



### **Tajuk Artikel: Puspakom waives RM30 fee until Aug 1**

**Sumber / Tarikh: The Star Online Tuesday 03rd July , 2007**

PUTRAJAYA: Good news for commercial vehicle and private car owners. The RM30 charge for the mandatory inspection of used private cars before they can be sold has been waived by Puspakom until Aug 1.

Similarly, commercial vehicle owners will continue to enjoy the old rates until the end of this month. Transport Minister Datuk Seri Chan Kong Choy said Puspakom had agreed to waive the charges until a resolution of issues relating to "double inspection" as required by certain financial institutions for the purpose of getting bank loans could be found.

"Although the Government does not like to interfere in the workings of the private sector, we do not see why inspection by Puspakom has to be carried out twice on the same cars," Chan told reporters after a meeting with the Road Transport Department and Puspakom officials here yesterday.

### **Tajuk Artikel: Waste-handling lessons**

**Sumber / Tarikh: The Star Online Tuesday 03rd July , 2007**

**By NG SI HOOI**

KUALA LUMPUR: The Government aims to educate every household in the country on how to separate their rubbish – as waste or items for recycling – over the next two years. This would prepare them for the corporatisation of solid waste and public cleaning management.



Ong: 'Before we implement it, we want to ensure that all parties are ready with sufficient facilities'

Housing and Local Government Minister Datuk Seri Ong Ka Ting said the Government would continue emphasising the importance of the 3Rs – recycling, reducing and reusing waste.

"For example, we will not collect the waste inside the bin meant for recyclable items. But before we implement it, we want to ensure that all parties are ready with sufficient facilities," he said during a press conference at his ministry here yesterday.

Ong said the ministry wanted to ensure that separation-at-source was carried out so that recyclable items would not end up in landfills. "When there are enough staff and recycling amenities, the concessionaires will collect recyclable items from house to house."

He said knowing the 3Rs was essential as, based on the amount of waste generated by Malaysians currently, there would be more than 31,000 tonnes of solid waste discarded every day in 2020. During the current Parliament sitting, the Solid Waste and Public Cleansing Management Bill 2007 and other related Bills – the Solid Waste and Public Cleansing Management Corporation Bill, the Town and Country Planning Bill, the Local Government (Amendment) Bill and the Street, Drainage and Building (Amendment) Bill – will be tabled.

The state governments in Peninsular Malaysia have given the executive power to the Federal Government to take over solid waste management. “The local authorities will give a portion of the assessment collection to the Federal Government, and the remaining costs will be borne by the Government.”

Ong said certain local authorities lacked funds and this had led to the poor performance of solid waste management. “Once the Bills are passed in Parliament, we will sign contracts with the concessionaries so that they will have more investment to provide better service to the public,” he said. He said the concessionaries would be given two years to improve their service.

Currently, there are three solid waste concessionaries – Alam Flora Sdn Bhd, Southern Waste Management and E-idaman. He said the Government would set up the National Solid Waste Management Department as the regulatory body while the Solid Waste Management Corporation would handle operations. “A tribunal, similar to the consumer and housing tribunals, will also be set up to handle disputes on payment for solid waste services,” he said.

**Tajuk Artikel: All ‘tied’ up in red – except Abdullah  
Sumber / Tarikh: The Star Online Tuesday 03rd July , 2007**



Wrong choice: Abdullah showing the batik tie he had chosen instead of the one picked by his wife for the gathering yesterday. Najib and staff of the PM's Department wore the 'corporate' red ties.

PUTRAJAYA: Staff of the Prime Minister's Department “saw red” at their monthly gathering yesterday. As part of their new corporate image, the staff members wore red ties, shawls or headscarves. They will be required to wear the corporate gear during the monthly gathering and at functions held by the department. Obviously excited and happy with their new corporate look, some of the employees were seen “checking out” their colleagues' ties and scarves while waiting for the assembly to commence.

Even Deputy Prime Minister Datuk Seri Najib Tun Razak was seen wearing the red tie with yellow spots on it. So did the Ministers and Deputy Ministers in the Prime Minister's Department and the Chief Secretary to the Government Tan Sri Sidek Hassan.

Datuk Seri Abdullah Ahmad Badawi, however, apologised for not wearing the 'special tie'.  
"I am sorry but I actually chose the wrong tie. This is what happens when you don't listen to your wife.  
"This morning, my wife pointed the tie to me and I was thinking, why did she choose a red tie with yellow spots on it?"

"I thought (the corporate tie) must be the one with the batik design, so I took this one," he said, pointing to the tie he was wearing.

Only when he arrived at the assembly did the Prime Minister realise that he had chosen the wrong tie.  
"Next time, must listen to your wife – only when it comes to dressing up – but not on policy matters," he said to laughter from the assembly.

**Tajuk Artikel: Insurance for travellers now**  
**Sumber / Tarikh: The Star Online Tuesday 03rd July , 2007**  
**By ROYCE CHEAH**

KUALA LUMPUR: It is now mandatory for all licensed travel and tour agencies to offer travel insurance for local and outbound travel.

Announcing this, Tourism Minister Datuk Seri Tengku Adnan Tengku Mansor said it was necessary to ensure travellers were protected against unforeseen circumstances such as the Excellence Holidays debacle, which caused 336 travellers to lose RM2.4mil.

"However, travellers will have the right to refuse such protection," he said after launching Tahan Insurance Malaysia Bhd's Basic Travel Protection Plan yesterday.



Launch: Tengku Adnan signing on a plaque to launch the Basic Travel Protection Plan in Kuala Lumpur yesterday. — Bernama

As for how this would be implemented, Tengku Adnan said it was the ministry that provided the licences for tour and travel agents to operate. "We will tell them that they have to offer such insurance when existing agents come to renew licences or when new companies apply for licences. "They must offer it and it is left to the customer to purchase or not. But they must explain that it is available."

Tengku Adnan said the Basic Travel Protection Plan, which had been endorsed by the ministry, provided tour fare protection of up to RM10,000, apart from basic medical, repatriation, accidental death, permanent disablement and personal liability coverage.

Tour fare protection covers the traveller against cancellations and the travel or tour agency closing as a result of financial collapse or default. The premium is RM15 per person (local and outbound) and the plan also covers inbound travellers at US\$15 per person (RM51).

So far, 24 travel agencies have signed up to offer the insurance. The plan will be managed by Pempena Sdn Bhd, which is fully owned by the Tourism Ministry, and Timeless Vacation Sdn Bhd and underwritten by seven insurance companies including Tahan Insurance.

Tengku Adnan also urged consumers to exercise discretion when buying tour packages as there were companies which were out to cheat.

**Tajuk Artikel: We don't solely depend on CTOS, say banks**  
**Sumber / Tarikh: The Star Online Tuesday 03rd July , 2007**  
**By PARVEEN GILL**

KUALA LUMPUR: Banking institutions in the country do not depend solely on the services provided by credit information provider Credit Tip-Off Service (CTOS) to grant or reject loans applications. The Association of Banks in Malaysia chairman Datuk Seri Hamidy Hafiz said information provided by CTOS "technically" assisted banks in "immediate information of the person we are dealing with". "Banks are the main users of CTOS but information obtained from CTOS does not determine if a loan application would be granted or rejected.

"It is a source of reference and applicants are always asked to verify and clarify information provided by CTOS. "We also have the central bank's C-CRIS or central credit reference information system to assist us. "C-CRIS assists us in identifying loan obligations but it does not tell of the legal suits that a loan applicant may be facing.

"There have been many cases where those who are in the CTOS database have been granted loans, while those who were not on CTOS had their applications rejected. It is on a case-to-case basis. "CTOS is purely used as reference and not as credit decision," he said during a press conference yesterday, adding that banks paid RM1.05 per CTOS enquiry.

Last week, Deputy Minister in the Prime Minister's Department Datuk M. Kayveas' claimed that there was wide- spread "blacklisting" by CTOS even though the latter had no power or authority to do so. Hamidy said CTOS, operating since

1988, has provided information on bankruptcies, civil suits, company winding-up, proclamations of sales and directorships. CTOS was also used for recruitment purposes. He said banks were not forced to use CTOS and as of yesterday, there was no directive from Bank Negara to stop using its services. "We are governed by the Banking and Institution Act and if the central bank directs us (banks) to stop using CTOS, we will. "We will just have to search for other means," he said, adding that the banks were custodians of public money and would use all available sources of information to protect it.

**Tajuk Artikel: Hazy days expected to continue**  
**Sumber / Tarikh: The Star Online Tuesday 03rd July , 2007**  
**By ROYCE CHEAH**

KUALA LUMPUR: The number of hotspots in Sumatra has increased further over the past 24 hours and with no change in the wind direction, the haze is expected to continue to shroud Malaysia. According to the Malaysian Meteorological Department, hot weather is also predicted until the end of the week.

A spokesman from the department said it had been warmer than usual over the past few days and that there had been very little rainfall recorded in the peninsula since last Tuesday. There was a slight increase in temperature in Selangor from 30°C on June 29 to 32°C yesterday. "The temperature change is because of the dry south-westerly winds that we are getting from Sumatra," said the spokesman.

The spokesman said that satellite images showed 260 hotspots in Sumatra as of 2.44pm yesterday compared with 171 on Sunday.

"Five hotspots still remain in Malaysia since Sunday," the spokesman said. As of 5pm yesterday, Prai, Butterworth and Sitiawan recorded visibility readings of 5km while it was between 6km and 8km in Bayan Lepas, Alor Star, Ipoh and Cameron Highlands. In the rest of the peninsula, it was over 10km.

Air Pollutant Index (API) readings have also shown a slight increase yesterday compared with to the day before, with 38 out of 51 areas in the country recording moderate API readings. As of 5pm, the highest API reading was in Seri Manjung, Perak, at 94, while readings for Kuala Selangor, Seberang Jaya 2 (Prai, Penang) and Bakar Arang (Sungai Petani, Kedah) were over 81.

