



PENGURUSAN PEMANTAUAN KERATAN AKHBAR MBSJ
TARIKH: 25 JUN 2024 (SELASA)

MEDIA ELEKTRONIK (AKHBAR ONLINE / TELEVISYEN / RADIO)

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TARIKH: 25 JUN 2024



Bagaimana cukai taksiran dikira, jenis hartanah dan nilai semasa

by Nadiyah Zamlus @ June 24, 2024 10:00 am

JENIS HARTANAH

Kediaman

Rumah teres, rumah berkembar, rumah sesebuah, rumah bandar, rumah pangsa, pangsapuri, apartmen, kondominium, rumah kedai

Perniagaan

Kedai, pejabat, kompleks membeli-belah, pawagam, pejabat, hotel, stesen minyak, pusat rekreasi

Perindustrian

Kilang teres, kilang berkembar, kilang sesebuah

Tanah Kosong

Tanah pertanian, tanah pembangunan

Sumber portal Majlis Bandaraya Subang Jaya

CONTOH KIRAAN CUKAI TAKSIRAN KEDIAMAN MBOK

Sewa kasar setahun	RM500 x 12 bulan = RM6,000
Kadar cukai	4 peratus
CUKAI TAKSIRAN SETAHUN	RM6,000 x 4 peratus = RM240

CONTOH KIRAAN CUKAI TAKSIRAN BANGUNAN MPKS

Sewa kasar setahun	RM220 x 12 bulan = RM2,640
Kadar cukai	4 peratus
CUKAI TAKSIRAN SETAHUN	RM2,640 x 4 peratus = RM105.60

CONTOH KIRAAN CUKAI TAKSIRAN TANAH KOSONG MBSJ

Keluasan tanah	5,000 meter persegi
Harga pasaran semeter persegi	RM4,000
Harga pasaran tanah	RM2,000,000
Nilai tahunan (10 peratus daripada harga pasaran)	RM200,000
Kadar cukai	5 peratus
CUKAI TAKSIRAN SETAHUN	RM10,000

Sumber jawapan daripada PBT berkenaan

Jadual berikut menunjukkan contoh pengiraan jumlah cukai taksiran tahunan bagi tiga jenis hartanah termasuk kediaman dan bangunan. Cukai tersebut dikira menggunakan anggaran kasar sewa tahunan.

Jumlah sewaan itu pula ditetapkan Jabatan Penilaian dan Pengurusan Harta setiap pihak berkuasa tempatan. Kadar peratusan cukai diluluskan Kerajaan Negeri selepas menerima cadangan daripada PBT.

Cara kiraannya, sewa kasar setahun didarab dengan kadar cukai taksiran. Jumlah kiraan itulah cukai yang perlu dibayar penduduk kepada PBT setiap tahun. Cara pengiraan juga sama bagi cukai taksiran bangunan.

Namun bagi tanah kosong, ia tertakluk kepada nilai pasaran semasa. Misalnya keluasan tanah 5,000 meter persegi dan nilai pasaran semeter persegi adalah RM4,000. Ertinya, harga pasaran tanah tersebut RM2 juta.

Jika kadar cukai taksiran bagi tanah kosong ialah 5 peratus, RM2 juta didarab dengan kadar berkenaan. Jumlah cukai taksiran yang perlu dibayar adalah RM10,000.

Cukai tahunan juga boleh berbeza walau jenis hartanah itu sama kategori jika keluasan lantai telah diubah suai atau ditambah.

By KAVITHA SIVAJI
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IMAGINE a vibrant space where laughter echoes, creativity flourishes and community bonds strengthen.

This vision has come to life with the launch of Re:Play Toy Library at Block C PPR (People's Housing Project) Lembah Subang 2 in Petaling Jaya, Selangor.

Association of Toy Libraries Malaysia president Wong Poai Hong described Re:Play Toy Library as a multifaceted hub.

"The library serves as a play hub where children can engage with a variety of toys.

"It is also a recycling hub where donated toys from the PPR Subang 2 community are cleaned and repurposed for the library as well as the shop where preloved toys are sold to interested buyers," she said.

This approach provides a play space as well as sustains the library through sales.

Wong emphasised the social benefits of a toy library.

"We created this library to offer busy mothers a brief respite while their children play.

"Daycare costs are often prohibitive, especially for families with multiple children.

"The toy library provides an affordable alternative," she explained.

Wong added that the environment fostered the sharing and learning of responsibility, which was vital in building children's social and emotional skills.

Petaling Jaya City Council (MBPJ) Zone 4 councillor Mohd. Ikhsan Mohamad Din expressed his support for the project.

"This initiative encourages physical interaction among children, countering the prevalent trend of online gaming," he said.

Acknowledging the toy library's role in promoting healthy social interaction, the Seri Setia assemblyman's service centre officer Mohammad Azli Jamaasin, representing Dr. Mohammad Fahmi Ngah, said there were plans to launch another toy library in PPR Lembah Subang 1.

"We are committed to expanding this beneficial project to more communities," he said.

Mohammad Azli also noted that the library locations were suitable to serve the B40 group.

Toy library a treasure trove for B40 in Lembah Subang

Community-assisted hub benefits PPR families, boosts learning



Wong (foreground) and Mohd Ikhsan (in black cap) interacting with children from local families at the launch of the toy library initiative. — Photos: RAJA FAISAL HISHAN/The Star

"This acts as an extra help for the community, especially for children who are falling behind.

"Some of them cannot read or write at the age of 10.

"With this initiative, we can help children from a young age to learn and develop," he added.

The Re:Play Toy Library is designed to foster community cohesion, providing a safe space for children to play and for parents to connect.

Open five days a week, the toy library is operated by residents of PPR Lembah Subang 2.

The operational hours are flexible to cater to the schedules of mothers who need the service.

These mothers have organised a committee to oversee the library's operations.

Typically, children visit the toy library after 6pm, following the end of their school day.

"It is a support group where parents can share their experiences and help each other," said Wong.

The toy library functions much like a traditional library, allowing children to play on-site and borrow toys to take home for a few days.

Diversified conglomerate PPB Group Bhd began supporting the Lembah Subang 2 project in 2023, ensuring its sustainability

up to the present day.

The event was further bolstered by collaborations with MBSJ, Yayasan Warisan Anak Selangor and social enterprise Play Unlimited.

Currently, around 500 children from PPR Lembah Subang 2 have signed up with Re:Play Toy Library.

Looking ahead, Wong plans to involve senior citizens as volunteers.

"Retirees can contribute significantly, sharing their life experience and values with the children," she said, highlighting the intergenerational benefits of the initiative.

"It is a support group where parents can share their experiences and help each other. Retirees too can contribute."

Wong Poai Hong



STAR METRO WATCH

ROAD CLOSURES

In conjunction with Petaling Jaya City Council's (MBPJ) anniversary celebration, Jalan Yong Shook Lin will be closed until June 27 (11pm-6pm) and June 28 to 30 (5pm-6pm). Traffic will be diverted to Jalan RU7/1 and Jalan Taman 7/6 before Menara Choy Fook On. For details, visit www.mbpj.gov.my

LANE EXPANSION

An additional lane will be constructed from Sedenak to Kulai (Package A) from June 28, as part of the Sedenak to Senai (northbound) highway expansion. Initial works will not affect highway traffic flow as pre-existing lanes on both sides will remain open. Motorists are urged to exercise caution.

CALL FOR FEEDBACK

The public can give their views on Kuala Lumpur City Hall's (DBKL) 2025 budget on June 29 at Pusat Komuniti Seri Petaling for the Seputeh constituency; July 6 at Hotel Federal Bukit Bintang for the Bukit Bintang constituency; July 13 at Pusat Komuniti Lembah Pantai for the Lembah Pantai constituency; July 20 at Auditorium Pejabat Cawangan Segambut for the Segambut constituency and July 27 at Dewan Serbaguna Jinjang Utara for Kepong constituency. For details, call 03-2617 9000.

FOREST EXHIBITION

An exhibition titled 'Forest Fever' will be held at The Forest House in Perdana Botanical Gardens, Kuala Lumpur until July 21, 11am-3pm on weekdays and 10am-4pm on weekends. The exhibition introduces Forest House's works and aims to promote preservation of forest species and restoration of degraded habitats.

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. The 9am to noon classes are open to Malaysians aged 18 to 30 and limited to 30 people. A commitment fee of RM20 will be collected at the first session on June 29. To register, visit MBSA's social media pages or call 019-770 9864.

THE STAR

25 JUN 2024

Tarikh:

By MEGAT SYAHAR

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MPKJ
Star

25/6

KAJANG Municipal Council (MPKJ) saw a 50% drop in the number of lorries seized for illegal dumping in the first half of the year compared to the corresponding period last year.

In the first six months of 2023, MPKJ seized 104 lorries involved in illegal dumping.

Council president Nazli Md Taib said that until June 19 this year, 52 lorries were seized.

"In June, two lorries were seized and vehicle owners were issued compounds under the Waste Collection, Removal and Disposal Bylaw (MPKJ) 2007 for polluting the environment.

"The total collected from compounds issued to owners of lorries involved in illegal dumping in the first six months was RM286,000," he said at MPKJ's full board meeting yesterday.

Twelve lorries were seized in January, with further action seen in February (14 impounded),

MPKJ sees 50% decrease in number of lorries seized for illegal dumping

March (7), April (8) and May (9).

Nazli said MPKJ would continue to combat illegal dumping activities to improve residents' quality of life.

On another matter, Nazli said there had been an increase in the number of fallen trees as the country went through a monsoon transition.

He said the weather transition brought with it heavy rains and thunderstorms, increasing safety risks especially to road users.

"MPKJ's Landscape and Recreational Department recorded 144 fallen trees in May and 97 trees up to June 20.

"The landscape department has identified 68 trees requiring further attention and assessment, which would cost RM196,240, because they are at risk of falling," he said.



One of the two lorries seized by MPKJ in an operation in June.

THE STAR
25 JUN 2024
Tarikh:.....

Worry over drop in development outlay

Stakeholders also concerned that DBKL's management expenditure has soared to RM2bil

DBKL
Star
25/6

**YOUR
RIGHT
to know**

By FARID WAHAB
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GROWING disparity between development and management allocations in the Kuala Lumpur City Hall (DBKL) budget is causing concern among stakeholders. They fear the disproportion might affect DBKL's quality of services and the city's preparedness in dealing with climate change.

They want DBKL to explain its reduced development expenditure, which has been declining over the past five years.

The allocation has plummeted from RM1.2bil in 2019 to RM650mil this year, raising concerns that this might affect infrastructure development.

Development expenditure is used for developing and maintaining various infrastructures, including flood-mitigation projects, drainage and new roads.

Noticeably, DBKL's management expenditure has been increasing steadily in the past decade.

From RM1.63bil allocated in 2015, the amount soared to RM2.01bil this year, which is nearly a 25% surge.



Kok Wai: More funds are needed to build and maintain flood mitigation infrastructures.



Zahir: A meeting between KL MPs and DBKL will be held to discuss the upcoming budget.

The management fund covers administrative expenses such as remunerations of workers and fixed payments, among others.

Development expenses and management allocation are two components of DBKL's annual budget.

DBKL's overall budget has seen a downward trajectory since 2019, dropping from RM2.89bil to RM2.6bil this year.

Concerned stakeholders

Cheras MP Tan Kok Wai expressed concerns at the declining development expenses.

He stressed that more funds were needed to develop and maintain the city's infrastructure to deal with the impact of climate change.

"Kuala Lumpur residents have a right to be worried. The development fund should be increasing, not decreasing," he said.

He called on DBKL and mayor Datuk Seri Kamarulzaman Mat Salleh to disclose details of the budget to Kuala Lumpur MPs for scrutiny.

"Although we were invited to offer input, we were never given details until the budget was presented to the media," he said.

Wangsa Maju MP Zahir Hassan said the MPs had yet to meet with DBKL for a discussion on the 2025 budget.

"No date has been set for it. I would be happy to comment (about the budget) after the meeting," he told *StarMetro*.

Kuala Lumpur Residents Action for Sustainable Develop-



Residents attending the DBKL budget engagement session at Dewan Masyarakat Taman Medan Idaman in Wangsa Maju, Kuala Lumpur. — SHAARI CHEMAT/The Star

ment Association (KLRA+SD) chairman Tan Booi Charn proposed that DBKL make public its financial reports from past years to ensure transparency.

"This will allow residents and stakeholders to better understand how the funds are spent, and offer feedback," she said.

Kepong community activist Yee Poh Ping said DBKL should consider merging several departments to cut its management expenses.

"It could also redefine the job scope of its employees for optimal productivity and digitise services for more efficient management of customers," he said.

Yee also suggested that DBKL carry out enforcement operations during business hours, to reduce overtime payment.

The local authority has been stepping up enforcement operations in recent months, including after 5pm, raising concerns of further strain on its finances.

Former DBKL advisory board member and activist Tan Sri Lee Lam Thye, however, said it was normal for management expenses to exceed that of development.

Lee, who served on the board for 16 years until 2009, said there was no reduction in the develop-

Residents want green efforts, better public facilities



Stakeholders are calling for more walkways for people to access public transportation stations in a bid to reduce the usage of personal cars and ease traffic congestion. — Filepic

KUALA Lumpur City Hall (DBKL) has been actively gathering public feedback since January to draw up its 2025 budget.

A portal was launched on DBKL's website to receive public feedback from Jan 8 to March 7 for the budget which is slated to be tabled by the year end.

City Hall is also holding engagement sessions at the parliamentary level until July 27 for feedback from the people.

StarMetro spoke to several stakeholders to learn about what they hope to see in DBKL's planned expenditure.

Better development control

Taman Desa Residents Association chairman Wong Chan Choy said he wanted stricter controls on development projects.

He urged DBKL not to approve further development plans in the Seputeh neighbourhood which could worsen traffic congestion.

"The spate of new developments in the area has brought in an influx of vehicles and contributed to parking issues.

"Even now the existing roads can barely accommodate the traffic volume, especially during peak hours," he said.

There had also been complaints about low water pressure especially in the morning, which Wong attributed to increase in the number of residents.

"The underground pipes are old and in need of replacement. They cannot cope with the increased demand," he said.

