



PENGURUSAN PEMANTAUAN KERATAN AKHBAR MBSJ
TARIKH: 28 OKTOBER 2024 (ISNIN)

MEDIA ELEKTRONIK (AKHBAR ONLINE / TELEVISYEN / RADIO)

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1.	THE STAR	• FRESH AND NEW FEEL AT REBUILT SS19 FOOD COURT • STRATEGIC MEASURES IN PLACE FOR MONSOON IN SUBANG JAYA • MBSJ CAR-FREE DAY DRAWS 2,000

MEDIA CETAK (AKHBAR / MAJALAH)

BIL	AKHBAR	TAJUK
1.	THE STAR	• FRESH AND NEW FEEL AT REBUILT SS19 FOOD COURT • STRATEGIC MEASURES IN PLACE FOR MONSOON IN SUBANG JAYA • MBSJ CAR-FREE DAY DRAWS 2,000 • LICENCE RENEWAL

LAIN-LAIN PBT

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Fresh and new feel at rebuilt SS19 food court

By EDWARD RAJENDRA



Six hawkers have moved into the rebuilt food court and the rest are expected by December. — LOW BOON TAT/The Star

The food court in SS19, Subang Jaya in Selangor, has been rebuilt at a cost of RM2.98mil.

Subang Jaya City Council (MBSJ) Corporate and Strategic Management Department director Muhammad Azli Miswan said the Medan Selera, sandwiched between Jalan SS19/6 and Jalan SS19/6C, now had a fresh design and better ambience.

"Earlier, it was dark and not conducive for food stalls.

"Medan Selera SS19 is part of redevelopment of a 0.74ha site that has been in use since 1993.

"With better design, the dining experience at the food court has been enhanced," he said.

Muhammad Azli said the food court now had two rows of 10 trading lots in each, with clear boundaries between stalls.

"We have addressed various issues by presenting a vibrant space that includes toilets, waste chamber, surau and 90 parking bays that include lots for the disabled.

"So far, hawkers have occupied six lots and the rest will be filled in phases by December," he added.

Muhammad Azli said MBSJ took into consideration the needs of the physically challenged and built toilets with hand rails and wheelchair accessibility.

"MBSJ has allocated space behind the stalls to ensure good ventilation as the hawkers prepare food," he said.

Hawker Hafeez Abdullah, 33, who sells east coast dishes, said, "I find the whole new setting bright, clean and gives a cheerful feel."

Another hawker, Afiq Faizal, 29, said he was happy with the stall design and its amenities.

Customer Robert Lee, 70, said the food court was now better and cleaner.

"Our hope is that MBSJ ensures continuous maintenance and strict hygiene checks," he added.

Visitor Khaidir Shahir, 68, urged the city council to instal wall fans to supplement the existing ceiling fans, as it gets hot in the afternoons.

He said he was pleased the food court's new design allowed for interaction and that there was ample parking.

Currently, MBSJ contractors are demolishing the remaining old lots on the site to create more parking space.

THE STAR ONLINE

TARIKH : 28 OKTOBER 2024

Strategic measures in place for monsoon in Subang Jaya

By JADE CHAN



Personnel from various agencies that are involved in disaster and relief operations having a discussion during the MBSJ Disaster Relief Operations Strategic Plan Workshop 2.0.

SUBANG Jaya City Council (MBSJ) will send its quick response squad (Pantas) for training and ensure all relief centres are ready for the northeast monsoon season.

"The monsoon season is expected to bring heavy rain along with strong winds within a short period, especially in the evening and night in most areas, including Selangor.

"Such weather conditions could cause flash floods, topple trees and damage unstable structures." Subang Jaya mayor Datuk Amirul Azizan Abd Rahim said in his speech at the city council's full board meeting held in Johor Baru, Johor, where MBSJ's senior management and councillors also attended a series of briefings and meetings.

He said MBSJ has implemented several measures to ensure its staff and equipment are ready to deal with any potential incidents during this period.

Amirul said the city council had organised MBSJ Disaster Relief Operations Strategic Plan Workshop 2.0 in early October in Puchong, which served as a review session of the existing operations plan.

It included the mapping of 25 flood-prone areas and nine landslide-prone areas within the city council's jurisdiction in MBSJ's Geographical Information System.

Attendees included representatives from the Fire and Rescue Department, Welfare Department and Petaling District Office.

This plan included information regarding measures to be taken by several government agencies based on their respective jurisdictions, such as location of temporary evacuation centres, safe spaces for residents to temporarily relocate their vehicles, assembly points for security agencies and rescue teams as well as locations where rescue assets will be deployed.

The northeast monsoon season is expected to start in early November and last until March 2025.

Amirul said MBSJ's Pantas team also underwent a series of training to improve their skills and efficiency in swimming and water rescue, under the guidance of the Fire and Rescue Department.

"In addition, MBSJ carried out maintenance work on trees at risk of falling in 18 locations within the city council's administrative area.

"This maintenance work will cover Subang Jaya, Puchong, Kinrara and Seri Kembangan.

"It started in early October and is expected to take four months to complete," the mayor added.

It involves pruning tree branches, assessing tree structures and felling trees identified as high-risk.

Amirul said the initiative was part of MBSJ's ongoing efforts to reduce the risk of trees toppling and to protect the safety of residents and motorists.

On the dengue situation, he said MBSJ recorded 6,927 cases as of epidemiology week 41.

"There is one hotspot locality at Apartment Seri Mutiara in Putra Heights and two uncontrolled epidemic localities at Taman Bukit Serdang 9 and Jalan Intan area in Batu Tiga," he said.

According to Health Ministry, a hotspot is when the epidemic period exceeds 30 days, while an uncontrolled epidemic is when more than 14 days have passed since the onset of the second case.

THE STAR ONLINE
TARIKH : 28 OKTOBER 2024

MBSJ car-free day draws 2,000



Fire and Rescue Department personnel showing how to put out a small kitchen fire.

SUBANG Jaya City Council (MBSJ) held its final Car-Free Day for 2024 at a new location in conjunction with the city's fourth anniversary.

"For the first time, the Car-Free Day programme was held in Kinrara zone, specifically at Giant Hypermarket in Bandar Kinrara, Puchong," MBSJ's corporate and strategic management department said in a statement.

"Over 2,000 participants across different ages and community segments attended the event, which marked the fourth such programme this year."

The event featured a lineup of engaging activities and lucky draw prizes comprising electrical goods valued at over RM6,000.

Among the activities were a police canine unit showcase, firefighting and high-rise rescue demonstration by the Fire and Rescue Department, fun run, leisure ride, 3-on-3 street soccer, eco market, dengue awareness programme, colouring contest and health screenings.

Visitors also had the opportunity to try the Trek Rides demand-responsive transit (DRT) service offered by Asia Mobiliti for free.



Participants running on traffic-free streets in Bandar Kinrara, Puchong, during MBSJ's Car-Free Day.

"This service made it easier for visitors to reach the event location by parking their vehicles at designated commercial areas and taking a Trek Rides van," MBSJ said.

The city council expressed hope that the car-free programme would promote a healthy lifestyle and environmental sustainability through a low-carbon framework.

"In conjunction with MBSJ's fourth anniversary, the city council is offering an incentive of RM15 for the first 20,000 account holders that pay their assessment taxes in full before Oct 31," Subang Jaya mayor Datuk Amirul Azizan Abd Rahim said in his speech.

"To qualify, they must pay their taxes through EzyPay or MBSJ kiosks and not have any arrears.

"The RM15 adjustment will be made in January next year."

MBSJ's EzyPay can be accessed via ezy.mbsj.gov.my/ or by downloading the app.

MBSJ was granted city status on Oct 20, 2020.

Locations for its 2025 car-free events have yet to be confirmed.

THE STAR ONLINE

TARIKH : 28 OKTOBER 2024

By EDWARD RAJENDRA
edward@thestar.com.my

Star
24/10
(MBSJ)

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THE STAR

28 OCT 2024

Tarikh:.....

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By JADE CHAN
jade@thestar.com.my

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THE STAR

Tarikh: 28 OCT 2024



(Above) Fire and Rescue Department personnel showing how to put out a small kitchen fire.



(Right) Participants running on traffic-free streets in Bandar Kinrara, Puchong, during MBSJ's Car-Free Day.

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Event moves to Bandar Kinrara, offers demand-responsive transit at no cost

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THE STAR

28 OCT 2024

Tarikh:.....

LICENCE RENEWAL 26/10

Subang Jaya City Council (MBSJ) will set up licence renewal counters for morning and night markets as well as food court traders in Subang Jaya, Kinrara, Puchong and Putra Heights at MBSJ Multipurpose Hall, USJ 7 from Nov 4 to 13. The same counters will be open for traders in Serdang and Seri Kembangan from Nov 18 to 26 at MBSJ 3K Complex, Serdang Raya, Seri Kembangan. For details, call 03-80264324 (MBSJ Licensing Department).

THE STAR

Tarikh: 28 OCT 2024

KLANG Royal City Council (MBDK) issued compounds totalling RM10,000 to five business premises in Telok Gong, Port Klang, which were operating without a valid business licence.

The spot-checks were carried out in three wood-based factories, a manure packing firm, and a warehouse.

MBDK Licensing Department

Unlicensed businesses in Port Klang fined RM10,000

director Zate Aziana Abdul Rahman said the three wood-based factories and the manure packing firm had been operating without licence since last year.

"Our initial checks revealed that the wood-based factories

and manure packing firm had failed to renew their licences.

"The warehouse built in the same area was also operating without licence," she said.

It is understood that the wood-based factories were manufacturing furniture parts.

Zate said that under the city council's Licensing, Trade, Business and Industry (MPK) By-Laws 2007, compounds were issued to owners for not having valid business premises licences.

She said MBDK, however, did not shut down the businesses

but only issued fines.
"We had to weigh the economic aspects and allow the businesses to continue as all had agreed to renew their business premises licence with immediate effect," she said. — By
EDWARD RAJENDRA

THE STAR

2 8 OCT 2024

Tarikh:.....

DBKL to repair abandoned lifts at Brickfields overhead bridge

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THE unused lift shaft of a pedestrian bridge in Brickfields, Kuala Lumpur, which has been kept locked for over a decade, will soon be repaired and upgraded.

A Kuala Lumpur City Hall (DBKL) spokesperson confirmed that a tender process would begin soon to appoint contractors to fix the lifts and instal additional closed-circuit television (CCTV) cameras.

The bridge is located in front of an Indian vegetarian restaurant and a pawn shop, and across from the Shell building along Jalan Tun Sambanthan.

The upgrades will make it more disabled-friendly and enhance safety.

The project, approved by DBKL's project development committee, is expected to be completed within a year.

The spokesperson said the decision was based on a survey conducted during public engagement sessions on Sept 10, 2021, and Aug 15, 2023.

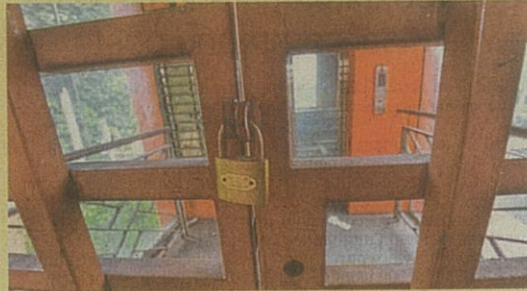
"A series of discussions were held with various associations and stakeholders, particularly the visually impaired who emphasised the need for upgrades to ensure their safety.

"We have to care for the less fortunate, and the committee made the final decision," added the spokesperson.

In response, Malaysian Association for the Blind (MAB) chief executive officer Datuk George Thomas confirmed that the association and its members had requested the retention of the bridge and repair of its lifts.

"This bridge is situated on a major street with heavy traffic, surrounded by many offices, and the road is quite wide.

"We felt that repairing the bridge would better serve the community rather than demolishing it," he said.



DBKL plans to repair the lift facility at the pedestrian bridge on Jalan Tun Sambanthan for public use. — RAJA FAISAL HISHAN/The Star

MAB had, however, requested for a bridge with lifts in front of its office in Jalan Tebing, off Jalan Tun Sambanthan 4, to be demolished as it had become a white elephant from lack of use and due to safety concerns.

DBKL removed the lift shaft in 2021. The bridge itself was demolished the same year at a cost of RM300,000 following public complaints that it was unsafe and posed a threat to the blind community.

"That bridge wasn't serving any purpose since the road was very narrow. And it had become a hangout for vagrants and drug addicts, which posed a threat to our staff. But this one is different," he added.

Thomas said MAB preferred if DBKL focused on installing more signalised traffic lights for the visually impaired, rather than building bridges.

However, some stakeholders are not happy with the news of repairs to the Jalan Tun Sambanthan bridge.

"I attended the meetings (with DBKL), and a few of us were against the bridge being there in the first place, as the lift structure blocked the front of my shop," said United Tapah Resources Sdn Bhd director Yuvapandian Ramasamy who operates a pawn shop.

"When they built it, they didn't get the lift shaft certified by the Occupational Safety and Health Department (DOSH), which is why it has been locked for almost 10 years.

"The lift shaft faces the entrance to my shop, and the lift has never been opened to the public," he added.

Another stakeholder, N. Panchacharam owns the building adjacent to the pedestrian bridge and confirmed its disuse.

"The lift has been locked for so long that the authorities should just remove the lift shaft entirely," said Panchacharam.

"Even if they fix the lifts, it will be underutilised and become a hangout for vagrants," he said, adding that DBKL should properly plan their bridges as many had become white elephants.

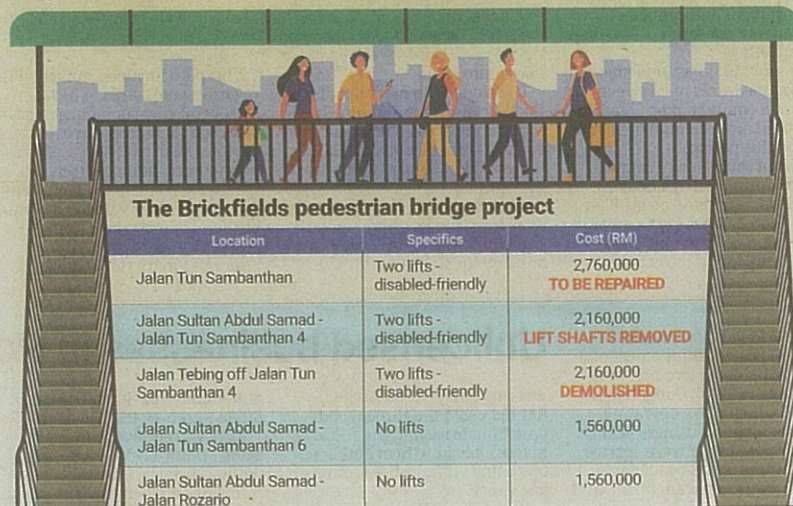
In 2010, DBKL announced plans to build pedestrian bridges to benefit the community, including the visually impaired.