In a related matter, Natural Resources and Environment Minister Datuk Seri Azmi Khalid said any plans made by Malaysia to help Indonesia combat haze could not be implemented unless a Memorandum of Understanding is signed with the Indonesian government.

In clarifying a report in *The Star* yesterday, Azmi said assistance to the Riau province in its current form was about profiling local needs and that physical assistance did not necessarily mean going there to put out fires.

**Tajuk Artikel: Excise duty on cigarettes increased**  
**Sumber / Tarikh: The Star Online Tuesday 03rd July , 2007**

KUALA LUMPUR: The excise duty on cigarettes has been increased to 15 sen effective yesterday. According to a Finance Ministry statement, this means that duty for a 20-stick pack of cigarettes has gone up by 60 sen.

The ministry said the move was in line with the Government's effort to encourage a healthy lifestyle and to curb social problems due to smoking especially among youngsters. – Bernama

**Tajuk Artikel: Chua: Food products from China safe**  
**Sumber / Tarikh: The Star Online Tuesday 03rd July , 2007**

THE Health Ministry has not found any toxic chemicals in food and other products imported from China, said its minister Datuk Seri Dr Chua Soi Lek.

*China Press* quoted him as saying that the Government had always strictly monitored food and products imported from other countries.

"Until today, we have not found anything in products imported from China that can harm human beings," he said when asked why Malaysia did not follow other countries in banning certain products from China.

On another issue, the daily reported Federation of Malaysia Vegetable Wholesalers Associations president Soo Cheng Kee's request that the Government set up more enquiry channels to provide information to vegetable wholesalers.

Soo said the Government should also open up more agricultural land so that the supply of vegetables would be constant.

> *Sin Chew Daily* reported Dong Zong (United Chinese School Committees Association of Malaysia) chairman Yap Sin Tian's call to the Government to give annual allocations to Chinese independent schools. "Although national leaders have openly praised Chinese education, there are restrictions on its development," he said.

**Tajuk Artikel: Free ride: No charge for garbage disposal**  
**Sumber / Tarikh: New Straits Times Online Tuesday 03rd July , 2007**  
**[By : Heidi Foo](#)**

KUALA LUMPUR: There will be no new charges for garbage collection — at least for the time being.

The government and local authorities will share the cost which has traditionally been settled by the latter using assessment rates.

But things will change a little under the Solid Waste and Public Cleansing Management Bill 2007 with local authorities channelling funds to a federal corporation handling waste nationwide.

Housing and Local Government Minister Datuk Seri Ong Ka Ting said consumers should not worry about the cost factor as efficient garbage collection was the issue in the matter.

"We should not let payment and charges haunt us. At the moment, our focus is on providing effective solid waste management. This is no longer an issue of your right to throw your waste but of having a clean environment."

He said the government had to enter the picture as the amount from local authorities would not be enough to cover expenditure.

"Our main concern is to improve and ensure high quality service in two years before deciding on the next course of action."

Ong said existing concessionaires would be monitored using the Key Performance Index. He said licences would be issued by the ministry through its National Solid Waste Management Department.

The 88-page bill was tabled in parliament yesterday.

"All this while, local authorities have been facing a lack of finances to manage the process of waste being collected, transported, treated and destroyed in landfills," he said at his office yesterday.

He said local authorities needed funds to build more sanitary landfills, which were not cheap.

"For effective solid waste management, we need a foolproof system."

Ong said the bill included separation at source by consumers to prolong the life of landfills.

"We plan to impose the deposit refund system, which is yet to be determined, to control the amount of waste generated besides encouraging recycling.

"As long as we do not have a clear system to follow, the environment will be rapidly polluted by (among others) factories and households."

He said the bill was drafted after having considered best practices in Denmark, Switzerland, Germany, the United States, Japan and Australia.

"A tribunal will be set up for those seeking redress over issues pertaining to licensing, disputed claims or recovery of charges," he said, adding that the tribunal could award claims of up to RM50,000.

On areas covered under public cleanliness management, he said they included roads, toilets and drains, government-built and managed hawker or market centres, beaches, grass on kerbs and animal carcasses.

Another clause in the bill was for waste to be divided into eight categories; commercial, public, construction, household, industrial, institutions, imported waste and waste to be categorised at the minister's prerogative.

"The eighth clause is an enabling clause for waste that can be categorised by the minister when needed," Ong said.

He said authority would also be given to the federal government to sign agreements on solid waste management and public clean-up.

The minister said he would also table consequential amendments to the Solid Waste and Public Cleansing Management Corporation Bill, the Town and Country Planning Bill, the Local Government (Amendment) Bill, and the Street, Drainage and Building (Amendment) Bill.

Although the bill contains punitive measures against those who do not pay for waste collection, this will only be enforced if charges come into effect.

Under the bill, one would be fined RM5,000 for refusing to pay the bill for garbage collection or other charges.

An additional fine of RM50 a day will be imposed for each day the offence is continued.

The bill empowers the minister to take measures to help in the reduction, reuse and recycling of controlled solid waste.

He may issue orders for:

- Any solid waste generator to reduce the generation of controlled solid waste in any manner or method;

- Any person to use environmentally-friendly material;
- Any person to use specified amounts of recycled materials for specified products; and,
- Any person to limit the generation, import, use, discharge or disposal of specified products or materials.

Those who do not comply with the minister's order are liable to a fine not exceeding RM10,000 or imprisonment of up to six months, or both.

**Tajuk Artikel: Minimum wage 'does not mean more jobs'**

**Sumber / Tarikh: New Straits Times Online Tuesday 03rd July , 2007**

**By : Annie Freeda Cruz**



Human Resources Minister Datuk Seri Dr Fong Chan Onn says MTUC should work with the ministry.

KUALA LUMPUR: Don't kill the goose that lays the golden egg.

This is Human Resources Minister Datuk Seri Dr Fong Chan Onn's advice to the Malaysian Trades Union Congress on its demand for a minimum wage of RM900 per month.

He said a minimum wage would invite an influx of foreigners from neighbouring countries who would rob locals of jobs.

He said foreigners could not be blamed for coming here as the minimum wage would be higher than the average wage in their countries.

Fong said the MTUC was mistaken if it thought that a minimum wage would mean more jobs for Malaysians. "It's only a myth as foreigners will be flooding our land for jobs with many, especially in rural areas, being deprived of jobs," he told the New Straits Times.

Fong said a minimum wage also meant paying the amount to the 1.5 million legal foreign workers here. He said wage levels should ensure continued investment that creates jobs.

The Indonesian minimum wage ranges between RM136 and RM350 a month, which many employers do not honour.

Fong said the MTUC should work with the ministry on its sectorial approach to determine that wage conditions maintain the flexibility of the Malaysian economy and competitiveness.

He said a minimum wage would also affect secondary school students and undergraduates who would not be able to work part-time to support their studies.

Fong said the government was concerned about the welfare of local workers.

Last Tuesday, the MTUC held a picket to demand a RM900 minimum wage and a RM300 cost of living allowance for workers in the private sector.

Fong said the ministry was open to suggestions on sectors where the MTUC felt workers were underpaid.

He said the MTUC suggested that the wages of dock workers such as cargo handlers be reviewed.

"I have directed my officers to look into it and establish a commission of inquiry to ascertain if there is a need to set up a wage council for dock workers," he said.

On the Malaysia wage system, he said basic wages were determined by market forces.

"There is an efficient mechanism to determine wages in the industrial and construction sectors. These sectors have good union representation and collective agreements."

He said the half a million workers in the plantation sector had received a 9.7 per cent wage hike recently.

"The government does realise that there are sectors where an adequate market mechanism does not exist."

Recently, the ministry established a commission of inquiry to form a wage council for hotel workers. The councils will soon determine wages for about 1.2 million workers.

In May, the ministry embarked on a national employment census covering 570,000 employers nationwide.

Fong said the study, to be completed in October, would reveal the salary structure of workers at all levels in the private sector with the outcome determining if there was a need to form more wage councils.

**Tajuk Artikel: Kayveas: Prove data obtained legally**  
**Sumber / Tarikh: New Straits Times Online Tuesday 03rd July , 2007**

KUALA LUMPUR: Datuk M. Kayveas has challenged credit information provider Credit Tip-Off Service (CTOS) to prove that it had obtained the financial records of individuals in its database legally.

The deputy minister in the Prime Minister's Department also wants CTOS to update its database.

He said if the company failed to do so, it should cease its operations.

"Does CTOS have any payment receipts or evidence that the data were voluntarily given by the public? Is the company buying the information via legal means? I want proof of that," he said at a press conference at the parliament lobby yesterday.

Kayveas warned the company that if it continued to operate with outdated data, it could face legal consequences.

He said once the company had updated its records, it could apply for a license and register under the Insolvency Department.

"Personally, I feel the company should cease operations.

"With so many complaints levelled against them, they should shut down. The public and Fomca (Federation of Malaysian Consumers Associations) wanted it to be shut down."

To date, the government website, [www.insolvency.gov.my](http://www.insolvency.gov.my), had received 850 complaints against CTOS. The website receives an average of three complaints every five minutes.

Kayveas said CTOS did not obtain permission from individuals to have their financial status stored in its database and later sold to third parties.

He said while there were provisions in the law for banks to trade information on individuals between themselves, private companies were not allowed to do so.

As a result, he claimed that CTOS had violated several laws in the country, including the Computer Crime Act 1997, the Internal Security Act 1960, the Official Secrets Act 1972 and the Human Rights Commission Act 1999.

Citing an example, Kayveas said under the Computer Crime Act, CTOS could be charged under Section 73 for providing and selling inaccurate information to third parties.

"We will study which laws could be used to act against CTOS."

Kayveas said when the issue was first highlighted, it was hoped that CTOS could update the information in its database and clear peoples' names.

"Everyone needs a second chance, even criminals. Here, we have simple people with tiny offences being blacklisted due to CTOS historical data.

Even the government doesn't blacklist people, so how could a private company do so?"

He said intense marketing by CTOS had caused confusion not only among the public, but also among government agencies that had used its services as they were under the impression that CTOS was government-owned.