Invest in public facilities

More public facilities such as community halls, sports centres and parks should be built, Kuala Lumpur Residents Action for Sustainable Development

Association (KLRA+SD) chairman Tan Booi Charn said.

She pointed to Taman Supreme in Cheras, which she

said could use more green areas and recreational facilities.

"There is a shortage of recreational areas in Cheras," she said, adding such places were important spots for local communities to gather and socialise.

Alliance for Safe Community chairman Tan Sri Lee Lam Thye said more funds should be channelled towards drainage maintenance.

"Kuala Lumpur is not spared the impact of climate change, with flash floods becoming more common during downpours."

Separately, Lee also called on DBKL to form a committee to review the workmanship of contractors it hired.

"Some works such as road resurfacing are not up to par, raising questions of whether contractors were cutting corners," he said.

Focus on green initiatives

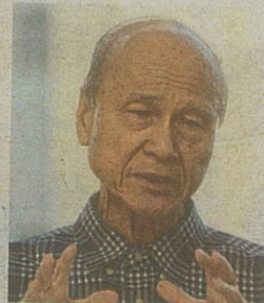
Brickfields Rukun Tetangga



Booi Charn suggests DBKL make public its financial records to allow for public scrutiny and feedback.



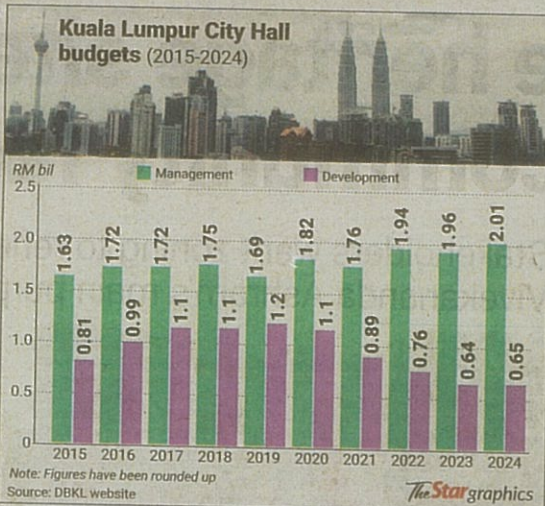
Yee is suggesting a reorganisation of DBKL departments for optimal productivity.



Lee: The drop in development expenditure can reflect a cost-cutting push by DBKL.



Lai: Public feedback gathered will be brought to an internal committee for discussion.



DBKL's development budget has seen a downward trend since 2019.

ment allocation during his time. The shrinking of development expenses in recent years, he said, might reflect a push by DBKL to cut costs amid a challenging economy.

"However, it cannot cut the management expenditure, as it needs to continue paying its staff to sustain operations," Lee added.

A DBKL spokesperson said the concerns had been forwarded to the relevant department.

Call for feedback

DBKL is currently gathering public input for its 2025 budget, which is slated for review and approval by the year end.

Engagement sessions are being held at the parliamentary level until July 27 for stakeholders to

give feedback.

Among issues being looked at are physical and socio-economic developments, urban planning and control, as well as services by the local authority.

DBKL advisory board member Andre Lai said the feedback gathered would be presented to an internal committee for vetting.

"Internal meetings will also be held to discuss the draft budget

before it is presented to the DBKL advisory board for review," he said.

The board, which meets quarterly, comprises experts and activists appointed to advise the mayor on issues including the annual budget.

A DBKL spokesperson said the new budget would be unveiled before year end, after the tabling of the national budget.



Naidu: DBKL must continue its push for low-carbon city and green initiatives.

chairman SKK Naidu wants DBKL to step up its push for low-carbon city and green initiatives, stressing that more trees should be planted to reduce carbon emissions.

He said DBKL should work with experts to identify suitable tree species, in view of the number of trees that fell recently during major storms.

Kuala Lumpur is home to nearly 240,000 trees and some



Wong: More funds should be allocated to DBKL's Landscape Department for tree maintenance.

1,300 trees are more than 30 years old. DBKL recently identified 30 trees as "high risk".

Wong said more funds should be allocated to DBKL's Landscape Department to carry out tree maintenance.

He said DBKL recently inspected the trees near his housing area and tagged a handful as at risk of falling or in need of pruning.



A tree along Jalan Pinang fell onto a car during a thunderstorm last month. — Photo courtesy of Oriental Daily

Better complaints system

Naidu said DBKL's Adu@KL system, the online platform for filing complaints, should be improved.

He said many complaints submitted were not responded to or had been marked as "resolved" without proper resolution.

"In Brickfields, many residents submitted complaints about traders parking vehicles illegally by

roadsides," he said.

"However, these complaints were marked as 'resolved' with the reason given that DBKL enforcement officers could not find the vehicles concerned," he noted.

Tan, meanwhile, suggested that more community centres be built in neighbourhoods to receive public complaints. The local authority should also

hold engagement sessions to explain the actions taken in response to the concerns raised, she said.

Enhance connectivity

Another issue needing attention is traffic congestion and the measures needed to reduce it.

Tan said she hoped that DBKL could come up with a traffic master plan for Cheras, which has seen a surge in vehicles in recent years.

She also said more pedestrian walkways and bridges should be built linking LRT and MRT stations with residential areas to encourage more people to use public transport and reduce the number of cars on the roads.

Lee, meanwhile, called on the authorities to stop building highways, because such projects were bringing more traffic into Kuala Lumpur.

"They are causing more vehicles to spill onto city roads, which can no longer be widened, thus worsening congestion." —

By FARID WAHAB

Continued watch on profiteering since diesel price floated

Star
25/6

PETALING JAYA: A total of 210 notices have been issued and seven probe papers opened in relation to profiteering following the restructuring of the diesel subsidy, says the Deputy Domestic Trade and Cost of Living Minister.

Fuziah Salleh said a proactive monitoring process under Ops Kesan 2.0 has been conducted since the targeted diesel subsidy programme began.

She said the ministry had identified 1,772 reserve stocks for price comparison before

and after the rationalisation exercise.

Fuziah said for now, the ministry had not implemented targeted subsidies for specific sectors. However, those who wished to be included could approach the relevant ministries.

"For example, farmers can reach out to the Agriculture and Food Security Ministry while the construction sector can approach the Housing and Local Government Ministry.

"(This is) so that engagement can continue and the appeal

committees can review the situation," she added.

She was responding to a supplementary question from Muhammad Fawwaz Mohamad Jan (PN-Permatang Pauh) on the impact of the rise in diesel price on the construction sector.

 THE STAR

Tarikh: 25 JUN 2024....

Many business operators sticking to diesel for now

Star
25/6

PETALING JAYA: The majority of business operators are not contemplating transitioning to vehicles that run on greener fuel for now, even as diesel prices increased to RM3.35 per litre from RM2.15, following a recent rationalisation.

They said it was not financially viable to do so and there were not many options of greener vehicles currently suitable for industrial use.

SME Association of Malaysia secretary-general Chin Chee Seong said this was because most diesel vehicles and machinery in use, like generators, agricultural machinery and lorries, are high-powered.

"Although electric vehicles stand out as a viable alternative to diesel, the high costs associated with transitioning to electric vehicles, particularly for industrial purposes, pose a barrier.

"This makes it not viable for SMEs in the short term," he said in an interview yesterday.

While the diesel subsidy has been rationalised, Chin said most SMEs still benefitted from it, making it impractical to switch to greener vehicles in the foreseeable future.

Federation of Malaysian Freight Forwarders president Datuk Tony Chia said although the diesel subsidy rationalisation and proposed RON95 subsidy withdrawal were pushing considerations for switching to alternative fuel vehicles, primarily electric ones are still in the experimental phase for goods transportation.

"Other alternatives like hydrogen and methanol-powered vehicles are gaining interest, yet the transition remains modest due to limited electric vehicle charging stations," he said.

Chia noted that electric vehicles

presented a quick alternative, while solar energy had proven successful in powering ships and could be a viable option for coastal vessels.

"Liquefied natural gas is a potential alternative too, although the availability of sufficient fuelling stations remains a concern.

"Additionally, biofuel could be a more readily accessible option, particularly for transport vehicles."

Federation of Vegetable Farmers Association of Malaysia chairman Lim Ser Kwee said it was very unlikely farmers would change their diesel vehicles.

He said there was no replacement even for water irrigation pumps, which use large amounts of diesel.

"We cannot switch to solar energy as it is not powerful enough," he said.

The increased diesel prices

have a big impact on vegetable farmers, and he hopes that the government will review the eligibility criteria for diesel subsidies.

"Otherwise, a lot of smaller farmers will not be able to sustain their operations. For now, we are still covering the additional cost on our own," he said.

An oil palm smallholder in Ipoh, Ho Yuk Choy, 57, finds the electric vehicle landscape in Malaysia not mature enough to sustain long-distance transportation.

"Currently there are no electric alternatives, and I don't see this changing in the next two to three years," he said.

He has three diesel-powered vehicles for his plantations, and after the removal of the subsidy, it costs him RM1,000 more.

He added that palm oil millers' transportation costs had increased by RM20 per tonne

after the rationalisation.

A durian farmer in Muar, Sia Jwee Hoe, 66, may consider green vehicles if there are viable innovations.

Sia's orchards have water pumps that use a substantial amount of diesel, so he is considering using solar power.

He said the sudden floating of diesel prices had affected his operation cost by up to 30%.

He applied for a subsidy but found that he was ineligible.

The government launched the Budi Madani initiative on May 28 to distribute cash assistance for diesel subsidies. This assistance is provided directly to diesel vehicle owners under the Individual category and to small-scale farmers and growers under the Agri-Commodities category.

The Budi Madani initiative is designed to reduce subsidy leakages across Malaysia.

THE STAR
Tarikh: 25 JUN 2024

Auto buyers shifting gears

Star
25/6

Diesel car registrations on decline since 2012 while electrics gain speed

PETALING JAYA: The recent diesel subsidy rationalisation exercise has led to questions about how many diesel vehicles are out there on Malaysian roads and how popular they are.

According to the government's data.gov.my website, diesel cars make up 7.4% or 1.03 million of the 13.93 million cars registered with the Road Transport Department (JPJ) from January 2000 to April 2024.

The data classifies cars as a vehicle category made up of motorcars, multi-purpose passenger cars, MPVs, jeeps, pickup trucks, and window vans.

The figures refer to vehicle registrations, rather than the number of vehicles with an active licence.

No data is available for lorries, buses and other heavy vehicles.

The market share of diesel cars hit a peak in 2012 when 9.73% (61,598 units) of the 633,094 cars registered were powered by diesel.

Since then, it has gradually fallen to 7.95% (66,196 units) of the 832,340 cars registered last year.

Electric cars are fast gaining popularity in recent years, with its share rising from 0.42% (3,129 units) in 2022 to 1.6% (13,301 units) last year.

According to the figures, most of the popular diesel cars are pickup trucks.

In terms of cumulative registrations since 2000, the Toyota Hilux is top with 397,708 registered, followed by the Mitsubishi Triton (132,708), Ford Ranger (105,484), Isuzu D-Max (88,199) and Nissan Navara (59,618).

Pickup trucks make up 81.9% of

Top 10 diesel cars registered with JPJ from 2000 to April 2024

Ranking	Car Brand & Model	Registered	
1	Toyota Hilux	397,708	
2	Mitsubishi Triton	132,708	
3	Ford Ranger	105,484	
4	Isuzu D-Max	88,199	
5	Nissan Navara	59,618	
6	Toyota Fortuner	24,770	
7	Toyota Hiace	21,958	
8	Nissan Frontier	21,534	
9	Isuzu Invader	16,588	
10	Hyundai Grand Starex	14,892	

Source: data.gov.my

TheStargraphics

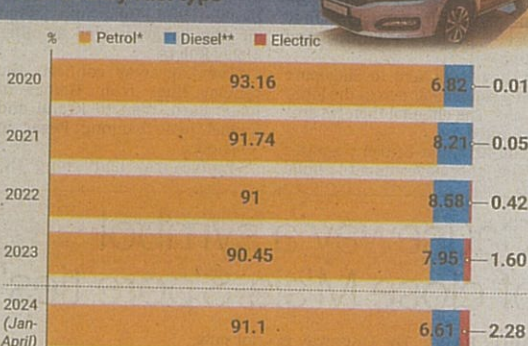
all diesel cars with 844,246 units registered since 2000, followed by jeeps at 8.56% (88,171) and window vans at 8.29% (85,385).

The statistics show various configurations of diesel-powered cars.

They comprise cars that run on diesel or green diesel, while others have engines that can use more than one type of fuel – namely diesel/green diesel and natural gas.

Also included are hybrid cars

Percentage of cars registered with JPJ by fuel type



Remarks:

* Hybrid petrol, petrol & liquefied natural gas, petrol & natural gas.

** Green diesel, diesel & natural gas, green diesel & natural gas, hybrid diesel.

(Note: Data for cars running on other fuel types such as hydrogen are not shown as their percentages are very small.)

Source: data.gov.my

TheStargraphics

that run on electricity or diesel.

Among the car manufacturers, Toyota recorded the biggest number of diesel-fuelled cars registered in Malaysia at 457,196 vehicles, followed by Mitsubishi (144,126) and Ford (112,814).

Also recorded were registered diesel cars from luxury car-makers, though their numbers are smaller.

Among them are Mercedes-Benz with 6,398 units, BMW (5,873), Audi (1,442) and Porsche (658).

On June 10, the price of diesel went up from RM2.15 to RM3.35 litre.

On June 19, Finance Minister II

Datuk Seri Amir Hamzah Azizan said his ministry had approved 100,000 applications for the monthly RM200 Budi Madani cash assistance under the diesel subsidy rationalisation.

The scheme, which started on May 28, is a platform to distribute cash assistance to eligible privately-owned diesel vehicle owners.

Amir Hamzah said the applications included individual diesel vehicle owners (Budi Individu), farmers and small planters (Budi Agri-Komoditi).

Read this story at [TheStar.com.my](https://www.thestar.com.my) for interactive graphics.

THE STAR
Tarikh: 25 JUN 2024

DBKL rancang tunda kenderaan tersadai

SH
25/6

KUALA LUMPUR - Dewan Bandaraya Kuala Lumpur (DBKL) merancang melaksanakan tindakan khas terhadap kenderaan buruk mengikut kawasan bermula di Parlimen Bandar Tun Razak.