Five bridges were constructed (see graphic) along Jalan Tun Sambanthan and Jalan Sultan Abdul Samad at a cost of over RM10mil.

Three of the bridges, each costing over RM2mil, were equipped with six lifts designed for the disabled.

However, these bridges became white elephants, with stakeholders urging DBKL to remove them.

Apart from the bridge near MAB, a second — located at Wisma Harapan and connecting to SK (P) Methodist Brickfields on Jalan Tun Sambanthan 4 — was considered for demolition but was ultimately spared, though its lift shaft was removed. — By BAVANI M



Source: Kuala Lumpur City Hall

The Star graphics

THE STAR

28 OCT 2024

Tarikh:.....

Local councils urged to support revelry

KUALA LUMPUR: Local authorities, particularly Kuala Lumpur City Hall (DBKL) and district councils nationwide, have been urged to install Deepavali decorations in areas with significant Indian communities.

MIC vice-president Datuk T. Murugiah said residents from several areas, including Batu 2½, Jalan Ipoh, and Jalan Kuil in Hilir Sentul, have expressed disappointment over the absence of Deepavali decorations in their neighbourhoods despite the approaching celebration.

He said these decorations bring joy to the community and serve as a symbol of togetherness, honouring the Indian community ahead of Deepavali on Thursday.

"Festive decorations also offer international tourists a glimpse into Malaysia's rich cultural diversity, potentially boosting the tourism sector.

"I hope local authorities take swift action to make this Deepavali a vibrant and memorable celebration for the Indian community, reflecting Malaysia's inclusive spirit," he said. — Bernama

THE STAR

28 OCT 2024

Tarikh:.....

Ratings of 12 local governments downgraded

By **TARRENCE TAN**
tarrence@thestar.com.my

PETALING JAYA: Twelve local authorities have had their ratings downgraded on the Local Authority Star Rating System (SPB-PBT) following the inclusion of a new anti-corruption checkbox, says Nga Kor Ming.

The Housing and Local Government Minister said the indicator on corruption was added to address corruption at the town council and district levels, and this new benchmark triggered the downgrading of the 12 local authorities (PBTs).

However, he stopped short of naming the 12 local authorities.

"This is the first time in history where we included anti-corruption elements in the local council star rating system.

"With the new assessment system, I would like to announce that 12 PBTs have been downgraded," Nga told reporters after the first day of the 2024 Local Government Convention here yesterday.

He said counselling would be given to the 12 downgraded PBTs, with the anti-graft element in line with the National Anti-Corruption Strategy that was approved by the Cabinet.

"PBTs will be a role model so that we are friendly to residents and investors," Nga said, adding that all states – except Kelantan, Kedah and Perlis – had set up integrity units in accordance with a recent circular from Putrajaya.

"For states without integrity units in their PBTs, I hope they will take the initiative to do so after this convention.

"I'm not asking PBTs to set up



Show of hands: Nga (centre) posing with the audience during the convention. — AZLINA ABDULLAH/The Star

integrity units with 100 people. Even if it has one or two officers, it is enough.

"In a globalised era, all of us, including myself, should be multi-tasking," said Nga, who nonetheless added that there was currently no deadline on PBTs to set up integrity units.

"This is in line with the National Anti-Corruption Strategy. We will work with the Malaysian Anti-Corruption Commission," he said.

Meanwhile, Nga said his ministry aimed to shorten the licensing approval process for "no-risk" businesses such as grocery stalls or food courts to within a day.

"Apply in the morning and get it approved by evening.

"That is part of our digital transformation plan.

"For high-risk businesses such as veterinary clinics, night clubs and others, we try to approve licences within 14 days," he said.

Earlier, Deputy Prime Minister Datuk Seri Fadillah Yusof said PBTs should prioritise drainage management to reduce risks of flash floods, especially in densely populated areas.

According to Fadillah, effective runoff management is important due to the increased incidences of intense rainfall.

"That is why planning is important in the context of sustainable development. Look at not just traffic flow, but also drainage and future energy needs," said Fadillah when officiating the convention earlier.

"This will be one of the chal-

lenges. I hope each PBT will draft urban development plans within this comprehensive context. Towns may face floods if runoff is not managed effectively."

After the event, Fadillah told reporters that smart cities must include sustainable development tools in its planning.

He also said an intelligent transport system should be considered to facilitate movements in smart cities.

"These are future challenges. If we don't manage this, it will put pressure on people's lives," he added.

FOR MORE:
See pages 16-17

THE STAR

28 OCT 2024

Tarikh:.....

High-tech tents for disaster response

S'gor boosts preparedness with new tactical command posts

Story and photos by CY LEE
chenyoong@thestar.com.my

SELANGOR government has handed over three tactical tents to the state contingent police headquarters as part of efforts to boost disaster preparedness.

The three Incident Command Post (PKTK) tents were purchased for RM300,000 using funds from the Selangor Prihatin initiative, aimed at enhancing the state's capacity to manage emergencies.

Selangor Menteri Besar Datuk Seri Amirudin Shari said the acquisition of the PKTK tents reflected the state's commitment to ensuring that disaster response teams were fully equipped.

"These PKTK tents are an important addition to our disaster management arsenal because their quick deployment capability means we can start coordinating rescue efforts within minutes of reaching a site.

"These tents will allow the emergency personnel to respond

swiftly and efficiently to any emergency situation, as time is crucial during disasters such as floods and landslides," he said.

The PKTK tents placed under the care of the state police headquarters are expected to assist authorities in managing logistics, rescue operations and communication during these incidents.

"The tents can serve multiple purposes. For example, if there is a medical emergency, the same tent can be used for that purpose," Amirudin highlighted.

Made in Malaysia under licence by French company Utilis, the tents are designed to be operational control centres at disaster sites.

Designed to facilitate rapid response in urgent situations, it took six men just six minutes to deploy a tent during a demonstration outside the state secretariat building in Shah Alam.

Amirudin said the field-tested design and materials, used by European armed forces, ensure the durability and reliability of

the tents in extreme conditions.

He added that Selangor would look into sourcing mobile WiFi technology to be deployed under the same conditions, to increase operational capabilities during crises.

The handover event was also attended by representatives from the National Disaster Management Agency (Nadma), local councils as well as security agencies including the police, Civil Defence Force, Fire and Rescue Department and the 11th Infantry Brigade from Camp Sungai Buloh.



Amirudin flanked by Selangor executive councillor in charge of disaster management Mohd Najwan Halimi (left) and Selangor Police Chief Comm Datuk Hussein Omar Khan during the tactical tent handover ceremony in Shah Alam.



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28 OCT 2024

Tarikh:.....

By BAVANI M and LEW GUAN XI
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PEDESTRIAN bridges are typically designed to enhance safety, but in some cases, they fail to achieve this objective because they are ignored by pedestrians.

Subsequently, these structures become more of a concern than a solution, raising questions about their true effectiveness and usage.

Notable examples are pedestrian bridges in Brickfields, Kuala Lumpur, intended to serve the visually impaired community and the elderly in particular.

However, some of these bridges have turned into eyesores littered with rubbish and frequented by vagrants and drug addicts.

This led the local government to demolish one bridge two years ago and remove the lift shafts of another nearby.

The move proved to be an expensive lesson for Kuala Lumpur City Hall (DBKL), as the demolition and removal cost about RM400,000.

Stakeholders had protested the construction of these bridges, as they predicted the structures would become white elephants.

At least three footbridges were built on narrow streets with low traffic or near other viable crossing options.

For instance, bridges on Jalan Sultan Abdul Samad (near Wisma Harapan) and Jalan Rozario (connecting to Sentral Suites) are both located right next to street-level pedestrian crossings.

In Cheras, a Jalan Ikan Emas pedestrian bridge to cross busy Jalan Loke Yew was found to be in poor condition.

The bridge was littered with leaves and rubbish, its lift non-operational and a stall was set up in front of the lift.

Moreover, the passage for pedestrians to access the bridge from Jalan Ikan Emas was blocked.

Road Safety Engineering and Environment Centre (REER) director Dr Rizati Hamidun said

Ensuring pedestrians cross city roads safely

Some prefer bridges while others opt for signalised crossings

that while some older pedestrian bridges in Kuala Lumpur had limitations, demolishing them was not cost-effective.

"Although some bridges may not be fully utilised, with the right improvements, they can still serve their purpose," she said.

Rizati's team conducted a comprehensive study across 16 sites in Kuala Lumpur, examining pedestrian behaviour and bridge usage.

The study categorised bridges by location – school zones, residential areas, amenity hubs and business districts.

It monitored sites near schools (Jalan Raja Abdullah, Jalan Tun Sambanthan and Jalan Ampang), residential areas (Jalan Hang Tuah and Bangsar), transport hubs such as mass rapid transit (MRT) and light rail transit (LRT) stations, and business districts (Jalan Raja Laut).

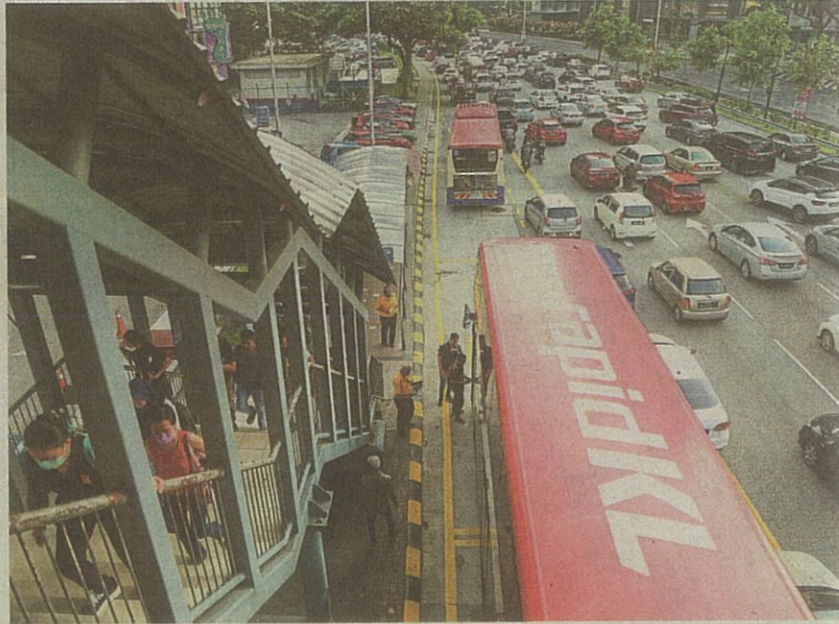
The study found that bridges are most effective in high-activity zones, such as near schools and residential areas, but less so in business districts unless integrated seamlessly with pedestrian flow.

Key findings highlighted the importance of strategic placement, traffic volume and convenience.

Bridges worked best where traffic was dense and physical barriers helped direct pedestrian movement, said Rizati.

"However, proximity to traffic lights often result in low usage of a bridge as pedestrians prefer street-level crossings.

"Our recommendation is to place pedestrian bridges strategi-



Bridges are most effective in high-activity zones, such as near schools and residential areas. — YAP CHEE HONG/The Star

cally: away from traffic lights, where traffic volume is high and use fencing to guide pedestrians," she said.

The study also addressed reducing jaywalking through strategic placement of pedestrian facilities and railings to guide pedestrian flow to designated crossings.

"Future urban planning must consider these factors to develop more efficient and safer crossing facilities," said Rizati.

She pointed out that crossing carelessly and failure to use designated pedestrian facilities were leading causes of fatalities.

In 2023, over 200 pedestrian deaths were attributed to such behaviour.

Between 2019 and 2023, 1,662 pedestrians lost their lives in Malaysia, with a notable decline in 2020 because there were fewer people on the roads during the Covid-19 pandemic.

To address these safety issues, Rizati advocates for compliance with MS 1184, which is Malaysia's standard for universal design and accessibility in the built environment.

"Adopting universal design principles for pedestrian bridge design is a proactive approach to improving safety, accessibility and usability.

"By ensuring that bridges are inclusive and cater to diverse needs, cities like Kuala Lumpur can significantly reduce jaywalking incidents, minimise road accidents and encourage safer pedestrian behaviour," she elaborated.

These standards offer a sustainable solution that aligns with modern urban planning goals,



Rizati says while older bridges have limitations, demolishing them is not cost-effective.



Ahmad Daniel says as a wheelchair user, he prefers using pedestrian bridges.

fostering a connected and accessible city for all.

"We all want to live in an environment that is accessible, usable and inclusive for everyone, regardless of age or ability.

"The MS 1184 standard promotes features that ensure safety, comfort and accessibility, which are crucial in public infrastructure such as pedestrian bridges," said Rizati.

Implementing these principles could be key to reducing pedestrian deaths, as safer infrastructure encouraged proper usage and reduced risky behaviour, she said.

Echoing her sentiment is Damai Disabled Persons Association Malaysia president Murugeswaran Veerasamy, who said pedestrian bridges must be fully accessible to people with disabilities, including those using wheelchairs or mobility aids.

"Apart from ensuring there are ramps, lifts, handrails and other features that comply with

accessibility standards, bridges should be located near areas with high pedestrian traffic."

Murugeswaran also emphasised the importance of proper lighting and monitoring to ensure pedestrian safety, especially at night.

"Bridges should be designed to prevent accidents and discourage loitering or unsafe activities.

"Consultation with the local and disabled communities is essential to identify the most suitable locations for these bridges," he said.

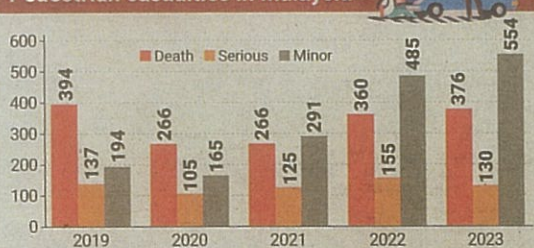
However, he preferred signalised traffic lights and pedestrian crossings over bridges with lifts.

"Signalised crossings are a better option for people with disabilities, as they allow for easier and safer navigation across busy streets.