Kayveas admitted that even the People's Progressive Party, of which he is president, his service centre in Taiping and a law firm known as Messrs Blanche, Kayveas & Co had been subscribing to the services provided by CTOS since 1999.

However, he is unsure if his service centre and the PPP still used CTOS services.

He also claimed that CTOS made about RM80 million a year, based on 2,100 bank branches in the country which used its services.

He said CTOS had not submitted its accounts to the Companies Commission of Malaysia for the last 10 years.

CTOS has more than 13 million entries in its database compared with Bank Negara's Central Credit Reference Information System, which has two million entries.

Asked why no action had been taken against CTOS before this, Kayveas said previously, no one had treated the matter seriously.

"But now, we are serious," he said, adding that he would visit the company on July 10 to discuss the complaints that had been received against it.

Lawyer Datuk Mohd Zaid Ibrahim said the government should come up with a law dealing with data protection.

He said there were companies in Britain which offered similar services but they were regulated.

**Tajuk Artikel: Tour operators must offer travel insurance**  
**Sumber / Tarikh: New Straits Times Online Tuesday 03rd July , 2007**  
**[By : Vasantha Ganesan](#)**

KUALA LUMPUR: Tour and travel operators must offer basic travel insurance to customers but it is up to travellers to sign up.

The Basic Travel Protection Plan (BTP), which will cost RM15 per person per trip for all travel, will cover the unexpected, including financial losses in the event a tour is cancelled or closure of a travel agency.

The BTP includes a tour fare protection, which protects against financial losses of up to RM10,000 should trips be cancelled because of medical emergencies, death of a family member and natural disasters.

Introduction of the plan comes following the closure of Excellence Holidays Sdn Bhd, which had gone bust and left more than 300 customers high and dry.

Tourism Minister Datuk Seri Tengku Adnan Tengku Mansor said: "We want to make sure that what consumers buy brings no problem."

He added that customers should at the same time be smart when they make their buys.

"With effect from July 1, it is mandatory for all licensed travel and tour agents to offer travel insurance for local and overseas travel to customers, and customers are advised to take it."

He was speaking at a news conference in conjunction with the launch of the insurance product by Tahan Insurance Malaysia Bhd yesterday.

A premium of US\$15 (RM52) per person per trip is set for foreign visitors buying tour packages from local licensed travel and tour agencies for travel into the country.

The plan is endorsed by Tourism Malaysia and managed by a joint venture between its subsidiary Pempena Sdn Bhd and Timeless Vacation Sdn Bhd.

The company will market and promote the scheme while Tahan Insurance will underwrite the insurance plan with the support of six insurance companies.

The plan covers accidental death and permanent disablement, medical and outpatient treatment, repatriation, personal liability and emergency service.

### **Tajuk Artikel: Dry weather to last 3 to 5 days**

**Sumber / Tarikh: New Straits Times Online Tuesday 03rd July , 2007**

KUALA LUMPUR: The Air Pollutant Index (API) has been creeping up because of the dry weather and the prevailing winds of the southwest monsoon from Sumatra to the peninsula.

At 5pm yesterday, the highest API reading in the country was 94 in Seri Manjung, Perak, followed by Seberang Jaya, Penang, at 89. All monitoring stations in Selangor, as well as the station in Bintulu, recorded a reading of 70 and above.

The Department of Environment says these readings are still in the "moderate" range. An "unhealthy" reading would be 101 and above.

The Meteorological Department says the current weather conditions are expected to continue for the next three to five days.

A department spokesman added that the hazy conditions could be compounded by open burning. He explained that "hot spots" are only picked up by monitoring satellites when a fire raises the air temperature to 40° Celsius.

He said garden waste and campfires could contribute to the haze, but would not show up as hot spots because they did not raise the ambient temperature.

Department of Environment Air Division director Kalsom Abdul Ghani said yesterday afternoon she was still awaiting reports from the state divisions on the three hot spots in the peninsula that showed up on yesterday's satellite images.

There are 250 hot spots in Sumatra.

### **Tajuk Artikel: Dewan Rakyat: 617 govt employees held over corruption**

**Sumber / Tarikh: New Straits Times Online Tuesday 03rd July , 2007**  
**By : V. Vasudevan, Ranjeetha Pakiam and Eileen Ng**

A TOTAL of 617 government employees from various departments were picked up for corruption between 2005 and April this year by the Anti-Corruption Agency, Prime Minister Datuk Seri Abdullah Ahmad Badawi said.

During the same period, 304 other employees were prosecuted for various offences, he said in a written reply to a question from Datuk Ismail Sabri Yaakob (BN-Bera).

"Of the number detained, 394 or 63.9 per cent were law enforcement personnel, while 169 or 55.6 per cent of the enforcement personnel have been prosecuted."

Ismail had asked the prime minister to state the number of government servants, particularly in the enforcement section, who had been arrested and charged under the Anti-Corruption Act and the details according to their designations.

Abdullah said members of the police force comprised the biggest number of law enforcement personnel detained and charged, with 296 arrests and 128 of the cases brought to court. Next, came employees in local authorities, with 36 arrested and 16 charged; Customs Department (20 arrested, seven charged); Road Transport Department (17 arrested, nine charged); Immigration Department (13 arrested, four charged); and, other departments (12 arrested, five charged), he added.

Abdullah said though the percentages of law enforcement personnel arrested and charged were high, various other factors had to be considered, such as the high number of personnel, financial allocation, jurisdiction and activities entrusted to the agencies involved. — Bernama

**Tajuk Artikel: Meat on floor among causes of food poisoning**  
**Sumber / Tarikh: New Straits Times Online Tuesday 03rd July , 2007**

PUTRAJAYA: The meat was lying on a cement floor and left to defrost for 14 hours and the freezer was near a toilet.

These are just some of the shocking conditions suspected to have caused the recent spate of food poisoning in several schools in Kedah and Kelantan.

A probe into the cases also revealed that food was handled and prepared by foreign workers without vaccinations.

Deputy Education Minister Datuk Hon Choon Kim, who revealed the findings yesterday, is frustrated that repeated calls for operators to observe better hygiene have fallen on deaf ears.

"We held a seminar for them, yet it (food poisoning) happened again.

"I will go to Kedah again to meet canteen operators as this is the second incident," Hon said yesterday after the ministry's monthly gathering.

Students of SMK Pendang in Kedah had fallen ill after eating beef rendang on June 25.

The incident followed another case involving pupils from a school in Kampung Tandop Besar, Kuala Nerang.

Last week, 45 students from SM Kota, in Kota Baru, also suffered food poisoning.

"In the Pendang case, it was a mistake to defrost the meat for 14 hours on a cement surface. This is an unhygienic practice.

"In the Kelantan case, the canteen operator had engaged foreigners who didn't have proper vaccinations.

"They handled the food and it got contaminated. Their freezer was also near a toilet. Why couldn't they have moved it elsewhere?"

"It's bad food handling practices that cause all these problems," Hon said.

The services of the canteen operators in the two Kedah schools have been terminated.

Hon warned that the authorities would not hesitate to terminate the services of those who failed to ensure food safety and cleanliness.

Kedah has the dubious honour of being the state with the highest number of food poisoning cases in school canteens.

Nine out of the 16 cases which occurred this year happened in the state.

The ministry had wanted to hold headmasters responsible for the food poisoning cases but the National Union of the Teaching Profession had opposed the move.

He, however, urged headmasters to inspect their canteens and advised operators to observe hygiene practices, such as the proper way to defrost and cover food.

"Our weather is humid and bacteria multiply quickly if the food is unattended."

Hon reiterated the suggestion that teachers should share the same food as students so that the standard of the food would be maintained.

He also announced that ministry director-general Datuk Ahamad Sipon would retire on July 15.

Ahamad will take up the directorship of the Southeast Asian Ministers of Education Organisation next year.

"He has done a lot for the ministry and we have had many achievements under his leadership. We will announce a successor later."

### **Tajuk Artikel: Easier way to deal with councils**

**Sumber / Tarikh: New Straits Times Online Tuesday 03rd July , 2007**

**By : Minderjeet Kaur**

KUALA LUMPUR: The setting up of one-stop centres in Putrajaya, Labuan and here will make dealing with local authorities easier and faster.

The three centres were opened two weeks ago, and Federal Territories Minister Datuk Zulhasnan Rafique said they would handle everything from complaints about clogged drains to building permits for multi-million-ringggit projects and other permits.

He promised that simple matters would be handled within two weeks, while more complicated ones would take up to four months.

"Sometimes, a simple application to renovate a house or to get an appointment to meet the right person at the local authority can take months.

"At other times, applicants have to drive to different departments in different buildings just to check on the status of an application," he said after visiting the one-stop centre in the lobby of City Hall yesterday. Other than handling complaints and applications to City Hall, on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays, representatives from the Federal Territory land office and the Fire and Rescue Department will be on hand to deal with queries.

In April, Prime Minister Datuk Seri Abdullah Ahmad Badawi called on local authorities to reduce red tape.

"People can come in, take a number and settle their problems. If their documentation is incomplete, they will be given another appointment. Everything can be processed at the counters. And applicants can also check the status of their documents," said Zulhasnan, adding that this meant that people would no longer have to deal with several people in various departments.

He also said his ministry and City Hall had begun to review development plans for the government's one- and two-room low-cost apartments, some of which are older than 25 years.

Abdullah announced last month that about 15,000 low-cost public housing units built in the city through the National Economic Action Council and the Housing and Local Government Ministry would be sold to deserving buyers.

The new units will have three bedrooms and two bathrooms and available for RM35,000 each.

**Tajuk Artikel: IGP Musa's service contract extended**  
**Sumber / Tarikh: The Sun Online Tuesday 03rd July , 2007**  
**R. Manirajan**

**PUTRAJAYA (July 2, 2007):** The government has extended the contract of Inspector-General of Police Tan Sri Musa Hassan which is scheduled to expire on Sept 13.