Menurut Jabatan Perancangan Korporat DBKL, kawasan yang menjadi tumpuan adalah di Desa Tun Razak, Taman Mulia dan Perumahan Awam Sri Kota.

Sehubungan itu, DBKL mengeluarkan notis penguatkuasaan untuk mengalih kenderaan buruk bagi kesalahan halangan di tempat awam mengikut Seksyen 46 (1)(e) Akta Pengangkutan Jalan 1987 pada 18 Jun lalu.

"Mana-mana pemilik kenderaan masih tidak mengalihkan kenderaan buruk atau tersadai, tindakan tunda akan dilaksanakan," katanya dalam satu kenyataan pada Isnin.

DBKL turut memaklumkan Depoh Tunda Pantai Central mampu menampung 800 kenderaan sudah beroperasi sepenuhnya bagi menempatkan kenderaan buruk atau tersadai.

SINAR HARIAN

Tarikh: 25 JUN 2024

8x 25/6

Peningkatan gaji penjawat awam pelaburan masa depan negara

PERDANA MENTERI, Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim ketika berucap sempena sambutan Hari Pekerja pada 1 Mei yang lalu telah mengumumkan peningkatan signifikan terhadap gaji penjawat awam iaitu melebihi 13 peratus.

Pengumuman tersebut yang merupakan sebahagian daripada dampak awal Sistem Saran Perkhidmatan Awam (SSPA) baharu berpotensi memberikan manfaat besar kepada ekonomi negara dalam jangka masa pendek dan panjang.

Kesan segera daripada kenaikan gaji kira-kira 1.5 juta penjawat awam adalah peningkatan permintaan domestik. Apabila penjawat awam mempunyai lebih pendapatan, perbelanjaan pengguna dijangka meningkat sekali gus merangsang perniagaan dan perkhidmatan tempatan.

Pengumuman tersebut juga dijangka akan memberi kesan domino kepada sektor swasta untuk menawarkan kadar gaji yang lebih menarik dan lumayan.

Menyentuh hakikat yang lebih dekat, tenaga kerja awam yang diberi kenaikan gaji ialah tulang belakang perkhidmatan awam.

Justeru, peningkatan pendapatan seharusnya berkait langsung dengan peningkatan produktiviti.

Ketua Setiausaha Negara, Tan Sri Zuki Ali dalam ucapan amanat beliau pada awal tahun ini turut menyeru supaya penjawat awam melaksanakan tugas setimpal dengan ganjaran yang diterima.

Perkara berkenaan semestinya dapat direalisasikan kerana melalui peningkatan gaji, taraf hidup penjawat awam akan ditingkatkan dan dorongan kerja juga dapat ditambah baik seterusnya diterjemahkan dalam penyampaian perkhidmatan yang berkualiti.

* Mohamad Ikhsan Al Syahid Abdullah Tahir ialah Perunding Latihan Institut Tadbiran Awam Negara (INTAN)

**PENDAPAT
Rakyat**

SINAR HARIAN
Tarikh: 25 JUN 2024

Jualan diesel di sempadan turun 40 peratus

Jualan keseluruhan turun 8 juta liter sehari, diesel komersial naik 4 juta liter

Oleh DIANA AZIS dan NOR SYAMIRA LIANA NOR ASHAHA
KUALA LUMPUR

Jualan diesel di sempadan menunjukkan penurunan sebanyak 40 peratus sejak kerajaan menaikkan harga bahan bakar itu dari RM2.15 kepada RM3.35 bermula 10 Jun lalu, sekali gus mengesahkan memang wujud aktiviti penyeludupan sejumlah besar bahan api ke negara jiran sebelum ini.

Menteri Kewangan II, Datuk Seri Amir Hamzah Azizan berkata, langkah penyasaran subsidi diesel itu juga menyaksikan jumlah jualan runcit di stesen minyak menurun hampir lapan juta liter sehari atau 30 peratus untuk minggu pertama berbanding minggu sebelumnya, manakala jualan diesel komersial meningkat empat juta liter sehari dalam tempoh sama.

Ujarnya, situasi tersebut membuktikan sebahagian daripada diesel runcit bersubsidi selama ini telah digunakan oleh pihak industri yang sepatutnya membeli diesel pada harga pasaran.

"Trend peningkatan jualan diesel komersial menggambarkan tanda positif bahawa ketirisan diesel bersubsidi telah berkurang.

"Antara maklumat yang diterima daripada salah satu syarikat minyak, jualan diesel di sempadan menunjukkan penurunan 40 peratus dan mengesahkan sebelum ini memang wujud aktiviti penyeludupan diesel ke negara sempadan," jelasnya.

Beliau berkata demikian ketika sesi penerangan mengenai penyasaran semula

Stesen minyak di Rantau Panjang, Kelantan. Kehadiran kenderaan dari negara jiran untuk membeli diesel di sempadan berkurang susulan harga diesel naik.

subsidi diesel di Dewan Rakyat pada Isnin.

Menurut Amir Hamzah, badan penguat kuasa kini giat bekerjasama dan mengatur gerak pelbagai operasi bagi membendung aktiviti penyeludupan.

Beliau berkata, tindakan berkenaan juga bertujuan membanteras sebarang elemen yang boleh menjejaskan kestabilan bekalan barangan dan perkhidmatan serta mengekang pencatutan harga di pasaran.

Pasukan petugas tersebut melibatkan Kementerian Dalam Negeri dan Kos Sara Hidup dengan kerjasama Angkatan Tentera Malaysia, Polis Diraja Malaysia, Jabatan Kastam Diraja Malaysia, Agensi Penguatkuasaan Maritim Malaysia, Jabatan Imigresen Malaysia dan Jabatan Pengangkutan Jalan.



AMIR HAMZAH

"Ops Tiris 3.0 yang berlangsung pada 1 Januari hingga 22 Jun lalu merekodkan sebanyak 570 kes melibatkan sitaan minyak diesel lebih 5.1 juta liter dengan anggaran nilai hampir RM12 juta.

"Nilai rampasan aset dan peralatan berjumlah RM46 juta serta 275 tangkapan telah dilaksanakan ke atas individu terlibat," jelasnya.

Amir Hamzah berkata, kerajaan masih menanggung subsidi diesel sehingga RM10 bilion walaupun penjimatan dianggarkan sebanyak RM4 bilion setahun daripada penyasaran semula subsidi diesel.

Beliau berkata, ini untuk menampung subsidi di Sabah dan Sarawak, subsidi untuk sektor pengangkutan awam dan sektor logistik Semenanjung Malaysia, bantuan tunai untuk pemilik kenderaan

INFO HARGA BAHAN API DI MALAYSIA



RON95 RM2.05

RON97 RM3.47

DISEL RM3.35

SUBSIDI BERSASAR

KATEGORI	HARGA
• Kenderaan logistik dengan kad fleet	RM2.15 seliter
• Pengangkutan awam	RM1.88 seliter
• Nelayan	RM1.65 seliter
• Individu, petani, pekebun	(RM200 sebulan)
• Setakat 19 Jun 2024, kira-kira 100,000 pemilik kenderaan diesel individu, petani dan pekebun kecil mula terima RM200 bantuan bulanan Budi Madani.	

individu dan pengusaha kecil agrikomoditi serta subsidi diesel nelayan.

Mengenai Budi Madani, Amir Hamzah berkata setakat 19 Jun lepas, sebanyak 100,000 pemohon di bawah kategori individu dan agrikomoditi telah diluluskan.

Daripada jumlah itu, katanya, sebanyak 76,000 pemohon telah menerima bantuan tunai bulanan RM200 seawal 10 Jun lepas.

Katanya, jumlah diesel bersubsidi yang digunakan naik mendadak sekitar 80 peratus iaitu daripada 6.1 bilion liter pada 2019 kepada 10.8 bilion liter pada 2023 walaupun tiada peningkatan ketara kenderaan diesel baharu.

Pada masa sama, katanya, jumlah jualan diesel komersial tanpa subsidi pula telah turun sebanyak dua bilion liter dalam tempoh tersebut.

Sebelum ini, katanya harga diesel bersubsidi adalah RM2.15 seliter sedangkan harga komersial telah mencecah RM3.50 seliter.

SINAR HARIAN

Tarikh: 25 JUN 2024

Kerajaan negeri bersiap sedia hadapi La Nina

Fenomena alam ini diramal boleh berlaku selama lima hingga 18 bulan

Oleh MOHD AZLIM ZAINURY
SHAH ALAM

Kerajaan negeri sedang membuat persiapan rapi dalam menghadapi sebarang implikasi fenomena La Nina yang dijangka melanda negara antara Julai hingga September depan.

Ahli Majlis Mesyuarat Kerajaan Negeri Selangor, Mohd Najwan Halimi berkata, sesi taklimat bersama Unit Pengurusan Bencana Selangor sudah diadakan bagi menghadapi situasi berkenaan.

Ujarnya, kerajaan negeri sentiasa me-

mantau dari semasa ke semasa terhadap sebarang perubahan iklim dan cuaca bagi memastikan langkah komprehensif dapat dilaksanakan.

"Kita memang memantau sebarang kemungkinan atau implikasi perubahan iklim oleh La Nina supaya dapat ditangani," katanya.

Beliau ditemui ketika Majlis Penyerahan Sumbangan Menteri Besar Selangor (Pemerbadanan)

Kepada Persatuan Menganah Selangor dan Kelab Ragbi Selangor di Pejabat MBI di sini pada Isnin.

Hadir sama, Ketua Pengarah Eksekutif MBI Selangor, Saipolyazan M Yusop. Terdahulu, pada 9 Jun, Jabatan Meteorologi Malaysia (MetMalaysia) memaklumkan fenomena La Nina yang biasa-



MOHD NAJWAN

nya membawa cuaca lebih lembap dijangka bermula antara Julai dan September.

Ketua Pengarahnya, Muhammad Helmi Abdullah dilaporkan berkata, fenomena itu lazimnya mencapai kemuncaknya menjelang akhir tahun dan berterusan pada awal tahun depan.

Ujarnya, La Nina boleh bertahan antara lima hingga 18 bulan dan berdasarkan model ramalan antarabangsa, La

Nina kali ini dijangka berada pada kekuatan lemah atau sederhana.

Bagaimanapun, Muhammad Helmi menegaskan setiap episod La Nina adalah unik dan mungkin memberikan hasil berbeza.

MetMalaysia akan terus memantau keadaan dengan teliti dan mengemas kini maklumat cuaca negara berdasarkan input terkini daripada pelbagai model cuaca.



SINAR HARIAN
Tarikh: 25 JUN 2024

Imigresen, PGA gempur flat dikuasai warga asing di Klang

'Pengotor, mabuk suka gaduh'

Oleh MOHD. YUNUS YAKKUB

Kosmo
25/6 (MBDK)

KLANG – Kebanjiran warga asing di flat Bandar Sultan Suleiman, di sini bukan sahaja merimaskan penduduk malah mereka juga didapati pengotor dan kerap mabuk pada waktu malam.

Rata-rata warga asing tersebut telah berada di perumahan tersebut sejak lebih 10 tahun lalu dengan menjadikan lokasi tersebut tidak ubah seperti negara asal terutama pada hujung minggu.

Seorang penduduk, Zulkifli Hamid, 55, berkata, antara perangai jelik yang dilakukan warga asing tersebut adalah meludah dan membuang sampah merata-rata dari tingkat atas rumah didiami mereka.

"Ini semestinya mengganggu ketenteraman penduduk yang tidak selesa dengan sikap pengotor mereka. Memang geli apabila selamba ludah sisa silih merata-rata, sesuka hati buang sampah termasuk bungkusannya sisa makanan dari tingkat rumah di tingkat atas.

"Sudah tegur, namun mereka tidak 'makan saman' seolah-olah kawasan ini adalah hak milik mereka memandangkan komunitinya ramai," katanya ketika ditemui Kosmo! di sini kelmarin.

Seorang lagi penduduk, Nor Azlina Berlin, 51, berkata, kehidupan tenang penduduk 'diragut' apabila komuniti warga asing



SEBAHAGIAN daripada warga asing yang ditahan Jabatan Imigresen dan Pasukan Gerakan Am (PGA) ketika operasi di Flat Bandar Sultan Suleiman, Klang kelmarin. – SADDAM YUSOFF

kerap mabuk dan melepak di bahagian tangga dan kaki lima rumah flat.

Kata suri rumah tersebut, ada dalam kalangan warga asing menjalankan operasi perniagaan dengan melakukan pengubahsuaian rumah disewa mereka.

"Bayangkan bila ada mereka bergaduh dan buat bising malam hari terutama ketika mabuk. Memang sakit jiwa rasanya apatah lagi membawa budaya hidup

mereka ke sini.

"Langsung tiada adab dan merimaskan kami sebagai penghuni dan warga tempatan di sini," katanya.

Terdahulu, kira-kira 1,700 warga asing diperiksa Jabatan Imigresen Selangor menerusi serbuan Ops Bandar Suleiman hasil risikan selama tiga bulan dan aduan orang ramai.

Dalam operasi kira-kira pukul 5 petang itu, kebanyakan mereka

bertempiaran lari sebelum berjaya dicekup Jabatan Imigresen dan Pasukan Gerakan Am (PGA).

Dalam pada itu, tinjauan Kosmo! mendapati lebih dua buah rumah yang dijadikan kedai makan oleh warga Bangladesh disita Majlis Bandaraya Diraja Klang (MBDK).

Malah mereka juga didapati menyimpan tiga kotak berisi pekuk minyak masak yang merupakan barangan kawalan.

KOSMO

Tarikh: 25 JUN 2024

LEBIH RAMAI DARI ORANG KITA

HM
25/6
(1)
(MADUK)

Oleh Nurul Hidayah
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Seramai 1,700 warga asing diperiksa di Pelabuhan Klang, 384 ditahan atas pelbagai kesalahan

Pelabuhan Klang

Kebanjiran warga asing di sekitar Jalan Sultan Abdul Samad 38, Bandar Sultan Suleiman di sini menyebabkan penduduk tempatan resah susulan pelbagai isu termasuk kekotoran serta masalah sosial.

