a facilitating role to ensure the smooth relocation of the temple from the private land to a new location.

Mayor Datuk Seri Dr Maimunah Mohd Sharif said as a party entrusted by the government, City Hall has taken steps to find the best solution for all parties involved.

"City Hall assures that every step that is being and will be taken is in line with the principle

of freedom of religion as enshrined in the Federal Constitution," she said.

Maimunah said the temple's relocation would be carried out transparently and fairly, involving discussions with the stakeholders, to ensure its smooth implementation.

"City Hall has identified a new suitable spot for the temple where devotees can continue to carry out their religious activities comfortably and harmoniously," she said.

City Hall, she said, had also taken note of the proposal to build a mosque on land owned by a private company in Jalan Masjid India, the same location where a small part of the temple is located.

She said that the project was proposed by the private company as the legal owner of the land and not by the government.

Meanwhile, temple chairman K. Barthiban said it was ready to cooperate in discussions with City Hall on the temple's relocation. **Bernama**

NEW STRAITS TIMES

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Monoculture plantations greater deforestation threat

► Policies allowing large-scale conversions of natural forests for single crop cultivations drastically reduce biodiversity, permanently alter ecosystems: RimbaWatch

■ BY DEEPALAKSHMI MANICKAM
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PETALING JAYA: While logging is a major environmental concern in Malaysia, monoculture plantations, particularly those involving exotic species, pose an even greater threat. These plantations contribute to biodiversity loss and ecological degradation.

Contrary to public perception, RimbaWatch director Adam Farhan said the biggest misconception is that illegal logging is the primary cause of deforestation.

"In reality, the main driver is the conversion of forest reserves into monoculture plantations.

"These plantations, often consisting of rubber, acacia and oil palm, drastically reduce biodiversity and permanently alter ecosystems," he told *theSun* recently.

A monoculture plantation is a large-scale agricultural system that involves cultivating a single crop or tree species over a vast area. Widely practised in commercial farming and forestry, this method aims to enhance productivity and operational efficiency.

Despite government commitments to maintaining 50% forest cover, he said deforestation remains rampant due to policies allowing large-scale conversions of natural forests. Sarawak, Sabah, Kelantan and Pahang are among the most severely affected states.

Citing data from the organisation's State of the Malaysian Rainforest 2024 report, Adam said 2.47 million hectares of forest reserves are at risk of being cleared for monoculture plantations under government programmes, including the Licence for Planted Forests in Sarawak and the Forest Plantation Development Programme in Peninsular Malaysia.

"To put this into perspective, 2.47 million hectares is larger than the entire state of Johor and represents 7.5% of Malaysia's total land area."

His comments were made in conjunction with the annual celebration of World Forestry Day today, a global event aimed at promoting



Adam warned that without strong legal protections, Malaysia's forests will continue to shrink under the guise of 'sustainable' development. — ADAM AMIR HAMZAH/THE SUN

awareness of the essential role forests play in environmental sustainability.

Adam also claimed that Malaysia's National Forestry Act 1984 is designed to regulate the timber industry rather than serve as a conservation or forest protection policy.

"We have no law or national policy that outright limits deforestation. Even if 100% of our forest reserves were converted to monoculture plantations, Malaysia would still technically meet its 50% forest cover commitment because these plantations are classified as 'forest' on paper.

"This is a deeply troubling loophole," he added.

He also highlighted another major cause of deforestation — the forest reserve degazettement, in which legally protected forests are reclassified for development.

"In 2023 alone, Malaysia degazetted over 11,000ha of forest reserves, further reducing critical green cover.

"A single hectare of Malaysian rainforest may contain more than 200 tree species, but when converted to a plantation, it holds just one. We've already seen species like the Sumatran rhinoceros go extinct in the wild," he said.

Beyond environmental damage, Adam warned that deforestation disrupts the livelihoods of indigenous communities.

For these people, deforestation results in the

loss of clean water, food sources and non-timber forest products, while also violating their land rights under the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples.

"There have been reports of indigenous graves and sacred sites being destroyed due to logging. Many plants essential for religious ceremonies have also disappeared, infringing on their right to practise their religion," he added.

Adam stressed that indigenous communities are the most effective forest guardians.

"Satellite imagery shows that in areas where indigenous communities have full control over their land, deforestation rates are exceptionally low.

"Globally, indigenous peoples protect over 80% of the world's biodiversity, and Malaysia is no exception," he said.

He urged the government to take decisive action against deforestation, beginning with the shutdown of all monoculture plantation programmes in forest reserves.

Additionally, he called for amendments to the Environmental Quality Act 1974 to prevent future deforestation projects and stronger laws to stop the degazettement of forest reserves.

"Without strong legal protections, Malaysia's forests will continue to shrink under the guise of 'sustainable' development," he warned.