In announcing this today, Prime Minister Datuk Seri Abdullah Ahmad Badawi said the decision was taken to allow the IGP to complete his agenda to fight crime. He, however, did not say how long the extension was for. Musa reached retirement age on Sept 13 last year and was given a one-year contract.

Asked for a response today, Musa thanked Abdullah for having faith in him and promised to continue with his goals, especially the fight against organised crime.

He said he had yet to get an official letter on the extension of his contract.

Abdullah, who is also the Internal Security Minister, made the announcement when addressing the monthly gathering of staff of the Prime Minister's Department.

He said police have increased operations to fight crime and the government has facilitated all requests for facilities and other things for the force.

The Prime Minister said the rakyat has to cooperate to fight this menace as many ordinary people are becoming victims.

"If the people are willing to cooperate, not afraid or feel threatened by threats, I believe we can reduce the crime rate."

He also called on the civil servants to do their part as well, holding positions in the government did not make one less a member of the rakyat.

He said fighting crime and corruption required support and strength in big numbers.

"This approach can instill and create fear in those who want to commit crime. If all the civil servants group together with the people and non-governmental agencies, this combination will give a lot of confidence for people to come forward and lodge reports and this will in some way eliminate the feeling of apathy, don't-care attitude."

Abdullah cited an example of a woman who had her handbag stolen while she was refuelling at a petrol kiosk.

"She gave chase and managed to get her handbag back, but no one at the station bothered to help her," he said, describing this as a "disappointing and bad behaviour and a selfish and irresponsible attitude."

Before his speech, Abdullah offered an apology as he did not wear the yellow spots on red tie that is now part of the department's new corporate image.

Those who wore it included Deputy Prime Minister Datuk Seri Najib Abdul Razak, Chief Secretary to the Government Tan Sri Mohd Sidek Hassan and ministers and deputy ministers.

"When you are married, you don't listen to your wife despite her telling you this is the red and yellow spot tie you should wear. But I thought it must be the one with the batik design. Actually it is the wrong one. Next time you must listen to your wife, when it comes to dressing; not on policy matters," he said to laughter.

### **Tajuk Artikel: 3.1 million smokers in M'sia, 24% start in primary school**

**Sumber / Tarikh: The Sun Online Tuesday 03rd July , 2007**

***Pauline Puah***

**KUALA LUMPUR (July 2, 2007):** The number of smokers in Malaysia has shot up to 3.1 million with 24% of them starting the habit in primary schools, said Health Ministry parliamentary secretary Datuk Lee Kah Choon.

In a press conference in Dewan Rakyat (Parliament) lobby to announce the Jom-Tak nak Merokok campaign today, he said the ministry will conduct a research to determine "how such students become addicted at such a tender young age".

"In order to expand the market, some tobacco companies increased the nicotine in cigarettes. Therefore, people could be addicted to smoking after taking one or two cigarettes. The ministry has a challenging job to do," Lee said, added that a research had shown that 30% of cancers were caused by smoking.

Lee said that under the Control of Tobacco Product Regulations 2004, those aged below 18 may be fined up to RM1,000 for smoking.

"If these teenagers are unable to pay the fines, then their parents will have to pay on their behalf," he said. Lee said that under the campaign from June to September, the ministry will be working with MPs and state assemblymen to reach out to the people.

"Some MPs are smokers and through the campaign, we will advise them to be a role model for others," he said.

On a lighter note, Lee said former Gerakan president Datuk Seri Dr Lim Keng Yaik was reminded not to smoke at a government function.

"We hope everyone will voice up when they see someone around them smoking," he said.

Lee said the difference between the Jom-Tak nak Merokok campaign and the previous Tak Nak Merokok campaign was that the former is part of the healthy lifestyle campaign.

"The Tak Nak campaign, in the past, was a branding campaign. It's like the branding for a product. After it has been successfully implemented, we are now selling the products (Jom-Tak nak Merokok campaign)," he said.

**Tajuk Artikel: 617 kakitangan awam ditahan BPR**  
**Sumber / Tarikh: Berita Harian Online 03 Julai 2007 – Selasa**

DATUK Seri Abdullah Ahmad Badawi berkata, 617 kakitangan awam pelbagai jabatan ditahan Badan Pencegah Rasuah (BPR) kerana kesalahan rasuah manakala 304 kakitangan awam dikenakan tindakan mahkamah sepanjang 2005 hingga April tahun ini.

Perdana Menteri berkata, sepanjang tempoh itu, 394 orang atau 63.9 peratus yang ditahan BPR adalah penguat kuasa undang-undang dan 169 orang sudah dituduh di mahkamah.

Beliau berkata demikian dalam jawapan bertulis kepada Datuk Ismail Sabri Yaakob (BN-Bera).

Ismail meminta Abdullah, yang juga Menteri Keselamatan Dalam Negeri, menyatakan jumlah kakitangan kerajaan terutama penguat kuasa ditangkap dan didakwa mengikut Akta Rasuah dan perincian mengikut jenis pekerjaan.

Abdullah berkata, anggota polis adalah antara yang paling ramai ditahan dan dituduh di mahkamah membabitkan jumlah tangkapan 296 kes manakala sebanyak 128 kes dibawa ke mahkamah.

"Ini diikuti pihak berkuasa tempatan dengan 36 tangkapan dan 16 pertuduhan, Kastam Diraja Malaysia (20 tangkapan/tujuh pertuduhan), Jabatan Pengangkutan Jalan (17 tangkapan/sembilan pertuduhan), Jabatan Imigresen (13 tangkapan/empat pertuduhan) manakala lain-lain jabatan ialah 12 tangkapan dan lima pertuduhan," katanya.

Sementara itu, Abdullah berkata, siasatan dakwaan rasuah terhadap Ketua Menteri Sabah, Datuk Seri Musa Aman masih dijalankan.

Perdana Menteri memetik Seksyen 21(4) Akta Pencegahan Rasuah 1997 yang dikuatkuasakan 8 Januari 1998 menyatakan sesuatu aduan yang dibuat mengikut subseksyen (1) hendaklah dirahsiakan dan tidak boleh didedahkan kepada orang ramai hinggalah orang tertuduh dibawa ke mahkamah atas suatu kesalahan mengikut Akta itu.

"Peruntukan itu jelas melarang sebarang pendedahan terhadap aduan yang dibuat oleh mana-mana orang kepada mana-mana orang selain daripada pegawai Badan dan Pendakwa Raya," katanya dalam jawapan bertulis kepada soalan Salahuddin Ayub (PAS-Kubang Kerian). – Bernama

**Tajuk Artikel: Koporat perlu tingkat tahap integriti: PM**  
**Sumber / Tarikh: Berita Harian Online 03 Julai 2007 – Selasa**  
**Oleh Norfatimah Ahmad**

KUALA LUMPUR: Datuk Seri Abdullah Ahmad Badawi mahu sektor korporat komited bersama kerajaan dalam memerangi rasuah, salah guna kuasa dan penyelewengan untuk mencapai tahap integriti membanggakan bagi merealisasikan Misi Nasional.

Sambil merujuk masalah dalaman yang melanda syarikat yang tersenarai di Bursa Malaysia seperti Transmile Group Bhd (Transmile) dan Megan Media Holdings Bhd (Megan Media), Perdana Menteri berkata, pengarah syarikat wajar mempunyai tanggungjawab melaksanakan tugas negara.

"Saya percaya, ketelusan dan keterbukaan akan kekal sebagai langkah pencegahan terbaik untuk

memerangi kegiatan rasuah kerana ia (rasuah) berbahaya untuk kita semua sama ada kerajaan atau dalam perniagaan.

"Sebagai pengarah syarikat, perlu wujud ketelusan dalam pentadbiran korporat, selain perlu bersedia untuk meneliti dan menyiasat.

"Malah, anda perlu bersedia untuk bertanyakan soalan yang tidak menyenangkan dan menerima jawapan yang juga tidak menyenangkan," katanya pada majlis makan malam Kepemimpinan Korporat 2007 anjuran Institut Pengarah Malaysia (MID) di sini, malam tadi.

Berikutan berdepan masalah dalaman itu, Transmile, syarikat perkhidmatan kargo udara dan Megan Media, syarikat pengeluar cakera optik digantung urus niaga semalam, tetapi dibenar berurus niaga semula hari ini.

Harga saham Transmile dan Megan Media dalam dagangan terakhirnya Jumaat lalu, masing-masing mencatatkan RM4.54 dan 10.5 sen.

Transmile semalam mengemukakan laporan kewangan baru yang diaudit semula bagi tahun kewangan 2006 dan 2005 dengan melaporkan kerugian sebelum cukai RM124.68 juta bagi 2006 dan 416.996 juta bagi 2005.

Ini berbanding keuntungan sebelum cukai RM157.53 juga bagi 2006 dan RM84.386 juta yang dilaporkannya sebelum ini.

Akaun Transmile mendapat perhatian pada 7 Mei lalu apabila ia mengumumkan gagal mematuhi tarikh akhir bagi menghantar keputusan kewangan beraudit bagi 2006.

Ia melantik Moores Rowland Risk Management bagi menjalankan audit ke atas akaun syarikat dengan pemegang sahamnya utama adalah Pos Malaysia, yang pemegang saham utamanya adalah cabang pelaburan kerajaan, Khazanah Nasional.

Pada majlis itu, Abdullah turut melancarkan buku 'Mission 2020: The Final Stretch' terbitan Limkokwing yang memfokuskan beberapa strategi terkini menangani senario semasa global.

Turut hadir Presiden MID, Tan Sri Dr Lim Kok Wing.

Abdullah berkata, pada peringkat kerajaan, perlu dikaji semula langkah untuk memperketatkan peraturan bagi memastikan kelemahan yang wujud ditangani dan hukuman yang setimpal dikenakan terhadap pihak yang tidak bertanggungjawab.

"Pada masa sama, kita perlu realistik kerana tentunya ada pihak yang cuba menguji kecekapan dan mencabar perundangan negara.

