



PENGURUSAN PEMANTAUAN KERATAN AKHBAR MBSJ
TARIKH: 24 JUN 2024 (ISNIN)

MEDIA ELEKTRONIK (AKHBAR ONLINE / TELEVISYEN / RADIO)

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1.	SELANGORKINI	• PBT PERLU KEMUKA RANCANGAN NAIK TARAF LEPAS LAKSANA KADAR BAHARU CUKAI
2.	THE STAR	• MBSJ: 170,000 NEW HOMES NEEDED BY 2035

MEDIA CETAK (AKHBAR / MAJALAH)

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1.	THE STAR	• MBSJ: 170,000 NEW HOMES NEEDED BY 2035

LAIN-LAIN PBT

BIL	AKHBAR	PBT	TAJUK
1.	THE STAR	MBPJ MBSA MPAJ DBKL	• MBPJ HOLDS GOTONG-ROYONG TO TACKLE RISING DENGUE CASES IN TAMAN MEDAN • CLEAN-UP OPERATION TO COMBAT DENGUE • BASIC ENGLISH CLASSES • ACTIVITIES IN AMPANG • VEXED BY VENDORS TURNING KL WALKWAYS INTO MAZES
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5.	NEW STRAITS TIMES	• SEXUALLY HARASSED ME CAN GET HELP • RINGGIT EXPECTED TO TRADE LOWER AGAINST GREENBACK
6.	THE SUN	• MINISTRY COORDINATING APPEALS FOR DIESEL SUBSIDY • WE ARE COMMITTED TO REDUCING CARBON FOOTPRINT, SAYS ANWAR • RINGGIT LIKELY TO TRADE LOWER AGAINST US DOLLAR THIS WEEK • TRADERS STILL NON-COMPLIANT OVER DISPLAYING PRICE TAGS • SUPPORT GOVT EFFORTS TO ASSIST PAROLEES SEEK JOBS



PBT perlu kemuka rancangan naik taraf lepas laksana kadar baharu cukai

by Siti Rohaizah Zainal © June 21, 2024 1:03 pm



ADN Subang Jaya Michelle Ng Mei Sze bercakap kepada media berkenaan projek naik taraf pemasangan penghadang bola di Padang Awam, USJ 11, Subang Jaya pada 21 Jun 2024. Foto REMY ARIFIN/SELANGORKINI

SUBANG JAYA, 21 JUN: Pihak berkuasa tempatan (PBT) perlu menyediakan laporan perancangan kerja naik taraf dan perkhidmatan selepas melaksana kadar baharu cukai taksiran mulai 1 Januari 2025.

Ahli Dewan Negeri (ADN) Subang Jaya Michelle Ng Mei Sze berkata langkah itu penting dalam memastikan penduduk cakra penambahbaikan yang diperolehi hasil penilaian semula cukai terbabit.

"PBT perlu ada perancangan teliti, contohnya dalam tempoh 100 hari selepas kenaikan cukai dibuat, apakah lima perkara yang akan dilaksanakan.

"Saya cadang Kerajaan Negeri satukan naratif perkara ini dan PBT perlu sediakan laporan perancangan yang bakal dilaksanakan di kawasan masing-masing," katanya ketika ditemui hari ini.

Lapan PBT **tidak membuat semakan kadar cukai taksiran** membabitkan tanah kosong, perumahan, kilang dan perniagaan 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 Selangor (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 Ampang Jaya (MPAJ) dan 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.

MBSJ: 170,000 new homes needed by 2035

By MEGAT SYAHAR



Tengku Amir Shah (second from right) distributing the meat to village chiefs and district heads of Petaling Jaya's traditional villages. — KK SHAM/The Star

SUBANG Jaya, Selangor, will need 170,000 new housing units by 2035, according to Subang Jaya City Council (MBSJ).

Its deputy mayor Mohd Zulkurnain Che Ali said Subang Jaya's population in 2023 stood at 1.2 million, higher than those of Shah Alam and Petaling Jaya.

He added that MBSJ currently had the highest amount of strata housing in Selangor, and was third in Malaysia behind Penang and Kuala Lumpur.

Mohd Zulkurnain said this during his speech at the launch of Petaling Land and District Office (PDT Petaling) Complex in Shah Alam, in conjunction with the start of the three-day "Gagasan Rumpun Selangor Daerah Petaling" programme.

In 2023, Shah Alam had a population of 812,327 and Petaling Jaya had 771,687, according to a briefing by city councils during the event.

Meanwhile, based on MBSJ Local Draft Plan 2035 projections, Subang Jaya's population is expected to reach 1.56 million by 2035.

Mohd Zulkurnain also expressed confidence that the MBSJ Commissioner of Building (COB) would be able to handle ongoing issues with strata housing in the city, especially in regards to maintenance and conflict between residents and joint management bodies or management committees.

The Raja Muda of Selangor, Tengku Amir Shah Sultan Sharafuddin Idris Shah, who officially launched the PDT Petaling office, expressed his hope that its staff would prioritise the needs of the people.

"With improvements in facilities and services provided, I believe every transaction will be expedited, and processing times will be faster to ensure satisfaction for the people.

"I also want all government officials and staff serving in Selangor to always be friendly and attentive to the issues faced by the people of the state," he said.

Tengku Amir Shah also called on district officers and staff to cooperate with the Orang Besar Daerah, who represent the Sultan of Selangor in each district, to jointly develop their respective areas and help address issues faced by the people.

"It is the responsibility of government officials and staff to implement all policies formulated by the government for the benefit of Selangor residents.

"No matter how well a policy is formulated, it will not be meaningful or beneficial to the people if its implementation is not efficient and effective," he said.

The "Gagasan Rumpun Selangor Daerah Petaling" programme was held in conjunction with Hari Raya Aidiladha.

Three cattle were slaughtered and the meat distributed to the asnaf (less fortunate) from all traditional villages in the Petaling district, represented by their village chiefs and district heads.

About 600 guests attended the event including Selangor youth, sports and entrepreneurship committee chairman Mohd Najwan Halimi and state rural development, unity and consumers committee chairman Datuk Rizam Ismail.

Other attendees included chiefs of departments from Selangor government and Petaling District, as well as PDT Petaling officers and staff.

THE STAR ONLINE

TARIKH: 24 JUN 2024

By MEGAT SYAHAR
megatsyahr@thestar.com.my

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MBSJ: 170,000 new homes needed by 2035

Deputy mayor says this will cater to Subang Jaya's population, which stood at 1.2 million last year



Tengku Amir Shah (second from right) distributing the meat to village chiefs and district heads of Petaling Jaya's traditional villages. — KK SHAM/The Star

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THE STAR
Tarikh: 12 4 JUN 2024

By KAVITHA SIVAJI
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MBPJ
stay
24/6

PETALING Jaya City Council (MBPJ) launched a community cleanup effort in Taman Medan after recording a more than two-fold increase in dengue cases from 2021.

Petaling Jaya mayor Mohamad Zahri Samingon underscored the urgency of the *gotong-royong* at Flat Medan 32, which is one of the dengue hotspots in the city.

"In week 24 of 2024 (June 9 to 15), 134 cases were recorded, bringing the cumulative total to 3,838 cases this year.

"This is a slight improvement from the previous week, but the situation remains critical with 73 outbreak localities and 15 hot-spots.

"We have seen dengue cases rise from 1,458 in 2021 to 5,641 in 2023, which is a 286% increase," Mohammad Zahri said yesterday at the event.

The city council joined hands with Uni-Charm Malaysia to raise awareness among flats residents on the need to destroy mosquito larvae breeding grounds, which is a critical step to halting the spread of the deadly virus.

The initiative, part of Asean Dengue Day and Petaling Jaya's 18th anniversary celebration, aims for a cleaner and safer envi-

MBPJ holds gotong-royong to tackle rising dengue cases in Taman Medan



Mohamad Zahri with volunteers from Uni-Charm, MBPJ and PKD Petaling. — LOW LAY PHON/The Star

ronment for all.

"I hope other private companies will work with MBPJ to improve Petaling Jaya, not just in dengue prevention but in other efforts as well," he said.

The cleanup, involving 57 Uni-Charm employees and 20 MBPJ and Petaling Health District Office (PKD Petaling) volunteers, focused on eliminating larvae breeding sites at the flats.

PKD Petaling also carried out fogging a day before the event.

Flat Medan 18 resident Jamiah Halim, who participated in the *gotong-royong* said, "The dengue issue has troubled us for a long time.

"I always participate in *gotong-royong* to help clean the surroundings in my area.

"Even if we keep our premises clean, mosquitoes from nearby

residential areas can still spread the virus," she said.

Taman Medan resident Vinoth Raj Kunasegaran described dengue as an on-and-off problem.

"Dengue cases spike especially when it rains," he said.

"MBPJ is doing a great job but frequent inspections are helpful, especially with nearby ongoing construction contributing to the problem," he noted.

Uni-Charm Corporation (Malaysia & Singapore) managing director Toru Fujita said, "We want to help contribute and make Petaling Jaya a clean and dengue-free city.

"The company has been organising such events since last year and will continue to do so in upcoming years," he said, adding this was its first collaboration with MBPJ.

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BASIC ENGLISH CLASSES

Shah Alam City Council (MBSA) is organising a seven-session course on 'Basic English Communication Skills' from June 29 till Aug 10 at Shah Alam Convention Centre, from 9am to noon. The course is open to Malaysians aged 18 to 30, limited to 30 people. A RM20 fee will be collected at the first session. To register, visit MBSA's social media pages or call 019-770 9864.

 THE STAR
12 4 JUN 2024
Tarikh:.....

ACTIVITIES IN AMPANG

> Ampang Jaya Municipal Council (MPAJ) is holding a nasi ambeng cooking contest at the MPAJ Convention Centre in Taman Melawati starting 8am on June 29. Only two people are allowed per team. Stove, portable gas cylinders, a table and two chairs will be provided. For details, WhatsApp 011-7302 4108 (Zakiah).

