



PENGURUSAN PEMANTAUAN KERATAN AKHBAR MBSJ
TARIKH: 25 SEPTEMBER 2024 (RABU)

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Youths make up bulk of Klang Deepavali bazaar applicants

MORE than half of the applicants for Klang's upcoming Deepavali bazaar are aged under 30.

Klang Royal City Council (MBDK) Licensing Department director Zate Aziana Abdul Rahman said the local council had received only 101 applications despite it having identified 138 lots for trading.

The Little India Deepavali Bazaar will be held from Oct 17 to 30.

"Through the bazaar, we aim to create job opportunities and give small businesses a chance to flourish.

"We want to see more Indians aged 35 and under becoming entrepreneurs," she said.

The fee for each lot is RM580 as well as a refundable deposit of RM400 to ensure compliance with rules including maintaining cleanliness.

"For those selling fireworks, the fee is RM1,500 along with a refundable deposit of RM400.

"Those who applied to sell fireworks are required to obtain



Zate says the council received 101 applications and will open the surplus 37 lots next week.

an approval letter from South Klang Police headquarters."

She said the drawing of lots would be done tomorrow and all applicants would be informed of the outcome.

"All will get trading lots if there are no issues with their applications.



A view of Lorong Tingkat where Klang's Little India Deepavali Bazaar will be held. — KK SHAM/The Star

"There is a surplus of 37 lots and we will open it next week for a new batch of applications," she said.

Zate said the trading lots would be set up along Lorong Tingkat and the lane next to the

Mydin store.

"Shopkeepers facing Jalan Tengku Kelana or Lorong Tingkat are allowed to display their goods on the five-foot way, but MBDK will charge them RM10 per day.

"All of the 21 traders in Lorong Tingkat who have been operating under the Traders Management Programme since 2018, will be allowed to trade at the same lot," she added. — By EDWARD RAJENDRA

THE STAR

25 SEP 2024

Tarikh:.....

Dengkil villagers fail to join RA ^{29/9/24}

Application to register new association rejected, say residents of Kg Ampar Tenang

By VIJENTHI NAIR
vijenthi@thestar.com.my

SOME 40 residents of Kampung Ampar Tenang in Dengkil, Selangor, claim to have been denied membership into the village's residents association (RA).

One of them was K. Murugan, who has lived in the village all his life.

Murugan said his name, along with 41 others, were submitted to Persatuan Penduduk Kampung Ampar Tenang early this year.

"The names were submitted through a joint application that was passed to the association's treasurer N. Ganesan.

"A couple of days later, we were informed that the application was rejected, without any reason given," he said.

When contacted by *StarMetro*, Ganesan said the RA committee had concerns about the applicants' motives.

Another rejected applicant was R. Arumugam, who once served as a Sepang municipal councillor.

He said many of the villagers were not aware of the RA's existence, although it was registered five years ago.

"I was never invited to join or attend any annual general meeting.

"Villagers, particularly the youth, have organised various events and welfare programmes even before the RA was established," he said.

Arumugam said one of the villagers' achievements was the gazetting of a once neglected burial site.

"There was no management and many graves were unmarked.

"It was a real concern for us but with the gazetting,



Arumugam says many villagers are not aware of the existence of the RA formed five years ago.

we are working at managing it better.

"We have also pooled resources to improve infrastructure like roads and bridges, as well as organised community events," he said.

He cited the villagers helping to build a temporary bridge last year following the collapse of the old one, with it being used for several months until a permanent bridge was constructed by the authorities.

Arumugam said the villagers had major plans to improve conditions in the village, especially its drainage and irrigation systems but that would require significant funding.

"We need an RA to spearhead initiatives, but the committee is not allowing us in," he said.

"We tried to register a new RA with a slightly different name, 'Persatuan Penduduk Kampung Baru Ampar Tenang', but were rejected by the Selangor Registrar of Societies (ROS)."

StarMetro reached out to the



(From left) Murugan and another resident, V. Ganesan, standing on the bridge in Kampung Ampar Tenang that replaces the temporary one which the villagers had helped to build. — Photos: ART CHEN/The Star

Selangor ROS but had yet to receive a reply at press time.

A minimum of seven people are allowed to register as an association with ROS.

When contacted for comments on the matter, lawyer Derek Fernandez said alternative naming strategies might enable the rejected villagers to set up another association.

"You cannot have two associations with the same or similar name in the same area.

"A village called 'Kampung Baru Ampar Tenang' does not exist either.

"But the villagers can consider registering under the name 'Persatuan Pemilik dan Penyewa Kampung Ampar Tenang' instead," he said.



Arumugam says several villagers managed to get this previously neglected burial site gazetted, for better management.

THE STAR

Tarikh: 25 SEP 2024

KL needs more elevated walkways

KUALA LUMPUR, like many other modern cities, faces increasing traffic congestion and challenges in providing efficient last-mile connectivity for commuters.

While public transport systems such as the MRT, LRT, Monorail, KTM Komuter and buses serve large portions of the city and the suburbs, first- and last-mile connectivity remains an elusive goal.

A cost-effective solution to this growing issue is an elevated walkway network similar, for example, to the Moorgate elevated walkways of London in the United Kingdom.

I fondly recall using this walkway daily at lunch time as well as during the long and warm summer months.

With this in mind, more efforts are required to establish a comprehensive elevated walkway network in Kuala Lumpur.

Encouraging walking as part of a daily routine is an essential component of healthy living.

By providing safe, comfortable and well-connected pedestrian

They can be a safe, cost-effective urban connectivity solution



The elevated pedestrian bridge connecting KLCC to Pavilion Mall in Kuala Lumpur. — Filepic

pathways, elevated walkways can help reduce dependency on motor vehicles for short trips.

The habit of walking not only improves physical health but also contributes to reduction in air pollution and carbon emissions, creating a more sustainable and liveable city.

Elevated walkways offer a

safe and sheltered route for pedestrians, away from busy traffic, and can be designed to be accessible for people of all ages and abilities.

In a tropical city like Kuala Lumpur, these walkways would provide much-needed protection from the elements, encouraging more people to walk no matter



STARMETRO MAIL

EMAIL metro@thestar.com.my
MAIL The Editor, Metro Mail,
Level 3A, Menara Star, 15,
Jalan 16/11, Section 16,
46350 Petaling Jaya.

Letters must carry the sender's full name, address, telephone number and signature. A pseudonym may be included. Letters may be edited for clarity, brevity and other requirements.

the weather.

While large-scale projects like the MRT3 are crucial for the city's long-term development and connectivity, a more immediate and cost-effective solution can be found in elevated pedestrian paths.

These walkways can be designed to integrate with exist-

ing public transport systems, offering seamless connectivity from stations to offices, shopping malls and residential areas.

By implementing well-thought-out pedestrian networks, the need for additional road infrastructure may be reduced, alleviating congestion in busy areas.

By investing in a comprehensive elevated walkway network, the government has an opportunity to leave a long-lasting legacy of accessible, healthy and sustainable urban transport infrastructure.

With relatively lower costs, shorter construction timelines and potential to enhance pedestrian mobility, it can offer practical and immediate improvements to Kuala Lumpur's urban fabric and foster a healthier, more environmentally friendly lifestyle for its residents.

YD
Saudi Arabia

THE STAR

Tarikh: 25 SEP 2024

By LEW GUAN XI
lewguanxi@thestar.com.my

A GROUP of squatters who have been staying for decades on a piece of government-owned reserve land in Jalan Broga, Semenyih in Selangor, have received compensation from a developer towards their relocation.

During a meeting at the Mutiara Hills sales gallery, five families from the settlement each received a cheque for RM50,000.

A cheque for RM15,000 was also presented to the caretakers of three Hindu shrines there.

Kajang Municipal Council (MPKJ) councillor Ramachandran Arjenan said compensation for the families was intended to help them buy or rent new homes.

He said the RM15,000 was to compensate for losses incurred by the relocation of the shrines, with the amount evenly distributed for the three shrines.

He added that the relocation was necessary to make way for the developer to build infrastructure in line with MPKJ's standards and requirements.

"The developer is required to prepare facilities such as an access road, drainage and other utilities as outlined in the planning approval that has been granted.

"Based on the development plan, the houses of the squatters would have been affected," said Ramachandran.

According to developer Boustead Balau Sdn Bhd, its Mutiara Hills township project would take up some 485.6ha of land and be divided into three sectors.

The construction of Sector 1 is divided into five phases.

The developer is required to build an access road that connects to 274 units of double-storey terrace houses in Phase 1.

Constraints were faced due to the presence of the settlement located about 300m from the sales gallery.

Ramachandran said a resolution between the squatters and Boustead Balau was achieved in a meeting on Aug 7, after years of engagements, discussions and negotiations.

"They (the squatters) wanted housing or cash compensation for relocation and the developer stepped forward to resolve the issue.

"Initially, they were required to vacate the land by Oct 7 at the latest.

"However, to give them time to find a new home and prepare for Deepavali celebrations, we have agreed to extend the evacuation deadline to Nov 19, which is two months from the issuance of the cheques," he said.

Semenyih squatters receive compensation

Families affected by development's infrastructure projects also given additional time to vacate land



Rajen (centre) and Ramachandran (back row, second right) with families from the settlement and representatives from PDT Hulu Langat, MPKJ and Boustead Balau at the cheque presentation. — SAMUEL ONG/The Star

"The developer is required to prepare facilities such as an access road, drainage and other utilities as outlined in the planning approval. Based on the development plan, the houses of the squatters would have been affected."

Ramachandran Arjenan

He confirmed that no further extension would be granted.

He added that the five families held a

temporary occupation licence (TOL) that expired in the 1970s and were never renewed.

Meanwhile, Ramachandran said he would work to relocate a cowshed located on the reserve land.

"A meeting between MPKJ, Hulu Langat District and Land Office (PDT Hulu Langat), the developer and the owner of the cowshed will soon be held.

"I will try to get the owner a temporary occupation licence and help with the relocation," he said.

Also present were Hulu Langat MP Mohd Sany Hamzan's special officer Rajen Munusamy and representatives from Boustead Balau, PDT Hulu Langat and MPKJ.

Rajen, who is also a former MPKJ councillor, presented the compensation cheques to the families.

THE STAR

Tarikh: 25 SEP 2024

THE culture of corruption within the Immigration Department at the Kuala Lumpur International Airport (KLIA) has been a flagrant shame for years.

Tourism, Arts and Culture Minister Datuk Seri Tiong King Sing was spot on in exposing it last year when he went to the aid of a Chinese national who claimed that she was asked to pay RM3,000 to be allowed entry into the country.

Tiong has been vindicated by the latest arrests of 60 people under three Malaysian Anti-Corruption Commission (MACC) special operations, Ops Pump, Ops Pump 2.0 and Ops Setting, stretching over six months.

They were part of a syndicate that reportedly brought in large numbers of foreign workers illegally.

The detained included 49 immigration staff, among them an officer with 20 years' service. The others nabbed were a police officer, two agents and eight holders of "mule" accounts.

Another key player in the racket, a Bangladeshi, remains at large but is believed to be still in Malaysia.

MACC chief commissioner Tan Sri Azam Baki said investigations were conducted over six months with information gathered from various sources in KLIA.

Tiong's arrival at KLIA's Terminal 1 on June 30 last year became a racially-tinged controversy after a news portal reported that he had "barged into the restricted zone without a permit" to free the woman.

She was an assistant to a senior official of a Chinese government-owned TV station who came to do her PhD at a local university.

While her superior was allowed in, the woman was told that her travel documents were not in order and that she had to pay

A deep-rooted culture of corruption

Besides changes in work processes, much more needs to be done to eradicate the rot in the Immigration Department.

M. VEERA PANDIYAN



Along the watchtower

RM3,000 first.

However, she was allowed entry after the minister's intervention.

Tiong later disclosed that the intercession was the fifth he was involved in. Dismissing claims that he went to the restricted arrival area illegally, he said he had a valid pass and that he was also accompanied by MACC officers.

A day later, he highlighted the "culture of corruption" among a number of immigration officers and urged the MACC to investigate the wanton abuse of power at the country's main entry point.

The then Immigration Department director-general, Datuk Ruslin Jusoh, pledged that a thorough probe would be carried out.

Last week, Azam Baki said a

senior officer in his 40s was believed to be the main arranger of the "counter setting" method to enable those without proper documents to go through designated lanes after paying bribes through agents.