"Sehubungan itu, usaha perlu dilaksanakan untuk meningkatkan pemeriksaan dan memastikan pihak terbabit dikesan dan dikenakan tindakan tegas untuk menjamin keyakinan pelabur di pasaran," katanya.

Malah, beliau yakin kejayaan Misi Nasional memerlukan kerjasama semua, ketekunan, kecekalan dan integriti kerana jalan yang akan dilalui adalah sukar.

Mengenai pelaksanaan projek Rancangan Malaysia Kesembilan (RMK-9), Perdana Menteri berkata ia berjalan mengikut jadual, antaranya mewujudkan Wilayah Pembangunan Iskandar (WPI), Koridor Pembangunan Wilayah, pembaharuan sistem pendidikan, membasmi kemiskinan, lonjakan bidang

pertanian dan bioteknologi dan transformasi inisiatif syarikat berkaitan kerajaan (GLC).

Malah, beliau juga menggunakan pepatah Melayu, 'berat sama dipikul, ringan sama dijinjing' yang dianggap pendekatan terbaik ke arah pembangunan kerana ia menonjolkan sifat kerjasama dan bersepadu antara sektor swasta dan awam.

Katanya, tahap pembangunan yang dicapai negara adalah memberangsangkan dengan kadar pertumbuhan ekonomi mencecah 6.5 peratus sejak 50 tahun lalu, manakala kemiskinan menurun kepada hanya 5.7 peratus serta pendapatan rakyat meningkat berganda sejak merdeka.

Beliau berkata, ketika ini, usaha untuk meneroka pasaran ekonomi global adalah membanggakan apabila perdagangan negara mencapai RM1 trilion, manakala pasaran saham turut mencatatkan rekod tertinggi baru-baru ini.

**Tajuk Artikel: Tiada caj tambahan khidmat sisa pepejal**  
**Sumber / Tarikh: Berita Harian Online 03 Julai 2007 – Selasa**  
**Oleh Sazarina Shahrin**

KUALA LUMPUR: Pengguna akan menikmati perkhidmatan pengurusan sisa pepejal yang lebih baik dan sistematik dalam tempoh dua tahun tanpa dikenakan sebarang caj tambahan.

Sehubungan itu, Menteri Perumahan dan Kerajaan Tempatan, Datuk Seri Ong Ka Ting, mengarahkan tiga syarikat konsesi pengurusan dan pelupusan sisa pepejal memperbaiki perkhidmatan pengutipan dan penghantaran sisa serta pembersihan awam dengan segera.

"Kita mahu melihat perubahan besar dalam sistem pengurusan sisa pepejal dalam dua tahun dengan kutipan (sampah) mengikut jadual dan penguatkuasaan yang lebih ketat.

"Walaupun kerajaan Pusat mengambil pengurusan sisa pepejal daripada pihak berkuasa tempatan (PBT), ia tidak akan membebankan orang awam dengan kos tambahan.

"Sebahagian daripada cukai pintu yang dibayar penduduk kepada PBT akan digunakan membiayai kos pengurusan sisa pepejal dan bakinya ditanggung kerajaan Persekutuan," katanya pada sidang media mengenai Rang Undang-Undang Pengurusan Sisa Pepejal dan Pembersihan Awam yang dibentangkan di Parlimen, semalam.

Rang undang-undang itu bertujuan memberi kuasa kepada kerajaan Pusat menguruskan sisa pepejal secara bersepadu, selaras dan lebih berkesan.

Rang undang-undang itu yang tertangguh sejak dua tahun lalu akan menyediakan garis panduan terperinci bagi mengurangkan kadar sampah selain memperkenalkan kaedah pelupusan mesra alam.

Ong bagaimanapun tidak memberi sebarang jaminan bayaran tidak akan dikenakan pada masa depan.

"Kita belum memikirkan mengenai perkara itu (bayaran terhadap pengguna). apa yang penting melihat penambahbaikan pengurusan sisa pepejal," katanya.

Ditanya mengenai sama ada kerajaan akan menambah syarikat konsesi sedia ada, beliau menegaskan ia

belum diputuskan kerajaan tetapi perjanjian konsesi dengan tiga syarikat konsesi sedia ada menerusi dasar penswastaaan mengikut perjanjian interim akan dimuktamadkan dalam bentuk perjanjian konsesi.

**Tajuk Artikel: Ramai remaja perokok tegar**

**Sumber / Tarikh: Berita Harian Online 03 Julai 2007 – Selasa**

**Oleh Rohaniza Idris dan Mohamed Farid Noh**

Individu bawah 18 tahun boleh didenda RM1,000 jika beli, hisap rokok,

KUALA LUMPUR: Kementerian Kesihatan mendedahkan 24 peratus daripada 3.1 juta perokok tegar di kalangan rakyat Malaysia adalah remaja termasuk pelajar sekolah rendah.

Perangkaan itu didedahkan Setiausaha Parlimen Kementerian Kesihatan, Datuk Lee Kah Choon ketika membentangkan maklumat terkini sempena Program Jom-Tak Nak Merokok peringkat kebangsaan yang dilancarkan 16 Jun lalu.

"Kita sangat dukacita dengan jumlah perokok tegar terutama di kalangan remaja terutama mereka terbabit sejak usia yang tidak sepatutnya. Ia memberi gambaran masa depan menakutkan.

"Apa yang lebih menyedihkan apabila ribuan orang tidak merokok turut maut setiap tahun akibat terhidu asap rokok yang mewujudkan pelbagai penyakit kronik," katanya, di lobi Parlimen, semalam.

Kempen Jom-Tak Nak Merokok itu adalah susulan program amalkan Cara Hidup Sihat dilancarkan kerajaan pada 2005.

Lee berkata, kementerian melancarkan Program Jom-Tak Nak Merokok bagi mewujudkan masyarakat dan persekitaran bebas merokok.

"Ia bertujuan memberi pengetahuan dan kesedaran kepada masyarakat mengenai bahaya merokok, di samping menggalakkan perokok berhenti merokok. Program ini juga menggalakkan remaja supaya tidak memulakan tabiat merokok," katanya.

"Kementerian Kesihatan akan memperhebat serbuan di kawasan persinggahan remaja seperti kompleks membeli-belah untuk penguatkuasaan.

"Kita juga akan ke sekolah seluruh negara untuk mengadakan ceramah dan pergi ke bilik darjah untuk memeriksa pelajar dan beg mereka untuk mengesan jika mereka membawa rokok," katanya.

Beliau berkata, Peraturan Pengawalan Produk Tembakau yang diwartakan baru-baru ini juga akan memastikan remaja berusia kurang 18 tahun yang ditangkap mengunyah, menghisap atau membeli tembakau atau rokok boleh didenda RM1,000.

**Tajuk Artikel: Puspakom periksa secara percuma hingga Ogos**

**Sumber / Tarikh: Berita Harian Online 03 Julai 2007 – Selasa**

**Oleh Shamshul Azree Samshir**

PUTRAJAYA: Perkhidmatan pemeriksaan kenderaan persendirian bagi pertukaran hak milik di semua 64 Pusat Pemeriksaan Kenderaan Berkomputer (Puspakom) di seluruh negara diberi percuma sehingga akhir bulan ini dan bayaran RM30 hanya dikenakan mulai bulan depan.

Menteri Pengangkutan, Datuk Seri Chan Kong Choy, berkata langkah itu bagi membolehkan Puspakom dan Jabatan Pengangkutan Jalan (JPJ) menyelesaikan masalah pembeli kereta terpakai yang terpaksa melakukan dua pemeriksaan, iaitu yang disyaratkan institusi kewangan dan kerajaan.

"Sebelum ini kita menetapkan 1 Julai melaksanakannya tetapi baru-baru ini kita menerima rayuan dan pandangan orang ramai menyatakan apabila hendak meminjam dari bank untuk membeli kereta terpakai, mereka kena periksa dan ketika datang ke Puspakom untuk menukar hak milik pun kena periksa sekali lagi," katanya pada sidang media, di kementeriannya, di sini semalam.

Chan berkata, tempoh sebulan akan membolehkan Puspakom, JPJ dan institusi kewangan menyelesaikan masalah membabitkan syarat pemeriksaan kenderaan terpakai itu.

Katanya, pemeriksaan kenderaan persendirian bagi pinjaman memang menjadi dasar yang ditetapkan institusi kewangan dan pemeriksaan tukar hak milik pula adalah keputusan baru kerajaan.

"Kita berpendapat kedua-dua pemeriksaan ini boleh dibuat sekali saja iaitu pemeriksaan untuk pinjaman bank dan tukar milik. Orang ramai tak perlu hantar kereta untuk diperiksa dua kali dan hanya perlu membuat bayaran sekali," katanya.

Sementara itu, Chan berkata, Puspakom bersetuju menangguhkan sehingga 1 Ogos depan kadar bayaran baru membabitkan kenaikan antara RM10 hingga RM15 bagi perkhidmatan pemeriksaan.

Beliau berkata, kadar baru pemeriksaan khas perdagangan RM50 (RM40) dan kelulusan pelan RM110 (RM100).

"Bagaimanapun, pemeriksaan kenderaan yang mengalami kemalangan maut diberikan percuma," katanya.

Mengikut perjanjian antara kerajaan dengan Puspakom, kadar bayaran akan dikaji semula selepas lima tahun syarikat beroperasi, manakala kajian seterusnya setiap tiga tahun.

**Tajuk Artikel: Cukai naik, rokok kotak besar RM8**  
**Sumber / Tarikh: Berita Harian Online 03 Julai 2007 – Selasa**  
**Oleh Irwan Shafrizan Ismail**

KUALA LUMPUR: Kerajaan semalam mengumumkan kenaikan duti eksais rokok sebanyak tiga sen sebatang, menjadikan cukai bagi sekotak rokok 20 batang meningkat 60 sen, berkuat kuasa jam 4 petang semalam.

Menurut kenyataan Kementerian Kewangan, duti eksais rokok dinaikkan daripada 12 sen sebatang kepada 15 sen selaras langkah kerajaan menggalakkan gaya hidup sihat dan membendung gejala sosial di kalangan remaja dan pelajar.