> MPAJ is holding a Creative Ethnic Dance Competition on July 11, 8am at Level 5, MPAJ Auditorium, MPAJ Tower, Ampang Jaya. Only secondary school students under MPAJ's jurisdiction are eligible to participate. For details, call 017-820 4448 or 011-730 24108.

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 **THE STAR**
12 4 JUN 2024
Tarikh:.....



Palm Court condominium faces a busy Jalan Sultan Abdul Samad. — Photos: CHAN TAK KONG/The Star

Vexed by vendors turning KL walkways into mazes

DBKL
Star
24/6
①

Residents say traders blocking footpaths and endangering public

By BAVANI M
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THE denizens of Brickfields and Taman United are urging Kuala Lumpur City Hall (DBKL) to ban traders from operating on all public walkways, not just those with tactile blocks which are used to guide the visually impaired.

They pointed out that DBKL's regulations and guidelines prohibit street vendors from operating on sidewalks, especially when their presence creates obstructions or causes endangerment.

And yet, dozens of traders are still spotted occupying such spaces in parts of the city, they say.

"DBKL appears to be going against their own standard operating procedure on street vendors and putting the public at risk...not just the visually impaired community, but children too," said SMK Vivekananda Parent-Teacher Association

(PIBG) member Edwin Kumar, who lives in Brickfields.

"I am constantly worried about my children crossing Jalan Sultan Abdul Samad, which is not only congested but dangerous too because several roadside traders operate along the pedestrian path."

Edwin said schoolchildren frequently dashed across the busy road to buy sweets from the vendors, resulting in numerous near-miss incidents, as the view of both pedestrians and motorists is obstructed.

"Who will be responsible if something untoward happens?" he asked.

Residents are calling for a ban following a recent walkabout by DBKL Building Control Department director Ismawijaya Zah Mohamed Jais to inspect damaged tactile tiles and look into obstacles along pedestrian walkways in Brickfields.

This inspection was prompted

by a *StarMetro* report on June 10, titled "Path to accessibility," which highlighted the difficulties faced by the visually impaired in navigating streets in the area.

During the walkabout, DBKL issued summonses to several business operators in Brickfields for obstructing tactile paths and pedestrian walkways.

Business operators scrambled to remove obstacles when they saw DBKL officers approaching the area.

A coffeshop operator along Jalan Thambipillay was seen hastily removing chairs and tables, while a stallowner was instructed to remove a cooking station placed on a walkway.

Palm Court Condominium resident Malar Raju is among those voicing concerns about stallowners taking up space on walkways.

"The vendors clutter the walkway with their wares and items such as sugar cane husks and coconuts.



Edwin says schoolchildren dash across the busy road to buy sweets from the vendors.

"Some even fry snacks on the pedestrian path that has tactile blocks, endangering the public," she said.

A Palm Court joint management body (JMB) member, who wished to remain anonymous, said the JMB had received numerous complaints from residents about the vendors operating outside the condominium.

"Residents pay maintenance fees for the upkeep of the property grounds and assessment tax to DBKL for the area outside the residential premises.

"No one likes coming out of their homes to find messy walkways with oil and grime on the ground, sugar cane and coconut husks left on the road, and standstill traffic as motorists tend to stop by the roadside to buy drinks and snacks at the stalls," she said.

Similarly, a grandmother who wanted to be identified only as Devi, said she felt it was dangerous crossing the road with her granddaughters.

"There are near-misses at least three to four times a week," she added.

Another resident James Rai



Vendors cluttering the walkway with their wares in Brickfields.

THE STAR
12 4 JUN 2021
Tarikh:.....

PEDESTRIAN walkways and footpaths in the city, especially those with tactile blocks, should not be occupied by street vendors, says former Kuala Lumpur mayor Datuk Seri Nor Hisham Ahmad Dahlan.

"While the right to livelihood as claimed by street vendors is valid, Kuala Lumpur City Hall (DBKL) needs to balance that right with public safety and accessibility.

"As a former mayor, council president and district officer, I have been advocating for a safe and unobstructed passage for everyone – the visually impaired, the elderly, wheelchair users, mothers with baby strollers, and children.

"We should be moving towards turning Kuala Lumpur into a walkable city; hence public safety and accessibility must take precedence," he stressed.

Nor Hisham said safe walkways were essential if DBKL wanted to move towards a world-class city.

He said laws existed to ensure that rules, regulations, guidelines and policies on public walkways were implemented.

"DBKL's Licensing and Business Development Department will only issue business licences to street vendors if the area is deemed suitable for business.

"This decision is made by a committee with representatives from other DBKL departments such as Urban Transport, Building Control, Project Implementation and Building Maintenance, Enforcement, and Economic Planning and Development," he said.

He emphasised that the law

Pedestrians' right to use footpath must not be compromised, says former mayor



Khalid says DBKL should stick to their guidelines on hawker management.



Nor Hisham says street vendors should stay off pedestrian walkways.

was clear on this matter, and that by allowing traders to operate on pedestrian paths, it complicated the work of enforcement officers.

"We don't want a situation where enforcement officers are unable to take action against a



Enforcement officers say their work is made more difficult as some traders have obtained a licence to operate on public walkways. — Filepic

stallowner who has a licence to operate on a footpath; that would be counter-productive," he said.

On the other hand, DBKL enforcement officers told *StarMetro* that they were placed in a difficult position at times when enforcing the law on traders operating on footpaths and for putting chairs and tables on footpaths.

They say that the traders are not illegal and have a licence. Some traders even produce support letters from politicians when questioned, further complicating matters.

"It also does not help when some of the traders publicise enforcement exercises on social media, making us look bad and

as if we are being cruel," said a senior officer who declined to be named.

"In reality, traders are not supposed to be given licence to operate on public walkways and five-foot ways," he added.

Former Federal Territories minister Khalid Abdul Samad said DBKL should stick to the guidelines and regulations with regard to traders operating on walk paths.

"DBKL must find suitable locations elsewhere for the traders.

"I understand that we want to support them too, to help them earn a living, but we cannot allow them to be putting chairs and tables, blocking pedestrians' right of way, and

cooking on the sidewalk.

"The mayor has absolute power on policies and administration matters as per the Federal Capital Act 1960, and he can remedy the situation," Khalid added.

DBKL advisory board member in charge of transportation and infrastructure, Hayatul Kamil Termudi said the street vendor situation in Kuala Lumpur had gone haywire since the Covid-19 pandemic when DBKL loosened its licensing guidelines to help poor city folk who had lost their incomes.

"But City Hall needs to get its act together and take control of the situation, before things get out of hand," said Hayatul.

— By BAVANI M



DBKL enforcement officers issuing a notice to a stallowner operating with a restaurant licence on a walkway. The owner has since vacated the site on his own accord.

pointed out that Jalan Sultan Abdul Samad had a 30km per hour (km/h) speed limit.

He said this meant that it was a high-traffic area with no room for traders to operate, let alone motorists to stop along the road to buy food or goods.

Lecturer John Manikam expressed similar sentiments, highlighting that roadside traders operating along the walkway in front of Palm Court condominium were endangering pedestrians.

"Motorists stop at the traffic-light junction to buy food and

drinks, contributing to the congestion and endangering schoolchildren," he stressed.

"Why does DBKL allow traders to set up stalls at a traffic-light junction?"

"What is the point of installing a signalled traffic light and CCTV (closed-circuit TV) cameras if hawkers are allowed to trade here?" he questioned.

Residents also pointed out that the two pedestrian bridges built across the road had become white elephants.

"The bridges are being utilised by vagrants and drug addicts as a



Some of the stalls on Jalan Sepadu in Taman United are taking up almost the entire width of the walkway.

place to sleep and hang out," said Edwin.

"It is neither safe for children to use these bridges nor cross the roads on street level.

"It is time for DBKL to demonstrate accountability and revamp their street vendor guidelines," he said.

Likewise, Taman United residents in Jalan Kelang Lama feel that their township is always congested.

DBKL has allowed roadside hawkers to operate on pedestrian paths in the area, especially on Jalan Sepadu.

Resident Sean Oon said, "These stalls are endangering the people who patronise them, given their close proximity to the road."

He added that the site was not suitable for stalls and that everything should be removed.

In a written statement issued through its media unit, DBKL said trading activities were generally not allowed on walkways as they created public obstructions.

"However, hawker licences can be approved subject to the suitability of the location, ensuring there is no obstruction.

"The approval of a location is decided through a committee that includes representatives from various departments," DBKL said.

But the local authority failed to address why licences were issued to traders to operate on walkways with tactile blocks.

Dozens are also operating with a restaurant licence and some of them have built permanent structures on walkways, complete with zinc roof and tiled flooring, without obtaining a development order from the relevant DBKL departments.

Swift process for diesel passes

STAR
24/6

Armizan: Subsidy approvals will be given in an instant for complete submissions

By KHOO GEK SAN
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PUTRAJAYA: Immediate approvals will be given for complete applications under the Subsidised Diesel Control System (SKDS), which encompasses 33 categories of public and goods land transportation, says Datuk Armizan Mohd Ali.

The Domestic Trade and Cost of Living Minister said the application process is designed to be straightforward and swift, requiring companies to submit only minimal information.

Verification is done instantaneously through integration with the Road Transport Department

(JPJ) system.

"Eligible companies listed in the 33 types of qualifying public and goods land transportation are encouraged to apply promptly," he said in a statement yesterday.

Applications can be submitted through <https://mysubsidi.kpdn.gov.my/>, and approval letters will be issued instantly, he added.

Armizan said 226,957 public transport and goods vehicles from 75,541 companies have been approved for SKDS by his ministry as of June 23.

He said these companies can proceed with fleet card applications from their preferred oil companies using the same system.