Seorang penduduk yang mahu dikenali sebagai Zack, 50-an berkata, warga asing yang amat ramai di kawasan itu menjadi punca isu kekotoran berikutan tabiat golongan itu yang suka membuang sampah

"Meskipun saya sudah beberapa tahun menetap di sini namun adakalanya saya terasa seperti berada di luar negara kerana kehadiran mereka (warga asing) lebih ramai berbanding penduduk tempatan"

Zack



KETANGKASAN anggota imigresen berjaya menggagalkan cubaan wanga asing yang cuba melarikan diri daripada ditahan.

WARGA asing yang ditahan dalam Operasi Bersepadu dijalankan JIM di sekitar Jalan Sultan Abdul Samad, Bandar Sultan Suleiman di Pelabuhan Klang. - Gambar NSTP/HAZREEN MOHAMED



29/6



LOKASI SERBUAN WARGA ASING DI PELABUHAN KLANG

merata serta meludah.
"Malah, sikap mereka (warga asing) yang gemar mabuk menyebabkan penduduk bimbang dengan keselamatan terutama jika berlaku pergaduhan."
"Meskipun saya sudah beberapa tahun menetap di sini namun adakalanya saya terasa seperti berada di luar negara disebabkan kehadiran mereka (warga asing) lebih ramai berbanding penduduk tempatan," katanya ketika ditemui semasa Operasi Bersepadu dijalankan Jabatan Imigresen Malaysia (JIM) Selangor di lokasi itu, semalam.

Zack yang bekerja di Pelabuhan Klang berkata, warga asing turut dilihat memonopoli perniagaan di kawasan berkenaan.
"Jika dilihat di kebanyakan kedai, semuanya di-monopoli warga asing. Mereka ada kedai runcit, kedai makanan dan pelbagai pre-

mis perniagaan lain.

"Ini amat mengusarkan penduduk dan diharap masalah ini dapat ditangani pihak berkuasa," katanya.

Sementara itu, tinjauan wartawan Harian Metro mendapati lokasi berkenaan membabitkan kawasan flat lima tingkat didiami warga asing bekerja di kilang berhampiran.

Pemeriksaan pihak berkuasa di beberapa kediaman di flat berkenaan mendapati kebanyakan mereka tinggal antara lima ke tujuh orang dalam satu unit rumah.

Kebanyakan warga asing mengaku bekerja di kilang dan kedai berhampiran dengan menyewa di flat itu dengan bayaran antara RM400 ke RM500 bagi satu bilik sebulan.

Ada warga asing mengaku tinggal di flat itu kerana ditempatkan majikan mereka yang menjadikannya asrama pekerja.



HARIAN METRO
Tarikh: 25 JUN 2024..

Bisnes



LANGKAH penyasaran subsidi bermula 10 Jun lalu menyaksikan jumlah jualan runcit diesel di stesen minyak menurun hampir lapan juta liter sehari atau 30 peratus untuk minggu pertama selepas pengumuman penetapan semula harga diesel berbanding minggu sebelum pengumuman.

JUALAN DIESEL MENURUN 40%

Hm
25/6

Oleh Mohd
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Angka sahkan kewujudan aktiviti penyeludupan ke negara jiran, penyalahgunaan sektor industri

Kuala Lumpur

Jualan diesel di sempadan menunjukkan penurunan 40 peratus sejak kerajaan mengumumkan pengapungan harga subsidi diesel, sekali gus mengesahkan memang wujud aktiviti penyeludupan diesel ke negara sempadan sebelum ini.

Menteri Kewangan II, Datuk Seri Amir Hamzah Azizan berkata, langkah penyasaran subsidi bermula 10 Jun lalu menyaksikan jumlah jualan runcit diesel di stesen minyak menurun hampir lapan juta liter sehari atau 30 peratus untuk minggu pertama selepas pengumuman penetapan semula harga diesel, berbanding minggu sebelum pengumuman.

"Selain itu, jualan diesel komersial pula meningkat sebanyak empat juta liter sehari yang memberi isyarat bahawa sebahagian penggunaan diesel runcit bersubsidi selama ini, sudah digunakan oleh sektor industri yang sepatutnya membeli diesel pada harga pasaran.

"Ini bermakna, trend pe-

ningkatan jualan diesel komersial menggambarkan tanda positif ketirisan diesel bersubsidi sudah berkurang," katanya pada sesi penerangan menteri berkaitan penyasaran subsidi diesel oleh kerajaan di Dewan Rakyat, semalam.

Mengulas lanjut, beliau berkata, pengapungan harga diesel tidak bermaksud kerajaan memansuhkan sepenuhnya subsidi ke atas bahan bakar itu memandang ketika ini, kerajaan masih menanggung subsidi diesel sehingga RM10 bilion, menurun berbanding RM14 bilion tahun lalu, sekali gus menyaksikan penjimatan RM4 bilion setahun.

"Kerajaan mampu raih penjimatan tahunan RM4 bilion. Penjimatan ini tentunya dapat dimanfaatkan untuk menambah baik mutu hidup rakyat melalui penyediaan infrastruktur awam berkualiti serta per-

lindungan sosial yang lebih menyeluruh," katanya.

Beliau berkata, perbelanjaan subsidi diesel negara meningkat 10 kali ganda iaitu daripada RM1.4 bilion pada 2019, kepada RM14.3 bilion pada tahun lalu.

"Trend kenaikan subsidi diesel ini tidak mampu lagi ditampung kerajaan secara berterusan. Peningkatan belanja subsidi bukan hanya disebabkan kenaikan harga pasaran, tetapi juga akibat peningkatan ketirisan diesel bersubsidi.

"Jumlah diesel bersubsidi digunakan naik mendadak 80 peratus iaitu daripada 6.1 bilion liter pada 2019 kepada 10.8 bilion liter tahun lalu, walaupun tiada peningkatan kenderaan diesel baharu yang ke-tara dalam tempoh sama.

"Pada masa sama, jumlah jualan diesel komersial tanpa subsidi turun dua bilion liter dalam tempoh itu. Peningkatan penggu-

naan diesel bersubsidi amat ketara ini disebabkan jurang perbezaan harga besar antara harga komersial dengan harga runcit diesel bersubsidi di pam Malaysia," katanya.

Katanya, harga runcit diesel Malaysia jauh lebih murah berbanding negara jiran, antaranya Thailand sekitar RM4.20, Indonesia lebih kurang RM4.40 dan Singapura hampir mencecah RM9 seliter membolehkan sebilangan perniagaan sektor komersial tempatan yang sepatutnya membeli diesel pada harga pasaran mengambil kesempatan menikmati dan menyeleweng diesel bersubsidi secara tidak sah.

"Contohnya, mereka beli diesel bersubsidi daripada stesen minyak dan disalah guna untuk gen set di kilang, tapak pembinaan atau ladang sawit.

"Isu lebih utama ialah akibat harga diesel kita murah, ia menyebabkan aktiviti penyeludupan diesel ke negara jiran sukar dibendung. Inilah yang ditemui Kementerian Perdagangan Dalam Negeri dan Kos Sara Hidup (KPDN) semasa Op Tiris," katanya.

"Ini bermakna, trend peningkatan jualan diesel komersial menggambarkan tanda positif bahawa ketirisan diesel bersubsidi sudah berkurang"

Menteri Kewangan II, Amir Hamzah Azizan

HARIAN METRO
Tarikh: 25 JUN 2024

Sasar kadar inflasi ^{HW 02/6} antara 2.0% dan 3.5%

Kuala Lumpur: Kerajaan yakin ekonomi negara masih tetap mencapai unjuran rasmi kadar inflasi dan kadar pertumbuhan Keluaran Dalam Negara Kasar (KDNK) pada tahun ini walaupun dengan pelaksanaan penyasaran semula subsidi diesel, kata Menteri Kewangan II Datuk Seri Amir Hamzah Azizan (*gambar*).



Beliau berkata, kerajaan menyasarkan kadar inflasi antara 2.0 peratus dan 3.5 peratus serta pertumbuhan KDNK antara 4.0 peratus dan 5.0 peratus pada tahun ini.

"Pendekatan penyasaran semula subsidi diesel yang diambil iaitu menyediakan diesel bersubsidi kepada sektor logistik dan bantuan tunai bulanan kepada individu akan mengurangkan tekanan ke atas harga barang pengguna dan impak kepada rakyat," katanya pada Sesi Penerangan Menteri mengenai Pelaksanaan Penyasaran Semula Subsidi Diesel di Dewan Rakyat, semalam.

Katanya, kerajaan masih menanggung subsidi

diesel sehingga RM10 bilion walaupun penjaminan dianggarkan sebanyak RM4 bilion setahun daripada penyasaran semula subsidi diesel.

Beliau berkata, ini untuk menampung subsidi di Sabah dan Sarawak, subsidi untuk sektor pengangkutan awam dan sektor logistik Semenanjung Malaysia, bantuan tunai untuk pemilik kenderaan individu dan pengusaha kecil agri-komoditi serta subsidi diesel nelayan.

Mengenai Budi Madani, Amir Hamzah berkata, setakat 19 Jun lepas, sebanyak 100,000 pemohon di bawah kategori individu dan agri-komoditi telah diluluskan.

HARIAN METRO
Tarikh: 25 JUN 2024



Penyasaran subsidi buka ruang laksana projek mega

Kedudukan kewangan lebih kukuh bolehkan pembangunan sektor pembinaan

Oleh Mohd Zaky Zainuddin
zaky@bh.com.my

Kerajaan akan memulakan lebih banyak projek pembangunan berikutan pelaksanaan rasionalisasi subsidi bahan api bermula bulan ini, demikian menurut penganalisis.

Penganalisis Kenanga Research, Teh Kian Yeong, berkata firma penyelidikan itu percaya kerajaan kini mempunyai lebih banyak ruang fiskal untuk berbuat demikian, selepas kedu-

dukan kewangannya mendapat sokongan daripada penyasaran subsidi bahan api diesel mulai 10 Jun lalu.

"Walaupun prestasi (sektor pembinaan) setakat ini lebih baik didorong sebahagian besarnya oleh penganugerahan projek Laluan Mutiara Transit Aliran Ringan (LRT) Pulau Pinang bernilai RM10 bilion dan pelbagai kerja-kerja pembinaan pusat data, kami yakin akan banyak projek infrastruktur mega akan diumumkan seperti projek Transit Aliran Massa 3 (MRT3) bernilai RM45 bilion.

"Kami mengekalkan penarafan 'wajaran tinggi' terhadap sektor pembinaan berikutan pelancaran projek infrastruktur awam mega yang akan diketuai oleh MRT3," katanya dalam nota satu penyelidikan, semalam.

Kabinet bersetuju untuk melaksanakan penyasaran subsidi diesel membabitkan pengguna di

Semenanjung yang dianggarkan membawa penjimatan RM4 bilion setiap tahun kepada kerajaan.

Bagi membendung kenaikan drastik harga barangan dan perkhidmatan di Semenanjung, kerajaan akan menyediakan subsidi diesel kepada peniaga yang menggunakan kenderaan komersial bermotor diesel.

Subsidi itu membabitkan 10 jenis kenderaan pengangkutan awam dan 23 jenis kenderaan pengangkutan barangan di bawah Sistem Kawalan Diesel Bersubsidi (SKDS).

Penjimatan RM4 bilion

Penjimatan yang dianggarkan sebanyak RM4 bilion daripada penyasaran subsidi diesel dijangka memberi ruang fiskal yang lebih luas kepada kerajaan dalam usaha mempertingkatkan lagi kualiti pelbagai perkhidmatan yang menjadi kepentingan kepada rakyat.

Sementara itu, Kian Yeong berkata, pasaran pembinaan sektor swasta akan kekal rancak disokong oleh pelaburan besar-besaran dalam pusat data baharu dan kilang pembuatan semikonduktor.

"Sektor ini juga menikmati aliran pekerjaan sektor swasta yang kukuh, terutama pekerjaan membina pusat data," katanya.

Beliau berkata, Gamuda Bhd memperoleh kontrak pusat data bernilai RM1.74 bilion di Elmina Business Park, Selangor pada Mei 2024, manakala Sunway Construction Group Bhd (SUNCON) dengan nilai kerja RM748 juta di Cyberjaya pada Mac 2024 dan tambahan RM1.5 bilion kerja pusat data untuk Yellowwood di Johor pada Jun 2024.

"Kami percaya akan ada lebih banyak lagi dengan Microsoft memulakan projek pusat data di Johor, selepas menyatakan ko-

mitmen pelaburan AS\$2.2 bilion (RM10.3 bilion) dalam pengkomputeran awan & perkhidmatan kecerdasan buatan (AI) di Malaysia.

"Begitu juga, Google telah komited untuk melabur AS\$2 bilion (RM9.4 bilion) untuk membangunkan pusat data wilayah pertama di Malaysia," tambah Kian Yeong.

Sementara itu, Fasa 2 Lebuhraya Pan Borneo Sarawak dan Fasa 1B Lebuhraya Pan Borneo Sabah bersedia dimulakan, manakala Rangkaian Jalan Sabah-Sarawak sedang dalam pembinaan.

Kim Lun telah menyatakan minat untuk membida pakej kerja Fasa 2 Lebuhraya Pan Borneo Sarawak kerana ia telahpun terabit dalam projek Rangkaian Jalan Sabah-Sarawak.

"Kami difahamkan bahawa IJM juga telah menunjukkan minat dalam pasaran," katanya.

Bantu bebas tahanan kes dadah

2 pegawai penguat kuasa kena reman

Kuala Terengganu: Dua pegawai kanan sebuah agensi penguat kuasa di reman selama lima hari bagi membantu siasatan kes rasuah bagi membebaskan tiga lelaki berkaitan kes dadah.

Turut direman selama empat hari, isteri kepada salah seorang pegawai berkenaan yang berusia 36 tahun.

Perintah reman terhadap ketiga-tiga suspek dikeluarkan Penolong Kanan Pendaftar Mahkamah Kuala Terengganu, Yuhanis Mohd Roslan.

Siasatan lanjut dijalankan mengikut Seksyen 16 (a) (B) Akta Suruhanjaya Pencegahan Rasuah Malaysia (SPRM) 2009 dijalankan terhadap pasangan suami isteri yang berusia 36 tahun dan seorang lagi suspek berusia

41 tahun.