Berikutan kenaikan itu, sekotak rokok 20 batang yang kini berharga RM7.40 dijangka meningkat sehingga RM8.

Kali terakhir duti eksais rokok dinaikkan sebanyak satu sen sebatang, yang diumumkan Perdana Menteri,

Datuk Seri Abdullah Ahmad Badawi dalam Bajet 2007 pada 2 September tahun lalu.

Sementara itu, Gabungan Persatuan Pengguna Malaysia (Fomca) menyokong langkah kerajaan menaikkan harga rokok yang dianggap dapat mendorong perokok menghentikan tabiat berkenaan.

Pengarah Komunikasinya, Mohd Yusof Abdul Rahman, berkata kenaikan itu juga dapat mencegah remaja, terutama pelajar mengamalkan tabiat buruk itu kerana tidak mempunyai sumber kewangan.

Beliau berkata, perokok tegar mungkin sukar menghentikan terus tabiat itu, tetapi kenaikan harga rokok sekarang-kurangnya mengurangkan keinginan mereka untuk merokok.

Mohd Yusof berkata, strategi syarikat rokok menarik perokok baru termasuk memperkenalkan kotak khas, turut menyukarkan kerajaan menangani gejala itu walaupun pelbagai kempen dijalankan.

Sehubungan itu, beliau berharap kerajaan mengambil perhatian terhadap perkara itu bagi menjayakan kempen Tak Nak Merokok.

### **Tajuk Artikel: Ketatkan undang-undang jayakan misi nasional – PM Sumber / Tarikh: Utusan Malaysia Online 03 Julai 2007 – Selasa**



ABDULLAH Ahmad Badawi dan Tan Sri Dr. Lim Kok Wing (tiga dari kanan) bersama penerima Anugerah Pengarah Terbaik (dari kiri) Datuk Mohd. Nazir Razak, Tan Sri Lim Kok Thay, Tan Sri Ir. Muhammad Radzi Mansor, Tan Sri Ir. Talha Mohd. Hashim dan Tan Sri Dr. Ramon Navaratnam pada majlis Jamuan Malam Pemimpin Korporat di Kuala Lumpur, malam tadi.

KUALA LUMPUR 2 Julai – Datuk Seri Abdullah Ahmad Badawi berkata, terdapat keperluan bagi kerajaan dan penggubal undang-undang untuk terus menyemak serta memperketatkan peraturan bagi memastikan misi nasional mencapai kejayaan.

Perdana Menteri berkata, selain pada undang-undang yang diperketatkan, sektor korporat perlu bersama kerajaan dalam memastikan rasuah sentiasa diperangi walaupun sukar untuk membersihkannya seratus peratus.

Menurut beliau, integriti bukan sekadar hanya bercakap semata-mata terutamanya apabila dilihat dalam lingkungan konteks terkini kemungkinan berlaku penipuan dalam sejumlah syarikat Malaysia yang disenaraikan.

“Ganjaran yang bakal diraih pelanggar undang-undang mungkin lumayan dan sering kali ada di antara mereka yang akan cuba mencabar undang-undang dan mengatasi peraturan,” katanya dalam ucapan Jamuan Malam Pemimpin Korporat 2007 anjuran Institut Pengarah- Pengarah Malaysia (MID) di sini, malam ini.

Turut hadir isteri Perdana Menteri, Datin Seri Jeanne Abdullah dan Presiden MID, Tan Sri Dr. Lim Kok Wing.

Abdullah berkata, pihak terbabit juga perlu bekerja keras dalam memastikan pengawasan dan memastikan setiap pelanggar undang-undang dicari serta dihadapkan ke muka pengadilan.

Turut ditekankan beliau ialah kerajaan dan penggubal undang-undang perlu juga memastikan hukuman yang adil serta mencukupi digubal sebagai satu langkah pencegahan.

Beliau turut menasihatkan syarikat- syarikat di negara ini mengamalkan integriti dan tadbir urus korporat yang baik kerana ia penting untuk ekonomi negara.

Beliau yang juga Menteri Kewangan memberi contoh masalah yang melanda Transmile Group Bhd., dan Megan Media Holdings Bhd., merupakan peringatan tepat bahawa integriti dan tadbir urus korporat yang baik harus sentiasa menjadi satu usaha berterusan.

"Usaha-usaha perlu digembleng dalam memastikan pemantauan berterusan dan setiap kesalahan dikesan dan diminta memberikan penjelasan," katanya.

Paling penting, tegas beliau, pengawal selia perlu mengenakan hukuman keras dan segera apabila pelanggaran peraturan di kesan.

"Pelaksanaan penuh undang-undang mesti diterapkan, bersungguh-sungguh. Kita perlu memastikan bahawa kita mengekalkan keyakinan terhadap pasaran," kata Abdullah.

### **Tajuk Artikel: Khidmat Musa Hassan dilanjut**

**Sumber / Tarikh: Utusan Malaysia Online 03 Julai 2007 – Selasa**

**Oleh ROZAMAN ISMAIL**

PUTRAJAYA 2 Julai – Datuk Seri Abdullah Ahmad Badawi hari ini mengumumkan perkhidmatan Tan Sri Musa Hassan sebagai Ketua Polis Negara yang tamat pada 12 September depan akan dilanjutkan. Perdana Menteri berkata, lanjutan perkhidmatan itu dibuat bagi membolehkan beliau meneruskan agenda membanteras jenayah dan rasuah.

"Mudah-mudahan usaha KPN itu akan berjaya dan membawa kebaikan serta ketinggian integriti kepada pihak polis," katanya ketika berucap pada perhimpunan bulanan Jabatan Perdana Menteri, di sini hari ini. Perdana Menteri bagaimanapun tidak menyatakan tempoh lanjutan perkhidmatan tersebut. Musa yang dilantik sebagai Ketua Polis Negara menggantikan Tan Sri Mohd. Bakri Omar pada 12 September 2006 dijadualkan bersara wajib pada 12 September ini.

Menurut Abdullah, kerajaan sudah menambah kemudahan yang diperlukan oleh polis pada masa ini bagi membolehkan pihak berkuasa itu meningkatkan operasi mencegah jenayah dengan lebih hebat lagi. Pada masa yang sama, kata Perdana Menteri, rakyat perlu memberi kerjasama kepada polis dalam membanteras kejadian jenayah.

"Rakyat akan menjadi mangsa kepada perbuatan jenayah. Tetapi jika rakyat sedia bermuafakat, tidak takut dan tidak gentar jika diugut, saya percaya kita dapat kurangkan jenayah dengan peratus yang besar," tegasnya.

Menurut Abdullah, semua pegawai kerajaan adalah rakyat dan sebagai rakyat mereka perlu memberi kerjasama dalam mencegah sebarang bentuk perbuatan jenayah.

"Bila kita kata rakyat kena bagi kerjasama, kita tak boleh anggap bahawa kakitangan kerajaan bukan rakyat, seolah-olah mereka kerja dengan kerajaan sahaja. "Jadi yang kena sokong adalah yang lain daripada kita. Pegawai kerajaan adalah juga rakyat biasa, cuma mereka ada tanggungjawab untuk jalankan tugas dan pekerjaan tertentu.

"Samalah juga dengan kakitangan swasta atau yang bekerja sendiri mereka ada tugas tertentu," katanya. Dalam hal ini, kata beliau lagi, semua pegawai kerajaan adalah rakyat dan memegang jawatan dalam kerajaan tidak menjadikan mereka sebagai orang yang tidak digolongkan sebagai rakyat.

Katanya, jika seluruh anggota kerajaan dalam sektor awam betul-betul mahu memerangi jenayah dan rasuah, ia sudah tentunya memberi kekuatan dan pengaruh yang cukup besar dan boleh digunakan sebaik-baiknya untuk mengurangkan jenayah dan rasuah.

"Tidak akan ada insiden jenayah dalam bentuk apa jua termasuk rasuah. Ini pendekatan yang boleh menggerunkan pihak yang ada niat dan tujuan nak lakukan jenayah," katanya.

Menurut Perdana Menteri, kekuatan akan wujud jika seluruh rakyat, anggota kerajaan dan pertubuhan bukan kerajaan (NGO) mempunyai sikap bersungguh-sungguh memerangi jenayah dan rasuah. "Kombinasi ini akan memberi semangat, satu kekuatan yang baru. Mereka akan jadi satu pemangkin yang kuat. Kalau sebelum ini ada golongan yang takut untuk membuat laporan polis, kini mereka akan menjadi lebih berani lagi.

"Tidak akan ada kumpulan yang ambil sikap tidak ambil peduli lagi, sikap tak pandang berat," tegas beliau. Abdullah turut meminta rakyat mengetepikan sikap tidak mengambil berat mengenai soal jenayah serta mementingkan diri sendiri sahaja.

"Boleh jadi kita rasa kita selamat hari ini, esok tidak tentu lagi. Maka pada masa itulah baru kita mengeluh mengapa perkara ini tidak dibanteras," katanya.

Perdana Menteri turut menceritakan kejadian satu kes ragut di sebuah stesen minyak mungkin dapat dielakkan jika semua orang saling mengambil berat dan ada rasa tanggungjawab.

"Ketika wanita itu turun untuk mengisi minyak, penjenayah membuka pintu kereta dan melarikan tas tangan.

"Wanita itu sempat mengejar dan merentap balik tas tangannya. Tetapi paling dukacita orang lain yang ada dekat stesen minyak itu tak kisah pun nak ke depan membantu mangsa.

"Tak ada langsung perasaan tanggungjawab kepada masyarakat untuk membantu bila diperlukan. Buat diam saja. Ini adalah tingkah laku yang sangat buruk," tegasnya.

Abdullah berkata, jenayah akan terus berleluasa sekiranya rakyat tidak mempedulikan apa yang berlaku di persekitaran mereka.

"Kita akan jadi lebih berani bila berada dalam kumpulan yang besar dan bertindak bersama-sama.