Approvals obtained by June 30

will allow transport companies to claim reimbursement for expenses at the subsidised rate through purchase receipts until the company receives the fleet card from their chosen oil companies.

Following a Finance Ministry statement on June 12, reimbursement payments will commence from July for those who register and obtain SKDS approval by June 30. The ministry will announce the procedures for claims and reimbursement shortly.

Armizan reminded approved companies to use the fleet cards strictly for approved vehicle applications. Any misuse of fleet

cards will lead to stringent action, including the revocation of fleet cards for the implicated vehicles.

He said his ministry is currently coordinating appeals from certain transport sectors that wish to join SKDS.

These appeals will be reviewed by the appeals committee, which includes various ministries and agencies, before being submitted for consideration by the Cabinet.

He also said traders, particularly those receiving diesel subsidies through fleet cards, should not raise prices using the new diesel price setting as a justification.

Armizan said the ministry has mobilised enforcement and price-monitoring officers nation-

wide to continue overseeing the prices of goods and services at all levels of the supply chain.

If profiteering activities are detected, the ministry will take firm action under the Price Control and Anti-Profitteering Act 2011.

Earlier, the ministry outlined the eligible vehicles under SKDS, segmented into three categories: SKDS 1.0, SKDS 2.0 Phase I and SKDS 2.0 Phase II.

Eligible vehicles include school buses, express buses, shuttle buses, taxis, ambulances, fire trucks, general cargo lorries and vehicles transporting agricultural products, livestock and catered food, among others.

THE STAR
24 JUN 2024
Tarikh:.....

'Use controls as temporary measure to resolve price hikes'

By TEH ATHIRA YUSOF
tehathirayusof@thestar.com.my

PETALING JAYA: Price controls and subsidies should be used as a temporary measure to curb the negative effects of price shocks and enable consumers and producers to adjust smoothly to the supply-demand imbalance, say economists.

Malaysian Economic Association deputy president Prof Dr Yeah Kim Leng said keeping prices low and stable through controls and subsidies has to be weighed against the need to ensure adequate and efficient supply, which is harder to manage if there are distorted markets and prices.

"Prolonged subsidies and price

deviations from equilibrium market prices will eventually result in under-investment and production, thereby worsening the supply situation and creating shortages and encouraging blackmarket activities," said the Sunway University economics professor.

"Raising production or supply efficiency and productivity and ensuring competitive markets are the keys to keeping prices of essential goods and services low, while subsidies and price controls should be used sparingly when markets are disrupted or shocked, as in the recent case with chicken and eggs."

(Equilibrium is when market supply and demand balance each other, leading to stable prices.)

Malaysia University Science and Technology economist Prof Emeritus Dr Barjoyai Bardai said that after the 3 sen reduction in egg prices on June 17, making other essential items cheaper might be challenging.

"To reduce prices of any item is difficult and challenging, so is stabilising the price because Malaysia practises an open economy."

"We also import 80% of our needs and the most effective way to address this is by raising the wages of the working class," he said when asked if there are any immediate measures the government could take following the egg subsidy that came after the diesel subsidy rationalisation was enforced.

The economist said families would only save about RM8.50 a year or 67 sen per month from the egg subsidy, hence contributing to minimal savings.

Prof Barjoyai also called for a comprehensive strategy to improve overall well-being.

"Currently, the government provides RM1,000 in living assistance to needy families and saves RM4bil from targeted diesel subsidies, with plans to add an additional RM200 subsidy per family."

"This assistance is crucial, especially for the lower to upper middle class, which makes up nearly 30% of the population," he added.

Federation of Malaysian Consumers Associations (Fomca) chief

executive Saravanan Tambirajah said there must be improvements in food security, which is crucial to boosting domestic agriculture for produce such as padi, vegetables and onions.

"Malaysia's heavy reliance on food imports, costing RM60bil to RM80bil annually, means that any supply disruption from countries like Vietnam, Thailand or India could significantly impact local prices," he said.

"Price fluctuations are driven by supply and demand; increasing supply can lower prices. Addressing business costs such as electricity and imported animal feed can help reduce operational expenses, benefiting consumers by preventing price hikes."

 **THE STAR**
24 JUN 2024
Tarikh:.....

AI takes
centre stage as
tech giants unveil
radical updates to
transform our
smartphones
this year.

Era of AI smartphone

EVERY year, Apple and Google announce major software updates that bring new features to our smartphones, such as cosmetic overhauls to the home screen, stronger privacy protections and fun messaging tools.

This year, the changes will feel more radical because the companies are focusing on reinventing our phones with artificial intelligence.

At its annual software developer conference, Apple showed a host of enhancements coming to iOS 18, its operating system powering iPhones.

The new tools include a revamped version of its voice assistant, Siri, that is easier to talk to and an AI system that will generate images, create summaries of web articles, and craft responses to text messages and emails.

Apple's news followed Google's Android announcements last month, which included an AI system that automatically summarises audio transcripts, detects whether a phone conversation is likely a scam, and helps students with homework.

Because AI tech is still new, it's unclear whether these improvements will resonate with the masses.

The change that will have a more immediate effect has to do with old-school text messages – also known as the green bubble.

Apple said its new software would adopt a messaging standard that would let iPhone users send higher-quality messages to Androids, addressing an issue that has made it more difficult for people to communicate for more than a decade.

As Apple and Google are set to release their free software updates for iOS and Android, here's what to know about how our smartphones will change.

Siri gets brain transplant

Apple said it had completely reworked Siri, its 13-year-old virtual assistant.

The assistant will soon be powered by Apple Intelligence, the company's version of a "large language model".

That type of AI technology uses statistics and complex algorithms to guess what words belong together, similar to the autocomplete feature on your phone.

It's the same type of underlying technology we've seen powering chatbots, such as OpenAI's ChatGPT and Google's Gemini. Apple said its system was

more private than others' because people's data would remain on their iPhones.

The upgrade will make Siri capable of processing the context of a conversation, and allow users to speak more naturally with the virtual assistant. For instance, you could say, "What's the weather in Santa Cruz? Oh wait, I meant San Francisco" followed by "Schedule a coffee meeting there tomorrow at 9am".

The new and more capable Siri will also be able to handle more complex tasks, such as searching your photo album for an image of your driver's licence and pulling the ID number to paste into a form, Apple said.

In contrast, the old version of Siri could react only to a database of commands and questions it was programmed to understand, such as "What's the weather in San Francisco?" and "Schedule a coffee meeting in San Francisco."

Apple Intelligence will also enable iPhone users to automatically generate images inside messages, Apple said. For instance, if you wish a friend a happy birthday, the AI could review your photo album for an image of that friend, after which it could generate an avatar of that person with balloons.

The AI will also be usable in writing apps such as Mail and Notes. Users can highlight text for proofreading or rewriting in a different style. Inside the Safari web browser, users can also highlight articles to generate short summaries.

Apple said it had formed a partnership with OpenAI so that Siri could tap into ChatGPT for help with tasks like generating a list of recipe ideas.

The AI features are arriving only on the newest, fastest iPhones, including the iPhone 15 Pro.

Overhauling Android with Gemini

Only owners of Google's Pixel phones can use most of Google's latest AI features; support for other Android devices is expected later this year.

For the past year, Google has let users test Gemini, its new AI assistant, which requires downloading an app. (By default, Android phones will still come loaded with Google Assistant, the virtual assistant that is similar to Amazon's Alexa and the older version of Siri.) Similar to OpenAI's ChatGPT, Gemini acts like a chatbot that generates responses to whatever prompt you throw at it, including "write a poem about dogs in San Francisco".

A new version of Gemini, called Gemini Nano, focuses on handling AI tasks directly on Pixel phones rather than processing the requests on Google's servers, for privacy purposes.

One feature for scam detection involves using AI to listen to your phone calls. If the conversation fits the pattern of a scam, such as a fraudster asking for your online banking password, an alert is sent to your phone.

Another feature, called Circle to Search, lets users circle an image to ask Google for information. This fea-

ture has now been expanded to let students circle a maths or physics problem for help. Google's AI will then generate a list of steps on how to solve the problem.

Gemini Nano can also take a transcript automatically generated from an audio recording and create written summaries, which could be useful for meetings. Another tool, called Magic Compose, can be used inside Google's Messages app to quickly rewrite a message in a different style.

Improvements to texting

For more than a decade, smartphone users everywhere have confronted the green versus blue bubble divide. When iPhone users send texts to other iPhones, the messages appear blue and can tap into exclusive perks like fun emojis and animations. But if an iPhone user texts an Android user, the bubble turns green, many features break, and photos and videos deteriorate in quality.

Apple is finally taking a step towards bridging that divide. It said that in iOS 18, its messages app would adopt Rich Communication Services, a standard that Google and others integrated into their apps years ago. Texts sent between iPhones and Androids will remain green, but images and videos will be of higher quality.

The result will probably be profound. Many iPhone and Android users said they felt discouraged from sending messages to one another because the image quality was poor. The Justice Department, which earlier this year accused Apple of placing restrictions on its phones to maintain a monopoly, viewed the messaging incompatibility as a pressure tactic to persuade people to buy iPhones. – The New York Times



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Membudaya integriti, tatakelola



PERSPEKTIF
AMAL AKMAL AZIZ

Integriti dan tatakelola yang baik merupakan asas penting dalam memastikan kestabilan dan kemakmuran masyarakat Malaysia Madani. Kedua nilai ini membentuk landasan yang kukuh untuk pembangunan yang berkesan dan mampan. Apabila sesebuah masyarakat mengamalkan integriti dan tatakelola yang baik, ia akan memberikan manfaat kepada setiap individu dan keseluruhan komuniti.