The man, who supposedly influenced 50 officers into being part of the syndicate, was detained on Sept 5 when he and several others tried to flee the country.

The modus operandi was quite simple. Agents would contact the immigration officers in the group via social media for a suitable date to bring foreigners into Malaysia.

The officers would give a date and time, and the agents would send photographs and passport details.

The officers would assign a particular counter for immigration clearance, after which the agents would send the foreigners to their planned destinations. The bribe for each foreigner let through the special lanes was between RM200 and RM2,500.

The syndicate used secret code names, some of which can be construed as racial slurs, for the different nationalities. The amount of bribes also differed between them.

Those from Bangladesh were referred to as "budak sekolah"

(school boy) and the cost to bring them in was the highest at RM2,500 per person.

Myanmar nationals were "junta" and the rate of RM1,500. Pakistanis were "carpet" and cost RM1,300 each. For foreigners from India, termed "kicap (soya sauce)" or "roti canai", the rate was RM800. For those from China, "limau" (orange), the rate was RM350; Vietnamese (lychee or Nguyen) was RM350; and Indonesians "salak" (snake fruit) was RM300.

Yemenis and Uzbeks had no code names, but the rate was RM1,000 and RM500, respectively.

For the corrupt officers, the pickings were indeed highly lucrative before they were caught.

The total amount of cash seized during the three operations was RM1.49mil, including US\$9,900 and 5,470 Thai baht.

A total of RM518,250, stashed in a suitcase, was seized from a Grade KP22 female immigration officer's home in Pahang.

Another RM248,443 was hidden under the bed of a Grade K19 immigration officer in Melaka.

For the record, the salary of Grade KP22 immigration officers is between RM2,200 and RM4,700 per month, and Grade KP 19 officers are paid between RM1,300 and RM4,000.

The MACC has also frozen 215 bank accounts with RM3.6mil, in addition to impounding nine cars, 13 motorcycles, 27 pieces of gold, 12 luxury watches and 75 pieces of jewellery.

The onus on cleaning up the rot in the department is now on its newly-appointed director-general Datuk Zakaria Shaaban.

Like his predecessors, he has also vowed that there would be no compromise in acting against any officers who abuse authority or violate laws.

Recognising the department's 11 vulnerabilities, he has promised to implement comprehensive reforms based on recommendations from MACC.

"We have taken note of the weaknesses that enabled the syndicate to bring in foreigners via the counter setting method," he said.

"Among other things, the MACC has proposed that Immigration officers, including supervisors, stationed at the counters of KLIA Terminals 1 and 2 be barred from using their mobile phones while on duty to prevent contact by outside parties."

The MACC has also proposed regular staff rotation and that the schedule for assigning officers at the counters be finalised only after officers have reported for duty, with assignments of counters decided by staff from elsewhere.

Clearly, the new DG must know that much more needs to be done to extirpate the deep-rooted culture of corruption in the department.

Media consultant M. Veera Pandiyan likes this observation of Irish philosopher Edmund Burke: Among a people generally corrupt, liberty cannot long exist. The views expressed here are the author's own.

THE STAR

Tarikh: 25 SEP 2024

Not visiting as real tourists

KLIA 'counter setting' involved letting in illegal job seekers

By MAZWIN NIK ANIS
mazwin@thestar.com.my

PUTRAJAYA: The "counter setting" controversy at the KL International Airport Terminal 1 and 2 mainly involved letting through foreign nationals from certain countries using tourist visas when their actual intention was to seek employment in Malaysia, says Tan Sri Azam Baki.

"Counter setting activities have resulted in widespread abuse of tourist visas for illegal employment and allowing foreigners to enter and work in the country rather freely," the Malaysian Anti-Corruption Commission chief commissioner told *The Star*.

Counter setting refers to foreigners who enter the country without proper document inspection and go through pre-determined lanes at entry points.

Records and analysis showed that only a small number of visitors from these countries would

come to Malaysia for tourism purposes, while the majority wanted to find jobs, said Azam.

"There are certain conditions which foreigners wanting to enter Malaysia have to meet, including having proof of accommodation, a return ticket, as well as how they plan to finance their stay."

"However, by going through special counters, these foreigners need not show proof for these conditions," he said.

It is learnt that the counter setting services were largely used by foreign nationals from Bangladesh, Nepal and Myanmar.

Azam said these activities have contributed to issues such as an influx of foreigners, including those who had been blacklisted.

"That is why it is important that these activities be put to an end. All parties must work with the MACC to eradicate counter setting services," he said.

Recently, a man believed to be the main suspect working with a

syndicate to bring foreigners through a special counter at Terminal 1 was arrested.

The suspect in his 40s has been remanded for seven days until Sept 28 after magistrate Mohd Sabri Ismail allowed the application submitted by the MACC at the Shah Alam Magistrate's Court on Sept 22.

Azam said the Immigration Department should look into extending the use of Foreign Workers Centralised Management System (FWCMS) to its counters at entry points.

"Foreigners who have applied for work will have their details recorded in the system. If the Immigration counters are linked to the system, officers can immediately identify those who are trying to enter the country without having had their work permit application approved."

"These individuals should not be allowed to enter the country until and unless their work per-

mits have been approved," he said.

The MACC had proposed that Immigration officers, including supervisors, stationed at the counters of Terminal 1 and 2 should not have access to their mobile phones while on duty to prevent them from being contacted by outside parties.

The commission had identified 11 main problems and weaknesses involving the Immigration Department, which led to syndicates being able to bring in foreigners via the counter setting method.

Following concerns raised by the MACC, the Immigration Department said it is committed to implementing extensive reforms to its work processes and service delivery.

FORMORE:

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THE STAR

Tarikh: 25 SEP 2024

Crow-culling operation hits the wrong mark

By BERNARD SEE
north@thestar.com.my



GEORGE TOWN: A crow-culling operation using shotguns in the seaside resort of Batu Ferringhi had to be halted after a woman stepped in, screaming for it to be stopped.

The woman, a local, was especially upset because the shooting was done at around 7pm when the birds come to roost.

It is also a time when tourists throng shops and eateries below the trees.

An official from Penang Island City Council (MBPP), who declined to be named, said the woman used her handphone to record the operation on Sunday.

"A woman approached the team at the intersection of Jalan Sungai Emas.

"She shouted for the operation to stop while recording a video.

"Following this, the senior officer in charge decided to halt the operation.

"No adverse incident occurred during the shooting.

"Crow control measures were taken to reduce the crow population, which has been causing disturbances to the public based on complaints received," he said on Monday.

He said that the team was closely monitored by two policemen to ensure the angle of the shots would not endanger people or property.

Crows, along with pigeons and rats, are listed as public pests with the potential of spreading disease to people.

Although crow-culling by way of shooting is done nationwide, several residents in Batu Ferringhi were upset about it.

Another woman, who wanted to be known only as Loong, voiced her frustration about the timing and manner of the operation.

"They could not have picked a worse time. It was dinner time, and there were children running around.

"What kind of impression will foreign tourists have about Batu Ferringhi and Penang if there can be open shootings in the middle



Street hunt: A shooter aiming at the crows in Batu Ferringhi.

of a busy street?

"The crows are here because we humans are the problem, throwing trash everywhere and

creating an environment for them to breed. There are more humane ways to control the crow population," she said.

THE STAR

Tarikh: 25 SEP 2024

'Help survivors get justice'

Womens' groups urges removal of barriers to file cases at tribunal

By HO JIA WEN
and JUNAID IBRAHIM
newsdesk@thstar.com.my

PETALING JAYA: Womens' groups have urged the government to make e-filing a reality soon when it comes to lodging complaints related to sexual harassment, even as the Tribunal for Anti-Sexual Harassment (Tags) enters its sixth month of operations.

Currently, filing of the complaints can only be done in Putrajaya physically, and hearings are still held there.

All Women's Action Society (Awam) senior advocacy officer Amanda Shweeta Louis said survivors from other states face significant barriers, from having to travel long distances to file complaints and attend hearings.

"This can deter individuals from pursuing their cases, ultimately hindering their access to get justice," she said.

The Women, Family, and Community Development Ministry had said that they are working on an e-filing system, but it would only take off next year.

Amanda urged that the e-filing system be expedited, as she says justice cannot continue to be delayed.

She suggested that the e-filing system be user-friendly and include language options in Malay, Mandarin, Tamil and indigenous languages to ensure broader accessibility.

"We encourage survivors of sexual harassment to report their experiences and seek justice through the tribunal," she said, adding that they have been actively assisting survivors to complete forms and writing letters to Tags.

She noted that Tags has brought more accessibility to justice that was previously difficult for survivors of sexual harassment.

A Guide to the Tribunal for Anti-Sexual Harassment

What is sexual harassment?

Sexual harassment is any unwanted sexual behaviour - either verbal, non-verbal, visual, gestures or physical - towards another person that is offensive, humiliating or a threat to their well-being.

What cases can be filed?

Only sexual harassment cases occurring on or after March 8, 2024, can be filed, following the establishment of the tribunal on the same date under the Anti-Sexual Harassment Act 2022.

Who can file?

Victims of sexual harassment. If below 18, can be filed by their guardian.

Where to file?

Tribunal for Anti-Sexual Harassment
Women, Family and Community Development Ministry,
Putrajaya.

How to file a case?

1. Complainants can go to the tribunal office and fill out Form 1.
2. Fill out four copies, and the tribunal will affix the seal and two copies of the form will be returned to you. Pay a fee of RM30.
3. One copy of Form 1 will be sent to the respondent in 14 days.
4. Respondents can file a defence with Form 2.
5. The hearing date and time will be set.
6. Depending on the decision, an award is to be given within 60 days, and the respondent must comply within 30 days.
7. The maximum amount that can be awarded is RM250,000.

Complainants can also reach out to women's groups for support and guidance: Sarawak Women for Women Society, All Women Action Society, Women's Aid Organisation and more.
Source: Women, Family and Community Development Ministry

"It offers an alternative to the complex and often intimidating traditional court system, such as civil suits," she said.

The tribunal started operating officially on March 8 in line with the provisions of the Anti-Sexual Harassment Act 2022.

However, a representative from the Sarawak Women for Women Society noted the lack of awareness about the tribunal.

"Uptake is slow, though nine cases in six months is encouraging," she said, adding that Tags should also start physical counters in Sabah and Sarawak to

make the tribunal more accessible, especially for those less familiar with digital platforms.

"It would be ideal for cases to be heard in the Bornean states," she said.

Women's Centre for Change Penang programme director Karen Lai said some sexual harassment situations were not covered by existing laws.

"If there were lewd comments made to a group, or where a hostile environment is taking place, it might not be covered by the tribunal.

"Complainants cannot file

against companies or organisations either," she said.

Lai also noted that many are also unsure about what constitutes sexual harassment.

"The key defining term is unwanted action. It can be touching, talking or showing something that is sexual.

"This also includes unwanted physical touch, jokes about rape or showing lewd images," she said.

Lai also highlighted procedural issues that could traumatise victims.

One such requirement is the need for complainants to send the complaint form to the respondent personally, or through registered post.

"The subject matter can involve highly volatile situations of abuse.

"Subjecting the victim to seeing the alleged perpetrator again is highly traumatising and potentially risky," she said.

She added that the tribunal also has absolute discretion to conduct proceedings under the Anti-Sexual Harassment Act, which raises concerns about accountability and transparency.

"For instance, how do tribunal members conduct themselves and treat parties to the proceedings?

"Is the language used sensitive and respectful?" she said.

Association of Women Lawyers president Daniella Zulkifli said while virtual filing and hearings are ways to improve access, there is the need for more physical tribunal locations in remote areas as well as for a "mobile tribunal".

Going ahead, she said Tags can improve protection for victims and get organisations to be held responsible for providing a safe environment for employees.

Given its powers, Tags itself could also benefit from having a monitoring mechanism for internal check and balance, she added.

THE STAR

25 SEP 2024

Tarikh:.....

Tags taking steps to widen access

PETALING JAYA: The Tribunal for Anti-Sexual Harassment (Tags) is taking steps to make it more accessible to anyone in need, says the tribunal president.

Tags president Syafeera Mohd Said mentioned that this is in accordance with Section 12(3) of the Act, which states that "the Tribunal may sit in one or more sittings on such day and at such time and place as the president may determine."

"Additionally, the Women, Family, and Community Development Ministry (KPWKM) has appointed tribunal members from Sarawak and Sabah."

"Therefore, the tribunal's proceedings can take place in both states for any complaints made by residents there," she told *The Star*.