Mereka ditahan antara jam 2 hingga 5.30 petang Ahad ketika hadir memberi keterangan di pejabat SPRM Terengganu.

Ketiga-tiga suspek disyaki meminta dan menerima wang rasuah berjumlah kira-kira RM30,000 daripada seorang lelaki bagi balasan melepaskan rakan lelaki berkenaan yang ditahan kerana disyaki melakukan kesalahan mengikut Akta Dadah Berbahaya 1952.

Perbuatan terbabit dilakukan pada 2021 dan ketika itu dua pegawai penguat kuasa kanan terbabit bertugas di sebuah daerah di Terengganu.

Wang rasuah itu juga disyaki digunakan oleh seorang suspek yang kini bertugas di sebuah da-



Suspek dibawa ke Mahkamah Majistret Kuala Terengganu, semalam.

(Foto Ghazali Kori/BH)

erah di Kedah dan isterinya untuk pelaburan judi secara dalam talian.

Hasil siasatan SPRM mendapati wang terbabit pada awalnya dipercayai dimasukkan ke dalam akaun pihak ketiga, sebe-

lum dipindahkan ke akaun milik isteri suspek.

Ketiga-tiga suspek diwakili peguam Muhammad Ramlam Taib, manakala permohonan reman dikendalikan pegawai penyiasat SPRM.

BERITA HARIAN
Tarikh... 25 JUN 2024

Sistem AI dalam bidang pekerjaan mesti tertakluk syarat ketat

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25/6

- Kehebatan AI berlaku dalam banyak bidang pekerjaan seperti penjagaan kesihatan, kenderaan tanpa pemandu, pemprosesan bahasa, robotik, kaedah pendidikan, pertanian, tenaga dan alam sekitar, hiburan serta keselamatan

- Malaysia perlu menggubal garis panduan atau peraturan berhubung penggunaan AI khususnya di tempat kerja supaya penggunaannya tidak memberi mudarat kepada pengurusan dan pekerja



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Pelancaran Pelan Induk Perindustrian Baharu (NIMP) 2030 pada 1 September lalu bermatlamat menjadikan Malaysia sebagai negara industri berteknologi tinggi dengan transformasi digital, seperti ditegaskan Perdana Menteri, Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim.

NIMP 2030 akan memberi tumpuan terhadap anjakan supaya tidak hanya memutuskan kepada sesuatu sektor, tetapi ke arah matlamat dan misi menjadikan Malaysia sebagai negara industri dengan teknologi tinggi, transformasi digital dan memberi ruang kepada ratusan ribu anak muda dalam bidang pekerjaan baharu.

Penggunaan teknologi sebenarnya berlaku terlebih dahulu dalam sektor perindustrian seperti pembuatan dan kesihatan. Penggunaan mesin automasi secara meluas dalam sektor pembuatan di kilang dapat mempercepatkan aktiviti kerja dan meningkatkan hasil pengeluaran. Aktiviti kerja di kilang dan premis perniagaan mempercepatkan kerja, seterusnya menghasilkan pengeluaran tinggi.

Tidak seperti sektor pertanian menggunakan peralatan dan jentera berasaskan teknologi dan sektor pembuatan menggunakan mesin automasi, sektor pembinaan dilihat masih belum meneroka dan menggunakan teknologi robotik dan automasi.

Usaha ke arah penggunaan mekanisasi dan automasi dalam sektor pembinaan harus dimulakan kerana sektor ini banyak bergantung kepada tenaga buruh asing. Sekiranya perkara ini dapat dilakukan, maka Malaysia boleh disifatkan antara negara awal meneroka penggunaan teknologi kecerdasan buatan (AI), robotik dan automasi dalam sektor pembinaan.

Selain meningkatkan keberkesanan kerja dan hasil pengeluaran, penggunaan teknologi boleh mengurangkan kebergantungan kepada tenaga kerja asing yang jumlahnya sehingga 15 Mac lalu menurut perangkaan Jabatan Imigresen (JIM) ialah 2,171,798 orang. Kergantungan pada pekerja asing mengakibatkan jumlah pengaliran wang tinggi ke luar negara.

Selain itu, penggunaan robotik juga dapat mengurangkan risiko kecelakaan industri sering dialami manusia, terutama dalam sektor pembuatan dan pembinaan. Penggunaan robotik di tempat berisiko adalah langkah baik untuk mengurangkan risiko bencana kerja kepada pekerja.

Namun, aspek keselamatan di tempat kerja masih perlu dijaga, walaupun teknologi robotik dan automasi digunakan. Ini kerana kemalangan juga boleh berlaku akibat tekanan dan himpitan robotik serta mesin automasi ke atas pekerja.

Dalam hal ini, majikan dan pekerja perlu mematuhi peruntukan Akta Keselamatan dan Kesihatan Pekerjaan 1994 dengan mengambil langkah proaktif bagi mengurangkan risiko bahaya di tempat kerja.

Pihak pengurusan di setiap tempat kerja mesti menyediakan dokumen pentaksiran risiko bagi menghadapi dan menangani risiko kemalangan pekerjaan akibat penggunaan mesin berteknologi tinggi.

Penggunaan AI dalam alam pekerjaan kini melalui fasa hebat dan menarik. Ia memberi kesan positif kepada pihak pengurusan dan pekerja. AI boleh ditakrifkan sebagai ciptaan manusia menerusi penggunaan dan penyusunan algoritma mengolah semua data terkandung dalam internet serta boleh memberi tindak balas seolah-olah menyerupai manusia.

Ia memudahkan dan mempercepatkan kerja dilakukan manusia. Produktiviti kerja akan meningkat dengan begitu drastik. AI mampu membantu hasil cipta berdasarkan teknologi mengagumkan.

Kehebatan AI berlaku dalam banyak bidang pekerjaan seperti penjagaan kesihatan, kenderaan tanpa pemandu, pemprosesan bahasa, robotik, kaedah pendidikan, pertanian, tenaga dan alam sekitar, hiburan serta keselamatan.

AI membantu bidang perubatan menghasilkan pengimejan perubatan, perubatan peribadi dan analitik prediktif, kenderaan automatik pula berkait dengan kereta pandu sendiri dan sistem bantuan pemandu sendiri, pemprosesan bahasa semula jadi menghasilkan chatbot dan pembantu maya.

Pekerja harus tingkatan kemahiran

Sungguhpun begitu, kesan negatif juga wujud yang mana banyak kerja dilakukan manusia kini diambil alih AI kerana dilihat mampu mengurangkan tenaga kerja manusia dalam banyak bidang pekerjaan kini dan masa hadapan. Pekerja harus segera meningkatkan kemahiran mereka supaya dapat meneroka bidang belum diambil alih AI.

Kepada pihak pengurusan, banyak perkara mengurus sumber manusia mampu dilakukan atau dibantu AI seperti pengambilan, latihan dan penilaian pekerja, hal-ehwal pengurusan kewangan serta tindakan disiplin.

Kepada pekerja pula, AI memudahkan tugas daripada kerja manual dilakukan berulang-ulang sehingga kepada kerja memerlukan inovasi dan reka cipta. Namun, AI memberikan kesan negatif jika disalah guna. Ia boleh menyebabkan ketidakadilan serta melanggar hak asasi manusia.

Isu seperti pelanggaran kerahsiaan data peribadi serta ketidakadilan dalam pengurusan sumber manusia boleh berlaku kerana AI bertindak berdasarkan data dikumpul dan dimasukkan manusia ke dalam sistem teknologi internet.

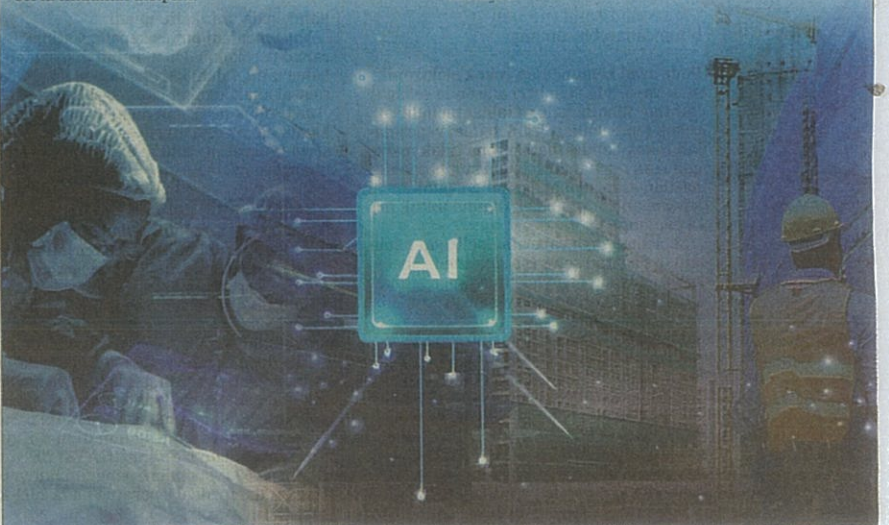
Justeru, Malaysia perlu menggubal garis panduan atau peraturan berhubung penggunaan AI khususnya di tempat kerja supaya penggunaannya tidak memberi mudarat kepada pengurusan dan pekerja.

Negara Kesatuan Eropah (EU) mengeluarkan kerangka perundangan berhubung AI merangkumi pelbagai peraturan termasuk pekerjaan. Peraturan AI berhubung pekerjaan menggolongkannya sebagai berisiko tinggi. Justeru, sistem AI dalam bidang pekerjaan mesti tertakluk kepada keperluan atau syarat ketat.

Hal ini termasuk pengurusan risiko yang lengkap, pengumpulan data berkualiti dan pemantauan manusia. Pihak pengurusan perlu mengurus data secara berkualiti dan bersesuaian, menyimpan dan menyenggara dokumen serta rekod, bersifat telus dan jelas kepada pekerja.

Pemantauan manusia ke atas AI perlu dilakukan jika keadaan memerlukan. Sistem AI perlu mempunyai elemen ketepatan, ketahanan dan keselamatan siber. Sinergi kerjasama antara industri dengan syarikat pemula melakukan pelbagai inovasi berdasarkan teknologi perlu dipertingkatkan.

Ini kerana syarikat pemula menghasilkan cipta inovasi teknologi tinggi berdasarkan penggunaan AI akan memberikan manfaat kepada penggiat industri.



Dasar jenayah siber perlu ditambah baik elak wanita jadi mangsa

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- Wanita bukan sahaja menjadi mangsa buli atau doxing apabila data peribadi diambil tanpa kebenaran dan dijadikan bahan buli di media sosial, bahkan mereka turut menjadi sasaran penipuan digital dan love scam yang mengakibatkan tekanan emosi serta perasaan

- Dalam mengekang isu doxing dan keganasan digital, ia harus dibahas dan didebatkan dalam kalangan pemegang taruh terutama mengenai langkah penggubalan undang-undang yang perlu dalam membincangkan secara efektif terhadap isu doxing

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Ketua Penyelidik
Sekretariat Pertubuhan
Naratif Malaysia

Sebanyak 3,075 insiden keselamatan siber dilaporkan di negara ini pada 2020 dengan peningkatan 109.4 peratus berbanding tahun sebelumnya. Berdasarkan statistik hampir 60 peratus daripada mangsa gangguan siber adalah dalam kalangan wanita, gejala ini memperlihatkan trend ancaman terhadap golongan itu yang menjadikan mereka sebagai golongan rentan.

Wanita bukan sahaja menjadi mangsa buli atau doxing apabila data peribadi diambil tanpa kebenaran dan dijadikan bahan buli di media sosial, bahkan mereka turut men-

jadi sasaran penipuan digital dan love scam yang mengakibatkan tekanan emosi serta perasaan.

'Doxing' merujuk kepada amalan menyelidik serta menyiarkan maklumat peribadi seseorang individu atau organisasi melalui internet khususnya media sosial.

Amalan ini menggunakan maklumat peribadi dan menyebarkan di internet oleh seseorang tidak bertanggungjawab, bertujuan memalukan dan dengan sengaja mengajak netizen untuk memarahi serta membuli mangsa dengan memuat naik status. Doxing antara salah satu bentuk serangan siber.

Doxing berlaku apabila seseorang individu memamerkan maklumat peribadi mangsa dengan bertujuan memalukan, mengugut dan menghukum mangsa. Kesan tindakan itu akan menyebabkan mangsa terkesan dari segi mental dan fizikal.

Ia berlaku dengan niat pelaku menyiarkan maklumat peribadi seseorang, bertujuan menyebabkan gangguan, ketakutan dan tekanan emosi kepada mangsa atau menyiarkan maklumat peribadi mangsa dengan pengetahuan akan menyebabkan kecederaan kepada mangsa. Kebanyakan mangsa doxing adalah wanita dan golongan rentan.

Setakat ini, akta berhubung doxing atau buli siber masih kabur, sebaliknya Malaysia hanya menggunakan peruntukan seperti Kanun Keseksaan dan Seksyen 233 Akta Multimedia dan Komunikasi 1998 serta beberapa akta lain seperti Akta Jenayah Komputer 1997 untuk mendakwa penjenayah siber.

Dilihat pergantungan kepada akta ini kurang memadai untuk membendung jenayah siber semakin kompleks setiap hari terutama dalam melindungi wanita dan golongan rentan.

Terdapat banyak kajian dijalankan International Human Rights Law, bahawa doxing terjadi kerana disebabkan kekurangan kluster perundangan yang menyebabkan mangsa buli siber dibi-

tanpa pembelaan.

Keadaan ini turut terjadi juga, disebabkan perbezaan rangka perundangan di setiap negara yang menyebabkan hanya negara tertentu tidak dapat mengaplikasikan undang-undang pada jenayah siber termasuklah Kesatuan Eropah (EU), Australia, England dan Wales, New Zealand dan Afrika Selatan, selain beberapa negeri di Amerika Syarikat seperti California serta Texas.

Tiada definisi jelas perbuatan doxing

Berdasarkan kajian seluruh dunia juga menyatakan tiada satu definisi jelas terhadap perbuatan doxing dalam lipatan undang-undang hak asasi kemanusiaan yang mampu melindungi dan membendung isu doxing.