Integriti merujuk kepada kejujuran diri dan amalan moral yang konsisten. Dalam konteks masyarakat, integriti melibatkan tindakan yang bersih daripada rasuah, penyelewengan dan penyalahgunaan kuasa. Budaya integriti yang kukuh membawa kepada keyakinan dalam institusi dan pemimpin, serta membentuk asas yang stabil untuk pertumbuhan ekonomi dan sosial.

Integriti juga berkait rapat dengan

kepercayaan suasana yang kondusif untuk kerjasama, perkongsian maklumat dan inovasi terbina hasil keyakinan tinggi masyarakat terhadap integriti institusi dan individu. Kepercayaan yang kukuh merupakan asas kepada hubungan antara masyarakat, kerajaan dan sektor swasta.

Tatakelola yang baik membawa kepada pengurusan yang berkesan dan bertanggungjawab dalam sesuatu organisasi dan negara.

Ia merangkumi proses, struktur dan amalan yang memastikan keadilan, ketelusan dan keberkesanan. Dalam konteks kerajaan, tatakelola yang baik merujuk kepada cara dan kaedah kerajaan menjalankan fungsi urusan awam termasuk proses pembuatan keputusan dan pengurusan sumber.

Penglibatan awam dalam proses pembuatan keputusan adalah ciri penting tatakelola yang baik. Apabila rakyat merasa bahawa mereka mempunyai akses kepada maklumat yang mencukupi dan peluang untuk menyuarakan pendapat mereka, ia membentuk sebuah masyarakat yang lebih berdaya dan bertanggungjawab.

Selain itu, akauntabiliti juga merupakan elemen penting dalam tatakelola

yang baik. Institusi dan individu yang bertanggungjawab akan memastikan bahawa tindakan mereka selari dengan undang-undang dan prinsip moral masyarakat.

Dalam memastikan pembudayaan integriti dan tatakelola yang baik, pendekatan yang menyeluruh perlu diambil. Pendidikan awam dan kesedaran perlu ditingkatkan untuk memupuk kesedaran tentang kepentingan integriti dan tatakelola yang baik.

Sekolah dan institusi pendidikan perlu memasukkan nilai-nilai ini ke dalam kurikulum mereka dan kempen kesedaran awam perlu dianjurkan secara kerap untuk menyebarkan mesej tersebut kepada masyarakat.

Selain itu, pentadbiran yang telus dan cekap perlu diterapkan di semua peringkat, daripada peringkat tempatan sehingga ke peringkat nasional.

Langkah-langkah pencegahan rasuah, pelaporan penyelewengan dan perlindungan *whistleblower* adalah penting untuk menggalakkan amalan integriti dan tatakelola yang baik.

Integriti dan tatakelola yang baik membentuk landasan yang penting bagi kemajuan dan kesejahteraan masyarakat Malaysia Madani. Budaya integriti

“

Integriti merujuk kepada kejujuran diri dan amalan moral yang konsisten. Dalam konteks masyarakat, integriti melibatkan tindakan yang bersih daripada rasuah, penyelewengan dan penyalahgunaan kuasa.”

dan tatakelola yang baik memerlukan usaha berterusan dari semua pihak, termasuk institusi kerajaan, sektor swasta, masyarakat awam dan individu.

Dengan mengamalkan nilai-nilai ini, masyarakat dapat mencapai kemajuan yang mampan dan memberikan kehidupan yang lebih baik kepada generasi akan datang.

*Amal Akmal Aziz ialah Penolong Setiausaha (Sub Unit Tadbir Urus), Unit Integriti, Kementerian Kewangan

SINAR HARIAN
Tarikh: 24 JUN 2024



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ANWAR

Kurangkan jejak karbon, galak amalan mampan - PM

KUALA LUMPUR - Kerajaan Madani komited untuk mengurangkan jejak karbon negara dan menggalakkan amalan mampan, kata Perdana Menteri, Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim.

Beliau berkata, kerajaan telah melaksanakan pelbagai dasar yang bertujuan mengurangkan pelepasan karbon, menggalakkan kesaksamaan sosial, mewujudkan peluang pertumbuhan baharu dalam ekonomi hijau serta memastikan tadbir urus yang telus.

"Susulan itu, kita telah memperuntukkan dana yang besar kepada tenaga boleh baharu, melabur dalam sumber tenaga bersih dan mampan," katanya menerusi catatan di X pada Ahad.

Mengenai pertanian mampan, Anwar berkata, negara menyokong amalan pertanian mesra alam untuk menjamin alam sekitar yang baik bagi jangka masa panjang.

Beliau berkata, tambahan pula, Malaysia sedang membangunkan penyelesaian pengangkutan hijau untuk mengurangkan kesan alam sekitar dan meningkatkan keselamatan.

"Bersama-sama, kita boleh membina Malaysia yang lebih mampan dan saksama untuk generasi akan datang," ujar beliau.

SINAR HARIAN

Tarikh: **24 JUN 2024**

Komited lestarikan alam sekitar

Pelbagai dasar
dirangka, ^{BH}
peruntukan ^{24/6}
disalur fokus
kurangkan
pelepasan karbon

Oleh Fahmy A Rosli
fahmy.azril@bh.com.my

Kuala Lumpur: Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim berkata kerajaan melaksanakan pelbagai dasar untuk memastikan tadbir urus yang telus dalam melestarikan alam sekitar.

Dalam masa sama, Perdana Menteri berkata kerajaan juga mewujudkan dasar bagi mengurangkan pelepasan karbon.

Ia termasuk memperkenalkan dasar berkaitan bagi menggalakkan kesaksamaan sosial, di samping mewujudkan peluang pertumbuhan baharu dalam ekonomi hijau.

"Kerajaan telah memperuntukkan dana yang besar ke arah tenaga boleh diperbaharui, melabur dalam sumber tenaga yang bersih dan mampan.

"Dalam pertanian mampan, ki-

ta menyokong amalan pertanian mesra alam demi memastikan kesihatan awam untuk jangka panjang.

"Tambahan pula, kita sedang membangunkan penyelesaian pengangkutan hijau untuk mengurangkan kesan alam sekitar untuk meningkatkan kesalinghubungan," katanya dalam kenyataan di Facebook semalam.

Mengulas lanjut, Perdana Men-

teri berkata inisiatif yang diterajui pimpinannya menandakan komitmen tidak berbelah bahagi pentadbiran Kerajaan MADANI.

Ia khususnya dalam mengurangkan jejak karbon negara selain menggalakkan amalan mampan.

"Bersama-sama kita boleh membina Malaysia yang lebih mampan dan saksama untuk generasi akan datang," katanya.

BERITA HARIAN
24 JUN 2024
Tarikh.....

Selangor diminta perjelas isu hak milik tanah

MBSA
UM
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PETALING JAYA: Parti Hijau Malaysia (PHM) menggesa Kerajaan Negeri Selangor memberi penerangan berhubung tiga dokumen hak milik tanah dikeluarkan Pejabat Daerah dan Tanah Petaling kepada Menteri Besar Incorporated (MBI) pada 7 Mei lalu.

Setiausahanya, Abdul Razak Ismail berkata, kerajaan negeri wajar memaklumkan tujuan pemberian hak milik tersebut kerana jarang bangunan-bangunan milik kerajaan diberikan hak milik tanah.

"Persoalannya, apakah kerajaan negeri merancang menjual lot-lot tanah tersebut pada masa akan datang dan kepada siapa?"

"Kami juga ingin menarik perhatian kepada isu di mana Majlis Bandaraya Shah Alam (MBSA) pada 6 Jun lalu yang menegaskan bahawa kerja-kerja perobohan stadium tidak dapat dilaksanakan kerana pihak pemaju masih belum menghantar pelan pembangunan penuh projek secara rasmi kepada pihak MBSA.

"Siapakah 'pemaju' sebenar projek Komplek Sukan Shah Alam (KSSA) ini? Malaysian Resources Corporation Berhad (MRCB), Lembaran Prospek Sdn. Bhd. atau MRCB Builders Sdn. Bhd.?" katanya dalam kenyataan, semalam.

Abdul Razak berkata, PHM



Kerajaan negeri wajar memaklumkan tujuan pemberian hak milik tersebut kerana jarang bangunan-bangunan milik kerajaan diberikan hak milik tanah."

ABDUL RAZAK ISMAIL

turut mempersoal kegagalan pemaju untuk menghantar pelan pembangunan KSSA.

"Atas alasan apa pihak pemaju gagal menghantar pelan penuh pembangunan keseluruhan KSSA atau ada perancangan lain dirancang ke atas ketiga lot tanah tersebut apabila kerja-kerja perobohan selesai dilaksanakan nanti?" soalnya.

Terdahulu, Datuk Bandar Shah Alam, Datuk Mohd. Fauzi Mohd. Yatim berkata, proses meroboh Stadium Shah Alam bagi pembangunan semula KSSA yang baharu belum dapat dilaksanakan.

UTUSAN MALAYSIA
Tarikh: **24 JUN 2024**

Budayakan integriti, tatakelola baik dalam masyarakat Madani

SAUDARA PENGARANG.

MM
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INTEGRITI dan tatakelola yang baik merupakan asas penting dalam memastikan kestabilan dan kemakmuran masyarakat Malaysia Madani. Kedua-dua nilai ini membentuk landasan yang kukuh untuk pembangunan yang berkesan dan mampan. Apabila sesebuah masyarakat mengamalkan integriti dan tatakelola yang baik, ia akan memberikan manfaat kepada setiap individu dan keseluruhan komuniti.

INTEGRITI SEBAGAI LANDASAN UTAMA

Integriti merujuk kepada kejujuran diri dan amalan moral yang konsisten. Dalam konteks masyarakat, integriti melibatkan tindakan yang bersih dari rasuah, penyelewengan dan penyalahgunaan kuasa. Budaya integriti yang kukuh membawa kepada keyakinan dalam institusi dan pemimpin, serta membentuk asas yang stabil untuk pertumbuhan ekonomi dan sosial.