"Tetapi kalau rakyat tak kisah, tak peduli apa yang berlaku pada jiran, riuh-rendah sebelah pun tak peduli. Ia akan bawa akibat buruk pada kita. Lambat-laun jenayah akan bermaharajalela," katanya.

## **Tajuk Artikel: Persatuan Bank-Bank Malaysia akur arahan kerajaan Sumber / Tarikh: Utusan Malaysia Online 03 Julai 2007 – Selasa**

KUALA LUMPUR 2 Julai – Persatuan Bank-Bank di Malaysia (ABM) akur dengan arahan kerajaan supaya institusi kewangan tidak lagi menjadikan Credit Tip Off Service Sdn. Bhd. (CTOS) sebagai sumber rujukan kredit.

Pengerusinya, Datuk Seri Abdul Hamid Abdul Hafiz berkata, ABM juga akan mengikut semua undang-undang yang termaktub dalam Akta Bank dan Institusi-Institusi Kewangan 1989 (Bafia) berkaitan pemberian pinjaman.

"Bank mempunyai akta yang perlu dipatuhi dan kita akan mengikut sebarang keputusan yang diarahkan kerajaan," katanya pada sidang akhbar di sini hari ini sambil mengakui persatuannya sudah begitu lama menjadikan rekod yang disediakan CTOS sebagai sumber rujukan.

Sebelum ini, Timbalan Menteri di Jabatan Perdana Menteri, Datuk M. Kayveas menggesa semua pihak termasuk agensi kerajaan, bank dan pihak berkuasa tempatan (PBT) yang menggunakan khidmat CTOS supaya menghentikan rujukan atau mendapatkan sebarang maklumat kewangan individu daripada syarikat itu.

Kayveas turut menegaskan, kerajaan akan menyita operasi CTOS sekiranya syarikat itu gagal membuktikan pihaknya mempunyai kebenaran untuk menyalurkan maklumat tersebut kepada pelanggan-pelanggannya mengikut peruntukan undang-undang.

Dalam hubungan ini, Hamidy menjelaskan, CTOS sebenarnya telah digunakan sebagai salah satu sumber rujukan latar belakang individu yang mahu berurusan mahupun bekerja dengan bank.

"Kita menggunakan CTOS secara meluas. Kita rujuk kepada mereka dalam kebanyakan urusan peminjaman bank.

"Kita turut memastikan seseorang pekerja bank itu bersih daripada sebarang rekod CTOS demi menjaga nama baik institusi dan mengelakkan sebarang perkara negatif," ujarnya.

Bagaimanapun, katanya, perkhidmatan CTOS itu hanya digunakan sebagai rujukan pertama selain menggunakan rujukan daripada senarai bank yang sedia ada.

"Kita menggunakan rekod CTOS kerana ia mempunyai data sejarah kredit seseorang dan urusan dengan mereka sebagai satu rujukan sahaja.

"Kita mempunyai kuasa mutlak untuk menentukan pinjaman seseorang atau menyenarai hitam mana-mana orang yang terbabit dengan kesalahan kewangan," jelasnya.

### **Tajuk Artikel: Kayveas beri kata dua kepada CTOS**

**Sumber / Tarikh: Utusan Malaysia Online 03 Julai 2007 – Selasa**

**Oleh HAMDEN RAMLI dan S. ANAND KUMAR**

KUALA LUMPUR 2 Julai – Credit Tip Off Service Sdn. Bhd. (CTOS) diberi kata dua hari ini sama ada mengemas kini 13 juta maklumat membabitkan 780,000 individu dalam simpanan syarikat itu atau bakal menghadapi tindakan undang-undang.

Timbalan Menteri di Jabatan Perdana Menteri, Datuk M. Kayveas berkata, tiada tempoh masa ditetapkan tetapi memberi amaran kepada syarikat itu bertindak segera kerana beberapa undang-undang sedia ada boleh diguna pakai.

Beliau berkata, CTOS boleh didakwa di bawah Seksyen 4 dan 12, Akta Suruhanjaya Hak Asasi Manusia Malaysia 1999; Seksyen 4, Akta Rahsia Rasmi 1972; Seksyen 73 Akta Jenayah Komputer 1997; Seksyen 22 Akta Keselamatan Dalam Negeri; Akta Perbankan dan Institusi Kewangan 1989; dan Akta Perbankan Islam 1983.

"Secara peribadi saya berpendapat, CTOS patut ditutup sahaja. Mana-mana syarikat yang mengumpul data peribadi tidak sepatutnya beroperasi," katanya ketika diminta mengulas perkembangan terkini tindakan ke atas CTOS di lobi Parlimen hari ini.

Semalam, Timbalan Perdana Menteri, Datuk Seri Najib Tun Razak memberi amaran kepada CTOS supaya tidak menjadi penghalang kepada orang ramai untuk mendapatkan pinjaman daripada institusi-institusi kewangan.

Tegas Najib, CTOS tidak seharusnya mencengkam orang ramai dengan mengemukakan maklumat tidak terkini sehingga boleh menyebabkan orang ramai disenaraikan hitam oleh institusi kewangan.

Katanya, CTOS perlu memastikan maklumat yang disimpan lengkap dan dikemas kini bagi mengelakkan orang ramai yang disenaraikan dalam sistemnya menghadapi masalah mendapatkan pinjaman.

Mengulas lanjut, Kayveas berkata, sehingga kini Jabatan Insolvensi Malaysia (JIM) menerusi laman webnya [www.insolvency.com.my](http://www.insolvency.com.my) menerima sebanyak 850 aduan atau purata tiga aduan setiap lima minit mengenai CTOS.

Ditanya kenapa kerajaan tidak mengambil tindakan menutup terus CTOS, Kayveas berkata, kerajaan mahu bersikap adil dan memberi peluang kepada syarikat berkenaan membetulkan keadaan.

Beliau menambah, tujuan dibangkitkan isu mengenai syarikat itu adalah untuk memberi kesedaran kepada pengguna mengenai hak sebenar mereka. Katanya, pihak yang ingin mendapatkan maklumat berhubung masalah bankrap sepatutnya merujuk JIM di bawah Jabatan Perdana Menteri kerana ia menyediakan maklumat terkini.

Beliau turut mempertahankan kenyataannya bahawa CTOS tidak berdaftar dengan Suruhanjaya Syarikat Malaysia (SSM). "Mereka mendaftar menggunakan nama lain. Ini salah satu langkah bijak mereka," katanya.

Beliau turut mendakwa syarikat berkenaan tidak menghantar laporan kewangan kepada SSM sejak 10 tahun lalu.

Mengenai tindakan firma guaman beliau yang turut menggunakan perkhidmatan CTOS, beliau berkata, ia berlaku 10 tahun lalu setelah ditawarkan perkhidmatan oleh ejen pemasaran syarikat terbabit.

**Tajuk Artikel: Ramai sokong rokok mahal**  
**Sumber / Tarikh: Harian Metro Online 03 Julai 2007 – Selasa**  
**Oleh Mohd Nur Asnawi Daud**

KUALA LUMPUR: Kenaikan harga rokok yang diumumkan kerajaan semalam menimbulkan pelbagai reaksi pengguna termasuk mereka yang tidak merokok.

Tinjauan Harian Metro di sekitar ibu kota malam tadi mendapati ramai yang bersetuju kerajaan menaikkan harga rokok sebagai langkah meningkatkan gaya hidup sihat dan menangani masalah sosial akibat merokok terutama di kalangan golongan muda.

Pekerja swasta, Mohd Hafiz Mohtar, 22, berkata langkah kerajaan menaikkan harga tindakan bijak ke arah mewujudkan masyarakat sihat di negara ini.

"Langkah ini dapat mengurangkan bilangan perokok tegar kerana dengan kenaikan harga baru yang diumumkan ini, mereka mungkin memilih untuk berhenti atau mengurangkan rokok. "Ia juga dilihat sebagai langkah bijak mengelakkan remaja yang baru menjinakkan diri untuk menghentikan tabiat buruk itu," katanya ketika ditemui.

Kakitangan kerajaan, Azuddin Mohd Nordin, 36, turut menyokong langkah kerajaan menaikkan harga rokok sebagai tindakan mengurangkan penyakit yang berpunca daripada tabiat merokok.

Menurutnya, dengan kenaikan harga rokok yang diumumkan kerajaan, bilangan perokok dapat dikurangkan dan ia sekali gus mewujudkan masyarakat yang sihat dan bebas daripada penyakit yang disebabkan rokok.

"Ini adalah satu langkah kerajaan mengurangkan jumlah perokok dan ia perlu disertakan dengan beberapa alternatif lain supaya lebih berkesan dan mencapai matlamat," katanya.

Penghantar surat, Mohd Khairul Azhar Yahya, 20, menganggap kenaikan harga rokok itu membebankan mereka yang berpendapatan rendah.

"Walaupun harga rokok naik, orang ramai yang merokok terutama perokok tegar masih membeli dan meneruskan tabiat mereka. "Langkah kerajaan untuk mengurangkan perokok dan mewujudkan masyarakat

sihat sedikit saya sokong, namun kenaikan harga rokok ini pasti membebankan mereka yang tidak boleh berhenti merokok," katanya.

Kementerian Kewangan dalam kenyataan semalam berkata, duti eksais ke atas rokok dinaikkan kepada 15 sen berkuat kuasa jam 4 petang semalam daripada 12 sen sebelum ini.

Dengan kenaikan itu, duti bagi satu paket 20 batang rokok kini meningkat 60 sen.

## **Tajuk Artikel: Bertindak Tegas Terhadap Pelanggar Undang-undang, Kata Abdullah**

**Sumber / Tarikh: Bernama Online 03 Julai 2007 – Selasa**

KUALA LUMPUR, 2 Julai (Bernama) -- Datuk Seri Abdullah Ahmad Badawi berkata terdapat keperluan bagi kerajaan dan penggubal undang-undang untuk terus menyemak serta memperketatkan peraturan bagi memastikan misi nasional mencapai kejayaan.