Begitu juga tiada satu pendekatan konsisten wujud dalam membolehkan mangsa doxing untuk mendapatkan bantuan dan perlindungan dalam memastikan kesemua maklumat peribadi mangsa di pla-

“Tiada satu pendekatan konsisten wujud dalam membolehkan mangsa doxing untuk mendapatkan bantuan dan perlindungan dalam memastikan kesemua maklumat peribadi mangsa di platform dalam talian”



tform dalam talian.

Ini menakutkan kerana amalan doxing ini membolehkan penjenayah menyasarkan sesiapa sahaja dalam konteks buli siber dan taktik gangguan. Keadaan ini mendedahkan golongan wanita serta kumpulan rentan terutama mereka memiliki profil tinggi dalam masyarakat seperti wartawan, ahli politik dan aktivis.

Aktiviti doxing ini juga dapat dikelaskan kepada satu bentuk keganasan gender dan wanita terutama kepada golongan minoriti yang sering menjadi su-bjek kepada gangguan yang akan membawa kepada kesan negatif kepada mereka. Malah, doxing akan turut melemahkan penyertaan wanita dalam masyarakat khususnya.

Dalam mengekang isu doxing dan keganasan digital, ia harus dibahas dan didebatkan dalam kalangan pemegang taruh terutama mengenai langkah penggubalan undang-undang yang perlu diambil dalam membincangkan secara efektif terhadap isu doxing.

Perbincangan ini juga perlu dengan membangunkan cadangan dasar yang lebih menumpukan perbincangan bersifat pelbagai platform dan perundangan terhadap siber buli ini.

Kerajaan pula perlu menilai dan meneliti kembali undang-undang sedia ada dengan mengambil kira isu doxing sebagai jenayah berat dalam konteks gender dan buli siber.

Paling utama, dalam merangka dan menambah baik dasar berkait jenayah siber ini, perlu diwujudkan perbincangan bersifat rentas pemikiran termasuk membabitkan feminis dalam melihat hak rangka kemanusiaan antarabangsa dari sudut kepentingan dan perlindungan terhadap gender dan wanita dalam mewujudkan perlindungan undang-undang terhadap wanita dan golongan rentan dalam konteks keganasan berasaskan jantina.

Misalnya, contoh paling terdekat ialah Singapura, sekurang-kurangnya negara itu sudah menggubal Akta Perlindungan daripada Gangguan 2014 untuk melindungi maruah rakyatnya daripada tindakan mengendap (unlawful stalking).

Akta ini dilihat dapat membantu dalam soal isu mengendap, gangguan dan doxing terhadap mangsa dengan mahkamah memiliki kuasa terhadap pelaku dengan 'Perintah Berhenti Menyebarkan' yang dibuat secara salah.

Secara tidak langsung akta ini mampu melindungi mangsa buli siber dan diharapkan penggubalan dasar berhubung keganasan digital serta buli siber dapat diaplikasikan di negara ini juga dalam memastikan hak mangsa buli, terutama wanita terjamin.

Semua artikel penulis tamu adalah pendapat peribadi, bukan pendirian rasmi BH

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BERITA HARIAN
Tarikh, 25 JUN 2024

Yakin capai sasaran KDNK, inflasi tahun ini

BH
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Kuala Lumpur: Kerajaan yakin ekonomi negara masih tetap mencapai unjuran rasmi kadar inflasi dan kadar pertumbuhan Keluaran Dalam Negara Kasar (KDNK) pada tahun ini, meskipun dengan pelaksanaan penyasaran semula subsidi diesel.

Menteri Kewangan II, Datuk Seri Amir Hamzah Azizan, berkata kerajaan menasarak kadar inflasi di antara 2.0 dan 3.5 peratus, manakala pertumbuhan KDNK antara 4.0 dan 5.0 peratus pada tahun ini.

"Pendekatan penyasaran se-

mula subsidi diesel yang diam-bil iaitu menyediakan diesel bersubsidi kepada sektor logistik dan bantuan tunai bulanan kepada individu akan mengurangkan tekanan ke atas harga barang pengguna dan impak kepada rakyat," katanya pada Sesi Penerangan Menteri mengenai Pelaksanaan Penyasaran Semula Subsidi Diesel di Dewan Rakyat semalam.

Amir Hamzah menegaskan, kerajaan masih menanggung subsidi diesel sehingga RM10 bilion, walaupun ada penjimatan

dianggarkan RM4 bilion setahun daripada langkah penyasaran semula subsidi diesel.

Katanya, ini untuk menanam-pung subsidi di Sabah dan Sarawak, subsidi untuk sektor pengangkutan awam dan sektor logistik Semenanjung, bantuan tunai untuk pemilik kenderaan individu dan pengusaha kecil agrikomoditi serta subsidi diesel nelayan.

Mengulas mengenai BUDI MADANI, Amir Hamzah berkata, sehingga 19 Jun lalu, sebanyak 100,000 pemohon di bawah

kategori individu dan agrikomoditi diluluskan.

Daripada jumlah itu, 76,000 pemohon sudah menerima bantuan tunai bulanan RM200 seawal 10 Jun lalu.

Amir Hamzah turut menekankan bahawa kerajaan sentiasa memberi perhatian khusus untuk memastikan mekanisme terbaik digunakan bagi melindungi sektor perniagaan dan rakyat yang layak dibantu.

Beliau juga menegaskan, keputusan melaksanakan penyasaran semula subsidi diesel bu-

kanlah satu langkah mudah untuk diambil dan kerajaan tidak terburu-buru.

Sebaliknya, keputusan itu membabitkan kerjasama jabatan kerajaan di bawah Kementerian Kewangan, Kementerian Perdagangan Dalam Negeri dan Kos Sara Hidup (KPDN), Kementerian Perlindungan dan Komoditi, Kementerian Pertanian dan Keterjaminan Makanan, Kementerian Pengangkutan, syarikat minyak serta pemain industri.

BERNAMA

BERITA HARIAN
Tarikh 25 JUN 2024

Penurunan jualan di sempadan sahkan wujud aktiviti seludup

BH
25/6

Diesel komersial dijual 4 juta liter sehari beri petanda ketirisan sudah berkurangan

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Kuala Lumpur: Jualan diesel di stesen minyak berhampiran sempadan negara, menunjukkan penurunan 40 peratus sejak kerajaan mengumumkan pengapungan harga subsidi.

Jumlah itu berdasarkan laporan diterima daripada sebuah syarikat minyak yang menguruskan stesen minyak di sempadan negara.

Ia sekali gus mengesahkan memang wujud aktiviti penyeludupan bahan api ke negara bersempadan sebelum ini.

Pada masa sama, jualan diesel komersial pula meningkat sebanyak empat juta liter sehari yang memberikan isyarat sebahagian penggunaan diesel runcit bersubsidi selama ini, digunakan sektor industri yang sepatutnya membeli diesel pada harga pasaran.

Menteri Kewangan II, Datuk Seri Amir Hamzah Azizan yang mendedahkan butiran itu, berkata langkah penyasaran subsidi diesel bermula 10 Jun lalu juga menyaksikan purata jumlah jualan runcit di stesen minyak menurun hampir lapan juta liter sehari atau 30 peratus pada ming-

gu pertama, berbanding minggu sebelumnya.

"Trend peningkatan jualan diesel komersial pula menggambarkan tanda positif bahawa ketirisan diesel bersubsidi sudah berkurangan," katanya pada sesi penerangan menteri berkaitan penyasaran subsidi diesel oleh kerajaan di Dewan Rakyat, semalam.

Mengulas lanjut, beliau berkata, pengapungan harga diesel tidak bermaksud kerajaan memansuhkan sepenuhnya subsidi ke atas bahan bakar itu, kerana ketika ini kerajaan masih menanggung sehingga RM10 bilion, menurun berbanding RM14 bilion tahun lalu, sekali gus menyaksikan penjimatan RM4 bilion setahun.

"Kerajaan mampu meraih penjimatan tahunan sebanyak RM4 bilion. Penjimatan ini tentunya dapat dimanfaatkan untuk menambatkan mutu hidup rakyat melalui penyediaan infrastruktur awam berkualiti serta perlindungan sosial yang lebih menyeluruh," katanya.

Beliau berkata, perbelanjaan subsidi diesel negara sudah meningkat 10 kali ganda iaitu daripada RM1.4 bilion pada 2019, kepada RM14.3 bilion pada tahun lalu.

"Trend kenaikan subsidi diesel ini tidak mampu lagi ditampung kerajaan secara berterusan. Peningkatan belanja subsidi bukan hanya disebabkan kenaikan harga pasaran tetapi juga akibat peningkatan ketirisan diesel bersubsidi.

"Jumlah diesel bersubsidi yang digunakan naik mendadak, sekitar 80 peratus, iaitu daripada 6.1 bilion liter pada 2019 kepada 10.8 bilion liter tahun lalu, walaupun tiada peningkatan ken-



Amir Hamzah pada sesi penerangan menteri berkaitan penyasaran subsidi diesel di Dewan Rakyat, semalam.

(Foto BERNAMA)

deraan diesel baharu yang ketara dalam tempoh sama.

"Dalam tempoh masa, jumlah jualan diesel komersial tanpa subsidi pula turun sebanyak dua bilion liter. Peningkatan penggunaan diesel bersubsidi amat ketara ini disebabkan jurang perbezaan harga antara harga komersial dengan harga runcit diesel bersubsidi di pam Malaysia," katanya.

Harga diesel lebih murah

Amir Hamzah berkata, harga runcit diesel Malaysia yang jauh lebih murah berbanding negara jiran, antaranya Thailand sekitar RM4.20 seliter, Indonesia RM4.40 dan Singapura hampir

mencecah RM9 seliter, membolehkan sebilangan perniagaan sektor komersial tempatan yang sepatutnya membeli diesel pada harga pasaran mengambil kesempatan menikmati dan menyelenggara diesel bersubsidi secara tidak sah.

"Contohnya, mereka membeli diesel bersubsidi dari stesen minyak dan disalahgunakan untuk generator di kilang, tapak pembinaan atau ladang sawit.

"Isu yang lebih utama ialah, akibat harga diesel kita yang amat murah, ia menyebabkan aktiviti penyeludupan diesel ke negara jiran sukar dibendung. Inilah yang ditemui Kementerian Perdagangan Dalam Negeri dan

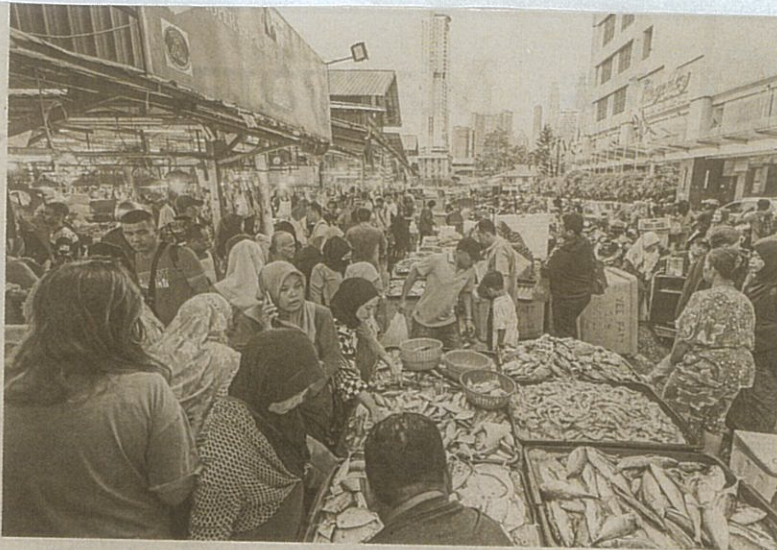
Kos Sara Hidup (KPDN) ketika Ops Tiris," katanya.

Dalam pada itu, Amir Hamzah berkata, setakat 20 Jun lalu, sebanyak 73,000 syarikat membatalkan 223,000 kenderaan pengangkutan barangan darat membuat permohonan dan diluluskan untuk menikmati diesel pada harga RM2.15 seliter.

"Setakat 19 Jun lalu, sebanyak 100,000 pemohon di bawah BUDI MADANI Individu dan BUDI MADANI Agri-Komoditi sudah diluluskan.

"Daripada jumlah itu, seramai 76,000 pemohon sudah menerima bantuan tunai bulanan RM200 mereka seawal 10 Jun lalu," katanya.

BERITA HARIAN
Tarikh... 25 JUN 2024



WALAUPUN masih awal untuk membuat kesimpulan kesan sebenar, namun ia perlu diperhatikan secara lebih terperinci supaya sasaran subsidi diesel ini mampu mengelakkan kenaikan sebarang kos perniagaan.

Impak subsidi diesel masih terlalu awal untuk dinilai

SAUDARA PENGARANG,

PELBAGAI reaksi diterima dari pelbagai pihak mengenai keputusan kerajaan dalam menukar pelan subsidi diesel kepada sasaran pengguna yang layak.

Ada pihak mengatakan perkara ini boleh menyebabkan kenaikan harga barang keperluan seperti komoditi di masa hadapan. Ada juga yang memberikan reaksi positif dengan memberi jangkaan pertambahan kemasukan pelaburan asing kerana penyasaran subsidi ini membuktikan komitmen kerajaan dalam usaha membaik pulih keadaan ekonomi negara.

Namun perkara ini masih baharu dan kesan kepada ekonomi negara masih lagi tidak dapat dilihat secara tepat. Pandangan dari sudut kitaran kewangan ekonomi sesebuah negara, faktor kenaikan ekonomi terhasil dari rantaian perbelanjaan dan pendapatan pengguna masih lagi awal untuk dibuat penilaian.

Peningkatan transaksi perbelanjaan dan pendapatan ini pula bergantung kepada faktor persekitaran ekonomi termasuk kadar cukai, faedah simpanan, keadaan permintaan serta kesediaan pasaran, dan ketersediaan pakej rangsangan perbelanjaan.

Secara am, kadar perbelanjaan penduduk dalam negara bergantung kepada ketersediaan pendapatan boleh guna iaitu baki pendapatan setelah ditolak segala pembayaran hutang, simpanan, dan pelaburan. Terdapat beberapa kesan penting perlu diperhatikan dengan tindakan subsidi diesel bersasar.