Currently, Tags is only operating from the ministry's office in Putrajaya.

Several parties have expressed

"Tags accepts all types of cases categorised as sexual harassment ... in any form."

Syafeera Mohd Said

hope that the tribunal will be widely accessible to all, regardless of their location.

In response, Syafeera said while KPWKM is focusing on the operations and reinforcement of the Tags office, an online system is also in the pipeline.

"As a proactive measure to address this issue, the ministry is in the process of developing an

e-Tribunal System for Anti-Sexual Harassment (e-TAGS system) to enable victims of sexual harassment to make complaints online, overcoming geographical constraints.

"The e-TAGS system is expected to be operational next year," she added.

To date, Tags has received a total of nine cases – with three resolved and awarded, while the remaining cases are ongoing.

Syafeera explained that in accordance with Section 20(1) of the Act, if a complaint of sexual harassment is successfully proven on the balance of probabilities, the Tags panel will issue an award containing one or more actions.

This section stipulates that the respondent may be required to issue a statement of apology to the complainant, and if the acts were committed in public, the apology must be broadcasted.

On compensation or damages, the respondent may be liable for a sum of up to RM250,000 for any loss or damage incurred by the complainant as a result of sexual harassment.

The affected parties may also be required to attend any programmes deemed necessary by the panel.

"Tags accepts all types of cases categorised as sexual harassment, which is defined as any unwanted conduct of a sexual nature, in any form – whether verbal, non-verbal, visual, gestural, or physical – directed at a person that is reasonably offensive, insulting or constitutes a threat to their well-being," Syafeera said.

Those subjected to sexual harassment can file complaints in Putrajaya or seek further information about Tags through Talian Kasih at 15999 or WhatsApp to 019-2615999.

THE STAR

25 SEP 2024

Tarikh:.....

'Anak Kita' programme to combat school dropout issue

PUTRAJAYA: To address the school dropout issue involving Malaysian students, the Education Ministry (MOE) and the Finance Ministry (MOF) will launch the Anak Kita programme this Friday.

The ministries said the programme focuses on improving literacy and numeracy among primary school students, improving the Sijil Pelajaran Malaysia (SPM) passing rate and reintegrating dropouts into the education system.

"The learning recovery programme that will be implemented includes targeted interventions, remedial classes, teacher

training and digital learning tools," the ministries said in a joint statement, as reported by Bernama.

According to the statement, the programme would be managed by the two ministries in collaboration with the Hasanah Foundation, corporate organisations, civil society organisations, public universities, government-linked companies and international organisations.

Education Minister Fadhlin Sidek said in the statement that based on the Examination Board's statistics, 10,160 (or 2.65%) of the 395,870 registered SPM candi-

dates did not sit for the national examination last year.

"Of the number of students who sat (for the SPM exam) in the same year, 6.5% of the total number of candidates, equivalent to 25,735 students, were not eligible to receive their SPM certificate," she said in elaborating the dropout situation in Malaysia.

Finance Minister II Datuk Seri Amir Hamzah Azizan said that efforts to deal with dropouts are essential because education is the basis for human capital development, an asset to the country's economic prosperity.

He said in the statement that

possessing an SPM qualification is critical to empowering the youth and ensuring productive participation in the workforce.

"A good education can build a generation with a good personality and intellectual skills that are much needed to drive a sustainable economy as outlined in the Madani Economy framework.

"Through the improvement of education, the people can get out of the poverty crisis and raise the family's economic level for the long term in line with the Malaysian Government's desire to eradicate poverty in this country," he said.

THE STAR

25 SEP 2024

Tarikh:.....

Over 34 million e-invoices received from taxpayers

KUALA LUMPUR: The Inland Revenue Board (LHDN) has received more than 34 million e-invoices from taxpayers since the implementation of the system on Aug 1.

Jaffar Tukiran, who is LHDN Assistant Director of the E-Invoice Division, Tax Operations Department, said this is a positive development.

He said it showed that taxpayers supported and heeded the implementation of the e-invoicing system.

"Even more impressive is that the figure covers the first, second and third phase taxpayers. It means some (taxpayers) have already utilised it before their phase (was implemented).

"The response is very positive. We are also very excited because the number is increasing. This is something to be proud of.

"Taxpayers are very supportive and very compliant with the implementation of e-invoice," Jaffar said after appearing as a guest on Bernama Radio Tax Clinic programme, which discussed "Tax Compliance in the



Moving in the right direction: Good response shows that taxpayers supported and heeded the e-invoicing system, while LHDN assures it is always committed to ensuring the security of its customers' data.

Digital Era".

The first phase of e-invoicing involved large companies with an annual sales turnover of over

RM100mil, while the second phase will start on Jan 1 next year and involve taxpayers with annual income or sales ranging from

RM25mil to RM100mil.

In the third phase, which will start on July 1 next year, the system will be mandatory for all

taxpayer categories.

During the live broadcast, Jaffar said LHDN was aware of taxpayers' concerns about the security of their data and the extent to which the system was safe to use.

He stressed that the board is always committed to ensuring the security of its customers' data.

"The LHDN has experience in providing e-services and over 20 years of experience in delivering e-filing to taxpayers. We will use all available expertise to ensure that all data submitted by taxpayers is secure.

"(In addition) LHDN is also subject to the rules and guidelines provided by the government. Even within the LHDN itself, we have ICT (information and communication technology) security guidelines that need to be followed.

"We will also be ISO-audited and so on," Jaffar added.

He advised taxpayers not to worry about data security because the LHDN will ensure taxpayers' data remains safe with the agency and the government.

THE STAR

Tarikh: 25 SEP 2024

9th 25/9
Terima suapan RM133,000, denda RM170,000

MELAKA - Bekas Ketua Perancang Bahagian Pengurusan Pengangkutan Pos Malaysia Bhd didenda RM170,000 atas 17 pertuduhan menerima suapan RM133,000 di Mahkamah Sesyen di sini pada Selasa.

Hakim Elesabet Paya Wan menjatuhkan hukuman itu terhadap tertuduh, Hazri Mokhtar, 45, yang membuat pengakuan bersalah atas semua pertuduhan.

Berdasarkan pertuduhan pilihan, dia didapati gagal melaporkan kepada Suruhanjaya Pencegahan Rasuah Malaysia (SPRM) atau Polis Diraja Malaysia (PDRM) berhubung penerimaan wang berjumlah RM133,000.

Suapan berkenaan sebagai upah membantu mempercepat bayaran oleh Pos Malaysia Bhd kepada Syarikat OnxOn Logistik Sdn Bhd bagi kerja-kerja *Outsourcing Linehaul* dan *Shuttle Services* di Sabah dan Sarawak.

Kesalahan itu didakwa



Hazri (kiri) keluar dari Mahkamah Sesyen Melaka pada Selasa.

dilakukan melalui 17 transaksi berasingan di Bank Simpanan Nasional (BSN) di Jalan Munshi Abdullah dan Maybank di Jalan Hang Tuah antara 8 Julai 2020 hingga 11 Oktober 2021.

Dia didakwa mengikut Seksyen 25(1) Akta SPRM 2009 yang memperuntukkan hukuman denda tidak melebihi RM100,000 atau penjara tidak melebihi 10 tahun atau kedua-duanya jika sabit kesalahan.

Timbalan Pendakwa Raya, Fatin Nur Athirah Zairudin memohon mahkamah mengenakan

hukuman setimpal terhadap tertuduh sebagai memberi pengajaran terhadapnya dan masyarakat.

Tertuduh yang diwakili peguam, Mohammad Amir Aizat Abd Rani merayu hukuman ringan dengan alasan tertuduh kini hanya berniaga kecil-kecilan dan menyara tiga anak berusia antara lapan hingga 20 tahun.

Mahkamah kemudian menjatuhkan hukuman denda RM10,000 bagi setiap pertuduhan atau 51 bulan penjara jika gagal melunaskan denda berkenaan.

SINAR HARIAN
Tarikh: 25 SEP 2024

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Subsidi bersasar RON95 boleh pengaruhi trend inflasi - Pakar

KUALA LUMPUR - Kadar inflasi Malaysia yang berkurangan kepada 1.9 peratus pada Ogos 2024 telah menimbulkan kebimbangan mengenai implikasi mekanisme subsidi bersasar RON95.

Ketua Ekonomi Bank Muamalat Malaysia Bhd, Dr Mohd Afzanizam Abdul Rashid menegaskan sumbangan besar RON95 sebanyak 5.0 per peratus kepada Indeks Harga Pengguna (IHP) meletakkannya sebagai faktor utama dalam menentukan arah aliran inflasi pada masa hadapan.

Menurutnya, walaupun kadar inflasi dicatatkan lebih rendah (pada Ogos 2024), sebahagian besarnya disumbangkan oleh kestabilan harga dalam sektor makanan dan minuman (F&B).

Oleh itu, beliau memberi amaran

bahawa rancangan pemansuhan subsidi RON95 mampu memberi tekanan ke atas harga jika tidak dikendalikan dengan teliti.

"Memandangkan penggunaan RON95 agak tinggi dalam kalangan rakyat Malaysia, sebarang pelarasan subsidi mesti ditentukur dengan tepat," katanya kepada *Bernama*.

Mohd Afzanizam turut menegaskan kepentingan melaksanakan langkah mitigasi berkesan seperti pemindahan tunai terus kepada isi rumah yang layak bagi memastikan mereka terjejas mendapat sokongan.

"Komunikasi yang jelas mengenai langkah-langkah ini adalah penting untuk mengurangkan kebimbangan orang ramai tentang kemungkinan kenaikan harga.

"Selain itu, kerajaan perlu memastikan tingkah laku penetapan

harga dalam kalangan perniagaan diteliti bagi mengelak kenaikan harga berlebihan yang membolehkan mereka memperoleh keuntungan luar biasa," katanya.

Tambah beliau, ketika Malaysia bersedia menghadapi perubahan ekonomi tersebut, pihak pengurusan subsidi RON95 akan memainkan peranan penting dalam mengekalkan inflasi yang stabil, selain memastikan keyakinan pengguna terhadap pasaran.

Pada Isnin, Jabatan Perangkaan Malaysia (DoSM) berkata, inflasi Malaysia berkurangan kepada 1.9 peratus pada Ogos 2024, didorong oleh kenaikan harga pada restoran dan utiliti serta makanan lebih mahal, walaupun IHP menokok kepada 133.2 berbanding 130.7 dicatatkan pada bulan sama 2023.

SINAR HARIAN

Tarikh:2.5 SEP. 2024....

PERNIAGAAN

Pelancongan dan hospitaliti mesra Muslim mempunyai potensi ekonomi yang besar di negara ini.



4.5 juta pelancong Muslim lawat Malaysia

Jana RM14.7 bilion tahun lalu, potensi ekonomi yang besar

KUALA LUMPUR

8H 25/9
Malaysia merekodkan kemasukan 4.5 juta pelancong Muslim dengan menjana pendapatan RM14.7 bilion tahun lalu.

Ketua Pengarah Pusat Pelancongan Islam (ITC), Nizran Noordin berkata, perkembangan itu membuktikan pelancongan dan hospitaliti mesra Muslim mempunyai

potensi ekonomi yang besar di negara ini.

Menurutnya, berdasarkan data, populasi penduduk dunia merekodkan dua bilion umat Islam dengan 1.1 bilion merupakan penduduk negara anggota Pertubuhan Kerjasama Islam (OIC) iaitu gabungan 57 negara Islam seluruh dunia.

"Seramai 255 juta orang merupakan umat Islam di negara ASEAN, manakala 350 juta populasi Muslim di negara minoriti Muslim.

"Pasarnya amat besar. Mastercard-CrescentRating (Indeks Perjalanan Muslim Global (GMTI)) memberi unjuran pada 2028, pasaran kembara akan diterajui oleh 230 juta orang yang beragama Islam.

"Ia menjana perbelanjaan sebanyak AS\$225 bilion (RM987 bilion)," katanya ketika menjadi tetamu

program Apa Khabar Malaysia, terbitan *Bernama TV* bertajuk Malaysia Destinasi Mesra Muslim Terbaik.

Sebagai usaha menggalakkan sektor tersebut, Nizran berkata, ITC menyediakan Jaminan dan Pengiktirafan Pelancongan dan Hospitaliti Mesra Muslim (MFAR) bagi tempat penginapan.

Tambah beliau, kira-kira 220 Pemandu Pelancong Mesra Muslim (MFTG) turut disediakan.