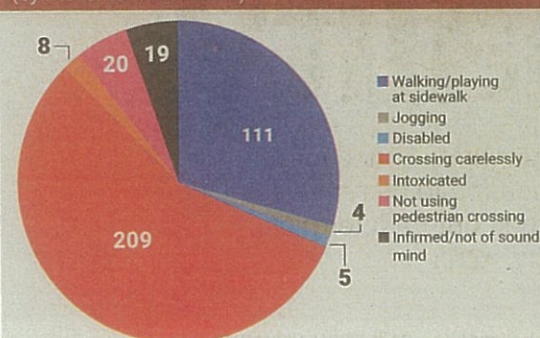
"Bridges with lifts are only convenient when no other options are available," he said.

Persatuan OKU Sentral deputy president Ahmad Daniel Sharan

Pedestrian casualties in Malaysia



Pedestrian deaths in Malaysia 2023 (by movement behaviour)



Source: The police.

The Star graphics



Underutilised Pedestrian Overhead Bridges in Kuala Lumpur



Jalan Sultan Abdul Samad, Brickfields
(Near Wisma Harapan)



Jalan Rozario, Brickfields
(Connecting to Sentral Suites)



Jalan Tuanku Abdul Rahman, Chow Kit
(Near Chow Kit monorail station)



Jalan Ikan Emas, Cheras
(Cutting across Jalan Loke Yew)



Jalan Tun Sambanthan, Brickfields
(Near Menara Shell)

Popular Pedestrian Overhead Bridges in Kuala Lumpur



Saloma link bridge



KLCC - Bukit Bintang Walkway



MRT Cochrane - Sunway
Velocity link bridge



Bandaraya LRT station -
SOGO Mall link bridge



KL Sentral monorail station -
NU Sentral link bridge

The Star graphics

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Tarikh:.....

holds a different view, preferring pedestrian bridges over signalised crossings.

"As a wheelchair user, I find pedestrian bridges better for crossing roads, as long as they are equipped with lifts."

He pointed out that pedestrian facilities in Kuala Lumpur were often incoherent, with infrastructure built by different agencies that failed to coordinate.

"For example, train stations might provide sufficient facilities such as tactile indicators and ramps for people with disabilities, but once we leave the station, such facilities are lacking."

"Navigating the roads without an assistant is challenging, and the city's design is still not holistic enough for people with disabilities to feel safe," said Ahmad Daniel.

Social activist Benedict Lopez believes that although lifts and escalators can improve the quality of pedestrian bridges, people of all ages need to be encouraged to use them.

"The authorities need to identify suitable and strategic spots to build user-friendly bridges that everyone will actually use," he said.

For Brickfields resident Ramoo Muthusamy, 79, walking is now a challenge.

"I rely on a walking frame to get around. I can no longer use pedestrian bridges, so I feel DBKL should focus on building more signalised traffic junctions instead of bridges."

"It would make life much easier for people like me who need safer, more accessible ways to cross the street," said Ramoo.

Wheelchair user Hemavathy Muniandy, 25, also finds getting around a constant challenge.

"Many places just aren't built with people like me in mind."

"Steep ramps, uneven pavements and broken lifts make it difficult to navigate even short distances."

"I often find myself stuck, having to rely on strangers for help or taking long detours to find an accessible route."

"Simple tasks like crossing the road or using pedestrian bridges become daunting, especially when there are no signalised crossings or proper ramps."

"Without the proper facilities, these bridges just end up becoming white elephants," said Hemavathy.

'Anti-graft criteria vital in local govt evaluation'

PETALING JAYA: Incorporating anti-corruption criteria in the evaluation of local governments will enhance transparency and performance, says Tan Sri Azam Baki.

The Malaysian Anti-Corruption Commission chief commissioner said the anti-graft agency is prepared to provide assistance and training if needed.

"This measure is essential in strengthening integrity, governance and accountability to achieve an efficient, clean and effective public service system," he said in a statement yesterday.

Azam also urged local councils to establish integrity units as these units are crucial in curbing criminal misconduct and violations of disciplinary ethics at the agency level.

He said the Malaysia Anti-Corruption Academy, an internationally recognised institution under the commission, would assist in delivering anti-corruption and integrity-related training programmes.

Housing and Local Government Minister Nga Kor Ming last Saturday said that 12 local governments (PBT) had their ratings downgraded under the Local Authority Star Rating System (SPB-PBT).

He said this was because his ministry had introduced anti-corruption criteria in the SPB-PBT to tackle corruption at town council and district levels, adding that the new anti-graft element in the SPB-PBT system is aligned with the National Anti-Corruption Strategy approved by the Cabinet.

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Bentuk unit integriti dalam PBT

SHSH ALAM - Penurunan skor dan kedudukan 12 pihak berkuasa tempatan (PBT) di bawah Sistem Penarafan Bintang PBT (SPB-PBT) susulan penyenaian kriteria baharu berkaitan pencegahan rasuah perlu diambil secara positif bagi membaiki kelemahan masing-masing.

Presiden Transparency International Malaysia (TI-M), Dr Muhammad Mohan berkata, dasar baharu itu juga mencerminkan kesungguhan Kementerian Perumahan dan Kerajaan Tempatan (KPKT) untuk meningkatkan prestasi terutamanya dalam aspek integriti.

"Usaha KPKT untuk memasukkan komponen rasuah SPB-PBT amat dialu-alukan. Sepatutnya komponen rasuah ini dimasukkan dari awal lagi. Usaha ini boleh meningkatkan lagi integriti dalam PBT.

"Penurunan skor dan kedudukan di beberapa PBT adalah sesuatu yang harus diambil secara positif dan cuba perbaiki apa-apa kelemahan dan berusaha meningkatkan prestasi. Itulah semangat yang sepatutnya ada pada PBT," katanya ketika dihubungi Sinar Harian pada Ahad.

Menteri Perumahan dan Kerajaan Tempatan, Nga Kor Ming pada Sabtu mendedahkan sejumlah 12 PBT diturunkan penarafan di bawah SPB-PBT susulan penyenaian kriteria baharu berkaitan pencegahan rasuah.



MOHAN

Beliau bagaimanapun tidak mendedahkan senarai 12 PBT yang dimaksudkannya itu selain menegaskan kriteria penilaian baharu tersebut diwujudkan bagi memastikan negara dapat meningkatkan kedudukannya dalam kedudukan indeks persepsi rasuah (CPI).

Sementara itu, Muhammad mencadangkan supaya skor dan ranking SPB PBT dijadikan sebagai petunjuk prestasi utama (KPI) ketua PBT dan secara tidak langsung turut diturunkan kepada pegawai bawahan.

Beliau dalam masa sama turut mengesyorkan supaya papan pemuka dan pencapaian dibentuk bagi membuktikan ketelusan dalam menjaga integriti.

"Melalui papan pemuka yang diwujudkan nanti ia boleh menunjukkan pencapaian PBT lain untuk dijadikan rujukan atau panduan kepada yang lain," katanya.

Selain itu, Muhammad turut menggesa supaya KPKT dan SPRM bekerjasama untuk membentuk unit integriti dalam PBT pada kadar segera.

Ini kerana katanya, PBT di negeri-negeri belum mempunyai unit berkenaan.

"Usaha ini tidak memerlukan kos atau beban yang besar kerana tenaga kerja yang diperlukan untuk setiap unit integriti hanya melibatkan dua atau tiga orang sahaja," katanya.

SINAR HARIAN

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Tarikh:

Jualan dalam talian jadi pilihan, kerajaan digesa wujudkan mekanisme adil bantu peniaga

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Pasar malam boleh lumpuh lima tahun lagi

Oleh NURHIDAYAH HAIROM
SHAH ALAM

Operasi perniagaan pasar malam seluruh negara dijangka lumpuh dalam tempoh sekurang-kurangnya lima tahun akan datang sekiranya tiada mekanisme yang adil daripada kerajaan untuk memastikan per-



Laporan muka depan Sinar Ahad.

niagaan dalam talian tidak terus menggugat mata pencarian penaja dan peniaga kecil.

Presiden Gabungan Persatuan Penaja dan Peniaga Malaysia (G3PM), Datuk Seri Rosli Sulaiman berkata, meskipun pihaknya menggalakkan golongan peniaga menerokai perniagaan secara dalam talian, realitinya ia bukan perkara mudah dan sesuai untuk semua golongan lebih-lebih lagi bagi peniaga makanan yang bergantung kepada jumlah kehadiran pengunjung secara fizikal.

Kerana itu menurutnya, dengan adanya perniagaan dalam talian, sukar untuk pasar malam kembali hidup seperti kemeriahan era 1980-an yang menyaksikan kehadiran ramai pengguna mencari pelbagai barangan keperluan termasuk barangan kering yang dijual.

"Jika kerajaan tidak ambil langkah untuk sekat sistem perniagaan dalam talian ini, peniaga-peniaga pasar malam tidak ada pengunjung.

"Kalau nak kekal sistem dalam talian ini, perlu ada satu kaedah yang lebih terperinci dan menyeluruh supaya tidak gugat golongan peniaga kecil ini.

"Saya lihat jika keadaan seperti sekarang dibiarkan, lima tahun akan datang, pasar malam akan pudar kerana tiada lagi pengunjung. Mungkin apabila peniaga-peniaga kehabisan modal, operasi perniagaan akan lumpuh," katanya kepada Sinar Harian pada Ahad.



ROSLI

Beliau mengulas laporan muka depan Sinar Ahad berhubung perniagaan pasar malam yang semakin malap apabila trend jualan dalam talian dikatakan 'membunuh' kemeriahan pasar malam di negara ini khususnya peniaga pakaian, aksesori dan kosmetik kerana

ia didakwa lebih mudah, murah serta banyak pilihan.

Jumlah peniaga pasar malam juga dilaporkan berkurangan dan kebanyakan yang masih bertahan adalah peniaga makanan yang turut berdepan tekanan kos harga bahan mentah yang semakin meningkat.

Mengulas lanjut, Rosli berkata, perkembangan itu se-

memangnya realiti yang sedang berlaku, tidak terkecuali bagi operasi perniagaan pasar malam di Kuala Lumpur (KL) yang mempunyai populasi dan kuasa membeli lebih tinggi.

Ujarnya, sejumlah 99 tapak pasar malam di ibu negara dengan lebih 12,000 peniaga turut mengalami kemerosotan sekurang-kurangnya 30 peratus selain menyaksikan ramai peniaga mengurangkan hari operasi di tapak-tapak tertentu disebabkan sambutan yang kurang memberangsangkan.

"Jika KL pun merosot, bagaimana dengan peniaga-peniaga luar? Keuntungan semua cukup makan sahaja. Hasil jualan tidak boleh nak menyimpan.

"Bila mata pencarian mereka merosot, ia juga akan jejas kan kesihatan mental dan institusi kekeluargaan," ulasnya.

SINAR HARIAN
Tarikh: 28 OCT 2024

Selangor belum cadang dasar inap hotel 23 jam

8/11 28/10

Tidak mahu jejakkan
penggiat industri hotel

Oleh MOHD IZZATUL IZUAN TAHIR
KUALA SELANGOR

Kerajaan negeri Selangor belum bercadang menetapkan dasar menginap sekurang-kurangnya 23 jam di semua hotel di negeri ini.

Exco Pelancongan dan Kerajaan Tempatan, Datuk Ng Suee Lim berkata, buat masa ini, tempoh masa daftar masuk dan keluar hotel di Selangor masih kekal sama seperti sebelumnya.

Menurutnya, kerajaan negeri peka dengan isu itu kerana tidak mahu sesuatu peraturan ditetapkan menjejaskan ekosistem perniagaan penggiat industri hotel di negeri ini.

"Kita melihat perkara ini secara teorinya mungkin nampak indah, tetapi secara praktikal tidak mudah untuk dilaksanakan.

"Dasar ini belum sesuai dan tidak kondusif kerana pengusaha hotel perlu mengupah pekerja bagi melakukan (kerja-kerja) pembersihan semula yang tentunya mengambil masa antara dua atau tiga jam," katanya.

Beliau berkata demikian ketika ditemui semasa *Festival of Wings 2024* di Taman Alam, Bukit Malawati, Kuala Selangor pada Ahad.

Bagaimanapun, Suee Lim memberitahu, kerajaan negeri melalui pihak berkuasa tempatan (PBT) juga akan mengadakan perbincangan dan sesi libat urus dengan penggiat industri hotel bagi mendengar pandangan dan membuat satu ketetapan yang jelas.

"Sebelum dasar dibuat kita mesti mendengar pandangan mereka (pengusaha hotel) terlebih dahulu kerana kita tidak boleh menekan dalam konteks ini.

"Apa yang lebih penting adalah tentang soal kebersihan dan harga ditawarkan pihak pengusaha hotel memuaskan hati semua pihak," katanya.



Suee Lim (tiga dari kiri) menyampaikan cenderahati kepada salah seorang penerima semasa *Festival of Wings 2024* di Taman Alam, Bukit Malawati, Kuala Selangor pada Ahad.

Pendapatan T15 belum diputuskan

Kategori tersebut sedang diteliti agar penyasaran subsidi adil diberikan kepada semua pihak

Oleh NOOR AINON
MOHAMED YUSOF
IPOH

Kerajaan masih belum memutuskan tahap pendapatan bagi kategori T15 bagi memastikan penyasaran subsidi adil kepada semua pihak.

Perdana Menteri, Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim berkata, kategori tersebut sedang dicerakin dengan lebih teliti agar penyasaran subsidi itu tidak memberi kesan negatif kepada 85 peratus rakyat.

"Ada orang marah sebab ia T15.... Siapa kata (T15 adalah) RM12,000? Ia belum diputuskan kerana kita hendak tengok apakah T15 itu mampu bayar.

"Kalau tidak mampu jadi T10 atau tingkatan T15 itu menjadi pendapatan yang lebih tinggi daripada RM12,000 sekarang, belum lagi putus," katanya ketika berucap pada Konvensyen Keadilan Perak, Memaknai Reformasi Menjelang Madani di sini pada Ahad.

Menurut Anwar, pembangkang sewajarnya memberi cadangan dan bukannya



Anwar (dua dari kanan) ketika hadir merasmikan Konvensyen Keadilan Negeri Perak pada Ahad.

mempertahankan golongan T15. "Sepatutnya pembangkang, mereka cadang tidak setuju T15 itu melibatkan RM12,000 mungkin perlu naik RM15,000 atau RM18,000.