Antaranya bagaimana perubahan kitaran rantaian bekalan perniagaan berkaitan dapat menjamin kos pembuatan serta perkhidmatan dikekalkan atau boleh dikurangkan. Jika penyasaran subsidi tersebut adalah tepat pada keperluan rantaian bekalan ini, maka sudah tentu pengurangan kos boleh terjana.

Walaupun bagaimanapun, jika penyasaran subsidi tersebut lemah dari segi sasaran kepada keperluan tertentu, kadar kos dalam rantaian pemasaran boleh menyebabkan kenaikan harga yang perlu ditanggung oleh pengguna.

Sekiranya terdapat kenaikan kos di mana-mana rantaian bekalan perniagaan, harga barang atau perkhidmatan akan terkesan kepada rantaian akhir iaitu pada harga jualan kepada pengguna.

Merujuk kembali kepada kitaran ekonomi dan faktor perbelanjaan pengguna, kenaikan harga akan menyebabkan pengurangan kuasa membeli secara langsung menurunkan kadar kitaran ekonomi negara.

Dalam rantaian bekalan perniagaan, terutama proses yang menggunakan diesel seperti pengangkutan dan penjaan tenaga dikuatirai terkesan dengan kenaikan kos pembuatan atau perkhidmatan mereka.

Walaupun masih awal untuk membuat kesimpulan kesan sebenar, namun ia perlu diperhatikan secara lebih terperinci supaya sasaran subsidi diesel ini mampu mengelakkan kenaikan sebarang kos perniagaan.

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UTUSAN MALAYSIA
Tarikh: 25 JUN 2024

'ECONOMIC GROWTH TARGETS ON TRACK'

Targeted assistance will reduce pressure on consumer goods prices, says minister

QISTINA SALLEHUDDIN AND
NOR AIN MOHAMED RADHI
KUALA LUMPUR
news@nst.com.my

THE government is optimistic that the diesel subsidy rationalisation will not derail Malaysia's targeted inflation rate and economic growth.

Finance Minister II Datuk Seri Amir Hamzah Azizan said the government projected that inflation this year would be between two and 3.5 per cent, while gross

domestic product (GDP) growth was expected to be between four and five per cent.

"The implementation of diesel subsidy rationalisation, which involves providing subsidised diesel to the logistics sector and monthly cash assistance to individuals, will reduce pressure on consumer goods prices and the impact on the public.

"Hence, even though there are significant changes in retail diesel prices, it is expected that this will not affect economic performance or the inflation rate,"

he said in the Dewan Rakyat.

He added that the government also expected to achieve annual savings of RM4 billion with the rationalisation of subsidies.

These savings, he said, would be used to improve the quality of life for the people through the provision of quality public infrastructure and more comprehensive social protection measures.

"This also means that although the government has taken steps to target subsidies to reduce leakages and smuggling, those in need will continue to re-

ceive assistance and diesel subsidies.

"However, it should be noted that the government still bears up to RM10 billion for diesel subsidies despite saving RM4 billion a year.

"This amount includes subsidies given to Sabah and Sarawak (RM3 billion), subsidies for the public transport and logistics sectors in Peninsular Malaysia (RM4 billion), cash assistance for diesel vehicle owners and agro-commodity smallholders (RM2 billion), and subsidies for fishermen (RM1 billion)."



Datuk Seri Amir Hamzah Azizan

NEW STRAITS TIMES
Tarikh: 25 JUN 2024

Prices of essential goods stable, say traders

 N6T
25/6

KUALA LUMPUR: Prices of many essential goods are unchanged since the rationalisation of diesel subsidies in Peninsular Malaysia two weeks ago.

Some goods, like chicken and certain types of fish, have even seen a drop in prices, though prawns are slightly costlier in some areas.

However, traders say this has more to do with supply and demand, rather than the price of diesel, which remains subsidised for the logistics and public transport sectors.

Checks by the *New Straits Times* at wet markets, hypermarkets, sundry shops, coffeeshops and eateries in the Klang Valley found that most businesses have not raised prices.

Umami Saffiyah Baharudin, 32, a butcher, said the prices of chicken and meat have been increasing steadily, with chicken priced at RM10 per kg and meat selling for RM32 per kg.

"Although the prices increase, on average, it is only up by 30 or 40 sen. The last time we increased prices was at the end of May.

"It all depends on our suppliers, if they increase prices, we have to increase them as well," the Chow Kit market trader said.

Seafood seller Amirul Hakim, 26, at Pasar Modern Seksyen 6, Shah Alam, said seafood prices were generally stable.

"But the prices of squid and prawns will depend on supply and demand, especially during



Shoppers buying fish at Kuala Lumpur's Chow Kit market recently. (Inset) Butcher Umami Saffiyah Baharudin says price increases are dependent on the suppliers. PIX BY MOHAMAD SHAHRIL BADRI SAALI

the festive season.

"For example, today, the price of squid has increased from RM30 to RM35 a kg, but this is not due to the rationalisation of the diesel subsidy," he said.

Grocery store owner Raymond Goh, 58, said suppliers should not increase the prices of essentials as the transport sector still enjoyed fuel subsidies.

"The government should take strict action if they still increase prices after receiving aid," he said at his store in Petaling Garden, Petaling Jaya.

Alif Rizal Mohamad, 35, a coffee stall owner in Seksyen 7, Shah Alam, who uses diesel for his vehicle said his prices were unchanged because he received a fleet card from the government.

"Although I use a diesel vehicle for transporting my goods, I received the fleet card which enables me to absorb the increase in diesel price.

"So far, I haven't felt much impact because the amount provided by the government is sufficient and the prices of coffee and other ingredients have remained

stable," he said.

Yesterday, Deputy Domestic Trade and Consumer Affairs Minister Fuziah Salleh told the Dewan Rakyat that prices of goods were under control despite the rationalisation of subsidies.

Fuziah said that as of Sunday, 2,790 premises had been inspected and 210 notices had been issued over price hikes.

She said some traders took advantage of the situation in the first few days but the issue had been addressed.

Diesel subsidies in the penin-

sula were rationalised on June 10. To stave off sharp increases in the prices of goods and services, the government has provided diesel subsidies to 33 types of commercial vehicles.

Individuals who use diesel vehicles can also apply for the Budi Madani cash aid. **By Nur Najlaa Mohd Rahmat, Najihah Borhan and Sarveashwari Veloosi**

Page 1 pic: A trader and a customer concluding a sale at the Chow Kit market in Kuala Lumpur recently.

'New vaccine a breakthrough in fight against dengue'

SMN
25/6

► After undergoing trials for about five years with no adverse events, jab has been approved in 30 countries and gained conditional approval by Drug Control Authority

KUALA LUMPUR: Dengue is a sometimes fatal viral disease that is no stranger to Malaysians and visitors to the country.

It affects any individual who encounters an infected *Aedes aegypti* mosquito, which transmits the virus that causes dengue.

Experts said this year has seen a surge in dengue cases in Malaysia and elsewhere thanks to several factors, including human complacency, climate change and the El Nino phenomenon.

The number of deaths due to dengue has also increased in Malaysia.

Health authorities and experts have hailed the recently launched dengue vaccine by pharmaceutical company Takeda, which will be marketed under the name Qdenga, as a breakthrough in the fight against dengue.

However, few clinics or individuals know about the vaccine. Even if they do know, the public may not be as excited as infectious disease experts to get the vaccine.

Takeda head of medical affairs for India and Southeast Asia Dr Goh Choo Beng said they are aware they may be facing their biggest obstacle.

"After obtaining approval, (social acceptance) is the next challenge."

Malaysia has set a target to reduce dengue cases by 5% every year. It is also aiming for zero deaths from dengue by 2030, in keeping with World Health Organisation targets.

Dengue management has previously involved eliminating *Aedes aegypti* mosquito breeding grounds, increasing community education and fogging.

For the past five years, the government has also been controlling the mosquito population



A vector unit dispensing insecticide using a fogging machine outside the Hospital Kuala Lumpur forensics wing. — ADIB RAWI YAHYA/THESUN

by using mosquitoes carrying the *Wolbachia* bacteria, which causes them to be sterile or lay unhealthy eggs.

Despite such efforts, dengue cases have been increasing. There were 123,133 cases and 100 deaths from dengue-related complications last year and the worrying upward trend has continued this year.

The Health Ministry said rather than ebbing after reaching a four-year peak in 2023, cases have increased by 30.7% from 51,331 cases reported in the first 23 weeks of 2023 to 67,137 cases in the same period in 2024.

There were also 37 deaths reported in the first 23 weeks of last year compared with 48 deaths in the same period this year.

The increase is worrying as dengue outbreaks tend to peak and wane on a four year cycle in most countries. However, cases in Malaysia are not showing signs of abating.

"We have seen an increase in dengue cases. It is worrying. The last peaks were in 2019 and 2023 and now we see (a rise in cases in) 2024 (which is when cases are supposed to start going down). So, we are not sure how many cases to expect in 2024," said Dengue Prevention Advocacy Malaysia chairman Prof Datuk Dr Dzulkifli Ismail.

At the Qdenga media launch on June 11,

Goh said the vaccine has been undergoing trials for almost five years with no major adverse events recorded.

He said one may get the vaccine without having been previously infected with dengue or undergoing a test to determine a previous infection, Bernama reported.

The company reported the vaccine has prevented symptomatic infection in 80% of cases in 12 months after vaccination and hospitalisation in 90% of cases in 18 months after vaccination.

Qdenga has been approved in more than 30 countries, including European Union nations, the United Kingdom, Brazil, Argentina, Thailand, Vietnam and Indonesia. Malaysia's Drug Control Authority gave conditional approval to the vaccine in February this year.

"Those who have received the vaccine are less likely to transmit dengue to others if they get infected. So, in a way, it offers some protection to (others) as well," said Universiti Malaya Department of Social and Preventive Medicine epidemiologist Prof Dr Rafdzah Zaki.

Experts said taking the vaccine should be made part of Malaysia's efforts to reduce dengue cases and deaths, but added that it should not be the only method to achieve those aims.

THE SUN
25 JUN 2024
Tarikh:

Time is ripe to consider raising retirement age

SMM
26/6

► 'Move could be made gradually due to longer lifespans as Malaysia expected to become ageing society by 2043'

■ BY QIRANA NABILLA MOHD RASHIDI
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PETALING JAYA: With the country heading towards an ageing society, and suffering from brain drain and experiencing lower birth rates, experts say it might be wise to raise the retirement age.

Global Labour Organisation economist and Southeast Asia lead Prof Niaz Asadullah said adopting a gradual approach would achieve the desired outcomes.

"It will minimise disruption, optimise having a longer and more productive working life for individuals and benefit the economy itself."

The current retirement age in Malaysia is 60 years, but according to UK-based D3P, which helps governments diagnose, design and deliver better pension systems, raising the retirement age is driven by several urgent factors.

Its CEO William Price said these include Malaysia's average life expectancy which stands at about 77 years for women and 72 years for men.

"With the longer lifespans, it may be better to soon raise the retirement age to 65. Furthermore, this adjustment is necessary as Malaysia is projected to become an ageing society by 2043.

"By that time, about 14% of Malaysia's population will comprise individuals aged 65 and over, due to increasing life expectancy and declining birth rates."

Price said while the current Malaysian retirement age is among the lowest globally, they are allowed to access their Employees Provident Fund (EPF) savings at the age of 55, which is earlier than in many countries.

"The government should take a holistic approach to reviewing the retirement age. Various initiatives should be considered, such as revising EPF withdrawal policies and offering specific incentives to encourage contributions."

Niaz said raising the retirement age would increase the workforce as more individuals would remain employed for a longer period, which can potentially alleviate some of the pressures on social security systems.

However, he said the economic impact would depend on workforce quality, particularly on how an increased retirement age would influence labour productivity.

"While the transition to a higher retirement age needs to be managed carefully to address potential challenges related to workforce quality and productivity, the overall effect is expected to benefit economic growth."

Niaz said from an economic growth perspective, one advantage is enhanced financial security in old age through increased retirement savings and consequently higher

disposable income among seniors.

Additionally, he said this situation positively impacts growth by alleviating the fiscal burden on taxpayers, particularly in terms of financing old age pensions.

"However, there are potential drawbacks to consider. One is the risk of brain drain as Malaysian youths and recent graduates might seek employment opportunities abroad due to reduced domestic job vacancies."

"Rising life expectancy due to the demographic shift necessitates retirement age reforms. If more jobs are not created, younger workers may experience new uncertainties in terms of higher short-term unemployment and delayed entry to the workforce."

Socio-Economic Research Centre economist Lee Heng Guei said experienced mature employees play a stabilising role in diverse work environments, where their expertise contrasts with younger colleagues who prioritise work-life balance.

"Older workers contribute significantly through mentoring, training, and transferring essential skills and knowledge."

"Extending their tenure beyond 60 years provides substantial benefits to companies during transitional periods, ensures continuity and maximises the use of their extensive experience."

Lee said considering whether now is the right time to raise the retirement age is not a matter of immediate timing but of overall readiness.

"Globally, many countries have retirement ages of between 55 and 60, but it might be more practical for Malaysia to start with an increase to 62 years and then raise it over a few years to 65."

"This approach is similar to what Singapore did, where its retirement age increases were implemented gradually rather than in one step. Flexibility is key and allows for adjustments as needed."

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THE SUN
Tarikh: 25 JUN 2024

Eastern zone *Madani* drive on July 5

Sun
25/6

PUTRAJAYA: The Eastern Zone *Madani Rakyat* 2024 programme covering Pahang, Terengganu and Kelantan will be held at Dataran Sayangi Kuantan, Pahang for three days starting July 5.

The programme is organised by the Prime Minister's Office through the Performance Acceleration and Coordination Unit in strategic collaboration with the Rural and Regional Development Ministry and the Pahang state government.

The *Madani Rakyat* programme secretariat, in a statement, said the programme is a continuation of the *Madani* government one year anniversary programme held at the National Stadium, Bukit Jalil in December last year.

"This programme is extended to the state level by zones to provide opportunities for local communities to understand, observe and evaluate the new policies and initiatives implemented by the *Madani* government to enhance the well-being of the people," the statement read.