Sementara itu, menurut Nizran, ITC juga menganjurkan Bulan Pelancongan Islam (ITM) bermula pada 16 Ogos sehingga 30 September ini, dengan tawaran antaranya melibatkan kategori penginapan dan pakej pelancongan, pelancongan masjid, kecantikan dan spa, tarikan pelancongan serta acara dan pameran.

SINAR HARIAN

25 SEP 2024

Tarikh:

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25/9

Pesara kerajaan rugi RM1.24 juta ditipu pelaburan saham IPO

JOHOR BAHRU - Seorang pesara kerajaan kerugian RM1.24 juta selepas terperdaya dengan pelaburan saham pratawaran awam permulaan (IPO), pada Jun lepas.

Ketua Polis Johor, Datuk M Kumar berkata, lelaki berusia 70 tahun itu terlihat iklan pelaburan saham IPO di Facebook menawarkan keuntungan tinggi.

Menurutnya, warga emas itu kemudiannya berurusan dengan seorang individu bagi mendapatkan maklumat lanjut menerusi aplikasi WhatsApp.

"Mangsa yang tertarik dengan tawaran kemudian membuat pelaburan pertama dan menerima keuntungan seperti dijanjikan pada Julai lepas, menyebabkan dia percaya bahawa pelaburan itu adalah betul.

"Seterusnya, mangsa dijanjikan akan menerima pulangan lebih tinggi sekiranya menambah pelaburan dan dia kemudiannya melakukan beberapa transaksi pembayaran berjumlah RM1.24 juta ke beberapa akaun yang diarahkan," katanya dalam kenyataan pada Selasa.

Kumar berkata, mangsa mengesyaki dia telah ditipu selepas tidak menerima sebarang pulangan atas pelaburan tambahan, sebaliknya dia terus didesak untuk menambah lagi jumlah pelaburannya. - *Bernama*

SINAR HARIAN
Tarikh: 25 SEP 2024

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25/9

Ganjaran untuk pelajar TVET

Penetapan gaji premium cecah RM4,000 mampu tangani isu kekurangan tenaga kerja mahir

Oleh **RAIHAM MOHD SANUSI**
SHAH ALAM

Penetapan gaji premium pada kadar antara RM2,500 hingga RM4,000 kepada graduan serta lepasan program Pendidikan dan Latihan Teknikal dan Vokasional Negara (TVET) diyakini mampu menangani isu kekurangan tenaga kerja mahir yang berlaku dalam pelbagai industri di negara ini.

Setiausaha Agung Pertubuhan Kebangsaan Pekerja Berkemahiran (Bella Mahir), Mohammad Rizan Hassan berkata, ini kerana inisiatif berkenaan akan memotivasikan lebih ramai individu untuk mendaftar dalam program TVET dan membangunkan kecekapan yang diperlukan oleh majikan.

"Gaji premium ini juga akan menyumbang kepada peningkatan ke-

seluruhan kualiti pendidikan TVET kerana ia berfungsi sebagai ganjaran ketara untuk pelajar dan institusi yang mengutamakan kecemerlangan dalam latihan.

"Dengan mengiktiraf dan memberi ganjaran kepakaran yang diperolehi melalui program TVET, majikan bukan sahaja menarik bakat terbaik tetapi juga menggalakkan budaya pembelajaran sepanjang hayat dan pembangunan kemahiran," katanya kepada *Sinar Harian*.

Majlis TVET (MTVET) pada Isnin dilaporkan bersetuju menetapkan gaji premium kepada lepasan TVET pada kadar antara RM2,500 hingga RM4,000 sebulan.

Timbalan Perdana Menteri, Datuk Seri Dr Ahmad Zahid Hamidi berkata, penetapan kadar gaji itu bertujuan menarik lebih ramai lepasan TVET untuk bekerja di sektor berkaitan.

Sementara itu, Presiden Kongres Persatuan Akademik Malaysia (MAAC), Profesor Dr Ahmad Ismail berkata, seiring dengan penetapan gaji premium berkenaan, institusi TVET perlu memastikan graduan yang dilahirkan berkualiti dan dilengkapi dengan kemahiran diperlukan untuk mendapatkan pekerjaan bergaji tinggi.

"Kelayakan masuk ke program TVET juga harus diteliti atau mesti ada program



MOHAMMAD RIZAN



AHMAD



Institusi TVET perlu memastikan graduan yang dilahirkan berkualiti dan dilengkapi dengan kemahiran diperlukan.

khas persediaan ke program berkenaan untuk menyediakan pelajar berkecayaan.

"Bagi menghasilkan graduan TVET, industri juga memerlukan pelajar yang

layak, pengajar berkecayaan dan peralatan yang mencukupi serta memenuhi kehendak latihan khusus mengikut bidang kepakaran universiti berkaitan," ujarnya.

SINAR HARIAN
Tarikh: 25 SEP 2024

Lindungi masyarakat daripada rokok dan vape

Kuala Lumpur: Akta Kawalan Produk Merokok Demi Kesihatan Awam 2023 (Akta 852) bakal memberi perlindungan kepada masyarakat terutama kanak-kanak daripada bahaya produk berkenaan (rokok dan rokok elektronik atau vape).

Ketua Penolong Pengarah Kanan, Bahagian Kawalan Penyakit, Kementerian Kesihatan Malaysia (KKM) Dr Muaz Sayuti berkata, akta itu ditunggu-tunggu oleh ibu bapa dan guru kerana

dapat mengawal semua jenis produk rokok yang ada dalam pasaran berikutan ia turut melibatkan soal pendaftaran produk itu dengan KKM.

"Pendaftaran dalam konteks ini bukan seperti ubat-ubatan yang jika berdaftar dengan KKM maknanya selamat. Pendaftaran melalui akta ini supaya dapat pengawasan dan mengetahui kandungan yang berada dalam produk itu.

"Jika mempunyai kesan kepada kesihatan, akta ini

ada kuasa untuk tarik kebenaran terhadap produk terabit," katanya ketika menjadi tetamu pada program Ruang Bicara terbitan Bernama TV, kelmarin.

Beliau berkata, KKM berusaha untuk meluluskan akta itu kerana perlu ada akta khas yang mengawal produk rokok dan vape sedangkan Peraturan-Peraturan Kawalan Hasil Tembakau (PPKHT) 2004 berada di bawah Akta Makanan 1983.

"PPKHT berada di bawah

Akta Makanan 1983, umum mengetahui bahawa rokok dan vape bukan produk makanan. Disebabkan itu, KKM berusaha untuk meluluskan satu akta yang boleh mengawal produk berbahaya itu.

"Dengan lulusnya akta ini, ia merupakan kejayaan besar buat kami di KKM serta masyarakat. Pelbagai perkara berkaitan akan diperincikan dalam peraturan itu terutama kepada golongan kanak-kanak," katanya.

HARIAN METRO

Tarikh: 25 SEP 2024

TERPERDAYA IPO DALAM TALIAN

Pesara rugi RM1.2 juta

HM
25/9

Oleh Izz Laily Hussein
am@hmetro.com.my

Johor Bahru

Seorang pesara rugi lebih RM1.2 juta selepas terperdaya dengan tawaran pelaburan saham tawaran awam permulaan (IPO) dalam talian, dua bulan lalu.

Ketua Polis Johor, Datuk M Kumar berkata, pihaknya menerima laporan daripada lelaki warga tempatan berusia 70 tahun itu, kelmarin yang mendakwa menjadi mangsa penipuan pelaburan saham itu selepas melihat satu iklan di Facebook awal Jun lalu.

"Mangsa mendakwa iklan pelaburan saham yang dilihat itu menawarkan pulangan tinggi dengan kadar segera dan mangsa terus berurusan dengan seorang individu melalui aplikasi WhatsApp bagi mendapatkan maklumat lanjut berkaitan pelaburan dan keuntungan yang ditawarkan.

"Selepas mendengar penjelasan yang diberikan serta keuntungan yang bakal diperoleh, mangsa berminat untuk membuat pelaburan.

"Pada Julai lalu, mangsa membuat pelaburan pertama dan menerima keuntungan seperti dijanjikan menyebabkan mangsa

percaya pelaburan itu betul," katanya menerusi kenyataan media, semalam.

Menurutnya, mangsa mendakwa dijanjikan menerima pulangan yang lebih tinggi sekiranya menambah pelaburannya.

Katanya, mangsa yang percaya dengan janji itu membuat beberapa lagi transaksi pembayaran sehingga RM1,244,202 ke beberapa akaun bank yang diarahkan.

"Warga emas itu mengesyaki ditipu selepas tidak menerima sebarang pulangan atas pelaburan tambahan yang dibuat, sebaliknya terus didesak untuk menambah lagi jumlah pelaburannya," katanya.

HARIAN METRO

Tarikh: 25 SEP 2024

Pastikan kualiti ^{HM} 25/9 graduan TVET sejajar dengan gaji premium

Putrajaya: Institusi latihan Pendidikan dan Latihan Teknikal dan Vokasional Negara (TVET) awam serta swasta perlu memastikan jaminan kualiti graduan sejajar dengan penetapan kadar gaji premium untuk golongan berkenaan.

Setiausaha Agung Pertubuhan Kebangsaan Pekerja Berkemahiran (Belia Mahir), Mohammad Rizan Hassan berkata, institusi terbabit harus memastikan graduan mereka dilengkapi dengan kemahiran diperlukan untuk mendapatkan pekerjaan bergaji tinggi dalam pasaran kompetitif.

"Majikan sentiasa mencari calon terlatih yang boleh menyumbang secara berkesan kepada organisasi mereka. Graduan TVET boleh mendapat gaji premium kerana mereka memiliki kemahiran praktikal dan pengetahuan yang menuntut oleh industri.

"Langkah jaminan kualiti dalam institusi TVET ini termasuk pembangunan kurikulum yang sejajar dengan keperluan industri, ahli fakulti yang berpengalaman, kemudahan latihan terkini dan perkongsian industri untuk peluang latihan secara langsung," katanya menerusi kenyataan semalam.

Kelmarin, Majlis Pendidikan dan Latihan Teknikal dan Vokasional Negara (MTVET) bersetuju menetapkan gaji premium kepada lepasan bidang itu pada kadar antara RM2,500 hingga RM4,000.

Timbalan Perdana Menteri, Datuk Seri Dr Ahmad Zahid Hamidi berkata, penetapan kadar gaji itu melebihi daripada pendapatan minimum RM1,500 yang ditetapkan kerajaan ketika ini.

Katanya, ketetapan dibuat itu adalah bagi menarik lebih ramai lepasan TVET untuk bekerja di sektor berkaitan.

Mengulas lanjut, Mohammad Rizan berkata, langkah itu membantu memastikan graduan TVET bersedia untuk bekerja dan memenuhi piala industri, yang membawa kepada potensi pendapatan lebih tinggi.

Justeru, beliau berkata, penetapan gaji premium berupaya menyumbang kepada peningkatan keseluruhan kualiti pendidikan TVET kerana ia berfungsi sebagai ganjaran ketara untuk pelajar dan institusi yang mengutamakan kecemerlangan dalam latihan.

"Tambahan pula, gaji premium untuk graduan TVET meningkatkan persepsi pekerjaan teknikal dan vokasional, menonjolkan nilai dan kepentingan pekerja mahir dalam pasaran kerja yang kompetitif masa kini.

"Dengan mengiktiraf dan memberi ganjaran kepada mereka yang diperoleh melalui program TVET, majikan bukan sahaja menarik bakat terbaik tetapi juga menggalakkan budaya pembelajaran sepanjang hayat dan pembangunan kemahiran," katanya.

HARIAN METRO
Tarikh: ...2.5 SEP. 2024.

Kosmo 25/9

MAHA 2024 catat 5.5 juta pengunjung

PETALING JAYA – Menteri Pertanian dan Keterjaminan Makanan, Datuk Seri Mohamad Sabu mendedahkan jumlah sebenar pengunjung yang hadir pada Pameran Pertanian, Hortikultur dan Agropelancongan Malaysia (MAHA) 2024 adalah seramai 5,510,356 orang.

Menerusi hantaran di Facebook beliau semalam, Mohamad turut berterima kasih kepada semua yang terlibat dalam menjayakan pameran dwitahunan

terbabit.

"Jumlah pengunjung MAHA 2024 adalah seramai 5,510,356 orang. Tahniat kepada semua yang terlibat menjayakannya," tulisnya ringkas.