"Ini tidak mereka mempertahankan T15. T15 itu ada yang pendapatan RM1 juta sebulan dan ada yang RM100,000 sebulan. Kalau pendapatan rendah kita bawa dan bagi pertimbangan.

"Kita tidak mahu bebankan rakyat kerana yang pentingnya kita perlu mewakili 85 peratus yang tidak terkesan daripada kenaikan ini," katanya.

Dalam pembentangan Belanjawan 2025 pada 18

Oktober lalu, Anwar menyatakan beberapa subsidi akan dikurangkan bagi golongan T15 dan perkara itu menimbulkan reaksi oleh ramai pihak mengenai pengelasan golongan T15 berkenaan.

Ahli Parlimen Muar, Syed Saddiq Syed Abdul Rahman turut mempersoal tindakan kerajaan yang membuat pengumuman mengenai kategori pendapatan T15 sebelum memperincikan kriteria golongan berkenaan.

Katanya, tindakan sedemikian boleh menimbulkan kekeliruan mengenai golongan T15 yang didakwa menggunakan subsidi bahan api sehingga RM8 bilion.

SINAR HARIAN

Tarikh: 28 OCT 2024....

92 bot bersedia hadapi banjir di Selangor ^{HM} 28/10

Petaling Jaya: Sebanyak 92 bot ditempatkan di 38 Balai Bomba dan Penyelamat (BBP) di seluruh Selangor sebagai persediaan Jabatan Bomba dan Penyelamat Malaysia (JBPM) menghadapi musibah banjir.

Pengarah JPBM Selangor, Wan Md Razali Wan Ismail berkata, pihaknya sentiasa bersedia dengan aset dan logistik terutama pada tempoh bermula Monsun Timur Laut pada Oktober ini hingga Mac tahun depan.

“Walaupun Selangor tidak tersenarai menerima taburan hujan yang banyak berikutan Monsun Timur Laut, tetapi kami ambil iktibar daripada pengalaman yang berlaku pada 2021.

“Ketika itu, terdapat tujuh daerah yang terkesan akibat banjir termasuk di Hulu Langat dan Klang. Ini termasuk juga kawasan Sri Muda, Shah Alam yang menyaksikan kesan

banjir begitu ketara.

“Susulan itu, kami sentiasa memastikan aset mencukupi termasuk 92 bot yang dibekalkan di semua balai bomba di negeri ini bagi menghadapi banjir,” katanya.

Beliau ditemui pada Majlis Reunion Mantan Pegawai Bomba BBP Jalan Penchala di balai bomba berkenaan di sini, semalam.

Wan Md Razali berkata, pihaknya peka dengan bencana banjir kilat susulan keadaan cuaca tidak menentu ketika ini.

“Apabila kami menerima laporan daripada Jabatan Meteorologi, kami akan beri isyarat pada bomba berhampiran supaya bersedia terutama jika lokasi itu mengalami hujan lebih satu jam.

“Selain banjir kilat, kami juga bersedia berdepan dengan bencana alam lain seperti tanah runtuh dan kepala air mengambil kira keadaan cuaca tidak menentu ketika ini,” katanya.

HARIAN METRO

Tarikh: **28 OCT 2024**

HM 28/10

Kutipan hasil Selangor berjumlah RM2.2b setakat bulan ini

Klang: Kerajaan Negeri Selangor mencatatkan kutipan hasil berjumlah RM2.218 bilion setakat bulan ini, melebihi sasaran awal ditetapkan pada RM2.2 bilion, kata Menteri Besar Datuk Seri Amirudin Shari.

Beliau berkata prestasi cemerlang itu ialah hasil daripada persekitaran ekonomi pelaburan yang me-

nunjukkan perkembangan positif melibatkan pembukaan beberapa kawasan baharu dan pembangunan yang memasuki Selangor.

"Ini tahun keempat kita capai lebih daripada sasaran, tahun lepas kutipan kita RM2.7 bilion, tahun sebelum itu RM2.5 bilion dan sebelumnya RM2.3 bilion."

"Dalam pertimbangan

kita, mungkin untuk tempoh dua bulan ini kita boleh capai lebih lagi dan kita sedang tunggu sebab sebahagiannya melibatkan isu tanah, kadang-kadang mereka bayar premium ataupun ada yang bayar tahun hadapan," katanya.

Beliau berkata demikian ketika ditemui selepas menghadiri Sambutan De-

epavali Peringkat Negeri Selangor di sini, kelmarin.

Amirudin berkata beliau juga optimis untuk Selangor mencapai sasaran ke-masukan nilai pelaburan berjumlah RM55 bilion menjelang akhir tahun ini berikutan jumlah semasa pelaburan terkumpul setakat ini yang berada pada RM35 bilion.

"Apa yang saya nak nyatakan konsistensi, tiap-tiap tahun kita berada dalam tiga teratas (sebagai penyumbang Keluaran Dalam Negara Kasar), ini menunjukkan ekosistem pelaburan dalam negeri ini adalah antara yang terbaik di Malaysia," katanya.

Dalam pada itu, Amirudin berkata kerajaan negeri

menerusi Program Pemberian Bantuan Baucar Jom Shopping Perayaan telah memperuntukkan sebanyak RM4.4 juta dengan sebanyak 22,000 baucar diagihkan kepada individu komuniti India dalam kategori B40 dalam meringankan beban mereka bagi menyambut perayaan Deepavali tahun ini.

HARIAN METRO

Tarikh: 28 OCT 2024...

Kuala Lumpur: Bekas Perdana Menteri Tun Dr Mahathir Mohamad menasihatkan semua orang supaya tidak terlalu mengikut selera makan yang hanya cenderung membuatkan seseorang itu obesiti.

Itu komen beliau ditanya mengenai rahsia beliau awet muda dan kekal sihat walaupun usianya 99 tahun tanpa masalah berat badan dan sangat diketahui umum sebagai seorang

Tun M nasihat orang ramai tak terlalu ikut selera makan

yang sentiasa menjaga pemakanan.

Negarawan yang pernah dua kali dilantik sebagai Perdana Menteri berkata, seseorang itu cukup bernasib baik apabila dapat mengelak daripada ditimpa penyakit membawa maut seperti kanser.



Anda perlu aktif. Jika anda tidak melakukan apa-apa dan berbaring sepanjang masa anda tidak akan sihat selamanya"

Dr Mahathir

"Anda mungkin cukup bernasib baik sekiranya tidak perlu menderita atau menghidap sebarang penyakit yang membawa maut seperti kanser.

"Meskipun pada masa sekarang penyakit jantung boleh dirawat termasuk saya juga dirawat, tetapi yang penting ialah mengelak obesiti, makan banyak atau makan berlebihan.

"Saya beritahu kepada orang ramai, berhenti makan walaupun makanan itu enak, yang mungkin suatu tabiat susah dilakukan pada permulaan," katanya ketika muncul dalam podcast istimewa 'Coffee with Ryan' siaran Pusat Perubatan Prince Court, kelmarin.

Dr Mahathir muncul bersama isterinya, Tun Dr Hasmah Mohamad Ali dalam temu bual yang dihoskan Pakar Perunding Gastroenterologi di Pusat Perubatan Prince Court, Datuk Dr Ryan Ponnudurai.

Pada 15 Oktober la-

lu, Dr Mahathir dimasukkan ke Institut Jantung Negara (IJN) akibat mengalami jangkitan saluran pernafasan selepas mengalami batuk.

Beliau mendapat cuti sakit selama 10 hari dengan IJN menyatakan bekas Perdana Menteri itu mendapat jangkitan saluran pernafasan bawah (lower respiratory tract infection).

Mengenai bagaimana beliau berjaya menangani kehidupan penuh tekanan, Dr Mahathir mengakui sebagai seorang yang mementingkan masa dan sentiasa aktif bergerak.

"Anda perlu aktif. Jika anda tidak melakukan apa-apa dan berbaring sepanjang masa anda tidak akan sihat selamanya.

"Orang ramai juga harus kekal aktif dan menggunakan otak mereka sepanjang masa untuk kekal berfungsi.

"Sama juga dengan otot anda, jika anda tidak menggunakannya, ia akan mengecut," katanya.

Bantu kerajaan rangka struktur polisi **babit AI**

PM lancar Pejabat Kecerdasan Buatan Kebangsaan 12 Disember

Oleh Izz Laily Hussein
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Johor Bahru

HM
28/10

Perdana Menteri Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim dijangka merasmikan Pejabat Kecerdasan Buatan Kebangsaan (NAIO) di Kuala Lumpur pada 12 Disember depan.

Menteri Digital, Gobind Singh Deo berkata, pejabat itu antara lain berfungsi membantu kerajaan merangka struktur polisi berkaitan sektor AI di negara ini.

Beliau berkata, NAIO ba-

kal memberi fokus kepada empat aspek iaitu pelaburan digital, inovasi, polisi dan tadbir urus.

"Pejabat AI Kebangsaan ini akan dilancarkan pada 12 Disember ini oleh Perdana Menteri di Kuala Lumpur.

"Ada beberapa aspek kita lihat dalam pembentukan Pejabat AI Kebangsaan, yang mana pertamanya mengenai pelaburan digital dalam sektor AI dan kedua, bagaimana kita pastikan inovasi dapat diperkasakan dalam AI.

"Ketiga, kita melihat juga aspek polisi dari sudut ke-

rajaan iaitu bagaimana polisi yang akan meningkatkan AI untuk bergerak ke depan dan keempat mengenai tadbir urus, sama ada perlukan undang-undang atau tidak dalam aspek AI," katanya.

Beliau berkata demikian ketika ditemui selepas Menteri Besar Johor, Datuk Onn Hafiz Ghazi merasmikan Data Center Supply Chain Ecosystem Summit, di sini, semalam.

Gobind Singh berkata, sebaik pelancaran Pejabat AI Kebangsaan itu, segala input mengenai keperluan industri AI akan di-

kumpulkan.

"Kita perlu menyiapkan negara ini bergerak ke arah AI. Jadi, apabila dilaksanakan, kita akan lihat bagaimana aspek ini dapat diimbangkan antara membawa kebaikan, tetapi dalam masa sama melihat risiko yang terlibat," katanya.

Gobind Singh turut mengesahkan Perbadanan Ekonomi Digital Malaysia (MDEC) akan membuka pejabat di daerah ini, bulan depan bertujuan membantu membawa Zon Ekonomi Khas Johor-Singapura (JS-SEZ) ke pasaran global.

HARIAN METRO

Tarikh: **28 OCT 2024**

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Kuala Lumpur

Kutipan cukai adalah tanggungjawab bersama iaitu hasilnya adalah untuk menyumbang kepada pembangunan negara dan bukannya 'rompakan' oleh kerajaan, kata ahli ekonomi tersohor negara.

Pengarah Institut Pembangunan dan Kemajuan Inkusif Malaysia, Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia (MIN-DA-UKM) Prof Tan Sri Dr Noor Azlan Ghazali berkata, kutipan cukai akan menjadi hasil kepada kerajaan, yang akan berbalik kepada pembangunan negara, sekali gus manfaatnya akan dinikmati semua.

Beliau berkata, purata cukai kepada Kadar Dalam Negara Kasar (KDNK) negara adalah sangat rendah dengan dalam tempoh 2010 dan 2021 adalah sekitar 11.7 peratus, lebih rendah berbanding negara Pertubuhan Kerjasama dan Pembangunan Ekonomi (OECD) yang mencatatkan sekitar 34.2 peratus.

Katanya, negara di Asia Pasifik seperti Jepun, Korea dan Australia pula mencatatkan purata sekitar 19.8 peratus, sementara negara Afrika sekitar 15.6 peratus dan Amerika Latin sekitar 21.7 peratus.

"Kutipan cukai kita, (berdasarkan) peratusan kepada KDNK sangat rendah. Saya amat berharap bahawa rakyat faham. Cukai itu bukanlah rompakan kerajaan.

"Cukai ini adalah tanggungjawab kita bersama untuk menyumbang supaya negara kita dapat membangun dengan baik," katanya pada sidang media khas Belanjawan 2025.



Jelebi istimewa

PENIAGA manisan, Jasbir Kaur, 51, menunjukkan jelebi yang siap digoreng sebelum direndamkan dengan air gula untuk dijual sempena perayaan Deepavali di Little India di Ipoh. Manisan jelebi adalah makanan tradisional bagi masyarakat India selain muruku. Selain manisan jelebi, kedai beroperasi setiap hari dari 9 pagi hingga 11 malam itu turut menjual pelbagai manisan lain. Sambutan Deepavali tidak bermakna tanpa hidangan kuih tradisional, manisan jelebi yang menjadi kudapan kegemaran bukan sahaja kaum India, tetapi semua lapisan masyarakat di negara ini.

SUMBANGAN CUKAI KEPADA PEMBANGUNAN NEGARA

BALIK SEMULA KEPADA RAKYAT

HM
28/10

Noor Azlan berkata, hasil cukai di negara ini mencatatkan aliran menurun sejak 2015 hingga 2020 dengan dari paras 14.1 peratus pada 2015 ke paras 10.9 peratus pada 2020.

Namun beliau berkata, pada tahun lalu, hasil cukai Malaysia meningkat sedikit kepada 12.6 peratus berbanding 11.7 peratus pada tahun sebelumnya.

Justeru, jelasnya, adalah penting untuk mempunyai hasil kutipan cukai yang

tinggi bagi membolehkan kerajaan menyediakan kemudahan dan perkhidmatan awam yang baik dan selesa untuk rakyat.

Noor Azlan berkata, kalau hendak meningkatkan hasil negara, bererti cukai harus ditingkatkan dan ia sememangnya tidak dapat dinafikan lagi.

Beliau berkata, sebelum ini, negara pernah melaksanakan Cukai Barang dan Perkhidmatan (GST), iaitu kaedah percukaian yang le-

bih meluas, namun kini ia tidak diteruskan lagi.

Sebaliknya, Cukai Jualan dan Perkhidmatan (SST) dilaksanakan dan diperluaskan skopnya serta pelbagai bentuk cukai baharu juga diperkenalkan.

Dalam Belanjawan 2025, Perdana Menteri, Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim yang juga Menteri Kewangan berkata, cukai yang dipungut di negara ini masih antara terendah yakni 12.6 peratus kepada KDNK pada

2023 berbanding negara tetangga seperti Thailand (16.1 peratus), Filipina (14.1 peratus) dan Singapura (13.7 peratus).