Integriti juga berkait rapat dengan kepercayaan suasana yang kondusif untuk kerjasama, perkongsian maklumat dan inovasi terbina hasil keyakinan tinggi masyarakat terhadap integriti institusi dan individu. Kepercayaan yang kukuh merupakan asas kepada hubungan antara masyarakat, kerajaan dan sektor swasta.

TATAKELOLA YANG BAIK SEBAGAI PENYOKONG INTEGRITI

Tatakelola yang baik membawa kepada pengurusan yang berkesan dan bertanggungjawab dalam sesuatu organisasi dan negara. Ia merangkumi proses, struktur dan amalan yang memastikan keadilan, ketelusan dan keberkesanan. Dalam konteks kerajaan, tatakelola yang baik merujuk kepada cara dan kaedah kerajaan menjalankan fungsi urusan awam termasuk proses pembuatan keputusan dan pengurusan sumber.

Penglibatan awam dalam proses pembuatan keputusan adalah ciri penting tatakelola yang baik. Apabila rakyat merasa bahawa mereka mempunyai akses kepada

maklumat yang mencukupi dan peluang untuk menyuarakan pendapat mereka, ia membentuk sebuah masyarakat yang lebih berdaya dan bertanggungjawab. Selain itu, akauntabiliti juga merupakan elemen penting dalam tatakelola yang baik. Institusi dan individu yang bertanggungjawab akan memastikan bahawa tindakan mereka selari dengan undang-undang dan prinsip moral masyarakat.

MENANAM BUDAYA INTEGRITI DAN TATAKELOLA YANG BAIK

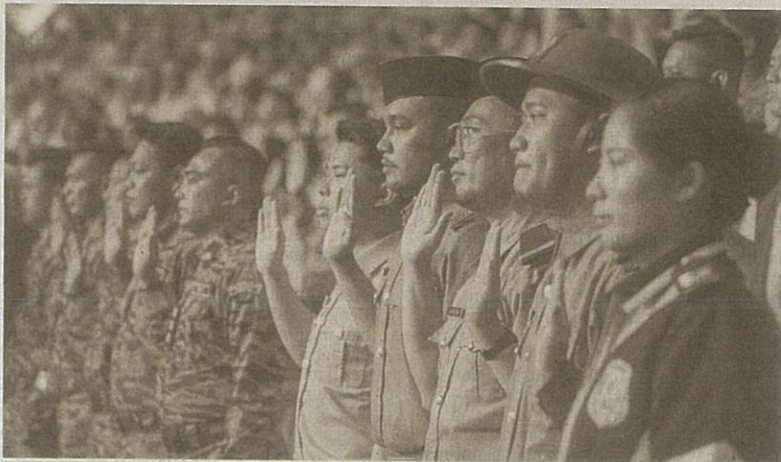
Dalam memastikan pembudayaan integriti dan tatakelola yang baik, pendekatan yang menyeluruh perlu diambil. Pendidikan awam dan kesedaran perlu ditingkatkan untuk memupuk kesedaran tentang kepentingan integriti dan tatakelola yang baik. Sekolah dan institusi pendidikan perlu memasukkan nilai-nilai ini ke dalam kurikulum mereka dan kempen kesedaran awam perlu dianjurkan secara kerap untuk menyebarkan mesej ini kepada masyarakat.

Selain itu, pentadbiran yang telus dan cekap perlu diterapkan di semua peringkat, dari peringkat tempatan sehingga ke peringkat nasional. Langkah-langkah pencegahan rasuah, pelaporan penyelewengan dan perlindungan *whistleblower* adalah penting untuk menggalakkan amalan integriti dan tatakelola yang baik.

Integriti dan tatakelola yang baik membentuk landasan yang penting bagi kemajuan dan kesejahteraan masyarakat Malaysia Madani. Budaya integriti dan tatakelola yang baik memerlukan usaha berterusan dari semua pihak, termasuk institusi kerajaan, sektor swasta, masyarakat awam dan individu. Dengan mengamalkan nilai-nilai ini, masyarakat dapat mencapai kemajuan yang mampan dan memberikan kehidupan yang lebih baik kepada generasi akan datang.

AMAL AKMAL AZIZ

Penolong Setiausaha (Sub Unit Tadbir Urus)
Unit Integriti, Kementerian Kewangan



INTEGRITI dan tatakelola yang baik membentuk landasan yang penting bagi kemajuan dan kesejahteraan masyarakat Malaysia Madani. - UTUSAN/FAISOL MUSTAFA

UTUSAN MALAYSIA
Tarikh: 24 JUN 2024.....



PENGHAPUSAN rasuah perlukan iltizam politik, ketelusan pelbagai institusi dan pelaksanaan yang efektif.

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Berusaha hapuskan rasuah

SAUDARA PENGARANG,

PELANCARAN Strategi Pembanteras Rasuah Nasional (NACS 2024-2028) amat kita alu-alukan dan memberi harapan baharu dalam menangani barah rasuah yang membimbangkan.

Apatah lagi kita dikejutkan dengan kenyataan Ketua Pengarah SPRM, Tan Sri Azam Baki bahawa negara kehilangan RM277 bilion dalam tempoh lima tahun lalu kerana pengamalan rasuah.

Kita juga mengikuti rapat isu rasuah dalam kalangan penjawat awam, misalnya membabitkan pengambilan rasuah oleh pegawai-pegawai kastam di pintu masuk negara kita. Seolah-olah perkara ini telah berlarutan agak lama dan tiada jalan penyelesaian.

Itu belum lagi melihat pelbagai kes berprofil tinggi dan membabit individu terkenal, yang membawa kepada tiada tindakan lanjut (*No Further Action*), hingga mengundang kecaman pelbagai pihak.

Jadi, selepas pengenalan NACS, apa pula pelan tindakan susulan. Bagaimana hendak menterjemahkan semua inisiatif membabitkan lima strategi utama, baik jangka pendek, sederhana mahupun jangka panjang.

Mendengar ucapan Perdana Menteri, kerajaan memang serius dalam menangani rasuah, seperti yang beliau laungkan semasa menjadi pemimpin pembangkang.

Kedapatan selama ini, ada kes rasuah ini, yang terlibat sekadar dipindahkan, diberhentikan atau diturunkan pangkat. Tindakan sedemikian amat tidak memadai, malah tiada sebarang pendakwaan di mahkamah.

Penghapusan rasuah perlukan iltizam politik, ketelusan pelbagai institusi dan pelaksanaan yang efektif. Baik kes rasuah besar mahupun kes kecil, perlu ditangani secara serius.

Kita tidak mahu NACS menjadi satu lagi program kerajaan yang tumpul dan tidak berkuku, apatah lagi pada era sekarang, di mana perbuatan itu dilakukan secara lebih licik, kreatif dan canggih.

Kita mahu kerajaan bertindak seperti apa yang dikatakan (*walk the talk*). Kesungguhan Perdana Menteri perlu disokong dan disambut semua pihak. Hentikan bayaran komisen yang salah, rundungan bawah meja dan permainan di belakang tabir yang sudah sekian lama berlaku.

MUSTAFA SIRAJ
Batu Pahat, Johor

UTUSAN MALAYSIA
Tarikh: 24 JUN 2024



SHARIKA
TASNIM

BANJIR adalah kejadian biasa di Malaysia, terutamanya semasa musim monsun.

Akibat banjir Disember 2022 telah melanda dengan hebat, dengan 62 penduduk desa terpaksa mendidih air banjir untuk kegunaan harian, menekankan krisis kesihatan awam yang mendesak.

Sayangnya, banjir telah mengambil nyawa, termasuk seorang lelaki yang terkena elektrik pada 19 Disember 2021, dan tiga beradik perempuan yang mengalami akhir yang sama tragis pada 19 Disember 2022. Insiden-insiden yang menghancurkan hati ini menunjukkan betapa pentingnya untuk menilai semula pendekatan kami terhadap perumahan dan pembangunan bandar untuk memastikan keselamatan dan kesejahteraan komuniti kami.

Adalah jelas bahawa struktur sedia ada rentan terhadap peningkatan kekerapan dan keintensifan banjir.

Mengikut garis panduan bertajuk "Garis Panduan Perancangan, Bandar Berdaya Tahan Bencana di Malaysia," untuk mengelakkan aset atau sumber daripada berhenti beroperasi akibat bencana banjir, elektrik sumber bekalan perlu diletakkan di lokasi yang tinggi (memenuhi kriteria reka bentuk ARI 100 tahun).

Begitu juga sumber bekalan air seperti loji rawatan air, tangki simpanan, dan rumah pam mesti diletakkan di dalam peti keselamatan dan lokasi tinggi (memenuhi keperluan reka bentuk ARI 100 tahun) untuk mengelakkan gangguan dan pemotongan bekalan semasa bencana banjir. Selain itu, tapak pelupusan sisa pepejal atau sampah dan loji rawatan kumbahan berpusat perlu terletak di kawasan yang tinggi dan bebas banjir (memenuhi piawaian reka bentuk ARI 100 Tahun) untuk mengelakkan kemudahan pelupusan sisa ini daripada banjir semasa banjir.

Sementara itu, sumber telekomunikasi dan siber mesti ditempatkan di tempat tinggi (memenuhi keperluan reka bentuk ARI 100 tahun) untuk elakkan memusnahkan aset ini semasa banjir.

Apabila bercakap tentang ketahanan banjir dan amalan mampan, adalah penting untuk mengetahui aras banjir untuk menaikkan infrastruktur seperti sistem elektrik dan paip.

• Menaikkan pencawang



KEJADIAN banjir di Malaysia menjadi peringatan yang nyata tentang keperluan mendesak untuk anjakan paradigma. - UTUSAN/SHIDDIEQIIN ZON

Bertindak sekarang elak bencana banjir lebih buruk

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24/6

menggunakan asas atau platform bertingkat melibatkan menaikkan infrastruktur elektrik kritikal dari tanah untuk melindunginya daripada banjir. Sub-stesen adalah komponen penting dan bertanggungjawab untuk mengawal tahap voltan dan mengagihkan elektrik ke kawasan yang berbeza.

Dengan menaikkannya, bandar boleh mengurangkan risiko kerosakan semasa banjir, memastikan bekalan kuasa berterusan kepada penduduk dalam keadaan cuaca buruk.

Selain itu, menaikkan generator sandaran melibatkan menempatkan sumber tenaga kecemasan ini di atas platform yang dinaikkan. Generator sandaran adalah penting untuk menyediakan elektrik semasa bekalan elektrik terputus, terutamanya di kawasan yang cenderung banjir atau peristiwa cuaca ekstrem. Menaikkannya membantu mencegah kerosakan daripada

air masuk dan memastikan fungsinya ketika paling diperlukan.

Memasang pelindung lonjakan di bangunan adalah penting untuk melindungi peranti elektronik dan peralatan daripada kerosakan yang disebabkan oleh lonjakan elektrik semasa banjir. Air banjir boleh menyebabkan turun naik kuasa dan lonjakan, yang boleh menggoreng peralatan sensitif yang disambungkan ke grid elektrik. Pelindung lonjakan bertindak sebagai penghalang, mengalihkan voltan berlebihan daripada peranti dan menghalang kerosakan yang mahal.

Menaikkan titik pam dan peralatan kawalan melibatkan menaikkan infrastruktur seperti pam pengaliran dan sistem kawalan. Menaikkan mereka membantu memastikan operasi berterusan walaupun berdepan dengan aras air yang semakin meningkat.

• Menaikkan titik akses

ke pusat perkhidmatan kecemasan di kawasan perumahan melibatkan menaikkan pintu masuk, jalan dan laluan yang mengarah ke fasiliti ini. Semasa banjir, akses yang cepat dan tidak terhalang ke perkhidmatan kecemasan adalah penting untuk memastikan keselamatan dan kesejahteraan penduduk.

Menaikkan titik akses membantu menghalangnya daripada terendam air, memastikan bahawa mangsa banjir boleh mencapai kawasan tersebut dengan mudah. Walau bagaimanapun, adalah disarankan juga untuk menyediakan tanjakan bagi golongan kurang upaya untuk aksesibiliti yang lebih baik ke pusat kecemasan yang dinaikkan.

Memasang tangki penuaian air hujan di bangunan itu melibatkan penangkapan dan penyimpanan air hujan dari atas bumbung untuk pelbagai kegunaan. Amalan ini membantu mengurangkan pergantungan kepada bekalan

air perbandaran, terutamanya semasa kemarau atau kekurangan air. Selain itu, ia menyediakan sumber air sandaran semasa kecemasan seperti banjir apabila sistem bekalan air biasa mungkin terjejas.

Oleh itu, kejadian banjir baru-baru ini di Malaysia menjadi peringatan yang nyata tentang keperluan mendesak untuk anjakan paradigma, menggariskan keperluan mendesak untuk menerima amalan tahan banjir dan mampan untuk menjamin masa depan yang lebih selamat dan lebih terjamin untuk rakyat, mengurangkan kesan banjir yang memusnahkan, dan menjaga kesejahteraan masyarakat di seluruh negara. Masa untuk bertindak sekarang.

PENULIS ialah ahli jawatankuasa Institut Diraja Arkitek British (RIBA) dan panel akreditasi untuk Lembaga Akreditasi Senibina Kebangsaan (NAAB).

Suhu laut naik, terumbu karang negara alami kelunturan teruk

UM
34/6

PETALING JAYA: Jabatan Perikanan Malaysia (DOF) mengesahkan terumbu karang di negara ini sedang mengalami kelunturan besar-besaran.

DOF memaklumkan, tinjauan yang dijalankan dari April hingga Jun lebih 50 peratus terumbu karang, khususnya di Kepulauan Taman Laut terjejas oleh kelunturan akibat peningkatan suhu permukaan laut.

Katanya, ia melibatkan Pulau Payar (Kedah), Pulau Perhentian, Pulau Redang, Pulau Tenggol (Terengganu), Pulau Tioman (Pahang) dan Pulau Pemanggil (Johor).

"Kebanyakan terumbu yang

terjejas berada di perairan cetek kurang daripada 10 meter. Tapak ini sedang dipantau rapi oleh DOF dan pelbagai pihak untuk mengesan perubahan dalam situasi kelunturan.

"DOF juga telah bekerjasama dengan wakil dari Sabah, dan Sarawak, penyelidik tempatan dan pertubuhan bukan kerajaan (NGO) untuk menubuhkan Malaysia Coral Bleaching Response Committee (MCBRC) bagi mengumpul maklumat dan mengambil tindakan terhadap kelunturan karang.

"Jika kelunturan melebihi 80 peratus, tindakan intervensi lanjut pengurusan mungkin dilakukan ter-

masuk sekatan akses sementara untuk melindungi terumbu yang terjejas," katanya dalam satu kenyataan.

Terdahulu, sejak awal tahun ini, US National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) telah mengeluarkan pemberitahuan 'Tinjauan Pelunturan' untuk Malaysia, yang menunjukkan suhu permukaan laut melebihi purata dan potensi tekanan terma pada terumbu karang.

Sebagai tindak balas, DOF mengeluarkan amaran pada 1 April lalu, kepada semua Pejabat Perikanan Negeri untuk memantau keadaan terumbu dan melaporkan tanda-tanda kelunturan karang.

UTUSAN MALAYSIA

Tarikh: 24 JUN 2024

Antara subsidi diesel RM200 atau dedahkan pendapatan sebenar

UM
24/6

RAKYAT mula hidup dengan sistem apungan harga diesel sejak 14 hari lalu. Langkah kerajaan yang dianggap tidak popular itu dilaksanakan selepas subsidi diesel meningkat 10 kali ganda daripada RM1.4 bilion pada 2019 kepada RM14.3 bilion pada 2023 berdasarkan maklumat Kementerian Kewangan.

Sukar membuat perkiraan bagaimana dalam lima tahun produk petroleum itu meningkat 10 kali ganda di negara yang rakyat hanya bertambah 500,000 orang dalam tempoh sama.

Mungkin peningkatan itu disumbangkan kenaikan harga minyak yang mencatatkan purata AS\$64 setong pada 2019 kepada AS\$82 pada 2023. Masih ada jurang besar peningkatan itu seperti satu daripada empat kenderaan di negara ini menggunakan diesel, ia seperti tiba-tiba semua orang membeli trak pikap.

Suara kemarahan kenaikan diesel itu masih lantang terutama di kalangan pihak yang tidak mendapat *fleet card* atau pengguna yang dikecualikan daripada menerima harga subsidi.

Pemilik kenderaan diesel yang mengamuk kerana kos mengisi setiap liter meningkat 55.8%. Beberapa sektor termasuk pengangkutan yang tidak termasuk dalam senarai logistik mula meningkatkan harga perkhidmatan sehari selepas kenaikan itu. Harga simen yang dihantar menggunakan "lori pembancuh simen" naik secepat kilat. Sektor pembinaan dikecualikan daripada subsidi. Begitu juga penarik kenderaan, bas pelancongan dan penyedia khidmat lain.

Jeritan dan suara marah berterusan di sosial media termasuk meme yang dihasilkan membidas pemimpin kerajaan. Pemberian subsidi bulanan RM200 kepada pengguna kenderaan diesel yang dianggarkan ada 400,000 unit di negara ini tidak meredakan kata-kata marah.

Selepas diteliti, mungkin kemarahan ini bukan kerana kenaikan diesel semata-mata. Jika anda membeli MPV pada harga RM260,000, pembelinya dalam kategori T20 yang pendapatan isi rumah mesti melebihi RM12,000 sebulan.

Kemarahan itu mungkin berpunca kelayakan mendapat subsidi RM200 atau sebarang subsidi diesel. Pemilik kenderaan diesel harus membuat permohonan dan menunjukkan bahawa pendapatan isi rumah tidak lebih daripada RM100,000.

Jadi secara purata isi rumah dengan dengan pendapatan RM8,500 sebulan tidak akan mendapat subsidi RM200 sebulan itu. Pada masa sama, ramai yang berniaga sendiri atau mengerjakan aktiviti perniagaan dan pertanian yang mencatatkan pendapatan lebih RM100,000 setahun. Tidak mustahil jika dilihat daripada lebih 600,000 kereta baharu yang dijual setiap tahun.

Adakah anda sedia memberitahu kerajaan bahawa anda meraih pendapatan lebih RM100,000 hanya untuk mendapat RM200 sebulan atau RM2,400 setahun? Harus diingat dengan pendapatan RM100,000, mereka sudah perlu membayar cukai pendapatan. Adakah hanya untuk RM2,400 setahun, mereka dikenakan cukai RM24,000. Tidak hairanlah dengan 34 juta penduduk, hanya 5.7 juta membayar cukai. Daripada 1.5 juta syarikat berdaftar, hanya 435,000 membayar cukai.

Jumlah pekerja aktif mencarum KWSP kira-kira lapan juta dan 1.6 juta lagi kakitangan awam. Jumlah pekerja di negara ini adalah 9.6 juta pekerja. Tetapi yang membayar cukai hanya 5.7 juta. Bagaimana selebihnya orang dewasa di negara ini hidup? Mereka tidak bekerja untuk hidup? Sememangnya sebarang kenaikan harga kecuali gaji akan menimbulkan kemarahan. Mungkin seseorang harus bertanya kepada peniaga stesen minyak di sepanjang sempadan. Tahun ini adakah keuntungan sama seperti tahun lalu?

Mohamad Azlan Jaafar adalah Pengarang Kumpulan Media Mulia Sdn. Bhd.