Terdahulu, MAHA 2024 yang bertemakan 'Harvesting Tomorrow Where Dreams Blossom' mencerminkan aspirasi dan matlamat Kementerian Pertanian dan Keterjaminan Makanan untuk menuai kejayaan pada masa hadapan dengan usaha dan ino-

vasi yang diterokai ketika ini.

Mohamad berkata, MAHA 2024 menetapkan lapan fokus utama iaitu Sambutan 100 Tahun MAHA, Pertanian, Kelestarian, Modal Insan Madani, Teknologi, Agro Pelancongan, MAHA Go Global dan Pelaburan.

Sebanyak 16 negara menyertai pameran agrikultur terbesar di ASEAN itu antaranya Jepun, Thailand, Brunei, Indonesia, China, Rusia, Amerika Syarikat dan beberapa negara Eropah.



ORANG ramai tidak melepaskan peluang hadir ke MAHA 2024 di Taman Ekspo Pertanian Malaysia (MAEPS), Serdang minggu lalu.

KOSMO

Tarikh: 25 SEP 2024

Kosmo 25/9

Jerat pelaburan IPO, pesara rugi RM1.24 juta

JOHOR BAHRU - Seorang pesara berputih mata selepas kerugian lebih RM1.24 juta akibat terpedaya dengan tawaran pelaburan saham Initial Public Offering (IPO), Julai lalu.

Ketua Polis Johor, Datuk M. Kumar berkata, mangsa, lelaki warga tempatan berusia 70 tahun tertarik membuat pelaburan pada Julai lalu selepas melihat iklan mengenainya di Facebook Jun lalu, sebelum menghubungi nombor tertera.

"Iklan pelaburan saham itu mendakwa mereka menawarkan pulangan tinggi dengan kadar

**AWAS
SCAM**



segera sehingga mangsa berniat untuk membuat pelaburan.

"Setelah diyakinkan, mangsa mula membuat pelaburan dalam jumlah kecil sebelum menerima keuntungan sebagaimana dijan-

jikan, menyebabkan mangsa percaya pelaburan itu betul.

"Mangsa kemudian membuat beberapa lagi transaksi pembayaran berjumlah RM1,244,202 ke beberapa akaun bank berlainan," katanya di sini semalam.

Tambahnya, mangsa menyedari ditipu apabila pelaburan dibuat tidak menerima pulangan seperti dijanjikan.

"Selain itu, mangsa terus didesak untuk membuat pelaburan baharu sebelum membuat laporan polis. Kes disiasat mengikut Seksyen 420 Kanun Keseksaan," jelasnya.

KOSMO

Tarikh: 25 SEP 2024

Belanjawan Selangor 2025 dibentang November

Kosmo
25/9

SHAH ALAM – Kerajaan negeri akan membentangkan Belanjawan Selangor 2025 pada pertengahan November depan.

Menteri Besar, Datuk Seri Amirudin Shari berkata, sesi belanjawan tahunan itu sepatutnya dijadualkan berlangsung pada 8 November ini.

Namun, jelas beliau, tarikh itu dijangka berikutan kebanyakan pegawai agensi kerajaan negeri perlu menghadiri satu forum khas di Mesir.

"Perbincangan lanjut mengenai perkara tersebut telah dijalankan dan pihak kita telah pun bersiap sedia bagi pembentangan berkenaan.

"Insya Allah sesi belanjawan akan dibuat pada minggu kedua atau ketiga November nanti," katanya ketika ditemui selepas merasmikan sesi dialog Belanjawan Selangor 2025 di Pusat Konvensyen Setia City (SCCC), di sini semalam.

Menurut Amirudin, kedudukan ekonomi yang kini rancak diyakini menjadi daya bantu kepada kerajaan negeri untuk menghadapi tahun 2025.

"Selain itu, kita mahu mengimbangkan semua kerancangan pembangunan dengan pelbagai program kebajikan yang akan terus diperkasakan.

"Fokus perbincangan iaitu kemungkinan kita berdepan bencana atau krisis dan penggunaan teknologi kecerdasan buatan (AI) bagi menjadi paksi kehidupan pintar rakyat," ujarnya.

Tambah beliau, pihaknya menerusi siri-siri dialog itu juga akan mengenal pasti inisiatif dan nilai tambah yang bakal dilaksanakan kerajaan negeri tahun depan.

Pada Belanjawan 2024, Selangor memperuntukkan RM2.53 bilion merangkumi RM1.33 bilion atau 52.6 peratus perbelanjaan mengurus dan RM1.2 bilion atau 47.4 peratus perbelanjaan pembangunan.

Belanjawan tersebut mengalami defisit berjumlah RM330 juta dengan mengambil kira jangkaan hasil negeri berjumlah RM2.2 bilion dan anggaran perbelanjaan RM2.53 bilion.

KOSMO
Tarikh: 25 SEP 2024

Bajet 2025: Tingkatkan pemilikan rumah mampu milik

PETALING JAYA – Pemain industri hartanah berharap kerajaan meneruskan usaha meningkatkan akses kepada pemilikan rumah untuk rakyat, yang dilihat akan mengukuhkan sektor hartanah dalam pembentangan Bajet 2025 pada 18 Oktober ini.

Pengurus Negara Malaysia, PropertyGuru dan iProperty, Kenneth Soh berkata, kemampuan memiliki rumah terus menjadi kebimbangan utama bagi ramai orang, terutamanya pembeli rumah kali pertama.

Jelasnya, komitmen kerajaan terhadap projek perumahan mampu milik seperti Program Perumahan 1Malaysia (PRIMA) dan Projek Perumahan Rakyat (PPR) penting dalam meningkatkan penawaran rumah mampu milik.

"Menurut Kajian Sentimen Pengguna PropertyGuru Malaysia Separuh Tahun Pertama 2024, PRIMA adalah pilihan utama bagi 23 peratus responden, terutamanya mereka yang berpendapatan sederhana dan dalam lingkungan usia 30-an.

"Rumah Selangorku dipilih oleh 15 peratus responden, terutamanya mereka yang sudah berkahwin dan mempunyai anak, manakala PPR dipilih oleh 14 peratus responden yang datang daripada kumpulan berpen-



KEDIAMAN PPR antara yang menjadi pilihan rakyat terutama dari golongan berpendapatan rendah.

dapatan rendah," katanya.

Tambah beliau, penemuan itu menekankan keperluan untuk inisiatif perumahan yang disesuaikan bagi memenuhi keutamaan pelbagai kumpulan demografi di negara ini.

"Kami menggesa kerajaan un-

tuk terus bekerjasama dengan institusi kewangan bagi menawarkan pakej pinjaman yang fleksibel, kadar faedah menarik, serta mengkaji semula dasar dari semasa ke semasa agar selari dengan permintaan perumahan yang berubah," katanya.

KOSMO

Tarikh: 25 SEP 2024

Inflasi dijangka kekal rendah

KOSMO
25/9

PETALING JAYA – Inflasi Malaysia dijangka kekal rendah untuk sepanjang tahun ini, dengan pasukan penyelidikan pasaran dan perbendaharaan CIMB menurunkan unjuran purata inflasi 2024 kepada 1.9 peratus, daripada 2.3 peratus sebelum ini.

Untuk tempoh lapan bulan pertama tahun ini, purata inflasi Malaysia berada pada paras 1.8 peratus.

Menurut CIMB, pihaknya menjangkakan kadar inflasi terus rendah dalam tempoh beberapa bulan akan datang, antaranya disebabkan pengukuhan ringgit dan penyederhanaan harga minyak mentah global yang mengurangkan tekanan kos import ke atas perniagaan.

"Harga runcit diesel di Semenanjung, yang diapungkan pada 10 Jun 2024 telah turun beberapa kali dengan jumlah kumulatif 40 sen/liter kepada RM2.95/liter pada masa ini.

"Sementara itu, petrol RON97 turut menyaksikan penurunan sebanyak 28 sen/liter sejak 29 Ogos lalu, kepada RM3.19/liter ketika ini," katanya dalam nota kajian yang dikeluarkan di sini.



PENURUNAN harga minyak mentah global telah menyebabkan harga jualan runcit diesel di Semenanjung turun beberapa kali kepada paras RM2.95 seliter ketika ini. – GAMBAR HIASAN

Jabatan Perangkaan kelmarin mengumumkan kadar inflasi negara sebanyak 1.9 peratus

pada Ogos lalu, lebih rendah berbanding Vietnam (3.5 peratus), Filipina (3.3 peratus), Indonesia

(2.1 peratus) dan Republik Korea (dua peratus).

CIMB menambah, pihaknya

menganggarkan subsidi bagi petrol RON95 telah menurun daripada RM1.10/liter pada hujung Jun lalu kepada sekitar 70 sen/liter ketika ini, yang mengurangkan tekanan secara ketara ke atas bajet kerajaan.

Jelasnya, perkembangan itu memberi lebih masa buat kerajaan, yang berhasrat menggunakan pangkalan data Padu bagi mekanisme subsidi RON95 bersasar untuk mengurangkan kesan ke atas segmen yang terdedah dan meminimumkan risiko pembalikan dasar.

"Belanjawan 2025, yang dijadualkan dibentangkan pada 18 Oktober mungkin memberi petunjuk tentang pelan rasionalisasi subsidi seterusnya untuk pelbagai barangan termasuk lanjutan subsidi diesel bersasar di Malaysia Timur, rasionalisasi subsidi RON95 dan mekanisme harga gula baharu.

"Memandangkan risiko inflasi dan prospek pertumbuhan ekonomi yang positif, kami menjangka Bank Negara Malaysia akan mengekalkan Kadar Dasar Semalaman (OPR) pada tiga peratus untuk tahun 2024 dan 2025," ujarnya.

KOSMO

Tarikh: 25 SEP 2024

Reformasi menyeluruh tangani isu integriti pegawai Imigresen



Oleh Noor Mohamad Shakli Hameed
bhrencana@bh.com.my

Suruhanjaya Pencegahan Rasuah Malaysia (SPRM) berjaya mengenal pasti 11 masalah dan kelemahan utama membabitkan Imigresen hingga membuka ruang kepada sindiket membawa masuk warga asing menggunakan modus operandi *counter setting*.

Ketua Pengarah Imigresen baharu dilantik, Datuk Zakaria Shaaban wajar mengambil kesempatan menggunakan maklumat itu untuk melaksanakan reformasi menyeluruh bagi membersihkan nama baik dan memulihkan imej jabatan.

Penemuan wang tunai hampir RM800,000 di kediaman dua pegawai Imigresen berred rendah dalam serbuan membabitkan sindiket itu di Pahang dan Melaka menjadikan RM1.49 juta wang tunai disita terhadap penguat kuasa yang bersekongkol bukan sahaja mengejutkan, bahkan cukup membimbangkan.

Umumnya kita boleh merumuskan kecurangan berlaku disebabkan faktor manusia membabitkan integriti, sikap dan tanggungjawab pegawai ketika melaksanakan tugas.

Justeru, inisiatif drastik perlu dilaksanakan untuk mengurangkan interaksi secara langsung pegawai Imigresen bertugas di kaunter daftar masuk negara dengan warga asing.

Penulis menyokong penuh saranan *Minda Pengarang* akhbar ini mencadangkan penggunaan teknologi digital termasuk kecerdasan buatan (AI)

boleh mewujudkan sistem automasi sepenuhnya di kaunter daftar masuk termasuk memperluaskan penggunaan kiosk layan diri.

Sudah tiba masanya kerajaan menyediakan kemudahan penggunaan kamera badan dalam kalangan anggota dan pegawai Imigresen untuk mengukuhkan lagi integriti pasukan berkenaan.

Penggunaan kamera badan oleh polis dan kastam ternyata sangat berkesan, sekali gus menjadi *fear factor* supaya tidak berlaku salah guna kuasa dan salah laku. Bagi melaksanakan cadangan sistem automasi penuh dan penggunaan kamera badan, kita memerlukan peruntukan kewangan besar, tetapi kerajaan diharap dapat meletakkan keutamaan kepada keperluan mendesak ini.

Teliti semua 11 kelemahan didedah SPRM

Sebagai langkah segera menjayakan reformasi menyeluruh, Jabatan Imigresen perlu meneliti semua 11 kelemahan didedah SPRM terutama kelonggaran dalam aspek kawalan dalaman ketika bertugas menyebabkan pegawai Imigresen mudah di-dekati ejen sindiket, pusingan tempat kerja bagi pegawai Imigresen di Lapangan Terbang Antarabangsa Kuala Lumpur (KLIA) Terminal 1 dan 2 tidak sistematis serta kelemahan pemantauan dan penyeliaan hingga menyebabkan kelompongan dalam kaedah kerja.