Beliau berkata, bagi maksud menambah hasil dan meluaskan asas percukaian, maka SST akan dilaksanakan lebih progresif dan tidak membebankan rakyat awam, dengan Cukai Jualan tidak akan dikenakan ke atas barangan makanan asas yang digunakan oleh rakyat.

HARIAN METRO
28 OCT 2024
Tarikh:

BELANJAWAN 2025

Sektor pengguna, hartanah dijangka raih manfaat terbesar

Kuala Lumpur: Syarikat berkaitan sektor pengguna dan hartanah dijangka meraih manfaat terbesar daripada Belanjawan 2025, kata AmlInvestment Bank.

Namun ia berkata, industri yang bergantung kepada buruh asas seperti perladangan, sarung tangan dan perkhidmatan pembuatan elektronik (EMS) mungkin berdepan cabaran.

Bank pelaburan itu berkata, sektor pengguna dan hartanah menjadi penerima manfaat Belanjawan 2025 berikutan pengumuman peningkatan gaji minimum dan insentif bagi pembeli rumah pertama.

"Gaji minimum akan dinaikkan kepada RM1,700 sebulan (bermula Februari 2025). Penekanan juga diberikan pada kemampuan mampu milik, dengan insentif untuk pembeli rumah kali pertama dan pengumuman bahawa Perodua sedang mengusahakan kenderaan elektrik kurang RM100,000," katanya dalam nota penyelidikannya.

AmlInvestment Bank berkata, bagi memastikan tiada sesiapa yang ketinggalan, terdapat rancangan mewajibkan caruman Kumpulan Wang Simpanan Pekerja (KWSP) kepada pekerja asing.

Katanya, dalam jangka terdekat, ia akan menjadi negatif bagi sektor yang bergantung kepada buruh seperti perladangan, sarung tangan dan EMS.

Namun ia berkata, memandang jangkaan kenaikan gaji minimum dan kelonggaran disediakan untuk pelaksanaan, kesan sebenar mungkin tidak begitu teruk.

AmlInvestment Bank berkata, dalam Belanjawan 2025, kerajaan memilih pendekatan bersasar untuk mencapai sasaran defisit fiskal jangka sederhana dengan unjuran 3.8 peratus bagi 2025.

Ia berkata, akan ada pengurangan subsidi secara beransur-ansur untuk kumpulan pendapatan 15 peratus teratas, iaitu rasionalisasi RON95 pertengahan 2025, subsidi penjagaan kesihatan dan pendidikan.

HARIAN METRO
Tarikh: ...2..8...OCT...2024..

PBT perlu bersaing secara sihat, tunjuk siapa paling 'suci'

Inisiatif terbaharu Kementerian Perumahan dan Kerajaan Tempatan (KPKT) memasukkan elemen pencegahan rasuah dalam Sistem Penarafan Bintang Pihak Berkuasa Tempatan (SPB-PBT) bukan hanya bertujuan meningkatkan kedudukan negara dalam ranking Indeks Persepsi Rasuah (CPI). Lebih penting lagi, ia memastikan tatakelola kerajaan tempatan itu berlandaskan integriti dan profesionalisme, sekali gus dapat menyampaikan perkhidmatan kepada rakyat dengan adil serta telus.

Berdasarkan inisiatif itu, kita memandang serius kepada 12 PBT diturunkan penarafan kerana gagal memenuhi kriteria pencegahan rasuah, selain PBT di tiga negeri yang belum menubuhkan unit integriti, iaitu Kelantan, Perlis dan Kedah. Bagaimanapun, kita mengambil maklum alasan diberikan, iaitu penubuhannya perlu melalui proses dan tatacara teratur serta membabitkan implikasi kewangan kepada PBT. Justeru, kita meminta kerajaan negeri terbabit bekerjasama dengan KPKT serta melihat bagaimana pelaksanaan di negeri lain yang pastinya berdepan dengan masalah hampir sama, tetapi dapat ditubuhkan.

Bagaimanapun, kita mengingatkan penilaian aspek rasuah bukan sekadar bersifat tambahan, sebaliknya perlu dianggap sebagai penanda utama integriti dan kecekapan. Malah, penarafan ini juga bukan sahaja patut didedahkan kepada umum, bahkan lebih penting kepada pegawai dan kakitangan PBT supaya memahami kesan langsung kegagalan mencapai tahap berkenaan kepada dewan bandar raya, majlis perbandaran dan majlis daerah serta mereka sendiri. Dengan cara ini, penjawat awam lebih komited dalam memerangi isu rasuah, menyedari penarafan diterima turut memberi impak kepada kerjaya mereka, sekali gus diharap mampu mencipta budaya kerja lebih cekap dan beretika.

Pada masa sama, kita mengingatkan penilaian perlu dibuat dengan teliti dan adil demi mengelakkan kecederungan 'menyapu sebarang kes rasuah atau salah guna kuasa di bawah karpet' demi mengekalkan penarafan bintang. Dengan itu, kepimpinan PBT yang secara aktif dan berani mendedahkan sebarang isu berkenaan dalam organisasi perlu dihargai dan diberikan 'markah tambahan' sebagai pengiktirafan atas ketelusan. Langkah ini bukan sahaja mengekalkan integriti penilaian, bahkan mendorong lebih banyak PBT bersikap proaktif dalam mengatasi masalah rasuah, bukan menutup kelemahan.

Dalam hal ini, kita bersetuju cadangan supaya KPKT mewujudkan 'papan pemuka digital' yang membolehkan maklumat prestasi integriti setiap PBT diakses secara terbuka, sekali gus dapat memberikan motivasi kepada pegawai dan kakitangannya untuk meningkatkan tahap tatakelola. Melalui inisiatif sebegini, masyarakat bukan sahaja boleh menilai tahap integriti PBT mereka, bahkan membuat laporan atau aduan sekiranya terdapat tanda amalan tidak beretika atau berintegriti. Keterbukaan data akan meningkatkan akauntabiliti dan memberi peluang kepada PBT memaparkan usaha baik mereka secara telus.

Hakikatnya, usaha KPKT ini perlu dilihat sebagai pemangkin untuk mengangkat tatakelola PBT telus dan bebas rasuah, sekali gus menjadi pelaburan besar yang pulangannya akan kembali bukan sahaja kepada kerajaan, bahkan PBT itu sendiri dan lebih penting adalah rakyat. Justeru, semua pihak daripada KPKT, kerajaan negeri hingga penjawat awam perlu bekerjasama dengan utuh, manakala PBT juga perlu bersaing secara sihat untuk menjadi entiti paling berintegriti dan 'suci' daripada sebarang rasuah serta salah guna kuasa.

15,000 ketua isi rumah bebas kemiskinan tegar

Kerajaan komited beri bantuan bersasar kepada rakyat walaupun sering dikecam

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Kuala Kangsar: Seramai 15,000 ketua isi rumah berjaya dikeluarkan daripada kelompok miskin tegar di seluruh negara sepanjang tahun ini, kata Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim.

Perdana Menteri berkata, angka terbabit adalah sebahagian dari 80,000 ketua isi rumah yang dikenal pasti dalam senarai miskin tegar buat 2024.

Beliau menjelaskan, kerajaan komited membantu rakyat menerusi pemberian bantuan bersasar, meskipun seringkali dikecam segelintir pihak.

"Belanja untuk bantu orang miskin ini puluh-puluh bilion ringgit. Orang miskin masih ada, sebab itu bila saya ambil alih tanggungjawab sebagai Perdana Menteri, saya minta senarai."

"Berapa orang di Malaysia ini yang masuk kategori miskin tegar. Miskin tegar ini maknanya tak cukup duit nak beli susu anak, uniform sekolah tak beli, makan kadang-kadang tak cukup."

"Takkan saya nak duduk selesa sebagai Perdana Menteri dan biar orang macam itu. Jadi saya kata bagi senarai, kita kena bagi selesai tahun itu juga, ini yang kita sebut noktah miskin tegar."

"Pada tahun lalu, selesai 161,000 (ketua isi rumah). Selesai macam mana? Bagi bantuan pada



Anwar bersalaman dengan orang ramai ketika menghadiri Majlis Ramah Mesra bersama Masyarakat Padang Rengas, semalam.

dia. Tahun 2024, mari lagi 80,000 senarai baharu. Setakat ini, 15,000 dah selesai kita cuba nak selesai sebelum akhir tahun ni." Katanya ketika berucap pada Majlis Ramah Mesra Perdana Menteri Bersama Masyarakat Padang Rengas di Arena Square Pekan Isnin, di sini, semalam. Yang turut hadir Menteri Besar Perak, Datuk Seri Saarani Mohamad.

Tingkat sosioekonomi

Sementara itu, Perdana Menteri berkata, pelaksanaan Program Sejahtera Komuniti MADANI (SejaTi MADANI) bagi mengupayakan komuniti melalui aktiviti peningkatan sosioekonomi akan membabitkan semua kampung di seluruh negara tanpa ada yang terkecuali.

Beliau berkata, meskipun tidak dapat dilaksanakan secara serentak, namun pelaksanaan-nya diserahkan kepada pihak

bertanggungjawab untuk menyusun program menerusi peruntukan yang diberikan dalam Belanjawan 2025 bagi meningkatkan ekonomi perkampungan.

Katanya, menerusi inisiatif yang diumumkan dalam Belanjawan 2025 itu, setiap kampung di seluruh negara akan menerima peruntukan antara RM50,000 hingga RM100,000 bagi melaksanakan program demi manfaat ekonomi penduduk setempat.

"SejaTi MADANI ini kita (kerajaan) seolah-olah bagi satu tanggungjawab dan cabaran langsung kepada orang kampung. Imam, ketua kampung, penghulu, persatuan belia, wanita, jawatan kuasa masjid, kome (kalian) runding betul-betul, teman (saya) bagi dana, kome (awak) putuskan apa yang nak dibuat bagi kepentingan orang kampung."

"Ada yang beli traktor, ada beli

bot, ada beli dron untuk pertanian, tapi keputusan itu bukan keputusan seorang. Keputusan wakil masyarakat kampung yang boleh hidupkan ekonomi," katanya sambil mengingatkan pimpinan peringkat desa tidak tiris dalam menguruskan dana disalurkan menerusi SejaTi MADANI.

Dalam pembentangan Belanjawan 2025 lalu, Anwar mengumumkan kerajaan memperuntukkan RM1 bilion bagi program SejaTi MADANI.

Beliau dilaporkan berkata, iktiar itu bakal diperhebat dengan kerjasama yang lebih meluas membabitkan pengurusan tertinggi jabatan untuk mengetuai iktiar Kampung Angkat MADANI.

"Kita kena susun baik-baik kerana membabitkan jumlah besar, kalau RM 50,000 atau RM100,000 itu untuk satu kampung, berapa bilion kita kena belanja?" katanya.

SPRM sokong langkah KPKT perkukuh integriti dalam PBT

Suruhanjaya sedia berikan khidmat nasihat, latihan pastikan penubuhan Unit Integriti

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Kuala Lumpur: Suruhanjaya Pencegahan Rasuah Malaysia (SPRM) yakin inisiatif Kementerian Perumahan dan Kerajaan Tempatan (KPKT) memasukkan kriteria baharu berkaitan pencegahan rasuah akan meningkatkan ketelusan dalam prestasi pihak berkuasa tempatan (PBT), bermula tahun ini.

Setakat ini, hanya 49 PBT menubuhkan Unit Integriti masing-masing.

Ketua Pesuruhjaya SPRM, Tan Sri Azam Baki, berkata penambahbaikan langkah itu penting untuk memperkukuh integriti, tadbir urus dan tatakelola demi merealisasikan sistem perkhid-

Keratan akhbar BH, semalam.



matan awam yang cekap, bersih dan berkesan.

Sehubungan itu, katanya, SPRM bersedia memberi sokongan dari segi khidmat nasihat dan latihan bagi memastikan penubuhan Unit Integriti di setiap 156 PBT di seluruh negara selaras keperluan Pekeliling Perkhidmatan Sumber Manusia (PPSM) Ceraian 1.2.1: Penubuhan Unit Integriti (UI) dalam semua sektor awam.

"Penubuhan itu seperti disarankan dalam Strategi Pembanteraan Rasuah Nasional (NACS)," katanya menerusi kenyataan.

Kelmarin, Menteri Perumahan dan Kerajaan Tempatan, Nga Kor Ming, mendedahkan 12 PBT diturunkan penarafan di bawah Sistem Penarafan Bintang PBT (SPB-PBT) susulan penyenaraian kriteria baharu berkaitan pen-

Unit berkenaan penting untuk membendung salah laku jenayah serta pelanggaran tata kelakuan dan etika pada peringkat agensi

Azam Baki,
Ketua Pesuruhjaya SPRM



cegahan rasuah.

Tanpa mendedahkan senarai 12 PBT itu, beliau memaklumkan kriteria penilaian baharu berkenaan diwujudkan bagi memastikan negara dapat meningkatkan kedudukan dalam ranking indeks persepsi rasuah (CPI).

Dalam perkembangan berkaitan, Azam berkata, pihaknya menggesa penubuhan Unit Integriti di setiap PBT supaya ia diberikan keutamaan.

"Unit berkenaan penting untuk membendung salah laku jenayah serta pelanggaran tata kelakuan dan etika pada peringkat agensi."

"Bagi tujuan ini, Unit Integriti perlu melaksanakan enam Fungsi Teras UI dengan berkesan iaitu Tadbir Urus, Pengukuhan Integriti, Pengesanan dan Pengesa-

han, Pengurusan Aduan, Pematuhan dan Tata tertib," katanya.

Azam berkata, dalam hal ini, Bahagian Pengurusan Integriti Agensi (BPIA) SPRM akan membantu menyelaras pelaksanaan fungsi UI, di samping menyediakan dasar dan mekanisme pengurusan UI bagi agensi awam.

"Akademi Pencegahan Rasuah Malaysia (MACA), sebuah institusi bertaraf antarabangsa di bawah SPRM turut memainkan peranan penting dalam menyediakan program latihan berkaitan pencegahan rasuah dan integriti."

"SPRM mengalu-alukan kerjasama dan kolaborasi berterusan daripada agensi awam untuk melaksanakan inisiatif yang digariskan dalam NACS."

"Melalui usaha ini, kita dapat memperkukuh imej negara dan merealisasikan aspirasi bersama untuk memperbaiki kedudukan Malaysia dalam CPI," katanya.

Naikkan prestasi

Sementara itu, Presiden Transparency International Malaysia (TI-M), Dr Muhammad Mohan, berkata langkah KPKT memasukkan kriteria baharu berkaitan pencegahan rasuah dalam SPB-PBT berupaya memperbaiki kelemahan serta menaikkan prestasi.