UTUSAN MALAYSIA
Tarikh: 24 JUN 2024

Clean-up operation to combat dengue

MBPJ
Sun
24/6

► About 73 dengue locations and 15 hotspots identified in Petaling Jaya so far this year, says mayor

■ BY JOSHUA PURUSHOTMAN
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PETALING JAYA: The Petaling Jaya City Council held a *gotong-royong* yesterday at the Medan 32 Flats in Taman Medan Baru here to clean up and destroy dengue breeding areas.

Mayor Mohamad Zahri Samington who led the clean-up operations said it was conducted together with Uni-Charm Mamypoko pants and was in conjunction with Asean Dengue Day and the 18th anniversary of the city council.

"Between June 9 and 15, 134 dengue cases were identified in Taman Medan Baru, which is a reduction from the 141 cases identified the previous week, which is a 5% drop. Cumulatively, 3,838 cases have been identified in Petaling Jaya to date."

Mohamad Zahri said 73 dengue locations and 15 hotspots were identified in Petaling Jaya so far this year. In 2021, 1,458 cases were recorded compared with 2023, when 5,641 cases were identified - an increase of 286%.

"Of the 32 hotspots identified at the Medan 32 Flats, 22 cases were found within just 55 days. We are hopeful that the outbreak would end today."

Mohamad Zahri said dengue is a serious viral infection, which could end in death, and the rising number of cases is cause for concern.

Hence, he said the city council partnered with Uni-charm to organise this *gotong-royong*, which is also held in conjunction with Dengue Awareness Month 2024 that fell on June 15.

"We will continue to conduct dengue awareness talks so the public,

especially children, will be careful and not play in the vicinity of rubbish or places where there is stagnant water as they could be breeding grounds for the Aedes mosquito.

The public is also encouraged to take 10 minutes a week to carry out clean-up activities to destroy any Aedes breeding areas around their houses as this will protect them and their

families."

Mohamad Zahri also commended the *gotong-royong* participants for their efforts and dedication to public health and in raising awareness and curbing the rising number of dengue cases through the initiative.

Uni-Charm Corporation (Malaysia & Singapore) group managing director Toru Fujita who was present together with 57 company employees said the *gotong-royong* is part of the brand's ongoing CSR activity, #MamypokoAgainstDengue campaign.

"We rolled out the campaign last year alongside the launch of our Mamypoko ANTIMOS Pants Diaper in Malaysia and due to its success, we

decided to continue with it every year. Also, our office is located in Petaling Jaya so carrying out the *gotong-royong* in the district hits home and is very meaningful for us."

Taro said the launch of the ANTIMOS Pants was prompted by the escalating dengue cases in Malaysia.

"The diaper pants were invented and developed by Uni-charm R&D Japan to provide Malaysian parents with an effective, safe and convenient way to protect their babies from mosquito bites."

Earlier, Taro, Mohamad Zahri and 20 volunteers from the city council and district health office participated in an energetic Japanese *Taiso* exercise led by Uni-Charm Malaysia employees.

After the session, they immediately rolled up their sleeves and proceeded to clean up and destroy larvae breeding areas in and around the flat.

Residents of Medan 32 Flats and Taman Medan Baru were also invited to attend anti-dengue talks by Petaling district health officials.

The ANTIMOS Pants were also distributed to residents in dengue hotspots to protect their babies and help repel mosquitoes from biting them.

THE SUN
Tarikh: 24 JUN 2024

Ministry coordinating appeals for diesel subsidy

PUTRAJAYA: The Domestic Trade and Cost of Living Ministry is coordinating appeals from certain transport sectors that want to participate in the Subsidised Diesel Control System for submission to the Appeals Committee, said its minister Datuk Armizan Mohd Ali.

He said the matter would then be brought to the Cabinet meeting for consideration, and immediate approval would be given to applications that are complete,

covering 33 types of public land transport and goods.

The application can be made at <https://mysubsidi.kpdn.gov.my/> and the approval letter will be issued immediately to allow successful transport companies to apply for fleet cards through the same system, he added.

"The application process is easy and fast because a company only needs to fill in limited information and the confirmation can be made

immediately through integration with the Road Transport Department system," he said in a statement yesterday.

He urged companies on the list of the 33 types of public land transport and qualified goods for Subsidised Diesel Control System to apply immediately.

"For approvals obtained before June 30, the transport companies are to apply for reimbursement of expenditure on subsidy prices through

proof-of-purchase receipts until they receive the fleet cards from the selected oil companies."

Based on a statement issued by the Finance Ministry on June 12, refund payments would be implemented from July 2024 for those who register and receive the Subsidised Diesel Control System approval before June 30, with the claim application and reimbursement procedures to be notified later.

Armizan said in the event of misuse

of fleet cards, the ministry will not hesitate to take strict action, including withdrawing the approval for the cards.

He said the ministry insists that all dealers, especially those who receive diesel subsidy facilities through the fleet card, do not raise prices following the setting of the new diesel price.

As of 8am yesterday, the total number of public transport vehicles and goods approved for diesel subsidy under the system is 226,957 involving 75,541 companies. — Bernama

THE SUN
Tarikh: 2.4 JUN 2024

We are committed to reducing carbon footprint, says Anwar

Sun
24/6

KUALA LUMPUR: The government is committed to reducing the country's carbon footprint and promoting sustainable practices, said Prime Minister Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim.

It has implemented multifaceted policies aimed at reducing carbon emissions, promoting social equity, creating new growth opportunities in the green economy, and ensuring transparent governance, he said.

"To this effect, we have allocated substantial funds towards renewable energy, investing in clean and sustainable energy sources," the prime minister said in a post on X yesterday.

On sustainable agriculture, Anwar noted that the nation supports eco-friendly farming practices to ensure long-term environmental health. Furthermore, Malaysia is developing green transport solutions

to reduce its environmental impact and enhance connectivity.

"Together, we can build a more sustainable and equitable Malaysia for future generations," he added.
- Bernama

THE SUN
Tarikh: 24 JUN 2024

Ringgit likely to trade lower against US dollar this week

SUN
24/6

KUALA LUMPUR: The ringgit is likely to trade lower against the US dollar this week, maintaining a range near 4.71.

Bank Muamalat Malaysia Bhd chief economist Dr Mohd Afzanizam Abdul Rashid said that this week, market players will be focusing on the United States' final gross domestic product (GDP) figure for first quarter 2024 (Q1'24).

"The first Q1 2024 GDP estimate was 1.6% in April, and the second estimate came in lower at 1.3% in May. Should the data come in lower, it should reinvigorate the interest rate cut by the US Federal Reserve (Fed) in September," he told Bernama.

On top of that, he said, there are a series of speeches by Fed officials in the pipeline this week. "We shall continue to hear similar messages where they want to keep the rate steady until they are convinced the inflation rate will go even lower," he added.

Last week, on a Friday-to-Friday basis, the ringgit rose to 4.7110/7145 against the US dollar from 4.7190/7225 a week ago.

The ringgit was traded higher against a basket of other major currencies. The local note rose against the British pound to 5.9594/9638 from 5.9955/9999 on the previous Friday, strengthened versus the euro to 5.0394/0431 from 5.0418/0455 a week earlier and gained vis-a-vis the Japanese yen to 2.9648/9671 from 3.0046/0072.

The ringgit was traded mostly higher against Asean currencies. It went up against the Philippine peso to 8.00/8.02 compared with 8.04/8.05 a week earlier, improved versus the Indonesian rupiah to 286.3/286.7 from 287.5/287.8 and edged up vis-a-vis the Singapore dollar to 3.4785/4814 from 3.4857/4886 previously. However, it was lower versus the Thai baht at 12.8495/8639 last Friday from 12.8328/8475 in the week before.

THE SUN
Tarikh: 24 JUN 2024

Traders still non-compliant over displaying price tags

SUN
24/6

BY SIVANISVARRY MORHAN
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PETALING JAYA: The Consumers' Association of Penang (CAP) has urged the Domestic Trade and Cost of Living Ministry to strictly enforce Section 8(1) of the Price Control Act 1946 (Amendment 1973), which mandates that traders display price tags on their goods.

Its president Mohideen Abdul Kader said a recent survey across the state revealed the widespread non-compliance of traders in displaying price tags.

"They included food stalls, wet markets, night markets, restaurants and retail shops. The primary violation was the absence of visible price tags at food and beverage stalls."

"This was followed by restaurants either not updating prices or providing customers with misleading information. This lack of transparency often led to them being overcharged."

Mohideen said the absence of documented price lists to refer to caused disputes when bills were handed to customers.

He said the impact of the recent diesel price hike had also raised food costs and underscored the need for consumers to be well-informed about prices before purchasing food items.

➤ Ministry urged to strictly enforce regulations and prosecute offenders to protect consumer rights and maintain fair trading practices

While the Price Control Act stipulates that it is the seller's responsibility to ensure transparency in pricing, he said the inconsistent enforcement has compromised its effectiveness.

"We made a similar call last August, but it did not receive an adequate response. CAP wishes to reiterate the importance of addressing this issue and is seeking an update on what action the authorities are taking regarding the matter."

Mohideen stressed that there is a need for stricter enforcement and prosecution of offenders to protect consumer rights and maintain fair trading practices.

The ministry's head of corporate communications Jaafar Jantan confirmed with *theSun* that it has not issued any official statement regarding CAP's repeated calls for enforcement of the Price Control Act 1946.

However, he said Minister Datuk Armizan Mohd Ali has constantly

reminded retailers and business owners about the importance of price tagging, especially during festive seasons when price controls are announced.

"The ministry is committed to ensuring that retailers and business owners adhere to the price tagging law and not charge unreasonably high prices."

The ministry said price tag enforcement regulations have been in place since 1977 and initially covered 111 selected items under the Price Control Order (Indication of Price by Retailer) 1977 (Revised 1993), to encompass all retail goods.

Retailers at sundry shops, markets, supermarkets, kiosks, sports shops, goldsmith stores and boutiques are required to display price tags on each item or provide a clear price list if tagging individual items is impractical.

Price tags must be in Bahasa Malaysia, with translations if necessary, and prices should be

visible and stated in ringgit.

Consumers can access price information at all times and report instances of non-compliance, which can lead to significant fines and penalties.

Individuals may face fines of up to RM50,000 or two years jail, while corporations could be fined up to RM100,000. The ministry also assured the public of prompt investigation on all consumer complaints.

Those who wish to lodge complaints to the ministry can do so through the following channels: WhatsApp at 019-848 8000 or 019-279 4317, the call centre at 1-900-886-800 or the ministry's enforcement command center at 03-8882 6245/6088.

They can also log on to the EzADU KPDN smartphone app or visit the e-Aduan KPDN portal at eaduan.kpdn.gov.my

The ministry said complainants should include specific details such as the location or address of the retail outlet, date of transaction, nature of the offence and any other relevant information.

"Such details are important as they will assist the ministry's enforcement officers to take prompt action and bring the errant retailers to book," said Jaafar.

THE SUN
24 JUN 2024
Tarikh:

'Support govt efforts to assist parolees seek jobs'

Sun
24/6

■ BY JOSHUA PURUSHOTMAN
newsdesk@thesundaily.com

PETALING JAYA: The Malaysian Employers Federation (MEF) has called on its members to support government efforts to assist parolees and give them employment opportunities.

Its president Datuk Dr Syed Hussain Syed Husman told *theSun* that thus far, the feedback from employers has been positive, but more needs to be done.

He said the MEF recently hosted its second conversation series, titled "Unlock Potential, Hire Parolees".

The initiative was aimed at promoting the hiring of parolees as a valuable labour resource for the private sector.

About 85 representatives encompassing manufacturing and non-manufacturing sectors such as plantation, construction, hospitality, and services attended the discussion.

The Malaysian Prisons Department, Social Security Organisation, and Ready Set Go Sdn Bhd, a company that offers pre-employment training, mass recruitment and team-building

» Employers should not deny chance for them to reintegrate into society, contribute as responsible citizens, says federation

services, also gave their input.

Syed Hussain said discussions centred on the parole system, with representatives sharing their experiences in hiring parolees, and providing insights into the support systems available for employers.

He said the enthusiastic participation of these companies underscored the potential for hiring parolees, although questions were raised regarding the hiring process, employer incentives, and government support.

"One concern raised is that in the interest of transparency, are employers duty-bound to tell their employees that a parolee has been hired?"

"The MEF takes the position that this is confidential, just like an employee's salary. Furthermore, a parolee is in the process of being rehabilitated and should be given every opportunity to turn over a new leaf.

"The last thing we want is for other employees to look down on them as 'criminals'. Doing so would defeat the whole purpose of the scheme to hire parolees," he said.

Syed Hussain also emphasised the importance of "social justice", which he said is about fairness and providing opportunities for everyone.

He said MEF believes that hiring parolees aligns with the principle of social justice and that it is a moral duty of all citizens to support other Malaysians in need.

He also urged the public not to stigmatise parolees, noting that many of them had committed criminal acts due to challenging circumstances.

"However, sometimes circumstances, desperation, a sudden fit of anger or heightened emotion would cause them to commit a crime.

"They paid for it by being

sentenced by the courts and now deserve an opportunity to reintegrate into society to contribute as responsible citizens, so let's not deny them this chance."

Syed Hussain said MEF's call on the corporate sector to trust and allow parolees to work highlights the scheme's potential for success.

In March 2022, then home minister Datuk Seri Hamzah Zainudin proposed that industries plug foreign labour shortages by hiring parolees.

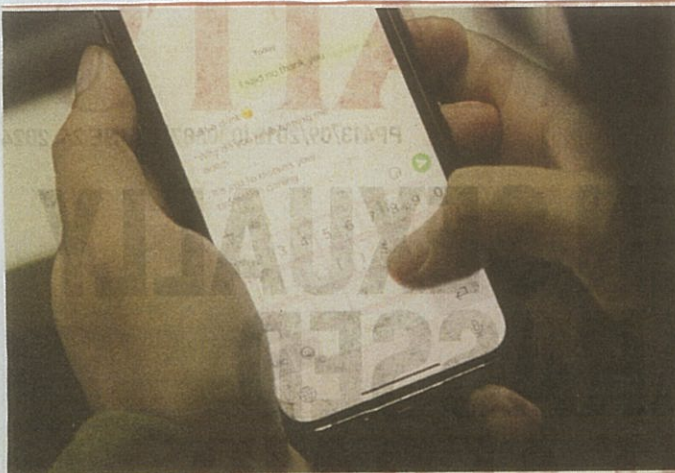
Hamzah had said the ministry would place 80% of the 10,000 prison inmates that would undergo the Parole System Programme, Licensed Release of Prisoners Programme and Resident Reintegration Programme in industries that required manpower.

However, Syed Hussain said parolees who are employed should also not be deemed as temporary replacements for migrant workers.

He added that despite the negative stereotypes about parolees, there are many success stories of them thriving after being given employment.

"Our feedback shows they are hardworking and many have turned their lives around."

THE SUN
24 JUN 2024
Tarikh:



Moderate-level sexual harassment includes unwanted messages or invitations, and most of them happen at the workplace.

ILLUSTRATION PIC BY OSMAN ADNAN

RIISING AWARENESS

'SEXUALLY HARASSED MEN CAN GET HELP'

Minister says victims needn't feel shy about it, and that they can speak with counsellors

QISTINA SALLEHUDDIN
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WHEN Sam decided to take an after-dinner cigarette break in a city alley, he only had relaxation on his mind.

But another person in the alley had something else in mind and walked towards Sam and groped the young man.

"I was shocked, I felt violated," he told the *New Straits Times*.

"I still think about it, more so because it happened in a public place."

Sam never reported the incident and relayed it to only a few close friends.

He is among the rising number of Malaysian men who are starting to come forward about being sexually harassed.

A nationwide outreach programme by the Women, Family and Community Development Ministry found 427 men stepping forward with their experience of being sexually harassed between July last year and April this year.

The programme was part of the

ministry's advocacy efforts following the enforcement of the Anti-Sexual Harassment Act last March.

The law defines sexual harassment and the powers of the ministry to formulate policies and guidelines related to sexual harassment.

"We realised more men were coming forward to report (sexual harassment) during the outreach programme," Women, Family and Community Development Minister Datuk Seri Nancy Shukri told the *New Straits Times*.

Nancy said of the 427 men who reported sexual harassment, 311 experienced low-level harassment, which included unwanted stares and attention.

Ninety-one men reported moderate-level harassment, which includes lewd remarks, obscene gestures and unwanted invitations for sex, and 25 experienced high-level harassment, which includes receiving photos of private parts, groping, flashing and grinding.

The ministry found that most of the moderate-level harassment happened at the workplace or via social media, and the high-level harassment often occurred at home or the workplace.

Despite more men opening up on sexual harassment, Nancy said she believed many cases went unreported as the victims might be uncomfortable doing so.

"Many men are too embarrassed to report these incidents, feeling that as mature individu-

als, they should not have to speak out.

"Do not be shy as this issue also affects boys and men. The ministry has the resources to help, and we encourage victims to come forward."

"We have counsellors who maintain strict confidentiality."

"Sexual harassment is a sad reality in our country, and it can lead to problematic behaviour in children who feel defenseless and unsure where to turn."

"We want to prevent this from happening. It's no longer about 'minding your own business' but helping others."

Nancy's ministry had been conducting advocacy programmes, especially in schools, to educate children about sexual harassment.

The programme has been conducted in 10 schools, and the ministry aims to run it in 300 schools nationwide.

She said most sexual harassment took place at home, making it difficult for victims to seek help.

"It is easier to identify such cases among adults, but children often struggle to report these incidents."

Through the advocacy programmes, the ministry hopes to educate children on identifying and handling sexual harassment.

For Sam, such awareness and advocacy programmes on sexual harassment are welcome, especially for men.

"It is often a taboo topic but men need help as well."

NEW STRAITS TIMES
Tarikh: 24 JUN 2024

NEAR 4.71 RANGE

NSJ
24/6

Ringgit expected to trade lower against greenback

KUALA LUMPUR: The ringgit is likely to trade lower against the US dollar this week, maintaining a range near 4.71.

Bank Muamalat Malaysia Bhd chief economist Dr Mohd Afzani-zam Abdul Rashid said market players will be focusing on the final first quarter 2024 gross domestic product (GDP) figures for the United States.

"The first GDP estimate was 1.6 per cent in April, and the second estimate came in lower at 1.3 per cent in May. Should the data be lower, it should reinvigorate the interest rate cut theme by the US Federal Reserve (Fed) in September."

On top of that, he said there will be messages from Fed speakers this week.

"We shall continue to hear similar messages where they want to keep the rate steady until they are convinced the inflation rate will go even lower," he said.

On a Friday-to-Friday basis, the ringgit appreciated to 4.7110/7145 against the US dollar from 4.7190/7225.

The ringgit was traded higher against a basket of major currencies.



The ringgit rose against the British pound to 5.9594/9638 from 5.9955/9999 on the previous Friday, strengthened versus the euro to 5.0394/0431 from 5.0418/0455 and gained vis-a-vis the yen to 2.9648/9671 from 3.0046/0072.

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peso to 8.00/8.02 compared with 8.04/8.05 a week earlier, improved versus the rupiah to 286.3/286.7 from 287.5/287.8 and edged up vis-a-vis the Singapore dollar to 3.4785/4814 from 3.4857/4886 previously. However, it was lower versus the baht at 12.8495/8639 from 12.8328/8475.

Bernama

NEW STRAITS TIMES

Tarikh: 24 JUN 2024