Ketiga-tiga kelemahan itu boleh diatasi segera tanpa membabitkan kos kerana hanya membabitkan soal keberkesanan proses pemantauan dan penyeliaan pegawai atasan, selain penetapan sistem pusingan kerja lebih telus, sistematis serta efisien.

Sudah tiba masanya sistem penyeliaan diperkasakan dan mana-mana penyelia gagal melaksanakan tugas dengan berkesan wajar diambil tindakan tatatertib atas dasar cuai.

Justeru, rombakan pertama perlu bermula dengan penggantian pegawai penyelia sedia ada, selain mempertingkatkan integriti, tetapi timbul persoalan bagaimanakah ejen sindiket mengetahui jadual bertugas anggota di kaunter hingga boleh melaksanakan aktiviti dengan begitu licik dan terancang seperti mewujudkan kaunter khas?

Disyorkan, kaedah penetapan jadual tugas dirombak seperti dibuat pihak ketiga berkecuali dan hanya dikeluarkan sejourus sebelum tugasan bermula.

Kita juga tidak mahu seseorang pegawai dan anggota ditempatkan terlalu lama di bahagian sensitif seperti ini hingga selesa serta boleh mewujudkan hubungan akrab dengan ejen sindiket.

Ruang dan peluang terdedah ini perlu ditutup segera melalui sistem penggiliran tugas lebih kerap dan bersistematis agar dapat putuskan rangkaian perhubungan licik, selain memelihara integriti anggota bertugas.

Hakikatnya ketika masih ramai pegawai dan anggota Imigresen melaksanakan tugas penuh integriti serta amanah, sikap segelintir mengambil kesempatan cukup menyedihkan kerana merosakkan nama baik dan imej organisasi.

Justeru, pendedahan SPRM ini diharap tidak melemahkan semangat dan motivasi pasukan imigresen, sebaliknya dijadikan sebagai cabaran positif untuk bangkit melaksanakan reformasi menyeluruh dan memulihkan imej jabatan.

BERITA HARIAN
Tarikh..... 25 SEP 2024.....

Selangor budget to be tabled in November

35/9
Am

SHAH ALAM: The tabling of the Selangor 2025 Budget has been postponed to mid-November, said Menteri Besar Datuk Seri Amirudin Shari.

He said the tabling of the annual budget, originally scheduled for Nov 8, was postponed because many state government officials had to attend a special forum in Egypt on that date.

"Further discussions on the matter have been held, and we are ready for the tabling of the budget," he said after officiating at the Selangor 2025 Budget dialogue session here yesterday.

Amirudin added that the thriving economy is expected to help the state government achieve greater success in 2025.

The focus will be on strengthening sectors related to artificial intelligence technology and enhancing efforts to safeguard the people's welfare.

He said the state government will use budget dialogue sessions with stakeholders as a platform to identify initiatives.

In Budget 2024, Selangor allocated RM2.53 billion, which includes RM1.33 billion or 52.6% for operating expenses and RM1.2 billion or 47.4% for development expenditure. - Bernama

THE SUN

Tarikh: 25 SEP 2024

Peralihan monsun beri kesan cuaca

Orang ramai
dinasihat lebih
berwaspada
kemungkinan
berlaku banjir,
tanah runtuh

Oleh Ercy Gracella Ajos
ercy.gracella@bh.com.my

Kuala Lumpur: Banjir kilat, tanah runtuh dan kepala air, selain puting beliung antara kesan cuaca yang diramal boleh berlaku sepanjang fasa peralihan monsun yang bermula semalam.

Jabatan Meteorologi Malaysia (METMalaysia) memaklumkan kesan cuaca susulan peralihan antara Monsun Barat Daya dan Monsun Timur Laut itu dijangka berlarutan sehingga awal November.

Melalui satu hantaran di laman X, METMalaysia memaklumkan tiupan angin lemah dari pelbagai

arah boleh berlaku sepanjang tempoh peralihan ini.

Meskipun corak cuaca bagi fasa peralihan ini menunjukkan langit cerah pada waktu pagi, katanya keadaan pada sebelah petang hingga awal malam boleh menyaksikan berlaku ribut petir dan hujan lebat disertai angin kencang secara menyeluruh dalam tempoh singkat.

Risiko puting beliung

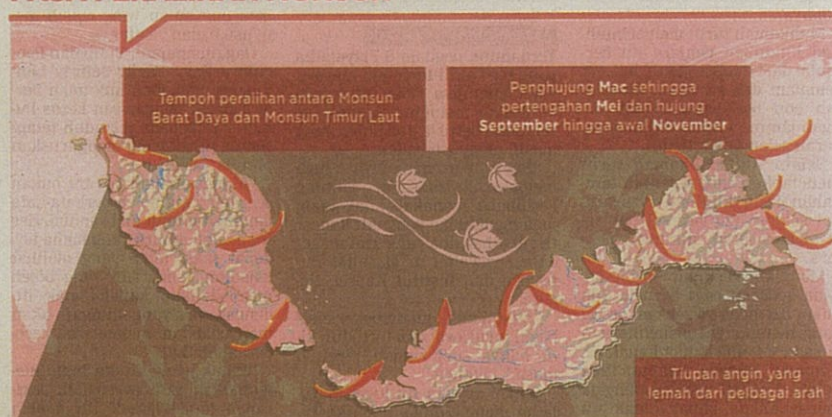
"Kejadian puting beliung dan hujan batu turut berpotensi berlaku pada tempoh peralihan ini.

"Kesan cuaca peralihan monsun ini termasuk kejadian banjir kilat, tanah runtuh, kepala air, pokok tumbang, panahan kilat serta kerosakan struktur tidak kukuh," katanya.

METMalaysia turut menasihatkan orang ramai lebih berwaspada ketika tempoh ini dan sentiasa peka dengan ramalan dan amaran cuaca dikeluarkan melalui laman web rasmi, aplikasi mobil myCuaca dan media sosial rasmi jabatan.

Orang ramai boleh menghubungi hotline jabatan di talian 1-300-22-1638 bagi pertanyaan lanjut.

FASA PERALIHAN MONSUN



CORAK CUACA



Langit cerah pada waktu pagi.



Ribut petir dan hujan lebat berserta angin kencang dalam jangka masa singkat pada petang hingga malam.



Berpotensi menjana puting beliung dan menghasilkan hujan batu.

Berlaku di kebanyakan kawasan di barat dan pedalaman Semenanjung, barat Sabah serta kawasan selatan dan tengah Sarawak.

KESAN CUACA



BANJIR KILAT



TANAH RUNTUH



KEPALA AIR



POKOK TUMBIANG



PANAHAN KILAT



KEROSAKAN STRUKTUR RUMAH

Infografik BH

BERITA HARIAN
Tarikh... 25 SEP 2024

GISBH tukar taktikal punca sukar kesan penyelewengan

Syarikat jalankan aktiviti ahli secara berselindung di sebalik perniagaan

Oleh Norzamira Che Noh
bhnews@bh.com.my

Shah Alam: Pihak berkuasa sukar mengesan butiran penyelewengan dilakukan ahli GISB Holdings Sdn Bhd (GISBH) di Selangor selama ini, disebabkan penukaran taktikal dalam menjalankan aktiviti mereka secara berselindung di sebalik perniagaan.

Menteri Besar, Datuk Seri Amirudin Shari, berkata sebelum ini kumpulan terbabit mendaftar di bawah Jabatan Pendaftaran Pertubuhan Malaysia (RoS), yang membolehkan aktiviti ahlinya dipantau pihak berkuasa.

"Kali ini mereka mendaftar di bawah perniagaan dan aktiviti ini bukan boleh dipantau sebagaimana aktiviti pertubuhan mengikut RoS.

"Mereka juga mengehadkan aktiviti dalam kalangan anak beranak mereka sahaja dan ia menyukarkan kita mengetahui butiran penyelewengan dan sebagainya.

"Apabila berlaku pendedahan oleh bekas anggota itu baru kita dapat gambaran apakah yang

berlaku," katanya selepas merasmikan sesi dialog Belanjawan Selangor 2025 di Pusat Konvensyen Setia City (SCCC) di sini, semalam.

Amirudin berkata, beliau dimaklumkan situasi dan perubahan taktikal itu dalam taklimat awal disampaikan pihak berkuasa dan perkembangan isu sama juga antara perkara disembah maklum kepada Sultan Selangor, Sultan Sharafuddin Idris Shah pada sesi menghadap baginda semalam.

Tindakan lanjut dipercepat

Katanya, dalam pertemuan itu, Sultan Sharafuddin Idris Shah menitahkan supaya proses tindakan lanjut berkaitan isu GISBH disegerakan.

"Tuanku juga berpandangan bahawa pasukan siasatan perlu lebih cekap meneliti sebarang kesalahan berkaitan isu itu yang sebahagiannya membabitkan kes jenayah.

"Pada sesi pertemuan tadi, tiada spesifik (isu GISBH) namun baginda meminta tindakan lanjut dipercepatkan oleh Jabatan Agama Islam Selangor (JAIS) dan Majlis Agama Islam Selangor (MAIS). Esok, Dr Mohammad Fahmi Ngah (EXCO Agama Islam dan Kebudayaan Inovasi) dijangka memberikan beberapa penemuan mengenai perkara itu," katanya.

Dalam pada itu, Amirudin berkata, kerajaan negeri akan menguatkuasakan larangan pengoperasian premis kepada GISBH, selepas memperoleh laporan pe-

nuh daripada polis dan JAIS.

"Sudah tentu polis perlu menjalankan siasatan penuh dan menyerahkannya kepada kami (kerajaan negeri) bagi tindakan lanjut tidak membenarkan mereka menggunakan premis di Selangor.

"Namun, ia juga perlu berlandaskan fatwa dan peraturan daripada jawatankuasa agama yang akan bermesyuarat nanti. Ini bukan kali pertama namun sudah tiga kali selepas Al-Arqam dan Ruffaq," katanya.

Media sebelum ini melaporkan, Sultan Sharafuddin Idris Shah, menzahirkan rasa dukacita terhadap berita siasatan PDRM terhadap kegiatan GISBH dan rangkaian syarikat itu sebaik berangkat pulang dari luar negara.

Sultan Sharafuddin bertitah, berdasarkan hasil siasatan, polis mengesyaki GISBH melakukan beberapa kesalahan jenayah yang serius.

Baginda juga kesal dan kecewa kerana perkara itu berlanjutan untuk suatu tempoh lama dan tiada tindakan berkesan diambil untuk menanganinya.

Susulan itu, baginda menitahkan agar semua agensi agama Islam Selangor, iaitu MAIS, JAIS, Jabatan Mufti Selangor dan Jabatan Pendakwaan Syariah Selangor bersama PDRM (Kontinjen Selangor dan Bukit Aman)

bekerjasama mengambil langkah serius menyiasat secara mendalam bagi memastikan semua yang terbabit secara langsung dan tidak langsung dengan kesalahan jenayah ini diheret ke mahkamah dan didakwa.

Terdahulu, Ketua Polis Negara, Tan Sri Razarudin Husain, berkata siasatan polis mendapati operasi rumah amal dikendalikan GISBH dipromosikan sebagai rumah perlindungan anak yatim, dengan niat menipu bagi mendapatkan sumbangan dan derma orang ramai.

Beliau berkata, siasatan polis mendapati kanak-kanak yang mendiami rumah amal dikaitkan dengan syarikat itu di doktrinkan bahawa mereka 'anak yatim' dan tidak mengenali ibu bapa masing-masing.

"Hasil rakam keterangan yang dibuat polis mendapati ada kanak-kanak terutamanya bawah 12 tahun yang tinggal di rumah kebajikan GISBH tidak mengenali ibu bapa mereka yang dalam kalangan ahli.

"Ada juga ibu bapa kanak-kanak yang kita selamatkan turut ditahan polis, mereka tidak mahu mengaku mereka (kanak-kanak yang diselamatkan) itu adalah anak mereka. Ini kerana GISBH juga memaparkan dalam laman web sumbangan untuk 'anak yatim' walhal sebenarnya mereka adalah anak ahli," katanya.