Katanya, langkah itu adalah tindakan positif yang dapat menggalakkan agensi atau PBT meningkatkan pencapaian masing-masing.

"Meskipun tidak dijelaskan secara terperinci apa kriteria itu, usaha KPKT memasukkan komponen rasuah dalam sistem penarafan amat dialu-alukan."

"Penurunan skor dan ranking di beberapa PBT harus diambil secara positif dan pihak berkenaan perlu berusaha perbaiki kelemahan, selain mencari jalan menaikkan prestasi."

"Itu semangat sepatutnya ada di PBT," katanya kepada BH, semalam.

BERITA HARIAN
Tarikh..... 28 OCT 2024.....

NGO disarankan dahulukan rakyat tempatan salur sumbangan

Pilih kawasan setempat untuk memudahkan orang ramai dapatkan bantuan

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Kuala Lumpur: Pertubuhan bu-
kan kerajaan (NGO) dinasihat-
kan memberi keutamaan menyala-
urkan bantuan kepada golongan
memerlukan di negara ini, ber-
banding masyarakat antarabang-
sa.

Ahli Parlimen Titiwangsa, Da-
tuk Seri Johari Abdul Ghani, juga
menasihati NGO supaya lebih pe-
ka dengan kesukaran dihadapi go-
longan memerlukan, selain perlu
memilih kawasan setempat seba-
gai lokasi penyerahan bantuan.

Beliau berkata, pemilihan ka-
wasan setempat sebagai lokasi
penyerahan sumbangan akan
meringankan beban penerima
yang mungkin tidak memiliki
kendaraan mahupun kesempatan
wang untuk menggunakan pen-
gangkutan awam.

"Jika sukar untuk mencari pe-
nerima yang layak, datanglah ke
tempat saya (Parlimen Titiwang-

sa). Saya akan bantu beri senarai
golongan memerlukan di sini.
Kalau mahu jadikan acara ta-
hunan pun kita terima, saya
tiada masalah.

"Pemilihan lokaliti ini kita
akan padankan dengan jenis
sumbangan yang mahu disalur-
kan supaya semua masyarakat
memerlukan dapat menikmati
secara sama-rata. Kalau buat di
lokaliti setempat lebih bagus, pe-
nerima tak perlu susah ke premis
tertentu untuk terima bantuan.

"Kita kena peka dengan ke-
sukaran penerima supaya tidak
membebaskan mereka, sema-
ta-mata untuk datang menerima
bantuan," katanya merasmikan
Jelajah Peduli Ummah: Program
Ummah Bantu Ummah Sejahtera
Insan Al-Falah, di sini semal-

am.
Hadir sama, Ketua Pegawai Ek-
sekutif Majlis Perundangan Per-
tubuhan Islam Malaysia, Dr Sani
Araby Abdul Alim Araby dan Se-
tiasaha Agungnya, Kolonel Ber-
sekutu (PA) Muhammad Faris
Hussain.

Wakil rakyat jadi pengantara
Bercakap pada sidang media, Jo-
hari yang juga Naib Presiden
UMNO, turut menasihati wakil
rakyat supaya menjalin kerjasa-
ma erat dengan NGO kerana se-
bagai pertubuhan berkaitan ke-
masyarakatan lebih mudah men-
dapatkan bantuan daripada en-



Johari (tengah) menyampaikan sumbangan kepada penduduk pada Program Jelajah Peduli Ummah: Program Ummah Bantu Ummah Sejahtera Insan Al-Falah di Kuala Lumpur, semalam. (Foto BERNAMA)

titi yang enggan dikaitkan de-
ngan politik.

Beliau berkata, wakil rakyat
perlu memainkan peranan seba-
gai pengantara yang menghu-
bungkan NGO untuk menyalur-
kan bantuan kepada golongan
memerlukan di kawasan ma-
sing-masing.

"Kalau mereka (NGO) memer-
lukan asnaf atau golongan me-
merlukan, jadi kita tahu dekat
mana mereka berada. Kita ke-
tengahkan senarai bagi memas-
takan penerima memang berse-
suaian dengan bentuk bantuan

yang mahu dihulurkan.

"Ini kerana ada sebahagian as-
naf yang kurang gemar untuk
dilihat sebagai golongan berke-
naan dan berusaha (untuk keluar
daripada kategori berkenaan) te-
tapi masih menerima gaji kasar
yang tergolong pada tahap mis-
kin bandar. Ini yang perlu di-
bantu," katanya.

Sementara itu, beliau yang ju-
ga Menteri Perlindungan dan Ko-
moditi berkata, pihaknya sedang
meneliti peranan setiap agensi
seliaan kementerian berkenaan
bagi memastikan tiada pertindi-

han tugas dan fungsi, termasuk
tahap relevan ketika ini.

"Kalau (agensi berkenaan) su-
dah tidak relevan, kita perlu ada-
kan sesi libat urus untuk ber-
bincang dengan kakitangan ter-
babit, sama ada akan diempat-
kan semula atau sebagainya.

"Ketika ini, tiada agensi khu-
sus yang sudah dikenal pasti dan
kita masih meneliti sama ada
penggabungan boleh dilakukan
atau tidak. Kalau ada dua atau
tiga agensi sudah mengecil,
mungkin kita boleh gabungkan
menjadi satu," katanya.

BERITA HARIAN
Tarikh..... 28 OCT 2024.....

Tarik subsidi petrol, apa kesan kepada pengguna motosikal?



AHMAD JAIS ALIMIN

PENGUMUMAN Belanjawan 2025 yang memperkenalkan rasionalisasi subsidi bahan api petrol RON95 dijangka memberi kesan kepada seluruh lapisan masyarakat.

Peningkatan kos petrol bakal mendorong perubahan besar dalam pemilihan kenderaan, khususnya dengan peralihan kepada motosikal sebagai alternatif yang lebih menjimatkan. Walaupun terdapat cabaran, perubahan ini juga memberi peluang kepada rakyat untuk meningkatkan kesedaran tentang keselamatan jalan raya dan teknologi kenderaan.

Dengan kos petrol yang meningkat, motosikal dijangka menjadi pilihan utama bagi mereka yang ingin mengurangkan kos perjalanan harian.

Peningkatan pemilihan motosikal juga akan memacu perubahan besar dalam corak penggunaan kenderaan. Berbanding pengangkutan awam, motosikal menawarkan fleksibiliti yang lebih besar untuk perjalanan harian, selain menjadi pilihan yang lebih ekonomik berbanding kereta.

Pemilihan motosikal sebagai alternatif juga boleh mengurangkan kesesakan jalan raya serta menyumbang kepada pengurangan pelepasan karbon.

Peningkatan penggunaan motosikal membawa impak besar kepada pelbagai sektor.

Dari segi pendaftaran kenderaan, Malaysia mencatatkan 15,726,600 motosikal pada tahun 2022, dengan bilangan ini terus meningkat yang mana direkodkan sejumlah 16,773,112 telah didaftarkan sehingga penghujung 2023.

Di Malaysia, bilangan kenderaan berdaftar telah melebihi populasi, dengan 36.3 juta kenderaan didaftarkan, termasuk 17,244,978 kereta dan 1,429,403 kenderaan perdagangan.

Trend pengurangan kos bahan api akan terus mendorong peningkatan pemilihan motosikal pada tahun 2025 dan seterusnya.



DENGAN kos petrol yang meningkat, motosikal dijangka menjadi pilihan utama bagi mereka yang ingin mengurangkan kos perjalanan harian.

Peningkatan kos petrol bakal mendorong perubahan besar dalam pemilihan kenderaan, khususnya dengan peralihan kepada motosikal sebagai alternatif yang lebih menjimatkan.

Selain itu, peningkatan pemilihan motosikal juga dijangka memperkukuhkan sektor pasaran aksesori automotif, dengan lonjakan permintaan terhadap teknologi berkaitan penjimatan bahan api dan peningkatan prestasi enjin.

Di samping itu, dijangka bilangan penunggang motosikal yang menggunakan lebuh raya juga akan meningkat. Ini juga didorong oleh keadaan jalan tempatan yang tidak selamat, dengan 83 peratus jalan tempatan diklasifikasikan sebagai 1-bintang mengikut penarafan oleh International Road Assessment Program (IRAP). Ini memerlukan

penambahbaikan infrastruktur, terutamanya dengan pembinaan laluan khas motosikal di lebuh raya untuk meningkatkan keselamatan penunggang, termasuk juga fasiliti khusus seperti tempat teduhan penunggang motosikal.

Program peralihan lesen motosikal dari B2 ke B juga dijangka mendapat sambutan positif. Terutamanya bagi mereka yang ingin beralih kepada motosikal berkuasa tinggi, program ini akan memacu peningkatan permintaan terhadap motosikal premium. Bagi pengguna yang berkemampuan dan ingin mengurangkan kos perjalanan harian, peralihan kepada motosikal berkuasa tinggi ini menawarkan keseimbangan antara kos efektif dan prestasi.

Pihak pengeluar motosikal dijangka memperkenalkan model-model baharu yang lebih efisien dan menjimatkan bahan api bagi memenuhi permintaan pengguna yang semakin memilih motosikal sebagai alternatif pengangkutan.

Ini bukan sahaja membantu pengguna beralih kepada kenderaan yang lebih mesra alam, tetapi juga mengurangkan beban kos yang ditanggung akibat peningkatan harga bahan api. Dengan peningkatan harga

petrol, permintaan terhadap motosikal dalam semua kategori, termasuk motosikal berkuasa rendah, sederhana, dan tinggi dijangka meningkat.

Pengguna akan memilih motosikal berdasarkan keperluan mereka, sama ada untuk kegunaan harian, perjalanan jauh atau keperluan prestasi yang lebih tinggi.

Oleh yang demikian, berkemungkinan sektor kenderaan terpakai, terutamanya motosikal dan kereta kecil dan kompak, akan melihat peningkatan permintaan.

Motosikal dalam kategori 150-250cc dan kereta kecil dan kompak yang lebih menjimatkan bahan api dijangka menjadi pilihan utama bagi mereka yang ingin mengurangkan kos.

Pasaran ini akan berkembang selari dengan peningkatan kesedaran pengguna untuk mencari kenderaan yang lebih efisien.

Peningkatan penggunaan motosikal juga membawa cabaran dari segi keselamatan jalan raya.

Pada tahun 2021, kadar kemalangan maut yang melibatkan penunggang motosikal adalah lebih empat kali ganda berbanding kemalangan melibatkan kereta. Seiring dengan

peningkatan bilangan penunggang di jalan raya, usaha untuk meningkatkan kesedaran keselamatan perlu dipertingkatkan.

Resolusi Perhimpunan Agung PBB 74/299 (2020) menetapkan sasaran untuk mengurangkan kematian dan kecederaan akibat kemalangan jalan raya sebanyak 50 peratus dari tahun 2021 hingga 2030. Oleh itu, kempen keselamatan jalan raya, pendidikan tentang teknik menunggang yang selamat dan penambahbaikan infrastruktur perlu diberikan keutamaan.

Selain soal keselamatan, pengguna motosikal juga perlu peka terhadap teknologi terkini yang boleh meningkatkan prestasi dan keselamatan kenderaan mereka.

Sektor pasaran aksesori automotif akan menyaksikan lonjakan permintaan terhadap teknologi yang dapat mengurangkan penggunaan bahan api dan meningkatkan prestasi motosikal.

Namun, pengguna harus berhati-hati dengan produk yang tidak sah atau tidak mempunyai pengesahan dari pihak berwajib seperti SIRIM. Teknologi keselamatan dan prestasi yang betul akan membantu pengguna mengurangkan kos, sambil memastikan keselamatan di jalan raya.

Secara keseluruhan, penghapusan subsidi petrol bakal mempercepatkan peralihan kepada motosikal sebagai alternatif pengangkutan.

Namun, langkah-langkah keselamatan yang lebih baik serta kesedaran terhadap teknologi keselamatan kenderaan harus diberi keutamaan untuk mengekalkan kesejahteraan pengguna jalan raya. Peningkatan motosikal di jalan raya memerlukan penekanan kepada keselamatan dan kesedaran yang lebih mendalam untuk mengekalkan kadar kemalangan, sambil memanfaatkan peluang yang ada melalui inovasi dan perkembangan teknologi dalam sektor automotif.

PROFESOR Dr. Ahmad Jais Alimin ialah Penyelidik Utama di Pusat Kajian Tenaga & Persekitaran Industri, Fakulti Kejuruteraan Mekanikal & Pembuatan di Universiti Tun Hussein Onn Malaysia (UTM).

Waktu daftar masuk, keluar hotel Selangor tidak berubah

UM
28/10

KUALA SELANGOR: Kerajaan Selangor belum bercadang untuk menetapkan dasar inap sekurang-kurangnya 23 jam sehari di hotel di seluruh negeri ini, justeru tempoh masa bagi mendaftar masuk dan keluar hotel di Selangor kekal seperti sebelum ini.

Exco Pelancongan dan Kerajaan Tempatan negeri, Datuk Ng Suee Lim berkata, kerajaan negeri peka dengan isu itu kerana tidak mahu sesuatu peraturan baharu menjejaskan ekosistem perniagaan dan penggiat industri hotel.

"Perkara itu secara teorinya mungkin dilihat nampak indah namun praktikalnya tidak mudah untuk dilaksanakan.

"Bagi saya, ia dianggap belum sesuai dilaksanakan dan tidak kondusif kerana pengusaha hotel perlu mengupah pekerja bagi melakukan kerja pembersihan semula yang mengambil masa antara dua atau tiga jam," katanya ditemui selepas merasmikan Festival of Wings 2024, semalam.

Minggu lalu, Menteri Pelancongan, Seni dan Budaya, Datuk Seri Tiong King Sing menggesa pengusaha hotel menyelaraskan semula masa daftar masuk dan keluar bagi memastikan pengguna menerima waktu pengi-

napan sekurang-kurangnya 23 jam sehari.

Penginapan 23 jam sehari perkara biasa di luar negara dan tidak menjejaskan soal kebersihan atau kualiti penginapan.

Namun, Presiden Persatuan Hotel Malaysia (MAH), Datin Christina Toh menyifatkan pelaksanaan dasar itu akan meningkatkan kos operasi dan menyebabkan kenaikan harga bilik.