Perdana Menteri berkata integriti, selaku satu daripada inisiatif utama dalam Rancangan Malaysia Kesembilan, bukan sekadar satu isu untuk berceles, terutamanya apabila dilihat dalam lingkungan konteks terkini kemungkinan berlaku penipuan dalam sejumlah syarikat Malaysia yang disenaraikan.

"Ganjaran yang bakal diraih pelanggar undang-undang mungkin lumayan dan seringkali ada di antara mereka yang akan cuba mencabar undang-undang dan mengatasi peraturan.

"Oleh itu menjadi kewajipan penggubal undang-undang supaya sentiasa berwaspada terhadap pelanggar undang-undang dan berusaha keras dalam memastikan pengawasan dan memastikan setiap pelanggar undang-undang dicari serta dihadapkan ke muka pengadilan," katanya pada Jamuan Malam Pemimpin Korporat 2007 anjuran Institut Pengarah-Pengarah Malaysia di sini.

Abdullah berkata kerajaan dan penggubal undang-undang juga perlu memastikan hukuman yang adil serta mencukupi digubal sebagai satu langkah pencegahan.

Beliau berkata yang paling penting ialah apabila tindakan melanggar undang-undang seperti itu ditemui, penggubal undang-undang perlu bertindak tegas dan pantas dengan menguatkuasakan sepenuhnya undang-undang sambil mengekalkan keyakinan di pasaran.

Abdullah berkata masalah yang baru-baru ini membelenggu Transmile dan Megan Media merupakan peringatan yang kena pada masanya bagi setiap orang bahawa integriti dan tadbir urus yang baik seharusnya menjadi satu usaha yang berterusan.

Mengenai peranan pengarah, Abdullah berkata mereka mempunyai kewajipan fidusiari kepada pemegang saham bagi memastikan prinsip tadbir urus korporat yang baik dikuatkuasakan dengan sewajarnya.

"Saya percaya ketelusan dan keterbukaan tetap menjadi langkah pencegahan yang terbaik terhadap rasuah serta penipuan.

"Sebagai pengarah syarikat, anda perlu sentiasa memastikan ketelusan dan tadbir urus korporat, sedia untuk meneliti dan menyiasat, menanyakan soalan yang yang tidak selesa dan menerima jawapan yang tidak selesa," katanya.

Beliau berkata pengarah harus melaksanakan tanggungjawab mereka dengan baik, iaitu tanggungjawab

terhadap pemegang saham, hati nurani mereka, malah kepada negara.

Abdullah berkata kejayaan misi nasional memerlukan setiap pihak bekerjasama dengan tekun, tabah, dan berintegriti meskipun laluan yang di hadapan adalah sukar serta curam.

Beliau berkata kerajaan telahpun mengambil langkah untuk memastikan misi itu dicapai, antara lain mewujudkan Wilayah Pembangunan Iskandar, koridor pembangunan serantau yang lain, memperbaharui sistem pendidikan, membasmi kemiskinan, lonjakan nasional terhadap pertanian dan bioteknologi dengan ada di antaranya sudahpun membuahakan hasil.

Di pihak kerajaan, beliau berkata sistem penyampaian awam telahpun dipertingkatkan, paling ketara ialah penubuhan pasukan petugas peringkat tertinggi dikenali sebagai 'Pemudah' bagi mencari jalan untuk memperkemaskan proses serta prosedur dalam sektor awam.

Pada majlis itu, Abdullah turut melancarkan buku "Mission 2020: The Final Stretch."-- BERNAMA

## **Tajuk Artikel: BPR Tahan 617 Kakitangan Awam Dari 2005-April 2007, Kata Abdullah**

**Sumber / Tarikh: Bernama Online 03 Julai 2007 – Selasa**

KUALA LUMPUR, 2 Julai (Bernama) -- Perdana Menteri Datuk Seri Abdullah Ahmad Badawi berkata seramai 617 kakitangan awam dari pelbagai jabatan telah ditahan oleh Badan Pencegah Rasuah (BPR) sejak 2005 hingga April tahun ini.

Katanya dalam tempoh sama seramai 304 lagi kakitangan awam telah dikenakan tindakan mahkamah atas pelbagai kesalahan.

"Daripada jumlah itu, 63.9 peratus atau 394 orang adalah anggota penguatkuasa dan 169 daripada mereka sudah didakwa di mahkamah," katanya dalam jawapan bertulis kepada Datuk Ismail Sabri Yaakob (BN-Bera) di Dewan Rakyat.

Ismail meminta Abdullah, yang juga Menteri Keselamatan Dalam Negeri, menyatakan jumlah kakitangan kerajaan terutamanya dari jabatan penguatkuasa yang ditangkap dan didakwa di bawah Akta Rasuah dan perincian mengikut jenis pekerjaan.

Abdullah berkata anggota polis adalah antara yang paling ramai ditahan dan dituduh di mahkamah membabitkan jumlah tangkapan 296 kes manakala sebanyak 128 kes telah dibawa ke mahkamah.

"Ini diikuti pihak berkuasa tempatan dengan 36 tangkapan dan 16 pertuduhan, Kastam Diraja Malaysia (20 tangkapan/7 pertuduhan), Jabatan Pengangkutan Jalan (17 tangkapan/9 pertuduhan), Jabatan Imigresen (13 tangkapan/4 pertuduhan) manakala lain-lain jabatan ialah 12 tangkapan dan lima pertuduhan," katanya.

Perdana Menteri berkata walaupun bilangan tangkapan dan pertuduhan terhadap anggota penguatkuasa mewakili peratusan yang agak tinggi, pelbagai faktor lain perlu diambil kira seperti bilangan keanggotaan yang tinggi, peruntukan kewangan, bidang kuasa dan aktiviti yang dipertanggungjawabkan kepada agensi terbabit. -- BERNAMA

## **Tajuk Artikel: Jerebu Di P.Pinang - Jarak Penglihatan Di 4 Kawasan Berkurangan**

**Sumber / Tarikh: Bernama Online 03 Julai 2007 – Selasa**

PULAU PINANG, 2 Julai (Bernama) -- Jerebu di Pulau Pinang semakin mengaburi beberapa kawasan dengan jarak penglihatan sekurang-kurangnya di empat tempat berkurangan kepada antara 3km dan 5km berbanding semalam.

Jerebu mula melanda negeri ini pada Sabtu.

Jurucakap Jabatan Meteorologi Pulau Pinang berkata pada pukul 10 pagi, jarak penglihatan yang dicatatkan di Butterworth adalah sejauh 3km berbanding 4km semalam manakala di Bayan Lepas, jarak penglihatan sejauh 4.5km berbanding 7km semalam.

"Jarak penglihatan di Jambatan Pulau Pinang adalah sejauh 4.5 km," katanya ketika di hubungi hari ini.

Jarak penglihatan di Prai pula berkurangan kepada sejauh 5km berbanding 7km semalam, katanya.

-- BERNAMA

## **Tajuk Artikel: Abdullah Lanjut Khidmat Ketua Polis Negara**

**Sumber / Tarikh: Bernama Online 03 Julai 2007 – Selasa**

PUTRAJAYA, 2 Julai (Bernama) -- Perdana Menteri Datuk Seri Abdullah Ahmad Badawi hari ini mengumumkan lanjutan perkhidmatan Tan Sri Musa Hassan secara kontrak bagi membolehkan Ketua Polis Negara itu meneruskan usaha membanteras jenayah dan rasuah.

"Mudah-mudahan usaha IGP itu akan berjaya," katanya pada perhimpunan bulanan Jabatan Perdana Menteri di sini.

Bagaimanapun, Abdullah tidak menyatakan tempoh perkhidmatan kontrak itu. Musa dijadualkan bersara wajib pada 12 Sept depan.

Ancaman jenayah terhadap rakyat akan dapat dihapuskan ekoran polis kini meningkatkan usaha dan operasi mereka dengan lebih hebat lagi, kata beliau.

Rakyat pula, katanya, perlu bekerjasama dengan polis dalam usaha itu kerana masalah jenayah itu memberi kesan secara langsung kepada mereka.

Musa antara lain kini menumpukan usaha memerangi jenayah termasuk kumpulan jenayah terancang dan mereka yang dilindungi oleh orang kenamaan.

"Sekiranya rakyat sedia bermuafakat, tidak takut kepada ugutan penjenayah, kita akan dapat kurangkan kes jenayah dengan peratus yang besar," katanya.

Abdullah berkata suatu kekuatan akan wujud jika seluruh rakyat termasuk anggota kerajaan dan badan bukan kerajaan (NGO) mempunyai sikap bersungguh-sungguh memerangi jenayah dan rasuah.

"Kombinasi ini akan memberi semangat yang baru. Kalau sebelum ini ada golongan yang takut untuk

membuat laporan polis, kini mereka akan menjadi lebih berani lagi," kata Perdana Menteri.

Rakyat akan berasa lebih yakin dan selesa sekiranya mereka bersama-sama dalam kumpulan yang lebih besar, katanya.

Perdana Menteri juga meminta rakyat mengetepikan sikap tidak mengambil berat mengenai soal jenayah serta mementingkan diri sendiri sahaja.

"Boleh jadi kita rasa kita selamat hari ini, esok tidak tentu lagi," katanya.

Abdullah turut menceritakan bagaimana satu kes ragut membabitkan seorang wanita di sebuah stesen minyak boleh berlaku disebabkan orang ramai tidak membantu langsung walaupun menyedari kejadian itu.

Beliau berkata jenayah akan menjadi semakin berleluasa sekiranya rakyat tidak mempedulikan tentang apa yang berlaku di persekitaran mereka.

Di perhimpunan itu, Abdullah meminta maaf kerana tersilap memilih tali lehernya yang sepatutnya merah berbintik putih seperti yang dipakai oleh semua anggota Jabatan Perdana Menteri pada perhimpunan itu.

"Isteri saya dah cakap pakai tie warna ini (merah berbintik putih) untuk perhimpunan pagi ini tapi saya cakap tie batik merah yang betul," katanya berseloroh.

-- BERNAMA