Amirudin Shari

BERITA HARIAN
Tarikh..... 25 SEP 2024

Sultan Selangor titah percepat tindakan isu GISBH

Oleh ISKANDAR SHAH
MOHAMED
utusannews@mediamulia.com.my

SHAH ALAM: Sultan Selangor, Sultan Sharafuddin Idris Shah menitahkan supaya proses tindakan berkaitan isu Global Ikhwan Services and Business Holdings Sdn Bhd. (GISBH) di-segerakan.

Menteri Besar, Datuk Seri Amirudin Shari berkata, perkara itu dinyatakan ketika beliau menghadap baginda yang berpandangan, pasukan siasatan perlu lebih cekap meneliti sebarang kesalahan berkaitan isu itu termasuk kes jenayah.

"Pada sesi pertemuan itu, tiada spesifik (isu GISBH) namun baginda meminta supaya tindakan lanjut dipercepat oleh Jabatan Agama Islam Selangor (JAIS) dan Majlis Agama Islam Selangor (MAIS).

"Esok (hari ini) Dr. Mohamad Fahmi Ngah (Exco Agama Islam dan Pembudayaan Inovasi) dijangka memberi beberapa penemuan mengenai perkara



Pada sesi pertemuan itu, tiada spesifik (isu GISBH) namun baginda meminta supaya tindakan lanjut dipercepat oleh Jabatan Agama Islam Selangor (JAIS) dan Majlis Agama Islam Selangor (MAIS)."

AMIRUDIN SHARI

itu," katanya selepas merasmikan penutupan Dialog Belanjawan Selangor 2025, semalam.

Difahamkan, Amirudin mengadakan pertemuan lebih dua jam dengan Sultan Sharafuddin di Istana Bukit Kayangan di

sini.

Pertemuan rutin minggu-an itu turut membincangkan beberapa keputusan Majlis Mesyuarat Kerajaan Negeri (MMKN) berkaitan isu dan hala tuju negeri ini.

Dalam pada itu, Amirudin berkata, kerajaan negeri akan menguatkuasakan larangan pengoperasian premis kepada GISBH selepas memperoleh laporan penuh daripada polis dan Jawatankuasa Agama Islam negeri.

"Sudah tentu polis perlu menjalankan siasatan penuh dan menyerahkannya kepada kami (kerajaan negeri) bagi tindakan lanjut tidak membenarkan mereka menggunakan premis di Selangor.

"Namun, ia juga perlu berlandaskan fatwa dan peraturan daripada jawatankuasa agama yang bermesyuarat nanti. Ini bukan kali pertama namun sudah tiga kali selepas Al-Arqam dan Ruffaqah," ujarnya.

Utusan Malaysia Sabtu lalu melaporkan, Sultan Sharafud-

din menitahkan seluruh agensi agama Islam di Selangor bekerjasama dengan Polis Diraja Malaysia (PDRM) bagi memastikan semua pihak yang terlibat dalam kesalahan jenayah disyaki berkaitan GISBH diheret ke mahkamah.

Selain itu, baginda menitahkan semua rumah amal dan sekolah Islam bawah kawalan syarikat berkenaan serta rangkaiannya yang tidak berdaftar atau disyaki terabit kegiatan jenayah termasuk syariah ditutup segera dan tidak dibenarkan beroperasi di Selangor.

Titah Sultan Sharafuddin, berdasarkan laporan diterima baginda, kebanyakan daripada rumah amal GISBH yang terlibat dalam siasatan telah lama beroperasi di beberapa buah negeri di negara ini khususnya di Selangor tanpa pendaftaran.

Sekolah Islam yang dikenal pasti terlibat perlu dibatalkan pendaftarannya mengikut Enakmen Pengawalan Sekolah-Sekolah Agama Islam 1988.

UTUSAN MALAYSIA
Tarikh: 25 SEP 2024

Tiada kompromi banteras kilang haram - MB

SHAH ALAM: Kerajaan Selangor tidak sesekali berkompromi dalam mengambil tindakan tegas ke atas kilang haram dan akan meneruskan usaha membanteras premis tersebut.

Menteri Besar, Datuk Seri Amirudin Shari berkata, isu kewujudan kilang-kilang haram di negeri ini sedang ditangani sepenuhnya dan kerajaan negeri mempunyai data terkini mengenai kewujudan premis sedemikian.

"Alhamdulillah, beberapa masalah pencemaran mutakhir di Selangor melibatkan kilang yang sah dan kita dapat ambil tindakan sepenuhnya.

"Namun, isu kilang haram ini kita akan tangani terus menerus tanpa sebarang kompromi oleh pihak berkuasa tempatan (PBT)," katanya ketika ditemui pada majlis perasmian sesi dialog Belanjawan Selangor 2025,



Isu kilang haram ini kita akan tangani terus menerus tanpa sebarang kompromi oleh pihak berkuasa tempatan (PBT)."

AMIRUDIN SHARI



semalam.

Utusan Malaysia sebelum ini mendedahkan kewujudan puluhan kilang pelupusan sisa pepejal dipercayai beroperasi secara haram di Teluk Gong, Pelabuhan Klang yang menyebabkan air sungai kotor dan berwarna hitam legam.

Kedadaan itu menjejaskan kehidupan kira-kira 40,000 penduduk Teluk Gong terpaksa menghidu bau busuk setiap hari sejak sejak 10 tahun lalu.

Kewujudan kilang disyaki haram itu didakwa menjalankan kerja-kerja pemprosesan sisa buangan yang tidak melalui

proses atau prosedur betul.

Situasi sedemikian mengukuhkan lagi dakwaan bahawa negara ini menjadi 'pusat pelupusan sampah' apabila terdapat kes-kes penyeludupan sisa plastik dan elektronik (e-waste) melalui Pelabuhan Klang.

Selain itu, pertubuhan bukan kerajaan (NGO) hairan dengan kegagalan pihak berkuasa tempatan (PBT) dan agensi kerajaan lain 'menghidu' operasi puluhan kilang haram kitar semula plastik dan tayar di Teluk Gong.

Majlis Bandaraya Diraja Klang (MBDK) sebelum ini memaklumkan dua daripada tiga premis kilang tayar di kawasan perindustrian didapati beroperasi secara haram.

Sebanyak 18 operasi pemeriksaan dijalankan sepanjang tahun ini di sekitar kawasan tersebut dengan 27 kompaun dikeluarkan kepada pengilang.

UTUSAN MALAYSIA

Tarikh: **25 SEP 2024**

Kerajaan lancar pelan 'Putrajaya Sihat'

4M
25/9

PUTRAJAYA: Kerajaan meluluskan Pelan Strategik Putrajaya Sihat Sejahtera (PSS) sebagai salah satu inisiatif di bawah Agenda Nasional Malaysia Sihat (ANMS).

Timbalan Perdana Menteri, Datuk Seri Dr. Ahmad Zahid Hamidi berkata, kelulusan itu bagi menjayakan hasrat kerajaan melahirkan penjawat awam yang mempunyai status kesihatan baik supaya terus berfungsi dengan produktif dalam membangunkan negara.

"Pelan Strategik PSS menggariskan pelbagai strategi, inisiatif dan sasaran yang perlu dicapai menjelang 2030.

"Ia bermatlamat menurunkan prevalen faktor risiko kesihatan dalam kalangan penjawat awam di Putrajaya melalui pelaksanaan polisi berkaitan pembudayaan hidup sihat dan persekitaran yang menyokong kesihatan.

"Selain itu, ia juga bagi meningkatkan literasi kesihatan serta amalan budaya hidup sihat di tempat kerja," katanya dalam kenyataan, semalam.

Terdahulu, Ahmad Zahid yang juga Pengerusi Jawatankuasa Kabinet Agenda Nasional Malaysia Sihat mempengerusikan Mesyuarat Jawatankuasa Kabinet Agenda Nasional Malaysia Sihat (ANMS) Bilangan 2/2024.

Ahmad Zahid berkata, strategi yang digunakan dalam melaksanakan PSS termasuk pengukuhan literasi kesihatan penjawat awam dan persekitaran yang menyokong kesihatan.

"Pemantapan intervensi kesihatan pembudayaan hidup sihat dan pengukuhan kelestarian persekitaran yang menyokong kesejahteraan kesihatan juga menjadi antara strategi dilaksanakan.

"Selain itu, ia turut melibatkan pemerkasaan nilai 'ownership' dalam kesejahteraan kesihatan melalui pengiktirafan kepada rakan strategik," katanya.

UTUSAN MALAYSIA
Tarikh: 25 SEP 2024

Ringgit capai paras tertinggi dalam tempoh hampir 35 bulan

UM
25/9

Oleh NUR NAZLINA NADZARI
nazlina.nadzari@mediamulia.com.my

PETALING JAYA: Ringgit terus mengukuh berbanding dolar Amerika Syarikat (AS), mencapai paras tertinggi dalam tempoh kira-kira 35 bulan, susulan kadar pengumuman inflasi yang pada 1.9 peratus yang lebih rendah daripada jangkaan pada Ogos.

Pada 5 petang semalam, mata wang negara naik kepada 4.1470/4.1570 berbanding dolar AS daripada 4.2050/4.2110 ketika ditutup pada Isnin.

Kali terakhir ringgit mencapai 4.1470 berbanding dolar AS adalah pada 2 November 2021.

Ketua Ahli Ekonomi Bank Muamalat Malaysia Bhd., Dr. Mohd. Afzanizam Abdul Rashid berkata, inflasi yang lebih rendah dari jangkaan dan pengurangan kadar faedah Rizab Persekutuan (Fed) AS sebanyak 50 mata asas menjadi faktor utama mendorong pengukuhan nilai ringgit.

Katanya, jangkaan penurunan kadar faedah di AS akan mengecilkan perbezaan antara Fed Fund Rate dan Kadar Dasar Semalam (OPR).



KALI terakhir ringgit mencapai 4.1470 berbanding dolar AS adalah pada 2 November 2021.

"Justeru situasi ini menunjukkan prospek pulangan pelaburan di Malaysia lebih menarik pada masa akan datang. Selain itu, Bank Negara Malaysia (BNM) juga dilihat akan mengekalkan OPR disebabkan risiko inflasi masih lagi jelas kelihatan.

"Perkara ini menunjukkan pihak BNM sentiasa berhemah dalam pengurusan dasar monetari mereka. Oleh itu, perkara ini seolah-olah mewujudkan minat

belian terhadap mata wang ringgit," katanya kepada *Utusan Malaysia*.

Beliau berkata, mungkin agak drastik untuk mencapai nilai RM4.00 berbanding dolar AS pada minggu ini, namun ringgit kini berada dalam hala tuju pengukuhan.

Sementara itu, penganalisis ekonomi UniKL Business School, Prof Madya Dr. Aimi Zulhazmi Abdul Rashid berkata, ringgit dijangka berlegar antara

RM4.13 ke RM4.18 berbanding dolar AS minggu ini dengan sokongan para pengurus dana.

"Sekiranya ada pemetongan lagi oleh Fed pada November nanti antara 25 atau 50 mata asas iaitu serentak dengan pilihan raya presiden AS yang baharu, nilai dolar AS dijangka terus menurun dan ia akan mendorong nilai ringgit mencecah RM4.00 pada akhir tahun nanti.

"Namun begitu, peningkatan ringgit perlu juga dikawal

“Inflasi yang lebih rendah dari jangkaan dan pengurangan kadar faedah Rizab Persekutuan (Fed) AS sebanyak 50 mata asas menjadi faktor utama mendorong pengukuhan nilai ringgit”

MOHD. AFZANIZAM
ABDUL RASHID

dari terlalu pantas kerana ia memberikan kesan yang kurang baik kepada eksport negara dan menjadikan sektor pelancongan tidak begitu menarik kepada pelancong luar negara.

"Selain dari menjadikan barang eksport negara kurang kompetitif di pasaran global, ia juga mengurangkan jumlah tukaran kepada ringgit dari nilai eksport," ujarnya.

UTUSAN MALAYSIA
Tarikh: 25 SEP 2024

COUNTER-SETTING SYNDICATES

'TOURIST VISAS AT HEART OF OPERATIONS'

Sources claim
Immigration officers
bribed to allow
foreigners to enter
country without
adhering to protocols

KUALA LUMPUR

THE issuance of tourist visas has been identified as the main operation of counter-setting syndicates at Kuala Lumpur International Airport Terminals 1 and 2, says the Malaysian Anti-Corruption Commission (MACC).

Sources said the syndicates reportedly bribed Immigration officers to allow foreigners, particularly from Bangladesh, Nepal and Myanmar, to enter the country by issuing tourist visas without adhering to protocols.

Many of the foreigners then abused their visas by overstaying and seeking illegal employment.

The syndicates also helped foreigners to evade the Immigration blacklist.

"These syndicates do not use the Foreign Workers Centralised Management System (FWCMS), which is designed to register and monitor foreign workers in the country," said one source.

"The misuse of tourist visas for illegal work has been identified as widespread, and this creates opportunities for foreign nationals to illegally enter and work in the country."

The source added that the fees charged by syndicates to foreign nationals seeking work permits through unofficial channels ranged from RM6,000 to RM12,000.

MACC intelligence division director Datuk Zainul Darus confirmed the matter when contacted.

The graft-busters have been going after the "counter-setting" syndicates that were believed to comprise a wide range of networks, including local agents, foreigners and also civil servants, for more than a month since the crackdown began.

NEW STRAITS TIMES
Tarikh: 25 SEP 2024

MORAL VALUES

'Human integrity key to combating bid-rigging'

KUALA LUMPUR: Despite government efforts to bolster internal controls and adopt advanced technologies, combating bid-rigging ultimately hinges on human integrity.

"There's no point in importing the best internal control policies or the most expensive software tools from Harvard or Oxford if the handlers lack integrity," said Help University's Institute of Crime & Criminology director Datuk Seri Dr Akhbar Satar.

The Malaysian Integrity and Governance Society president said even a "simple software from a local university" would suffice if officials upheld strong moral values.

To tackle bid-rigging, he suggested training procurement officers and leveraging advanced data analysis tools to identify red flags such as "qualified bidders failing to participate" or "tenders submitted at excessively high prices without logical cost justification".

He added that top leaderships of companies must demonstrate strong moral principles and lead by example to ensure integrity in the procurement process.

On Monday, the Malaysia Competition Commission (MyCC) had said eliminating bid-rigging could save the government up to 15 per cent of its annual expenditure, which amounts to RM13.5 billion.

MyCC also highlighted that despite existing legislation such as anti-corruption laws and the Penal Code, bid-rigging cartels had found ways to bypass these regulations, dominating certain

markets and making it difficult for new players to enter.

Business groups say MyCC's proposal to impose heavier penalties against bid-riggers will not only promote fair competition but also elevate the country's overall economic health.

Federation of Malaysian Manufacturers president Tan Sri Soh Thian Lai said MyCC's efforts to combat bid-rigging were crucial to enhance transparency and could subsequently lead to sustainable economic growth.

Such a move, he said, would continue to encourage companies to compete based on merit, rather than through illicit collusion, thereby improving the integrity of the procurement process.

"(The proposal) is a crucial step towards ensuring a level playing field for all businesses.

"The introduction of more stringent penalties, alongside reputational damage and the loss of trust, serves as an effective deterrent to unethical practices.

"These measures will also reduce the risk of disqualification from future government contracts, encouraging businesses to maintain higher standards of ethics and compliance.

"Ultimately, fostering a fair and transparent environment benefits the broader business community and strengthens the nation's economy by ensuring that public funds are spent efficiently and

that government projects deliver value," he said.

Soh said introducing an integrity pact before entering into government procurement contracts ensures businesses commit to ethical practices.

He said it would protect the reputation of businesses and build trust with government agencies, creating long-term opportunities for future bids.

"Transparent and competitive procurement practices can attract more investments, as investors are more confident in a business environment free from corruption and unfair practices."

FMM, he said, also concurred with MyCC and urged the government to expedite the implementation of the Government Procurement Act and ensure that its provisions apply not only at the federal level but also to states and government-linked companies.

Malaysian Employers Federation president Datuk Dr Syed Hussain Syed Husman said rewarding informants and whistleblowers would encourage the public to report bid-rigging cases, ultimately helping to eliminate the practice.

"This initiative will motivate both the public and businesses to report illegal bid-rigging practices to the authorities." **By Mohamad Al As and Iylia Marsya Iskandar**



Datuk Seri Dr Akhbar Satar

NEW STRAITS TIMES
Tarikh: 25 SEP 2024

'PUTRAJAYA SIHAT SEJAHTERA'

Health plan for civil servants launched

KUALA LUMPUR: The Agenda Nasional Malaysia Sihat cabinet committee has approved the strategic plan for the "Putrajaya Sihat Sejahtera" programme.

Cabinet committee chairman Datuk Seri Dr Ahmad Zahid Hamidi said the move was aimed at cultivating a healthier workforce among civil servants, enabling them to contribute effectively to the nation's development.

He said the strategic plan encompassed strategies and initiatives set to commence with a pilot phase from 2024 to 2025.

"The programme aims to reduce the prevalence of health risk factors among public servants in Putrajaya through the implemen-

tation of policies.

"This is related to promoting a healthy lifestyle and creating a health-supporting environment, as well as enhancing health literacy and an environment that supports health in addition improving health literacy and cultural practices of healthy living in the workplace," he said in a statement.

"Other strategies include strengthening the sustainability of environments that support health and wellbeing, and empowering a sense of ownership in health and wellbeing through recognition of strategic partners.

"We will also expand the Well-ness on Wheel (WOW) service

through 19 vehicles to be launched in collaboration with members of parliament for WOW activities starting in 2025."

Zahid said a baseline data survey would be conducted this year, followed by an evaluation of the pilot phase's effectiveness at the end of 2025.

He said 16 initiatives would be implemented as indicators for measuring the success of the programme.

"The success of these initiatives will be assessed through studies and surveys, such as the Malaysia Health Literacy Survey 2028, Malaysia Healthy Lifestyle Index 2028, National Health and Morbidity Survey 2028 and post-effectiveness study of the pro-



Participants at a run in Putrajaya last month. The 'Putrajaya Sihat Sejahtera' programme aims to reduce the prevalence of health risk factors among public servants. PIC BY MOHD FADLI HAMZAH

gramme in 2030," he said.

Zahid said the success of the programme relied on empowering public servants and the commitment of strategic partners across all ministries, depart-

ments and agencies, in adopting a whole of nation approach.

He said health and wellbeing issues must be addressed across ministries and agencies in all policies (Health In All Policies).

NEW STRAITS TIMES
25 SEP 2024
Tarikh:

Closely monitor weather conditions, public urged

Western states of peninsula, western Sabah, central Sarawak expected to receive higher rainfall during monsoon transition phase: MetMalaysia

BY FARAHATUN NISA OMAR
newsdesk@thesundaily.com

PETALING JAYA: The Malaysian Meteorological Department (MetMalaysia) has urged the public to monitor weather conditions as the country enters the transition phase of the monsoon season from Sept 24 to early November.

Its deputy director-general Dr Mohd Hashim Mohd Anip said Selangor, Negeri Sembilan, Malacca and Johor in Peninsular Malaysia, as well as western Sabah and central Sarawak, will be affected by thunderstorms during this phase, especially in the afternoons and early evenings.

"The western states and suburban areas of the peninsula from Perlis to Johor, western Sabah and central Sarawak are expected to receive higher rainfall and are at risk of flash floods during this period."

He said the states are expected to experience thunderstorms with heavy rains and strong winds, especially in the evenings and early night, while rainfall is expected to be lower on the east coast and other



Mohd Hashim said no state will experience dry weather during the monsoon transition phase and MetMalaysia will issue warnings if the situation warrants it. — BERNAMAPIC

areas of Sabah and Sarawak.

"This is normal. No state will experience dry weather during the monsoon transition phase," said Mohd Hashim, adding that the department will constantly monitor weather conditions and issue warnings if the situation demands it.

Mohd Hashim said the extreme weather expected in the north of Peninsular Malaysia is more "climate variable."

He advised the public to catch MetMalaysia broadcasts which are aired live twice a day on RTM at 8am during the *Selamat Pagi Malaysia* programme and 5pm when *Berita Wilayah* is aired.

He said MetMalaysia also disseminates weather information through the department's website at www.met.gov.my, and the myCuaca

mobile app that's available for download on Google Play Store, Apple App Store and its Facebook, Instagram, X and YouTube platforms.

"People should be more aware of weather conditions and shift to a temporary evacuation centre as soon as possible if the authorities issue instructions to do so," he said.

Meanwhile, the Kedah Social Welfare Department said as of 11pm on Monday, the number of flood evacuees had reached 6,792 from 2,171 families. They are being housed in 33 temporary evacuation centres.

"Of the evacuees, Kota Setar district has 4,626 individuals from 1,509 families, which is lower than the 5,212 from 1,719 families reported earlier. They are housed in 19 relief centres," the spokesman said. Kedah entrepreneur Farhana

Omar, 31, told *theSun* that water started rising at about 4pm on Sept 19 after continuous rain at her Taman Seri Kelubi housing area in Kubang Pasu.

She said the rain wasn't heavy but had been coming down continuously for a week.

"There was no warning siren to evacuate the area, but when I noticed the water rising to about 12cm near my housing area, I immediately told my family to evacuate. We went to my aunt's house in Kampung Sungai Korok for shelter."

"Before leaving the house, we transferred our important belongings and items upstairs to prevent flood damage. While driving to my aunt's house, I noticed a fallen tree by the roadside caused by strong winds," she said.

'Heritage buildings at risk due to neglect by authorities'

BY QIRANA NABILLA
MOHD RASHIDI
newsdesk@thesundaily.com

PETALING JAYA: Heritage buildings in the country are at risk of damage and destruction due to a lack of priority by authorities in preserving them, said Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia Architecture and Built Environment Department senior lecturer Dr Kamarul Afizi Kosman.

"The National Heritage Department should strictly enforce the National Heritage Act 2005 and other relevant laws to ensure the preservation of heritage buildings. Government officials must be better educated on preservation to ensure the maintenance of national heritage buildings in line with those of developed countries."

He said heritage buildings reflect the identity of a nation at a certain place and time in history, and ought to be given better care.

➤ Officials must be educated on preservation, with more research grants and maintenance budget provided by govt, says expert

He also said the former Federated Malay States Survey Department building at the intersection of Jalan Raja and Jalan Tun Perak in Kuala Lumpur has been neglected and abandoned for over 20 years, with parts of its ceiling and walls collapsing.

In 2006, Bok House, which was an old mansion owned by a private trustee managed by the Bok family in Jalan Ampang, Kuala Lumpur, was demolished, resulting in a public outcry.

The mansion was completed in 1929 by local millionaire and Cycle and Carriage owner Chua Cheng Bok.

On Dec 21, 2006, then Culture, Arts and Heritage minister Datuk

Seri Rais Yatim challenged critics to provide evidence that Bok House held historical significance as he said: "The cost of rehabilitating Bok House would be high and there is no significant history or aesthetic value attached to the building."

"The callous indifference to Bok House has influenced civil servant thinking towards the direction of the country, which once had great achievements in culture, technology and art," said Kamarul Afizi, adding that preserving heritage buildings involves not only physical restoration but also extends to safeguarding their historical and cultural identity for

future generations.

"The government needs to provide more research grants to institutions of higher learning to conduct research and documentation on heritage buildings in the country."

"A higher budget from the government is needed for the preservation of heritage buildings under its responsibility."

He said poor workmanship, the use of new materials that do not align with the building's original specifications and the introduction of commercial elements without adequate research during preservation activities could cause the withdrawal of a building's heritage status.

"Development projects must ensure heritage buildings are preserved. Their existence must be appreciated while new developments should be designed such that they do not kill the character of the former."

A Malaysian Heritage Agency council spokesman said it had previously called on local authorities to establish a steering committee comprising relevant agencies to oversee the preservation of iconic heritage buildings before irreversible damage occurs.

"Poor preservation continues with concerning frequency and no agency has taken responsibility for it. The main issue lies in the enforcement of laws."

"Regardless of how well crafted the regulations are, they are ineffective if not properly implemented and upheld by authorities entrusted to do so."

The council said although efforts have been made to preserve heritage buildings, regular maintenance is often neglected after project completion.

"There is a clear lack of a long-term preservation plan, leaving unanswered questions, such as who will occupy the building, who will be responsible for its upkeep and what its future purpose will be."

"Despite occasional restoration or repairs, no consistent efforts have been made to maintain the structures, leading them to repeatedly fall into disrepair and causing a vicious cycle of neglect and decay."



Kamarul Afizi said preserving heritage buildings involves physical restoration and safeguarding their historical and cultural identity for future generations. — ADAM AMIR HAMZAH/THESUN