Mengulas lanjut, Suee Lim menjelaskan, kerajaan negeri menerusi pihak berkuasa tempatan (PBT) turut akan mengadakan perbincangan dan sesi libat urus dengan penggiat industri hotel bagi mendengar pandangan sekali gus membuat satu ketetapan jelas.

"Sebelum sesuatu dasar dibuat, kita mesti mendengar pandangan mereka (pengusaha hotel) terlebih dulu kerana dan tidak boleh memberi tekanan.

"Apa yang lebih penting adalah soal kebersihan dan harga hotel memuaskan hati semua pihak," ujarinya.

Dalam pada itu, beliau memberitahu, cadangan membangunkan hotel bertaraf tiga bintang ke atas dan antarabangsa di Taman Alam belum dapat dilaksanakan berikutan kekangan dihadapi termasuk mendapatkan kelulusan penilaian EIA.

UTUSAN MALAYSIA
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INFLASI KEKAL STABIL TAHUN INI, DIJANGKA MENINGKAT 2025

UM
28/10

Oleh NUR NAZLINA NADZARI
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PETALING JAYA: Kadar inflasi pada bulan-bulan akan datang dijangka kekal terurus, berkemungkinan meningkat kepada 2.0 peratus tahun ke tahun pada 2024, namun diunjurkan berada sekitar 3.0 hingga 3.5 peratus pada 2025, kata TA Securities Holdings Bhd.

Firma penyelidikan berkata, ini kerana Perdana Menteri, Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim telah mengumumkan bahawa rasionalisasi subsidi hanya akan berkuat kuasa pada pertengahan 2025, dengan butiran lanjut akan diberikan pada peringkat kemudian.

Bagaimanapun, firma berkata, tinjauan inflasi bagi Malaysia dijangka meningkat mulai tahun depan, didorong oleh kenaikan gaji kakitangan awam dan kenaikan gaji minimum kepada RM1,700.

"Dari segi sejarah, perubahan dalam gaji minimum telah memberi impak yang ketara terhadap trend inflasi di Malaysia dan kenaikan yang akan datang ini berkemungkinan mengikuti corak yang sama.

"Ini terutamanya kerana gaji minimum yang lebih tinggi membawa kepada peningkatan pendapatan boleh guna bagi mereka



KADAR inflasi pada tahun ini diunjur kekal 2.0 peratus namun dijangka bakal meningkat sekitar 3.0 peratus pada tahun hadapan. - GAMBAR HIASAN

yang berpendapatan rendah, yang meningkatkan permintaan pengguna," katanya dalam nota penyelidikan.

TA Securities berkata, memandang pekerja mempunyai lebih kuasa berbelanja, mereka berkemungkinan berbelanja lebih

untuk barangan dan perkhidmatan, mewujudkan permintaan yang lebih besar dalam ekonomi.

Jelasnya, permintaan yang meningkat ini boleh mengakibatkan inflasi tarikan permintaan, di mana permintaan pengguna yang meningkat mengatasi bekalan ba-

rangan dan perkhidmatan, mendorong harga lebih tinggi.

"Meneliti data sejarah, ia menjadi jelas bahawa inflasi lazimnya meningkat seiring dengan kenaikan gaji.

"Sebagai contoh, kadar inflasi meningkat berikutan semakan gaji

minimum pada 2013, 2019, 2020 dan 2022. Walau bagaimanapun, pengecualian adalah pada 2016, di mana inflasi kekal rendah walaupun kenaikan gaji minimum.

"Anomali (ketidakwajaran) ini boleh dikaitkan dengan harga minyak mentah global yang jauh lebih rendah dalam tempoh itu, yang membantu mengimbangi tekanan inflasi," ujarnya.

Selain, pelarasan gaji, tekanan inflasi tahun depan mungkin diburukkan lagi oleh faktor lain seperti potensi harga tenaga global pulih dan pemansuhan subsidi bahan api.

"Menurut Kementerian Kewangan (MOF), inflasi utama Malaysia mungkin meningkat pada 2025 ke paras tertinggi dalam tempoh lapan tahun, didorong oleh potensi tekanan harga daripada rasionalisasi subsidi dan kejutan luaran.

"Indeks Harga Pengguna (IHP) diunjurkan meningkat antara 2.0 peratus dan 3.5 peratus pada 2025. Risiko inflasi sebahagian besarnya akan bergantung pada tahap kesan ke atas daripada pelaksanaan langkah dasar ke atas subsidi dan kawalan harga, serta turun naik dalam harga komoditi global.

"Pada ketika ini, kami menjangkakan kadar inflasi sekitar 3.0 hingga 3.5 peratus untuk tahun akan datang," ujarnya.

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RINGGIT

↓ KUALA LUMPUR
(Indeks Komposit)
(-13.93) mata
1,618.30

↓ SINGAPURA
(Straits Times)
(-11.54) mata
3,593.41

↓ TOKYO
Nikkei
(-229.37) mata
37,913.92

↓ NEW YORK
Dow Jones
(-259.96) mata
42,114.40

**TIKITAKA
SASAR JUALAN
RM80,000
SEBULAN
TAHUN
DEPAN
»23**



SKIM STEP UP FINANCING PENYELESAIAN UNTUK BELIA MILIKI RUMAH?

Oleh **HENDRA WINARNO**
hendrawinarno@mediamulla.com.my

RAMAI golongan muda berdepan kesukaran untuk memiliki kediaman sendiri dengan peningkatan harga rumah dan kos sara hidup semasa yang membebankan.

Menyadari cabaran ini, Skim Step Up Financing diperkenalkan oleh kerajaan sebagai inisiatif baharu yang dirangka khusus untuk memudahkan pembelian rumah pertama.

Dalam Belanjawan 2025, Menteri Kewangan dan juga Perdana Menteri, Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim memperkenalkan Skim Step Up Financing di bawah Skim Jaminan Kredit Perumahan (SJKP) sebagai jaminan kerajaan sehingga RM5 bilion, khusus untuk golongan muda yang ingin memiliki rumah pertama.

Skim itu menawarkan kemudahan bayaran balik pinjaman yang lebih rendah bagi tempoh lima tahun pertama.

Bagaimanapun, persoalan-

**"SKIM INI MAMPU
MENGURANGKAN
JUMLAH
PEMBAYARAN
BULANAN KEPADA
BANK, SEKALI GUS
MEMBERI RUANG
KEPADA PEMILIK
RUMAH..."**

nya adakah skim itu menjadi jawapan kepada golongan muda untuk memiliki rumah pertama, di samping mendepani cabaran ketidakpastian ekonomi semasa dan kenaikan harga rumah ketika ini?

Menjawab persoalan itu, Penganalisis Ekonomi UNIKL Business School, Prof Madya Dr Aimi Zulhazmi Abdul Rashid berkata, langkah kerajaan itu dilihat sebagai usaha signifikan dalam memastikan akses yang lebih mudah kepada pembiayaan perumahan serta mengurangkan

tekanan kewangan yang dihadapi oleh golongan muda yang ingin memiliki rumah sendiri.

"Skim ini mampu mengurangkan jumlah pembayaran bulanan kepada bank, sekali gus memberi ruang kepada pemilik rumah menyesuaikan perbelanjaan lain seperti kelengkapan rumah, menyediakan jaring keselamatan kewangan, serta mengurangkan risiko kewangan pada tahun-tahun awal pemilikan rumah.

Bersambung di muka 20

Skim Step Up Financing penyelesaian untuk belia miliki rumah?

Dari muka 19

"Skim ini juga memberi fleksibiliti kepada pemilik rumah, di mana selepas tempoh lima tahun, mereka mempunyai pilihan untuk menjual rumah tanpa dikenakan Cukai Keuntungan Harta Tanah (RPGT) atau menstruktur semula pembiayaan tanpa penalti daripada pihak bank.

"Selain itu, langkah ini memberikan jaminan kewangan kepada pemilik rumah yang mungkin mengalami perubahan dalam keadaan ekonomi peribadi mereka selepas tempoh tersebut," katanya kepada *Utusan Malaysia*.

Jelas beliau, dalam Belanjawan 2025 turut menawarkan pengecualian cukai sebanyak RM7,000 untuk faedah pemba-

yan rumah pertama, satu lagi inisiatif penting yang bertujuan meningkatkan kuasa beli dalam kalangan pembeli muda.

"Langkah ini bukan sahaja membantu mengurangkan beban kewangan tetapi juga mewujudkan lebih banyak peluang kepada golongan muda untuk melabur dalam hartanah pada usia awal.

"Selain itu, skim ini dilihat sebagai pelengkap kepada pelbagai insentif lain yang diperkenalkan untuk merangsang sektor perumahan, termasuk pengecualian duti setem bagi pembelian rumah pertama dan sokongan pembiayaan lain.

"Skim Step Up Financing bukan sahaja mempermudah akses pembiayaan, tetapi



AIMI ZULHAZMI
ABDUL RASHID



FD ISKANDAR

juga memberi peluang kepada golongan pembeli rumah pertama untuk membuat perancangan kewangan jangka panjang yang lebih stabil.

"Dengan sokongan ini, kerajaan dilihat berusaha ke arah membentuk ekonomi yang lebih inklusif dan menyeluruh, terutama dalam sektor perumahan yang menjadi ke-

perluan asas bagi rakyat," katanya.

Sementara itu, Pengarah Urusan Kumpulan dan Ketua Pegawai Eksekutif Glomac, Datuk Seri FD Iskandar berpendapat, pembiayaan itu akan terus membantu golongan belia yang tidak mempunyai penyiata pendapatan bulanan tetap, seperti pekerja gig dan pempengaruh yang pendapatannya berubah-ubah.

"Dengan adanya skim SJKP ini, ia akan memudahkan golongan belia dan pembeli rumah pertama memiliki rumah. Selain itu, kerajaan juga menyediakan RM900 juta untuk membina rumah Program Residensi Rakyat (PRR) dan rumah transit.

"Ini amat penting kerana tidak semua orang mampu membeli rumah pada peringkat awal kerjaya, jadi mereka perlu menyewa dahulu. Dengan tambahan peruntukan ini, saya rasa pihak kerajaan boleh membina lebih banyak rumah mampu milik di masa hadapan.

"Pemaju swasta juga bersedia untuk menyerahkan tanah kepada kerajaan bagi membina rumah mampu milik. Ini adalah situasi menang-menang, kerajaan menyediakan pembiayaan, dan pemaju swasta menyediakan tanah.

"Kerjasama ini akan membantu memenuhi keperluan rumah mampu milik yang tinggi di kawasan yang mempunyai permintaan besar," katanya.

BELIA YAKIN MAMPU MILIKI RUMAH PERTAMA LEBIH AWAL

Oleh HENDRA WINARNO
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USAHA kerajaan memperkenalkan Skim Step Up Financing di bawah Skim Jaminan Kredit Perumahan (SJKP) yang disokong dengan jaminan sehingga RM5 bilion telah mencetuskan respon positif dalam kalangan belia.

Inisiatif itu dianggap sebagai usaha penting dalam membantu anak muda memiliki kediaman pertama, terutama di kala menghadapi kos sara hidup yang meningkat serta kenaikan harga rumah yang berterusan.

Dengan bayaran balik pinjaman yang lebih rendah untuk lima tahun pertama, skim ini membuka peluang lebih luas kepada belia untuk memiliki rumah, di samping mendorong perancangan kewangan yang lebih kukuh dan stabil di masa depan.

Penyanyi sambilan, Muhammad Izzuddin @ Izzue Lee berkata, Skim Step Up Financing membuatnya rasa optimis terhadap keupayaan memiliki rumah kerana ia menyediakan fleksibiliti pembayaran pada lima tahun pertama.

"Tidak seperti Skim Rumah Pertamaku yang diperkenalkan beberapa tahun lalu, skim ini menawarkan fleksibiliti pembayaran lebih baik pada lima tahun pertama, yang membolehkan golongan muda menyesuaikan kewangan mereka dalam tem-



poh awal pemilikan rumah.

"Dalam masa yang sama, ia memberi peluang kepada golongan muda yang tiada pendapatan tetap seperti pempengaruh media sosial atau di industri gig untuk mempunyai aset sebagai pelaburan jangka masa panjang," katanya kepada *Utusan Malaysia*.

Menurutnya, dengan kadar faedah yang lebih rendah pada tahun-tahun awal, beban kewangan dapat diringankan.

"DENGAN MEMILIKI RUMAH SENDIRI JUGA BELIA TIDAK PERLU BIMBANG TENTANG KENAIKAN HARGA RUMAH KIAN MENINGKAT."



MUHAMMAD
IZZUDDIN @ IZZUE LEE



MUHAMMAD
ZULHAIRI



HIDAYAH KHAIRUL
MUZIL

"Skim ini bukan sahaja mampu menarik lebih ramai golongan muda untuk mempertimbangkan pemilikan rumah, malah turut merangsang pasaran hartanah tempatan.

"Penglibatan belia dalam pelaburan hartanah dapat membantu menjana dan mengukuhkan ekonomi negara melalui permintaan yang lebih stabil dalam pasaran perumahan," katanya.

Pandangan positif ini turut dikongsi oleh pelajar tahun akhir Sarjana Muda di sebuah universiti awam, Muhammad Zulhairi yang menyokong Skim Jaminan Kredit Perumahan (SJKP) kerana inisiatif tersebut mampu membantu belia merealisasikan impian memiliki rumah sendiri.

"Skim ini merupakan sokongan penting untuk perancangan masa depan belia, selain membantu mereka membina aset serta mencapai kestabilan kewangan pada masa hadapan.

"Dengan memiliki rumah sendiri juga belia tidak perlu

bimbang tentang kenaikan harga rumah, sekali gus dapat mengelakkan tekanan hidup yang berpotensi membawa kepada masalah kesihatan mental," katanya.

Pada masa sama, Muhammad Zulhairi berkata, pemilikan rumah juga memberi peluang kepada belia untuk lebih berdiskari tanpa perlu bergantung kepada ibu bapa dari segi tempat tinggal.

Sementara itu, pekerja sambilan, Hidayah Khairul Muzil berkata, Skim Step Up Financing memberikan peluang kepada golongan muda seperti untuk memulakan perjalanan pemilikan rumah dengan lebih mudah.

"Selain daripada bayaran bulik yang lebih rendah pada lima tahun pertama, ia juga membantu kami menguruskan kewangan dengan lebih teratur.

"Inisiatif ini dapat memberi manfaat besar kepada kami, terutama dalam pembiayaan perumahan dan merancang masa depan kewangan," katanya.