It said the Eastern Zone programme focuses on activities related to public welfare, unity agenda, Technical and Vocational Education and Training, career carnivals, tourism, agriculture and food security, rural welfare, as well as exhibitions and services related to Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics education and artificial intelligence. - Bernama

THE SUN
Tarikh: 25 JUN 2024

Ministry formulating bill, policy for seniors ^{SMM 26/6}

KUALA LUMPUR: The Women, Family and Community Development Ministry is still in the process of drafting a bill to protect and safeguard the interests of the elderly in the country, its minister Datuk Seri Nancy Shukri told the Dewan Rakyat yesterday.

She said the ministry is also formulating a policy for senior citizens.

Nancy was replying to a supplementary question from Datuk Mas Ermieyati Samsudin (PN-Masjid Tanah) on the measures taken by the government to introduce the bill during the oral question and answer session.

In response to Mas Ermieyati's original question about the number of elderly people in care homes, including those operated by the private sector, she said as of March this year, a total of 1,066 people were in Rumah Seri Kenangan and 43 in Rumah Ehsan, managed by the Social Welfare Department nationwide.

She also said a total of 506 unregistered childcare centres had been detected as of May 31.

Nancy said the ministry employed various approaches, including issuing warning notices and taking enforcement actions under the Child Care Centre Act 1984, such as issuing fines and compounds as well as carrying out prosecution.

"Based on the investigation papers opened and completed, eight childcare centres were sealed, 17 were issued compounds and two have been brought to court between 2020 and March 2024."

She was replying to a question from Datuk Idris Ahmad (PN-Bagan Serai), who inquired about the number of unregistered childcare centres.
- Bernama

THE SUN
25 JUN 2024
Tarikh:

'AI can help Malaysia enhance productivity'

Sun
25/6

► Its potential to simplify complex and mundane tasks boosts output, opens doors to creativity and strategic thinking: Tengku Zafrul

BY HAYATUN RAZAK
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KUALA LUMPUR: Malaysia has the potential to enhance its overall productivity by adopting artificial intelligence-related technology, according to Minister of Investment, Trade and Industry (MITI), Tengku Datuk Seri Zafrul Tengku Abdul Aziz.

"AI's potential to simplify complex and mundane tasks boosts productivity and opens doors to creativity and strategic thinking. A study on generative AI on skilled workers indicated that AI improved performance by around 40%," he said in his speech at the launch of Productivity Report 2024 yesterday. The speech was read out by ministry secretary-general Datuk Hairil Yahri Yaacob.

Alongside AI is the move to enhance research and development (R&D) to increase economic complexity. This is by producing and delivering competitive products and services, enabling companies and economies to enter higher-value global chains, he added.

"In R&D, process innovation is equally as important as product innovation and critical to boosting productivity," Tengku Zafrul said.

Intertwining with technology adoption is the shift towards an industry-driven, high-skilled workforce in which digital skills and competencies are among the talents' main characteristics, he added.

"The government is committed to creating more high-skill jobs as investments flow into the country.

"With this, we aim for higher salaries and



Hairil speaking at the launch of Productivity Report 2024 yesterday.

better incentives for the Malaysian workforce," he said.

Alongside technology and talent, he said, the government is responsible for creating a supportive regulatory environment to affect productivity improvement.

Tengku Zafrul said regulations should facilitate growth, reducing unnecessary compliance costs and resource use for businesses.

"MITI is committed to implementing our Zero Red Tape initiative to prosper our investment and business climate," he said.

Meanwhile, MPC director-general Zahid Ismail said Productivity Report 2024 recommended emphasis on regulation, technology and talent to multiply productivity growth.

"Policymakers and regulators should apply the Good Regulatory Practice (GRP) approach to facilitate business, trade and investment. Businesses, especially small and medium enterprises, should adopt technology and modern management practices to increase efficiency and minimise costs. Policymakers, companies, workers, and academicians must work together on labour market reform to ensure a demand-driven skilled workforce."

"We are optimistic about achieving the productivity target of an average 3.7% annual growth rate between 2021 and 2025, with a productivity level of RM107,170 per employee in 2025, as outlined in the Mid-Term Review of the 12th Malaysia Plan," said Zahid.

Malaysia is ranked 34th out of 67 countries in the 2024 World Competitiveness Ranking (WCR), dropping seven places from its 27th ranking last year.

The WCR Report released by the International Institute for Management Development ranked Malaysia fourth among Asean countries after Singapore, Thailand, and Indonesia.

Singapore emerged as the most competitive economy in the world, climbing four places from the previous year to surpass Switzerland in second place.

The report said that Malaysia fell behind in almost all assessed areas, including economic performance, government efficiency, and business efficiency.

It maintained its 35th position in 2023 for the infrastructure area.

Malaysia maintained its second-place ranking in the price sub-factor and ranked 11th in tax policy, although both positions decreased by one place from last year.

THE SUN
Tarikh: 25 JUN 2024

Ringgit ends flat versus dollar

Sun
25/6

THE ringgit ended flat against the US dollar yesterday after trading in a narrow range throughout the day, said an analyst.

At 6pm, the ringgit was trading at 4.7110/7150 versus the greenback compared with last Friday's close of 4.7110/7145.

Bank Muamalat Malaysia Bhd chief economist Dr Mohd Afzanizam Abdul Rashid told Bernama that overall, the US dollar is likely to stay resilient with the US Dollar Index (DXY) continuing to hover above 105 points.

The US Federal Reserve (Fed) has signalled a more hawkish stance with an interest rate increase on the horizon.

He said this has increased demand for the US dollar as higher interest rates attract more investors seeking better returns.

On Thursday, the final estimate for the US GDP for the first quarter of 2024 will be announced. Consensus estimates pegged the GDP growth at 1.3%, which is similar to the second estimate released by the Bureau of Economic Analysis.

Meanwhile, the ringgit closed mostly lower against a basket of major currencies.

It appreciated against the Japanese yen to 2.9508/9535 from Friday's close of 2.9648/9671, but fell vis-a-vis the British pound to 5.9679/9730 from 5.9594/9638 previously, and declined versus the euro to 5.0511/0554 from 5.0394/0431.

The ringgit was also mostly weaker against its Asean peers.

It rose versus the Thai baht to 12.8383/8541 from 12.8495/8639 on Friday.

However, the local currency slid against the Singapore dollar to 3.4811/4843 from 3.4785/4814 at the end of last week, fell vis-a-vis the Indonesian rupiah to 287.3/287.7 from 286.3/286.7 previously, and eased against the Philippine peso to 8.01/8.02 from 8.00/8.02.

THE SUN

Tarikh: 25 JUN 2024

Call for public input on new education plan

Sun
25/6

PUTRAJAYA: The Education Ministry encourages the public to contribute suggestions for creating a new education development plan to replace the Malaysia Education Blueprint 2013-2025, which is nearing its end.

"The ministry welcomes suggestions from various parties in the form of memorandums or proposal papers to help produce a comprehensive and holistic future education plan," it said.

The ministry said a portal for gathering input on the Future of Malaysian Education 2026-2036 has been developed and suggestions can be submitted until Dec 31 this year. The portal can be accessed at <https://www.moe.gov.my/pelanpendidik-an2026/public>. – Bernama

THE SUN
Tarikh: 25 JUN 2024

More than 600 crashes in 2024 involved heavy vehicles

Sun
25/6

► First quarter of year recorded 287 collisions that resulted in fatalities, 95 in serious injuries and 270 in light injuries

KUALA LUMPUR: A total of 652 crashes involving heavy vehicles such as container lorries, lorries and express buses were reported in the first quarter of 2024, revealed Deputy Transport Minister Datuk Hasbi Habibollah to the Parliament yesterday.

He said of this number, 287 crashes resulted in fatalities, 95 in serious injuries and 270 in light injuries, Bernama reported.

"The crashes involving heavy vehicles in Malaysia were caused by the negligence of drivers such as

driving while drowsy, driving over the speed limit and vehicles not being properly maintained."

He was responding to a question from Syed Ibrahim Syed Noh (PH-Ledang) who wanted to know the statistics of crashes involving heavy vehicles in the first quarter of the year as well as measures taken to reduce its number.

Hasbi said the Transport Ministry through its agency, the Road Transport Department, always carries out studies on the best strategy to deal with the issue of heavy vehicles that do

not comply with the rules and cause road collisions.

"One of the main actions implemented to address the issue is increasing enforcement activities by the department involving the regulation of vehicle load and speed limits for heavy vehicles in addition to operating 53 enforcement stations (or weighing stations) nationwide. The department is also supplied with 75 units of portable weighing equipment for enforcement purposes."

He said for last year, a total of 45,015 notices were issued involving offences such as carrying dangerous loads and overloading, adding that as of April this year, a total of 9,214 notices had been issued.

Hasbi said the ministry and Public Works Ministry are also in the final stages of developing the "High Speed - Weigh in Motion" system to enable

heavy vehicle enforcement activities to be conducted in real time and automatically without the need for the vehicle to stop to be weighed.

He said the system is expected to be able to expand the reach and improve compliance, further strengthening the effectiveness of enforcement on vehicle load limit regulations as well as be a long-term solution in dealing with the issue of heavy vehicle load limits.

Responding to an additional question by Syed Ibrahim about the action taken on the issue of heavy vehicles stopping on the sides of the highways near the rest and recreation areas, Hasbi said summonses were issued to those who parked vehicles in unauthorised areas.

He expressed hope the Malaysian Highway Authority and the operator of the North-South Expressway (Plus) would build more parking lots for lorries these areas.

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Top five nutrition tips for women to aid healthy ageing

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► Key nutrients and ingredients such as calcium, vitamin D, HMB and YBG can help females as they grow older

AGEING is a natural process that every woman goes through. Although the passing decades are accompanied by bodily wear and tear, good nutrition and an active lifestyle can help women mitigate declines in muscle and joint health, bone density and skin integrity.

What is healthy ageing?

The World Health Organisation defines healthy ageing as "the process of developing and maintaining the functional ability that enables well-being in older age. In simple terms, the goal of healthy ageing is not only to live longer but also to enjoy life as much as possible in your later years.

How does ageing affect a woman's body?

At the onset of menopause, around 45 to 55 years old, muscle mass, bone mass and collagen in a woman's body start to decline rapidly — a decade or so earlier than they do for men. Women may experience any of the following bodily changes per decade:

- Joint health: Up to 20% loss of cartilage
- Bone mineral density: Up to 10% decline
- Skin health: Up to 30% loss of structural proteins
- Muscle health: Up to 8% loss of muscle mass

Research indicates that nutritional deficiency can exacerbate these declines, but eating nutritious foods and maintaining an active lifestyle can help reduce them.

Nutrition for older adults

Focus on getting adequate amounts of the following nutrients to help keep your body going strong well into your golden years:

1. HMB

HMB is produced naturally by the body from the metabolism of the amino acid, leucine obtained from foods such as dairy products, soybeans, beef and chicken. HMB works to slow muscle breakdown. One study found that HMB supplementation was an effective strategy to help preserve muscle mass in older populations. While HMB is found in some foods in trace amounts, it is hard to secure the beneficial effects of HMB through food alone. An oral nutritional supplement that includes HMB and protein can be a good way to support muscle health.

2. Protein

Protein is necessary to maintain muscle mass and reduce age-related muscle loss. As per the Recommended Nutrient Intakes for Malaysia, it is advised that a healthy adult consume 1g of protein for every kilogram of their body weight daily. It is notable, however, that some studies on lean muscle mass and strength in older adults suggest improved outcomes among those who consume more protein than the recommended daily amount. For example, one study found that people with higher protein intake were more likely to maintain physical function over the span of two decades than those with lower protein intake. This positive association was especially evident



Ageing well is possible and can foster a better quality of life and more independent living.

in women. Many older adults do not consume enough protein on a daily basis due to a lack of appetite, dental issues, altered taste buds and trouble swallowing. In addition, metvitaminabolic rates decline as you age, meaning you need fewer calories. These combined factors can reduce the quality of nutrition for older adults. You can help support your muscle health as you age by getting plenty of lean protein from poultry, fish, dairy, soy foods, beans and legumes.

3. Vitamin D

Vitamin D is a crucial nutrient for bone health, which is especially important as women age. It is one of the key nutrients for building bone, as it promotes calcium absorption. One meta-analysis found that daily vitamin D and calcium supplementation reduced the risk of hip fracture in older adults by 16%. The recommended dietary allowance (RDA) for vitamin D is 15 micrograms for women ages 51 to 65 years old and 20 micrograms for women older than 65 years old. Older adults are more likely to be deficient because ageing skin has a more difficult time making vitamin D from sunlight. They may also spend less time outdoors than younger adults and use sunscreen as recommended by healthcare professionals, which means they have less natural exposure to the vitamin. Vitamin D can be challenging to obtain through food alone. Your body makes it through sunlight, but it is also found in fortified milk and juice, egg yolks and fatty fish such as salmon and sardines.

4. Calcium

Estrogen is an essential hormone for bone remodeling — the process of new bone tissue replacing old bone tissue — and decreased estrogen levels during menopause can lead to rapid bone mineral density loss. As such, women are at

higher risk of developing osteoporosis due to these hormonal shifts. Calcium is required for muscles to function well, and it is one of the mineral building blocks that gives bones their structure and strength. The RDA for calcium for women ages 50 and older is 1,200 milligrams. Adequate calcium, along with vitamin D, is critical for long-term protection against post-menopausal bone mineral loss. Research found that higher dietary calcium intake in women 60 years and above was positively associated with increased lumbar bone mineral density compared to those with lower calcium intake. Dairy products are a good choice for calcium, but not all dairy has equal amounts of the mineral. Dairy milk, for example, usually has far more calcium than yogurt. Including foods such as dried anchovies, almonds and other nuts to your healthy eating plan may help to mitigate bone density loss associated with lowered estrogen levels.

5. YBG

YBG, or Yeast Beta-Glucan, is a type of fibre found in yeast. YBG is clinically-proven to help strengthen the immune system, and is associated with improved markers of immunity, such as higher levels of circulating immune cells, increased antibody production that strengthens mucosal immunity to help protect against pathogen entry. Research has shown that YBG can reduce the risk of upper respiratory tract infections.

Ageing well is not a myth. By staying active and making informed choices about the foods you eat, you can help support a healthy ageing process and live better longer.

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