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FLOOD PREPARATIONS

22/10/2024

Selangor fire stations ready with boats for monsoon

PETALING JAYA: All fire stations in Selangor will be equipped with at least one boat during the northeast monsoon.

State Fire and Rescue Department director Wan Md Razali Wan Ismail yesterday said there were 38 fire stations in seven zones in Selangor.

"We have 92 boats ready and will ensure that each fire station is equipped with at least one boat."

"This is part of our flood preparations during this monsoon."

He said this after attending a reunion of retired personnel at the Jalan Penchala fire station here.

He said although Selangor was not affected by the monsoon, the department did not want to take any chances.

"Our experience with widespread floods in December 2021 is what is driving us to make preparations."

"During that year, floods affected seven districts, including Hulu Langat and Klang," he said, adding that the most impacted area was Sri Muda in Shah Alam.

He said the department was also on standby for other incidents, such as landslides and water surges.

"We advise the public to avoid recreational activities near slopes, rivers or beaches during this period."

It was reported that the Fire and Rescue Department had identified more than 5,600 flooding hotspots, along with 254 critical slopes and 201 locations susceptible to water surges, also

known as *kepala air*.

Department director-general Datuk Nor Hisham Mohammad said his department had taken measures to deal with floods and other disasters.

He said 13,393 personnel would be on duty during this period, supported by 8,398 volunteer firemen and 2,147 auxiliary personnel.

The Meteorological Department said the northeast monsoon was expected to peak in December.

Its deputy director-general (operations) Dr Mohd Hisham Mohd Anip said forecasts indicated slightly higher rainfall compared with last year, with Terengganu expected to receive more than 1,000mm of rain during the December peak.

NEW STRAITS TIMES
Tarikh:2.8.OCT.2024.

Policing corruption

Transparency and accountability are key

BEING ranked 57th among 180 countries in the Transparency International Corruption Perception Index last year was nothing to write home about. Making it to the 25th spot by 2033 would surely be. But between now and 2033, mountains need to be moved. A few signs of movement are beginning to emerge. Housing and Local Government Minister Nga Kor Ming disclosed one on Saturday: the downgrading of 12 local authorities after an anti-corruption component was introduced for the first time in rating them. He said the 12 entities would receive "counselling". He would have done better if he had revealed their names. After all, Prime Minister Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim had highlighted transparency and accountability as two critical factors in his statement to the National Anti-Corruption Strategy (2024-2028), the document of destiny, so to speak. If the local authorities know that the people know that they have been downgraded, they will change for the better.

As Transparency International Malaysia president Dr Muhammad Mohan tells this Leader, counselling alone won't do the job. He recommends a few steps. First, set a high key performance indicator (KPI) for the head of the local authority, say 80 per cent of the overall score. Second, cascade the KPI down to all the officers in the local authority. Corruption and drainage cleaning, Muhammad emphasises, must be given a higher weight in the KPI. Third, the head of the local authority must be held accountable for any failure to achieve the KPI. Fourth, if the local authority fails to achieve the KPI for two consecutive years, then the head should be replaced. "Without affirmative action, nothing is going to improve." Finally, the Housing and Local Government Ministry must be transparent by displaying a dashboard showing every local authority's performance.

"It is not to name and shame any local authority, but to demand performance and stop any form of corruption." By paying local council fees, people have every right to demand quality service and zero tolerance for corruption, he says. Additionally, local authority officers are already paid monthly salaries by the government to provide quality service and uphold zero tolerance for corruption. Muhammad sees two key success factors, though he doesn't name them as such, to be a top scorer in the Local Authority Star Rating System. One is the political will from the top to push for improvements and the other is the willingness of officers of local authorities to be efficient and free of corruption.

Certainly, local authorities aren't the only ones that need to change for the better. The rest of the public service must do so, too. The lack of disclosure on downgrades does not mean there are none outside of the local authorities. Much has been written on the need for the public service to strive hard to deliver what it is supposed to do. Disclosure of downgrades in the public service would be a good beginning, but it must not be the end. Transparency must ultimately lead to accountability if the public service is serious about not only "doing" justice but letting the people "see" that justice is being done, as the prime minister suggests in his statement. In the absence of both, as Anwar puts it, "the avarice of a few" would hold hostage "the collective destinies of Malaysians".

Certainly, the local authorities aren't the only ones that need to change for the better.

NEW STRAITS TIMES

Tarikh: 28 OCT 2024

ADVISORY, TRAINING SUPPORT

MACC TO HELP LOCAL COUNCILS ESTABLISH INTEGRITY UNITS

Only 49 of 156 local authorities have their own units, says MACC chief

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THE Malaysian Anti-Corruption Commission (MACC) is prepared to provide advisory and training support for the establishment of integrity units in all 156 local authorities nationwide.

MACC Chief Commissioner Tan Sri Azam Baki said currently, only 49 local authorities had their own integrity units.

Azam said the anti-graft busters welcomed the Housing and Local Government Ministry's initiative to incorporate anti-corruption elements in the local authorities' star-rating assessment system starting this year.

"MACC is confident that this initiative will enhance transparency in the performance of local authorities.

"This step is crucial for strengthening integrity, governance and management, and to realise an efficient, clean and effective public service system.

"In this regard, MACC is prepared to provide advisory and training support in the establishment of integrity units in each of the 156 local authorities across the country, in line with the requirements of the Human Resource Service Circular Division 1.2.1: Establishment of Integrity Units in all Public Sectors, as recommended in the National Anti-Corruption Strategy (NACS) plan," he said in a statement.

On Saturday, Housing and Local Government Minister Nga Kor

Ming said 12 local authorities had been downgraded in their Local Authority Star Assessment System ratings after the government introduced an anti-corruption criterion.

Nga said the new evaluation criterion aimed to improve the country's position in the Corruption Perception Index (CPI).

The Local Authority Star Assessment System is used to evaluate local authorities' performance and efficiency.

It serves as a mechanism to assess how well local authorities meet established service standards, encourage improvements in service delivery and identify areas that need enhancement.

Through the system, local authorities are rated based on their performance across categories

including financial management, service delivery and administrative effectiveness.

Azam said the establishment of integrity units in every local authority should be prioritised as they were essential for curbing criminal misconduct and ethical violations.

He said integrity units must implement six core functions:

governance, strengthen integrity, detection and verification, complaint management, compliance and disciplinary action.

"In this context, MACC's Agency Integrity Management Division will help coordinate the implementation of integrity unit functions while providing policies and management mechanisms for public agencies.

"The Malaysian Anti-Corruption Academy, an international institution under MACC, also plays a crucial role in providing training programmes related to anti-corruption and integrity."

Azam said MACC welcomed cooperation and collaboration from public agencies to implement the initiatives outlined in NACS.



Tan Sri Azam Baki

NEW STRAITS TIMES
28 OCT 2024
Tarikh:

12 local authorities downgraded due to anti-corruption criteria

PETALING JAYA: Twelve local authorities have had their ratings downgraded under the Local Authority Star Rating System due to the introduction of anti-corruption elements in the system this year.

Housing and Local Government Minister Nga Kor Ming said the new assessment criteria were included to help improve the country's position in the Corruption Perception Index in line with the National Anti-Corruption Strategy (NACS) 2024-2028.

"This is the first time in history that we have included anti-corruption elements in the rating system. Previously, (if a local authority)

received five stars, now, with the new anti-corruption criteria in place, it might drop to four stars. However, there are also local authorities that have seen their ratings improved.

"This year, we aim to ensure that the star rating truly reflects the performance of each local authority," he said after attending the Local Authority Convention 2024 here on Saturday.

He said the 12 local authorities that had been downgraded under the star rating system would receive counselling to assist them in improving their ratings.

Nga said he had instructed all local

authorities to focus on several key aspects of their new direction, particularly on enhancing integrity to serve as an example for public services.

"A circular has been issued mandating each local authority to establish an integrity unit so that they can cooperate with the Malaysian Anti-Corruption Commission in line with NACS policy.

"To improve the ease of doing business, we want the local authorities to expedite the licence approval process, for investors to focus on developing the economy."

Nga added that this included plans

to develop an online system or a one-stop centre for processing both high-risk and low-risk business licence applications, aimed at facilitating and expediting the approval process.

"For low-risk business categories (such as sundry shops or food courts), (after they submit their applications in the morning), the public (applicants) can access the online system to check their documents. If everything is complete by the evening, they can collect their licences.

"As for high-risk businesses, such as veterinary services and mortuaries, we aim to reduce the processing time

so that licences can be issued within 14 days once all conditions are fulfilled," he said.

Regarding the smart city development target, Nga said Malaysia's position in the World Smart City Index indicated the country was on the right track.

"Kuala Lumpur was ranked 89th in the World Smart City Index last year, but this year it jumped to 73rd place. However, we are still far behind Zurich, Switzerland (ranked first); Oslo, Norway (second); and Singapore (fifth).

"So there is still much to be done," he said. — Bernama

See also page 5

THE SUN
28 OCT 2024

Tarikh:

Call to demolish old housing buildings

► Projects developed more than 20 years ago in poor condition and negatively impact quality of life: Research institute

KUALA LUMPUR: There has been a call for the government to demolish buildings built over 20 years ago under the People's Housing Programme, following reports that they were no longer suitable for the elderly and other vulnerable groups, such as people with disabilities and children.

According to a report titled "Decent Shelter for the Urban Poor: A Study of Program Perumahan Rakyat" by the Khazanah Research Institute published in March 2023, a large portion of residential projects developed more than 20 years ago were no longer in good condition and have a negative impact on the quality of life of residents.

The report said 10% of dwellers

were senior citizens aged 60 and above while a majority of household heads were in the older age group, with a median age of between 52 and 54.

The government housing programme was implemented in 1982 to relocate squatters and meet the housing needs of the low-income group.

The Housing and Local Government Ministry said the government does not plan to demolish housing schemes that are over 20 years old as they are considered still safe for habitation.

"Based on our study, the lifespan of the buildings is between 50 and 100 years. So, the existing housing is still safe for occupancy," the ministry said in a written reply to

questions submitted by Bernama.

The ministry said there were 35 housing projects with 29,832 residential units under the programme nationwide built more than 20 years ago.

"The ministry strives to ensure every citizen, including those who require special support, has access to comfortable housing that meets their needs."

It said appropriate action would be taken to address damage to facilities related to daily needs, such as water, electricity and lifts.

The ministry, through PLANMalaysia (previously known as the Town and Country Planning Department), has issued guidelines for planning, developing and designing settlements or housing for the elderly, encompassing conventional or strata landed residences, multistorey residences and specially constructed buildings.

The ministry also said the implemented programme schemes have universal design standards incorporated into the buildings and amenities, which take into consideration senior citizens, children and the disabled.

"Since it was initiated in 1982 during the Fourth Malaysia Plan, the programme has undergone improvements to remain relevant and meet the needs of the people."

"For instance, in the early stages, units had a built-up area of only 60.38sq m, with one or two rooms and limited facilities. Under the Ninth Malaysia Plan, the size of units was increased to 65.03sq m."

In 2022, the built-up area was increased to 69.67sq m, in line with the government's aim to enhance the livability of low-cost flats.

"For the comfort and well-being of the elderly and other residents, the ministry is focusing on the design and internal layout of units to make them more comfortable."

"We are adding and upgrading facilities, such as multipurpose halls, prayer rooms, recycling centres and broadband internet services."

The ministry is rebranding the programme as the People's Residency Programme, with the main goal of providing public housing that aligns with the country's progress, Bernama reported.

"Through this new model, the government would strive to ensure the quality of public housing in our country is on par with residences provided by the Singapore Housing Development Board and houses in Japan and South Korea."

The programme's projects, equipped with enhanced facilities, reflect the government's commitment to align the direction of social housing with *Madani* values, which emphasise connectivity, accessibility, sustainability, livability, quality and mobility.

No new arrests in kidnapping probe

JOHOR BAHRU: Police have confirmed that there have been no new arrests in the kidnapping case of a businessman reported on Oct 13.

Johor police chief Datuk M. Kumar said 13 people are being remanded until Tuesday.

"Questioning is underway," he said after visiting a *Deepavali* bazaar in Jalan Trusmi on Saturday.

He previously said a relative of the victim was among 13 suspects, aged between 23 and 58, detained in the state in an operation carried out on Wednesday and Thursday.

On a separate matter, he said 1,534 police officers and personnel would be deployed in Johor during *Deepavali*.

He urged those travelling for the holiday to utilise the Volunteer Smartphone Patrol mobile app. — Bernama



The ministry said appropriate action would be taken to address damage to facilities related to daily needs, such as water, electricity and lifts. — AMIRUL SYAFIQ/THESUN

Evaluation systems to include anti-corruption elements

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■ BY JOSHUA PURUSHOTMAN
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PETALING JAYA: The Malaysian Anti-Corruption Commission (MACC) yesterday welcomed the Housing and Local Government Ministry initiative to integrate anti-corruption elements into the evaluation system for local councils this year, said its chief commissioner Tan Sri Azam Baki.

He was commenting on media reports on Oct 26, in which 12 local councils experienced a downgrade in their Star Rating System after the inclusion of anti-corruption elements in the evaluation system.

"MACC is confident that the

initiative would enhance the transparency and performance of local councils. The measure is essential to strengthen integrity, governance and accountability, and achieve an efficient, clean and effective public service system."

He said MACC is prepared to offer support in terms of advisory services and training to facilitate the establishment of an integrity unit in each of the 156 local councils nationwide.

He said this is in line with the requirements of the Human Resource Services Circular Section 1.2.1: Establishment of Integrity Units in All Public Sectors, as recommended by the National

Anti-Corruption Strategy (NACS).

"Only 49 local councils have established integrity units. MACC wants priority to be given to establishing such units in each local council as it is crucial to curbing criminal misconduct and violations of disciplinary ethics at the agency level.

"Integrity units must implement their core functions, which are governance, integrity strengthening, detection and verification, complaint management, compliance, and discipline."

He said the MACC Agency Integrity Management Division would assist in coordinating the implementation of these functions

while also providing policies and management mechanisms for the units in public agencies.

The Malaysia Anti-Corruption Academy, which is an internationally recognised institution under MACC, would play a significant role in delivering training programmes related to corruption and integrity.

He said MACC welcomes the continued cooperation from public agencies to implement initiatives outlined in NACS.

"Through this effort, we could enhance the nation's image and realise our shared aspiration to improve Malaysia's standing in the Corruption Perceptions Index."

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28 OCT 2024

Tarikh: