



Tajuk Artikel: Two govt hospitals to adopt 'Full Paying Patient' concept

Sumber / Tarikh: The Star Online Friday 27th July , 2007

By HAMDAN RAJA ABDULLAH

MUAR: Two government hospitals in the country will adopt the 'Full Paying Patient' concept to curb medical specialists from the government hospitals from joining the private sector. Health Minister Datuk Seri Dr Chua Soi Lek said the hospitals - the Selayang and the Putrajaya Hospitals - would begin accepting those who opted for the concept on Aug 1.

Speaking to reporters here he said the move was also aimed at getting back those specialists who had left government hospitals to serve in the private sector.

"We are losing about 50% or about 100 of our specialist doctors every year who resign to join the private hospitals. "We hope this approach will enable the hospitals to allocate some additional incentives for the specialist doctors," he said after visiting drainage and road projects in Bentayan on Thursday.

Dr Chua said the ministry picked the two hospitals as they were excellent medical centres in treating liver related illness, hand surgery, breast cancer, endocrine diseases and some other illness. He said many who could afford sought treatment at these hospitals, but without the full paying patient concept, they only paid the minimal rate and enjoyed the subsidised treatment.

He said it was unfair as the government subsidy was meant for those Malaysians who could not afford to pay the full payment for the treatment of such illnesses. He said they would be placed in the First Class wards and allowed to choose the specialist doctors, but added the supporting staff would be similar to those attending to the other patients.

He said the cost would be similar to those charged by the private hospitals and followed the schedules outlined by the Malaysian Medical Association, but with some discount. He said this meant the treatment cost at the two hospitals would still be cheaper than those charged by the private hospitals, adding that, the concept would be extended to hospitals in the states if it was well received.

Dr Chua said some guidelines would be outlined to ensure the two hospitals did not give priority only to those who opted to pay the full payment and that the specialists also did not abuse the concept.

Tajuk Artikel: PM to decide on bonus for civil servants

Sumber / Tarikh: The Star Online Friday 27th July , 2007

PUTRAJAYA: The country's more than a million civil servants, who will be going home with a bigger pay packet this month, will know if they are getting any bonus when the Budget is tabled in September.

"As usual, the issue of bonus for civil servants is one to be considered by the Prime Minister, who is also First Finance Minister.

"It will be an item to be decided in the Budget, which goes to Parliament on Sept 7," said Second Finance Minister Tan Sri Nor Mohamed Yakcop.

The Government had been paying out yearly bonuses to civil servants in recent years. Nor Mohamed played it cool when reporters cornered him on this issue, after he gave out excellence service awards to the staff of the Finance Ministry here yesterday. He was also tight-lipped on any goodies that would be presented to the corporate sector, saying that the Government was interested in promoting a business-friendly environment. He added that this year's Budget was crucial as it comes mid-way into the implementation of the Ninth Malaysia Plan.

"We have to ensure that some of the goals identified under the plan, such as eradicating hardcore poverty, providing affordable housing and efficient public transport are achieved."

Nor Mohamed said the Budget would consider the difficulties faced by self-employed people to buy homes because they do not have salary slips.

On the planned legislation to regulate the services offered by credit information agencies, he said the ministry hoped to table this in Parliament by December or within the first quarter of next year. "In the meantime, a circular has been issued to all government agencies and departments to stop using CTOS' services," he said.

Nor Mohamed refuted talk that "hot money" (short-term funds) was flowing into Malaysia due to expectations that the country would further liberalise the ringgit.

"All investments are long-term, based on the economic fundamentals of our country, particularly when there are developments announced for the northern and southern regions. "Foreign investors are happy with the macroeconomic picture of the country."

Tajuk Artikel: Bloggers warned of price to pay Sumber / Tarikh: The Star Online Friday 27th July , 2007

KUALA LUMPUR: The Government's policy from the start has been not to intervene in the use of the Internet by people, including bloggers, who are free to use cyberspace to do "proper things", said Tan Sri Muhyiddin Yassin.

However, the Umno vice-president said that if irresponsible bloggers go overboard in their Internet postings, the Government would be forced to step in. "If they go overboard and insult, slander and break the laws, they will not get away scot-free. No one is above the law.

"Whether in the *alam maya* (cyberworld) or the *alam nyata* (physical world), people cannot simply write whatever they want, especially if it touches on religion, culture, the Rulers' position or the Constitution. These will be monitored," he said.

The opposition parties were also free to set up their own websites and blogs, but the same rule applied to them, he added. "We are a democratic country but it does not mean that anyone can do whatever they want, including break the laws.

"For postings that insult (religion and the King), there are laws that can be used against the culprits," said Muhyiddin, who is also Agriculture and Agro-Based Industry Minister, after launching the four-day Malaysia International Machinery Fair 2007 at the Putra World Trade Centre yesterday.

On another matter, he said the Federal Agriculture Marketing Authority would begin a pilot project with the setting-up of two design and packaging centres in Sik, Kedah, and Pagoh, Perak. The centres would act as a common facility for small- and medium-scale operators who could not afford to buy their own machines.

They could use the machines there to package their products as well as place barcodes and brand names on their products, he said. "A minimal fee will be imposed. They can also get advice on how to repackage their products and even purchase machines," he said.

Muhyiddin said many small- and medium-scale operators, including those who sold *kerepek* (crackers), had no capital to buy machines, which could greatly help them package their products, as well as expand their business. "So, they have to stick to the old method, which is tedious and inefficient," he said, adding that more centres would be set up around the country to benefit those in the rural areas.

Tajuk Artikel: Fong: Base pay rise on job performance, not seniority Sumber / Tarikh: The Star Online Friday 27th July , 2007

KUALA LUMPUR: Employers should base salary increments on job performance instead of seniority, said Human Resources Minister Datuk Seri Dr Fong Chan Onn. He said there was a need to break away from the traditional seniority-based salary system to avoid being outpaced by competitors in neighbouring countries as well as emerging low-cost producers.

Employers and employees should instead agree to accept more flexible and performance-based salary systems, he added.

"The traditional method of salary increment is outdated in our current working environment. "Emerging technologies and low-cost producers from other countries have challenged us to change the way we regulate our salary system," Dr Fong said. He said wage increases without performance, productivity and competency would prove unsustainable in the long run.

"When a business cannot be sustained, nor can its employees. "This leads to the nation losing out on cost-competitiveness in an increasingly challenging globalised world economy," he said, adding that the Government had been continuously promoting performance-based wage systems.

However, this has been met with a disappointing "no" from the majority in the private sector. There was a huge psychological barrier that must be brought down before the idea could be adopted, he said at a conference here yesterday.

He earlier witnessed a merger signing between the Executive Staff Union of F&N Beverages Sdn Bhd and the Beverage Industry Executive Union of F&N Coca-Cola (M) Sdn Bhd, and also the collective agreements between the unions and F&N Coca-Cola and F&N Beverages.

Tajuk Artikel: Car theft ring busted
Sumber / Tarikh: The Star Online Friday 27th July , 2007

KLANG: Thanks to a vehicle tracking and recovery system fixed to a Toyota Fortuner, police busted a syndicate that stole 4WD vehicles and exported them.

Klang police chief Asst Comm Mohd Rodwan Mohd Yusof said that 23 vehicles, estimated at about RM2.3mil, were also recovered when a police team raided a warehouse in Jalan Haji Sirat near here. Two men and a woman were arrested.

The raid came after the Toyota Fortuner was tracked thanks to the Captor Vehicle Tracking and Recovery System, which was affixed to the vehicle.

The vehicle was stolen on Wednesday and the tracking system was immediately activated.

Four ground recovery teams and a helicopter unit were deployed and managed to track it right up to the warehouse.

Police found vehicles stolen from places such as Mentakab, Port Dickson, Rawang, Alor Star and Klang. They included Toyota Hilux, Toyota Fortuner, Toyota Innova, Toyota Camry and Nissan X-trail. They also seized a Proton Waja, a Proton Putra, and a dismantled Mitsubishi Evolution at the scene of the crime.

However, the man who police believe was the mastermind behind the syndicate was still at large, said ACP Mohd Rodwan. "The vehicles were shipped out through Port Klang to Batam and Dubai," said ACP Mohd Rodwan.

He said they would steal 4WD vehicles and spruce them up to look new before shipping them out. ACP Mohd Rodwan said that the vehicles were in great demand in Afghanistan, Pakistan, Dubai and Batam.

Tajuk Artikel: Action taken against civil servants who abused power
Sumber / Tarikh: The Star Online Friday 27th July , 2007

IPOH: Disciplinary action has been taken against 20 civil servants in Perak for abuse of power. State Secretary Datuk Dr Abdul Rahman Hashim, who revealed this, added that action included issuing warnings and cutting salaries.

"One of them is being tried in court as the case involves criminal activity," he told reporters after launching the state-level Work Quality Upgrade Convention here yesterday.

Of the 21, nine were state officers while 12 were attached with federal departments.

The disciplinary matters had been pending since 2001 and there had been complaints that the state government was not acting promptly against the errant officials.

Dr Abdul Rahman said the disciplinary action against the 20 officers was completed by June 30.

State ACA director Samsiah Abu Bakar commended the state government for its action.

"The cases were pending for years. But when we brought them up, they were settled within months," she said.

**Tajuk Artikel: AmBank sends more participants for SJ Run
Sumber / Tarikh: The Star Online Friday 27th July , 2007
By TAN KARR WEI**

THE AmBank Group is back with a bigger contingent for the Subang Jaya 10km Run to be held at the Subang Jaya Municipal Council (MPSJ) Sports Complex on Aug 26. About 100 participants will represent the AmBank Group, one of the major sponsors of the Run that is being held in conjunction with the celebrations for the 50th anniversary of Merdeka this year.

AmBank Group public affairs director Syed Anuar Syed Ali said they had a group of regular runners from their subsidiaries.



Ready to go: National athlete Vally Michael (front row, left) and regular runner Roslan Kasim (front row, centre) leading the AmBank runners in a warm-up session during training for the upcoming Subang Jaya 10km Run.

"They have been active in road races throughout the country, so it was quite easy for us to get together a team for the Subang Jaya 10km Run," said Syed Anuar.

He said the AmBank Group encouraged its employees to participate in sporting events to stay healthy. "This is especially so with young people. They need to have a healthy body to be able to work well. We are trying to promote a healthy lifestyle. Most of our employees are active in sporting activities like futsal and go-karting.

"There's always good response from the staff when we organise sporting events. It's a good way to stay fit mentally and physically," he said.

International Vally Michael, who finished first in 2005 and second last year, will once again be gunning for a place on podium.

The Run has 12 categories – 10km men's and women's open (18 years and above), 7km men's junior veteran (40 years to below 50 years) and men's senior veteran (50 years and above), women's veteran (35 years and above), boys' and girls' (13 years to below 18 years), men's and women's special (wheelchair participants only), 5km men's and women's special (non-wheelchair participants only) and a 3km Fun Run (adults and children).

Entry fee is RM10 for each participant (including Fun Run) and RM5 for school children.

Meanwhile, it is free for participants in the men's and women's special category as well as children below six years for the Fun Run category.

The event is jointly organised by The Star, MPSJ and the Selangor Amateur Athletics Association (SAAA). Entry forms are available at MPSJ in Subang Jaya and The Star in Petaling Jaya; they can also be downloaded from the websites thestar.com.my/subangjaya and www.mpsj.gov.my. The closing date for registration is Aug 13.

Tajuk Artikel: DBKL issues stop-work order
Sumber / Tarikh: The Star Online Friday 27th July , 2007
By YIP YOKE TENG and VIVIENNE PAL

CITY Hall has issued a stop-work order to the developer who was responsible for land clearing activities on Bukit Gasing.

Kuala Lumpur mayor Datuk Ab Hakim Borhan, when contacted, said the stop-work order was issued on Monday and the developer had stopped work on the following day.

Hakim added that the developer has also been slapped with a compound fine and would be carrying out remedial works on the site.

Unknown land clearing was spotted on the portion of Bukit Gasing that falls under Kuala Lumpur jurisdiction by joggers and residents. The land clearing could have encroached into the Petaling Jaya side, which has been gazetted as a forest reserve in 1961.

In yesterday's *StarMetro*, Bukit Gasing assemblyman Datuk Dr Lim Thuang Seng said MBPJ and the Petaling Land Office would ascertain the boundaries between KL and PJ, and would take action against the culprit if the clearing had encroached into forest reserve.

Should it be found that the illegal activity had impinged on state land, the developer can be charged for carrying out development (which includes land clearing) inconsistent with the zone under Section 26 of the Town and Country Planning Act 1976, which carries a fine of RM500,000 or imprisonment not exceeding two years, or both.

And even if the activity did not trespass on state land, there is a high possibility that it had impinged on a 200m buffer zone promised by the City Hall and the Federal Territories ministry late last year.

Meanwhile, council bylaws stipulate that every tree chopped down illegally will involve a fine of RM50,000. According to nearby residents and joggers, the vast area of land was cleared about three weeks ago, and could pose a threat to the environment and the safety of users of the Bukit Gasing jogging trail.

A check by *StarMetro* showed that trees had been bulldozed and sand had been dumped and flattened on a stream, causing worry that there could be erosion during heavy downpour as well as stagnation of water due to the absence of an outlet.

"Whether or not there is encroachment into state land is up to the Land Office to determine when they confirm the exact boundary," said MBPJ councillor Juan Sei Chang. "If it is confirmed, however, that the activity had encroached onto the promised buffer zone, then I hope City Hall will not just give the culprit a slap on the wrist, but issue a hefty fine and ensure that the land is rehabilitated."

PJS councillor Nor Azman B. Mohd Nor said that it was the environment at stake.

"Ultimately, if the activity is a risk to the environment, then there should be a penalty that commensurate with the offence. "If the clearing is indeed illegal, then it just means that we should have increased our vigilance on monitoring what happens to our environment in the first place," he said.

Tajuk Artikel: Developer withdraws proposal, so park stays
Sumber / Tarikh: The Star Online Friday 27th July , 2007
By LIM CHIA YING

THE proposed development at Subang Ria Park would not take place following the withdrawal of a development proposal by the developer.

Sime UEP, in a letter sent to the Subang Jaya Municipal Council (MPSJ), said it has withdrawn the proposal to develop the park.



Idyllic: The park will remain as it is.

The letter was presented at the MPSJ One-Stop Centre (OSC) held on Monday afternoon.

Subang Jaya assemblyman Datuk Lee Hwa Beng, who is also a member of the OSC, said the developer had withdrawn the proposal due to objections from residents.

The announcement was also posted on Lee's website.

"I'm grateful to Sime UEP for listening to views of the people," said Lee. "I'm looking forward to what it will do next. In the meantime, the park would remain and the public can use it as usual," said Lee.

Many Subang Jaya residents who came to know about the news want the park beautified and upgraded into a real recreational park as stated in the land title.

They claimed the park is currently in a sad state of affairs and that the developer should fulfil its social obligations by developing it.

Many, however, did not seem pacified with the announcement, as they said it is not what they want. Resident Tony Loh said although the news come as a temporary relief, he is not sure if another development proposal would come up in future once the issue has "died down."

"If the developer does not want to upgrade the park, they should hand it over to the local council to manage it," he added.

Wangsa Baiduri resident Eddy Ch'ng said although he was informed of the news, he still has not seen the letter in black and white from MPSJ.

"We want this issue resolved once and for all. The only way to do so is to gazette the park as a green lung so that no one can touch it in future. "This issue has been going on for too long a time and residents are wondering if they have to stage more protests if another development proposal is submitted next time," said Ch'ng.

Local government legal expert Derek Fernandez said the withdrawal is the right thing to do. "The next step is for the land to be gazetted as a public recreational park since the public has been using it from day one. "However, the park is now privately owned and it would be unfair for the developer to maintain the place at its own expense," he opined.

Residents had expressed hopes that the state government or local authority could acquire the land, and even said they were willing to pay RM0.50 to match every RM1 that the government forks out.

When contacted, Sime UEP Properties Bhd managing director Ir Jauhari Hamidi confirmed to *StarMetro* in a statement that the company has withdrawn its application to redevelop Subang Ria Park.

"We are currently reviewing our options for a beneficial outcome to all parties concerned, which is reflective of our corporate social responsibility and commitment to Subang Jaya residents and users of the park," the statement read.

Tajuk Artikel: Budget to aim for 'better life'

Sumber / Tarikh: New Straits Times Online Friday 27th July , 2007

By : Anna Maria Samsudin

PUTRAJAYA: The 2008 Budget will continue to focus on social development efforts to improve Malaysians' quality of life.

Second Finance Minister Tan Sri Nor Mohamed Yakcop said the government would continue to look into areas such as education, poverty eradication and providing housing, especially for the Orang Asli and those living in Sabah and Sarawak.

He said there was concern for those like petty traders, farmers and fishermen without salary slips to prove their repayment ability when they decided to own houses.

"We will consider an effective mechanism to be implemented and this will be announced in the budget."

The 2008 Budget is scheduled to be tabled in the Dewan Rakyat by Prime Minister and Minister of Finance Datuk Seri Abdullah Ahmad Badawi on Sept 7.

Nor Mohamed said the government would also be announcing its decision on Cuepacs' proposal for a bonus increase for civil servants.

"The budget is important as it is the third year since the implementation of the Ninth Malaysia Plan.

"We need to make sure the momentum of growth continues because we are now at the mid-point of the 9MP, which is the peak period of the [plan](#).

"We also want to make sure projects identified in the plan are given due consideration such as housing, education and transportation. "I am not able to disclose anything specific right now but we are looking at implementing various effective mechanisms to improve the people's quality of life.

"That is the ultimate objective of this budget," he said after the Finance Ministry's Excellence Award ceremony here yesterday.

Despite the focus on social development items, Nor Mohamed said the 2008 Budget would also contain provisions that would help spur growth in the corporate sector.

Declining to provide more information on the goodies in store for the corporate sector, he said: "It is a secret. It is a major item in our hearts all the time.

"We have important measures. It is the objective of the government to continuously provide a business-friendly environment for the corporate sector."

Tajuk Artikel: Underrun bars on vehicles to be law Sumber / Tarikh: New Straits Times Online Friday 27th July , 2007

PUTRAJAYA: The law will be amended to require all commercial vehicles to have underrun bars at their rear ends. Had these bars been fixed on the lorry in Tuesday's accident when an MPV was crushed underneath it, the fate of [11](#) people who were killed might have been different.

The underrun bars would have prevented the MPV from going underneath the lorry.

Amendments to the Construction and Use Rules 1959, a set of regulations under the Road Transport Act, are being finalised to require all commercial vehicles to install these bars.

Road Transport Department deputy director-general Solah Mat Hassan said currently, only new commercial vehicles must have the bars.

"Since last year, we have imposed this requirement on new commercial vehicles when they send their vehicle [plans](#) to us for approval," he told the *New Straits Times*. "In the meantime, we began drafting amendments to the rules to make it compulsory for older vehicles as well."

Besides underrun bars, commercial vehicles must also have other safety features including night reflectors.

Solah said most commercial vehicles were registered before last year and, therefore were not required to install underrun bars. Puspakom will be the enforcing agency for the new requirement.

Commercial vehicles are required by law to undergo inspections at Puspakom every six months.

"For now, we encourage commercial vehicle owners to be proactive. Don't wait for the amendments to be approved as this involves public safety," Solah said. In the accident on Tuesday, 11 people died when their MPV crashed into the back of a lorry carrying iron ore on the East Coast Highway.

The MPV was a seven-seater but it was carrying 15.

Transport Minister Datuk Seri Chan Kong Choy had said the government would consider laws to limit the number of passengers in private vehicles.

Tajuk Artikel: Study on manpower needs of new economy
Sumber / Tarikh: New Straits Times Online Friday 27th July , 2007
[By : Deborah Loh](#)

PUTRAJAYA: The Economic Planning Unit will undertake a study on the manpower needs of Malaysia's growing and changing economy. The study, to be completed in about six months, will determine the number and types of jobs required by the country up to 2020, and the skills needed for them.

Deputy Prime Minister Datuk Seri Najib Razak said the National Advisory Council on Education and Training decided that the current manpower database was outdated.

"The study will include the total number of jobs and skills that are required, taking into account structural changes in the economy. We are moving from being industrial-based to knowledge-based, and as the economy matures, the service sector is also going to grow bigger," Najib said at a press conference after chairing the council's first meeting yesterday.

"The study will ensure that manpower planning is more attuned to the needs of the new economy and our future."

The service sector contributes 58 per cent of gross domestic product, in tandem with changing lifestyles and demands of the population.

Najib said this could be seen in the area of medicine, which is moving beyond curative approaches to prevention and the "wellness" concept. "Now people are not only talking about just prevention but also wellness which is becoming a popular requirement of the population."

The study would not include consideration of a minimum wage for the private sector, he added.

Two other decisions the council made were on:

- Re-evaluating the incentives under the National Dual Training System, an apprenticeship programme run by the Human Resources Ministry and participating private-sector companies. The council felt that the programme's poor response was due to unattractive incentives.
- Reviving the National Skills Development Fund with a RM130 million allocation from the government. The fund was set up in 2004 by the same ministry to train Sijil Pelajaran Malaysia holders in new skills.

The allocation will cover training for 10,000 school-leavers.

Other members of the advisory council include ministers and officials from the Education, Higher Education and Human Resources ministries, the EPU and the Prime Minister's Department.

Najib said the council was established to ensure better co-ordination among ministries and agencies

involved in education and human resource training.

To questions about Culture, Arts and Tourism Minister Datuk Seri Dr Rais Yatim's withdrawal from the contest for the Commonwealth secretary-general's post, Najib said he would discuss with the prime minister the possibility of nominating another candidate.

On the new directive announced by Second Finance Minister Tan Sri Nor Mohamed Yakcop that all government departments and agencies were not allowed to use the Credit Tip-Off Services (CTOS) for references, Najib said they had to abide by it.

He said banks, through the Association of Banks Malaysia, had decided to use CTOS as long as consent from loan applicants was obtained, but government departments should abide by the directive.

Tajuk Artikel: Residents protest against apartment project Sumber / Tarikh: Malay Mail Online Friday 27th July , 2007

BUKIT Tunku residents are using the Kuala Lumpur Structure Plan 2020 as the ammunition in their fight against a new development in the area.

Some 20 residents of Bukit Tunku are objecting against the development of a three to five- storey, 13 apartment blocks with a total of 188 units and two basement car parks and facilities on Lots 765, 766, 767 and 768 in Jalan Gallagher, Taman Duta.

They said the plan, approved by the Cabinet in 2004, clearly stated that 'high density and high-rise development in the Federal Hill, Taman Duta and Bukit Tunku shall not be encouraged to preserve the existing low density and high quality residential area.'

Bukit Tunku Residents Association representative Datin Teh Lip Pin, speaking after a third objection hearing with Kuala Lumpur City Hall recently, said the meeting was attended by a group of residents directly affected by the proposed development.

"We wanted to know whether City Hall had conducted an Environmental Impact Assessment as well as conduct a traffic control study.

"We also want it to be carried out by an independent body and the outcome must be disclosed to affected residents," said Teh.

Teh said in September 2005, the developer for the project had submitted an application to City Hall with a proposal to increase residential density of Taman Duta from the current 10 persons per acre to 84 persons.

She wondered why City Hall even accepted the application since it is against what is stated in the KL Structure Plan 2020.

Teh added it was a joke that City Hall, which had earlier rejected the developer's first application, to accept the developer's second application to develop the same site in May this year.

She said the second proposal was to increase the residential density from 10 to 75 persons per acre.

"The acceptance and acknowledgement of the developer's application, which did not follow any guidelines, was laughable!," said Teh.

"Why does City Hall, as a government agency, accept a developer's application which clearly contravenes the KL Structure Plan 2020?"

"And why must residents object to something that shouldn't be allowed to happen in the first place?" asked Teh.

On behalf of the residents, Teh hopes City Hall would make a favourable decision and not give any exception to the proposed development.

She also said there had been three minor landslides in the area due to soil erosion.

"If the development is approved, the situation would be worse. Moreover, this is an old neighbourhood and definitely, with new projects, the old sewage system for example, won't be able to cope," said Teh.

City Hall town planning department director Mahadi Che Ngah, in response to the issue, said a decision will be made by Datuk Bandar Datuk Ab Hakim Borhan within the next two weeks.

Tajuk Artikel: Cracked pavement poses a hazard
Sumber / Tarikh: Malay Mail Online Friday 27th July , 2007
By DAWN CHAN

THE road was busy so he decided that it was better for him to walk on the pavement.

But little did the 57-year-old retiree realise that it could be dangerous and 'painful'.

Lee, who was walking towards the pasar malam at Jalan Hujan Rahmat 3 in Taman OUG to buy dinner, had stepped on a slab of cracked concrete which subsequently collapsed causing his left leg to be lodged in the hole.

Relating the July 5 incident, Lee said it took place about 6.30pm when he was heading for his friend's stall.

"I was in so much pain that I almost passed out. I could not even lift my leg out of the hole. Lucky for me, two of my friends passed by and took me to a clinic," said Lee.

Lee suffered cuts and bruises on his knee and shin and he could not walk for two days.

The father of two added that he had to fork out RM400 on medical bills. He also claimed the loss of income of about RM600 as a part-time consultant to a printing company.

Limping his way to the scene, Lee and Seputeh MP Teresa Kok showed reporters where he had fallen.

The incident seemed too ironic, he added.

"I have been advising my friends to be careful, especially when they walk on the pavement as the concrete slabs are thin and cracking. Luckily, I only suffered minor injuries unlike a friend of mine who was badly injured and received 21 stitches when he fell into a hole," said Lee.

Kok expressed regret that numerous complaints forwarded to City Hall by her had fallen on deaf ears.

She said she had accompanied City Hall officers to several sites around the area several years ago.

"Must they wait until something worse happens? This is endangering the lives of residents here. This is a basic necessity and by right, they do not have to go to the extent of complaining. City Hall should be proactive when it comes to maintaining facilities like this," said Kok.

Kok also pointed out that a lot of concrete slabs covering drains around the area are missing.

City Hall public and international relations officer Muhammad Sidek Khalid clarified that its Public Works Department had embarked on the upgrading of the pavement by replacing it with concrete slabs around the city in stages.

He added that this was done after pavements around the city and housing neighbourhoods were badly damaged in the recent floods.

"Taman OUG has been long identified as a problem area and we have recognised the need for it to be upgraded and replaced fast," he told The Malay Mail.

The works, which began on Wednesday, are being carried out at Jalan Hujan Rahmat 2 and 3. It is expected to be completed on Sept 24.

**Tajuk Artikel: Khidmat kereta kabel Bukit Nanas kembali
Sumber / Tarikh: Berita Harian Online 27 Julai 2007 – Jumaat
Oleh Mohamed Farid Noh**

Kerajaan mahu jadikan KL pusat peranginan keluarga terulung

KUALA LUMPUR: Kerajaan akan membangunkan kawasan sekitar Bukit Nanas di sini termasuk mewujudkan semula perkhidmatan kereta kabel selain memperkenalkan beberapa tarikan [pelancong](#) baru bagi menjadikan Bandar raya Kuala Lumpur pusat peranginan keluarga terulung dunia.

Menteri Pelancongan, Datuk Seri Tengku Adnan Tengku Mansor, berkata ibu kota dikenal pasti antara destinasi pelancongan keluarga paling diminati terutama pelancong dari Asia Barat dan Eropah.

"Kita mesti mengambil peluang ini untuk memberi identiti kepada ibu kota supaya mudah dikenali pelancong dan kerajaan mahu ia dikenali sebagai bandar pusat peranginan untuk keluarga," katanya selepas pelancaran logo baru dan acara Terjun Bebas Antarabangsa MKL kali keenam, di sini, semalam.

Hadir sama, Pengerusi Telekom Malaysia, Tan Sri Md Radzi Mansor dan Ketua Pegawai Eksekutif, MKL, Datuk Zulkifli Mohamad.

Mengulas lanjut, beliau berkata, pembangunan di sekitar Bukit Nanas yang diwartakan sebagai hutan simpan sejak 1906 akan dilakukan secara usaha sama dengan swasta termasuk MKL.

"Kita tidak akan mengusik kawasan hutan simpan itu sebaliknya mahu pelancong menikmati keindahan mempesonakan dengan kemudahan lebih baik seperti kereta kabel, menambah kemudahan sedia ada termasuk laluan antara pokok dan 'flying fox'.

"Kita juga berhasrat membenarkan 'sky jump' yang dilakukan di puncak MKL kerana ia akan menjadi acara lompatan paling tinggi di dunia," katanya sambil menambah, sky jump di Macau sebelum ini diiktiraf tertinggi di dunia iaitu pada ketinggian kira-kira 100 meter. Perkhidmatan yang akan disediakan MKL adalah lebih 400 meter.

Tengku Adnan berkata, kerajaan juga akan membangunkan semula kawasan tasik sekitar ibu kota dan tumpuan diberikan kepada Taman Tasik Titiwangsa dan Taman Tasik Perdana.

"Dua minggu lagi, Taman Tasik Titiwangsa akan berubah wajah apabila ia akan mula dihiasi replika haiwan prasejarah," katanya.

Terdahulu, beliau melancarkan logo baru dan acara Terjun Bebas Antarabangsa kali keenam MKL yang turut disertai 100 pelajar sekolah sekitar Lembah Klang.

Acara terjun bebas antarabangsa MKL akan disertai 100 penerjun pelbagai negara termasuk United Kingdom, New Zealand, Amerika Syarikat, Australia, Afrika Selatan dan Russia.

Acara yang akan diadakan di MKL pada 24, 25 serta 26 Ogos depan turut disertai enam menara tersohor negara termasuk Menara Pelita, Sarawak (8 Ogos), Menara Tun Mustapha, Sabah (11 & 12 Ogos), Menara Alor Star, Kedah (16 & 17 Ogos), Menara Komtar, Penang (19 Ogos) dan Menara Telekom (TM) atau dikenali Menara Rebung (26 Ogos).

Tajuk Artikel: Jambatan kedua mula November Sumber / Tarikh: Berita Harian Online 27 Julai 2007 – Jumaat

KERJA fizikal bagi pembinaan Jambatan Kedua Pulau Pinang yang dijangka bermula November ini, akan menggunakan sebahagian besar bahan binaan yang dibekal oleh pembekal tempatan.

China Harbour Engineering Company Ltd (CHEC) iaitu kontraktor membina jambatan itu, akan menggunakan sehingga 80 peratus bahan tempatan seperti simen dan besi.

Berbanding Jambatan Pulau Pinang yang dibina oleh syarikat Korea pada 1980-an, 80 peratus bahan binaan dibawa dari negara itu.

Pengurus Bahagian Maklumat, Jabatan Pemasaran CHEC, Ma Jie, berkata walaupun pihaknya boleh menggunakan bahan dari China, tetapi syarikat itu memilih sumber tempatan sebagaimana dipersetujui kedua-dua pihak.

"Tidak dinafikan ini adalah peluang perniagaan yang baik kepada pembekal bahan binaan dan perkhidmatan tempatan.

"Projek ini juga akan mewujudkan lebih 2,000 peluang pekerjaan pelbagai peringkat termasuk pengurusan, pekerja teknikal dan profesional bagi rakyat Malaysia dan China," katanya kepada wakil media cetak dan elektronik dari Malaysia yang dalam rangka lawatan ke beberapa projek pembinaan jambatan oleh syarikat itu di sini dan Shanghai, kelmarin.

Dalam lawatan itu, Ma turut memberi penerangan berhubung teknologi akan digunakan dalam pembinaan jambatan 22.5 kilometer menghubungkan Batu Kawan di Seberang Prai dan dan Batu Maung di bahagian pulau.

Baru-baru ini, Malaysia memeterai perjanjian pinjaman AS800 juta (RM2.7 billion) daripada China Exim Bank bagi membiayai pembinaan jambatan itu. Pembiayaan pada kadar tiga peratus untuk 20 tahun adalah paling **rendah** pernah ditawarkan republik itu, sekali gus membuktikan keakraban hubungan Kuala Lumpur-Beijing sejak 1970-an.

Tajuk Artikel: Harga barang keperluan mahal
Sumber / Tarikh: Berita Harian Online 27 Julai 2007 – Jumaat
Oleh Maizatul Akmal Yahaya

KUALA LUMPUR: Harga beberapa barangan keperluan di dua pasar di ibu negara menyaksikan peningkatan sejak tiga hari lalu yang didakwa peniaga disebabkan kenaikan gaji kakitangan awam yang bermula semalam.

Tinjauan Berita Harian mendapati barang basah seperti ikan dan ayam dijual pada harga tinggi di Pasar Keramat dan Chow Kit.

Harga ayam proses dijual RM6 sekilogram berbanding RM5 hingga RM5.50 dua bulan lalu, manakala harga ikan kembung turun RM2 kepada RM8 berbanding RM10 sekilo, semalam.

Harga udang sederhana dijual RM13 hingga RM14 sekilo, ikan cencaru dijual RM6 hingga RM8 sekilo, manakala sayuran seperti sawi, bayam dan kubis dijual RM2.50 sekilo, tomato dijual RM5 sekilo dan kacang panjang dijual RM4.50 hingga RM5 sekilo.

Peniaga sayuran, Rokiah Amin, 43, berkata harga bekalan sayuran seperti sawi, bayam dan cili merah naik mendadak sejak tiga hari lalu dan beliau terpaksa menjualnya pada harga tinggi.

"Semalam, cili merah dijual kepada peniaga pada harga RM6 sekilo menyebabkan saya terpaksa menjual RM8 sekilo kepada **pelanggan**. Jika tidak saya akan rugi dan tidak dapat menampung kos modal," katanya.

Peniaga ayam, Umair Abd Kadir, 36, berkata harga ayam mula dinaikkan pembekal sebulan lalu secara berperingkat tetapi kenaikan itu tidak terlalu ketara, sekitar 20 sen bagi setiap kenaikan.

"Sehingga semalam, ayam dijual kepada kami (peniaga) pada harga RM4.80 sekilo dan ada pelanggan merungut harga ayam terlalu mahal," katanya.

Rata-rata pengguna berpendapat kesan kenaikan harga barang keperluan dirasai dan amat membimbangkan kerana perbelanjaan harian mereka yang semakin meningkat.

Nazri Shuib, 33, berkata kerajaan terutama Kementerian Perdagangan Dalam Negeri dan Hal Ehwal Pengguna (KPDNHEP) sepatutnya peka dengan keadaan ini kerana mereka sudah berjanji akan melakukan pemantauan dan mengawal kenaikan harga barang.

Tajuk Artikel: 23 kereta curi ditemui

Sumber / Tarikh: Berita Harian Online 27 Julai 2007 – Jumaat

Oleh Tuan Nazuri Tuan Ismail

Kenderaan disorok dalam gudang, 3 dipercayai anggota sindiket ditahan



SINDIKET TERBONGKAR: Kereta curi pelbagai jenama mewah disimpan dalam gudang sedia untuk diseludup ke luar negara.

KLANG: Polis menemui semula 23 kereta, termasuk kereta mewah pelbagai jenama yang dianggarkan bernilai RM2.3 juta dan menahan tiga suspek dipercayai anggota sindiket curi kereta dengan bantuan sebuah syarikat keselamatan kereta, Captor Retail Sdn Bhd (Captor), Rabu lalu.

Captor menggunakan helikopter dan sistem keselamatan dikenali Sistem Pengesan Frekuensi Radio yang dipasang pada Toyota Fortuner yang dicuri dan berjaya menjejaki kereta itu di sebuah gudang di Jalan Haji Sirat, dekat sini, sebelum memaklumkan kepada polis.

Ketua Polis Daerah Klang, Asisten Komisioner Mohd Rodwan Yusof, berkata hasil serbuan, polis menemui semula Toyota Fortuner itu dan 22 kenderaan lain yang dipercayai sedia untuk diseludup ke luar negara.

Katanya, tiga suspek iaitu dua lelaki dan seorang wanita berusia antara 20 dan 28 tahun yang berada dalam gudang itu, ditahan untuk siasatan lanjut.

Tiga suspek terbabit dipercayai anggota sindiket curi kereta yang berjaya dibongkar pada Februari lalu kerana terbabit dalam penyeludupan kereta curi ke luar negara.

"Kami percaya kereta curi ini cuba diseludup ke Batam, Indonesia dan Dubai," katanya pada sidang akhbar di sini, semalam.

Antara kereta yang ditemui semula termasuk [14](#) Toyota Hilux, tiga Toyota Fortuner, masing-masing sebuah Toyota Camry, Toyota Innova, Nissan Extrail, Proton Waja, Proton Putra dan Mitsubishi Evolution.

Mohd Rodwan, berkata kereta yang ditemui itu dicuri dari beberapa tempat di negara ini dan pihaknya masih menjejaki tiga lagi lelaki termasuk perancang utama yang dipercayai berada di luar negara.

"Sindiket ini menyewa gudang itu selama sebulan dan kononnya untuk menyimpan barang tekstil," katanya sambil menambah semua suspek itu ditahan reman sehingga 31 Julai ini bagi membantu siasatan.

Sementara itu, wakil syarikat Captor berkata, Toyota Fortuner dari Rawang itu dilaporkan dicuri di luar kawasan rumah pemiliknya di Rawang, jam 6.33 pagi, Rabu lalu.

Katanya, syarikat mengaktifkan sistem keselamatan yang dipasang pada kenderaan itu dan menjejakinya menggunakan helikopter sehingga membawa kepada penemuan 22 kereta curi lain yang disimpan dalam gudang itu.

Tajuk Artikel: Maklumat kredit dikawal
Sumber / Tarikh: Berita Harian Online 27 Julai 2007 – Jumaat
Oleh Azrina Ahzan

Rang undang-undang akan dibentang di Parlimen Disember

PUTRAJAYA: Rang Undang-undang bagi mengawal selia penggunaan maklumat kredit individu dalam sistem kewangan negara akan dibentangkan di Parlimen pada Disember ini, kata Menteri Kewangan Kedua, Tan Sri Nor Mohamed Yakcop.

Beliau berkata, draf rang undang-undang itu sedang dirangka Bank Negara, hasil perbincangan satu jawatankuasa khas yang dipengerusikan Timbalan Menteri Kewangan, Datuk Dr Awang Adek Hussin.

Katanya, undang-undang baru itu mampu membanteras penyaluran maklumat kredit individu oleh agensi rujukan kredit seperti Credit Tip-Off Service Sdn Bhd (CTOS) pada masa akan datang.

"Usaha untuk mengekang operasi agensi rujukan kredit sedang dijalankan oleh Jawatankuasa Khas dan Bank Negara," katanya kepada pemberita selepas majlis penyampaian Anugerah Perkhidmatan Cemerlang Perbendaharaan [2006](#) di sini, semalam.

Hadir sama, Dr Awang Adek, Setiausaha Parlimen, Datuk Seri Dr Hilmi Yahya, dan Ketua Setiausaha Perbendaharaan, Datuk Dr Wan Abdul Aziz Wan Abdullah.

Nor Mohamed berkata, masalah berhubung agensi rujukan kredit timbul kerana tiada badan atau undang-undang yang mengawal selia operasi mereka, termasuk Bank Negara.

Sehubungan itu, katanya, undang-undang baru itu akan menyediakan rangka kerja khusus mengenai jenis maklumat kredit yang boleh disalurkan kepada pihak bank.

"Ia juga akan berfungsi sebagai penanda aras berhubung kualiti perkhidmatan yang disediakan," katanya.

Nor Mohamed berkata, kerajaan juga sudah mengarahkan semua bank supaya mendapatkan persetujuan daripada [pelanggan](#) terlebih dulu sebelum merujuk maklumat kredit mereka kepada CTOS.

Katanya, satu pekeliling juga sudah dikeluarkan kepada jabatan dan agensi kerajaan melarang mereka menggunakan perkhidmatan CTOS untuk mendapatkan maklumat kewangan.

"Keputusan Kabinet adalah jelas supaya mereka tidak menggunakan CTOS," katanya.

Mengenai cadangan pelupusan kereta berusia lebih 15 tahun, Nor Mohamed berkata, perkara itu masih dalam kajian.

Tajuk Artikel: Penempatan penghidad HIV
Sumber / Tarikh: Berita Harian Online 27 Julai 2007 – Jumaat
Oleh Rafidah Mat Ruzki

Selangor sedia kawasan 32 hektar di Hulu Selangor untuk tempat tinggal banduan tak diterima keluarga

SHAH ALAM: Sebuah penempatan bersepadu khas untuk penghidad HIV positif (HIV+) akan dibina di Hulu Selangor bagi menempatkan bekas banduan yang tidak diterima keluarga masing-masing selepas disahkan dijangkiti virus maut itu.

Penempatan yang dibina di kawasan seluas 32 hektar itu dijangka siap dalam tempoh terdekat dan bakal dilengkapi pelbagai kemudahan asas bagi membolehkan mereka meneruskan kehidupan.

Pengerusi Jawatankuasa Tetap Hal Ehwal Islam, Belia dan Mesra Rakyat, Datuk Abdul Rahman Palil, berkata satu kawasan terhad juga akan disediakan di penempatan itu untuk membolehkan penghuninya bertani.

Katanya, penempatan itu perlu selepas menyedari ada banduan yang juga penghidad Aids dan HIV+ tidak diterima keluarga hingga jenazah mereka tidak dituntut selepas meninggal dunia di penjara.

"Ini mungkin berlaku kerana keluarga mereka malu atau takut untuk menguruskan jenazah yang sudah dijangkiti virus itu.

"Kami akan menyediakan makanan, penjagaan, kelas agama, pegawai perubatan dan pelbagai lagi kemudahan sebagai khidmat kepada golongan itu," katanya, di sini, kelmarin.

Abdul Rahman berkata, satu kawasan tanah perkuburan juga akan disediakan di penempatan itu.

"Kumpulan pertama seramai 80 individu khasnya warga Selangor akan ditempatkan di situ sebaik penempatan itu siap dibina.

"Walaupun disediakan tempat tinggal, mereka juga perlu berdikari dan tidak mengharapkan seratus peratus bantuan daripada kami. Contoh berdikari ialah bercucuk tanam," katanya.

Abdul Rahman berkata, walaupun penempatan itu dibina khas untuk penghidad HIV+, ia bukan bertujuan mengasingkan golongan terbabit sebaliknya bagi memberi mereka peluang untuk tinggal lebih selesa selain menjalani proses pemulihan secara bersama.

"Ia patut dilihat dari sudut positif. Jika kumpulan pertama ini menunjukkan kejayaan, kumpulan kedua akan menyusul yang akan tinggal di lokasi sama.

"Kami tidak menjangkakan masalah besar akan timbul dengan kehadiran mereka kerana penempatan itu juga dikawal," katanya.

Tajuk Artikel: 3 perkara tangani PPR DBKL

Sumber / Tarikh: Berita Harian Online 27 Julai 2007 – Jumaat

Oleh Sharifah Salwa Syed Akil

KUALA LUMPUR: Kementerian Wilayah Persekutuan akan menumpukan kepada tiga perkara bagi kajiannya dalam menangani masalah Projek Perumahan Rakyat (PPR) milik Dewan Bandaraya Kuala Lumpur (DBKL) yang disewakan kepada warga kota.

Menterinya, Datuk Seri Zulhasnan Rafique, berkata ia adalah sama ada menjual unit rumah pangsa PPR yang dibangunkan menerusi syarikat swasta itu kepada penyewa, menambah bilik sedia ada atau mengekalkan sewaan kepada pemilik berkenaan.

"Kajian ini bertujuan memenuhi hasrat penyewa untuk memiliki kediaman ini sekali gus tinggal dalam persekitaran yang lebih selesa.

"Apa juga bentuk hasil keputusan yang dicapai akan kita serahkan kepada Kabinet," katanya.

Beliau berkata demikian pada sidang media selepas melancarkan Pendaftaran Pemilih Baru dan Pertukaran Alamat di Dataran Terbuka PPR Seri Semarak di sini, baru-baru ini.

Zulhasnan berkata, ada dua jenis PPR dibangunkan di ibu kota iaitu melalui Kementerian Perumahan dan Kerajaan Tempatan dengan kerjasama Majlis Tindakan Ekonomi Negara (MTEN) dan yang diwujudkan DBKL.

"DBKL membangunkan kira-kira 35,000 unit PPR di sekitar ibu negara dan daripada jumlah itu 19,000 unit sudah disiapkan manakala selebihnya dijangka disiapkan pada akhir tahun ini," katanya.

Pada majlis itu, seramai 400 orang dari sekitar Parlimen Setiawangsa membabitkan penduduk dari PPR Seri Semarak, PPR Air Panas, PPR Desa Rejang dan AU3 Keramat hadir mendaftar sebagai pemilih baru.

Zulhasnan berkata, penganjuran pendaftaran pemilih baru dan pertukaran alamat dilakukan bagi memudahkan penduduk yang belum mendaftar berbuat demikian bagi memenuhi tanggungjawab mereka sebagai warga negara.

Sempena penganjuran itu, pelbagai agensi turut membuka gerai pameran masing-masing, antaranya, Persatuan Mencegah Dadah Malaysia (Pemadam), Jabatan Bomba dan Penyelamat Wilayah Persekutuan.

Tajuk Artikel: Bonus ditimbang -- Bagi sektor awam dalam Bajet 2008 – Nor Mohamed

Sumber / Tarikh: Utusan Malaysia Online 27 Julai 2007 – Jumaat

Oleh Habibah Omar

PUTRAJAYA 26 Julai – Kerajaan akan menimbang pemberian bonus kepada kakitangan awam tahun ini dalam pembentangan Bajet 2008, kata Menteri Kewangan Kedua, Tan Sri Nor Mohamed Yakcop.

Bagaimanapun katanya, perkara itu akan diputuskan oleh kerajaan terutama Perdana Menteri yang juga Menteri Kewangan.

"Kongres Kesatuan Pekerja Di Dalam Perkhidmatan Awam (CUEPACS) menyatakan mereka memahami situasi kewangan kerajaan.

"Tetapi seperti kebiasaannya, bonus adalah satu isu yang akan dipertimbangkan oleh kerajaan terutama Perdana Menteri dan dalam bajet, ia menjadi perkara yang akan diputuskan," katanya pada sidang akhbar selepas Majlis Penyampaian Anugerah Perkhidmatan Cemerlang Perbendaharaan 2006 di sini hari ini. Isnin lalu, CUEPACS dilaporkan tidak akan membuat desakan tuntutan bonus pada tahun ini memandangkan kerajaan telah menaikkan gaji kakitangan awam.

Presidennya, Omar Osman bagaimanapun berkata, jika kerajaan 'bermurah hati' mahu membayar bonus, ia merupakan hadiah kepada semua kakitangan sektor awam sempena ulang tahun ke-50 kemerdekaan negara.

Bajet 2008 akan dibentangkan di Parlimen, 7 September ini.

Mengenai bajet, Nor Mohamed berkata, ia sesuatu yang penting kerana 2008 akan menjadi tahun ketiga dalam pelaksanaan Rancangan Malaysia Kesembilan (RMK-9).

"Oleh itu, kerajaan perlu memastikan momentum pertumbuhan ekonomi berterusan," katanya.

Menurutnya, beberapa aspek akan diambil kira terutama dalam usaha membasmi kemiskinan tegar selain memberi tumpuan kepada penyediaan perumahan, pengangkutan dan pendidikan kepada rakyat.

Katanya, ia juga meliputi penyediaan perumahan kepada Orang Asli serta penduduk pribumi Sabah dan Sarawak.

"Kita mahu menyediakan kemudahan untuk membolehkan penduduk minoriti itu meningkatkan taraf hidup mereka. Ini akan dimasukkan dalam Bajet 2008," katanya.

Mengenai perumahan, katanya, mekanisme khas akan dirangka bagi membolehkan orang ramai yang bekerja sendiri dan tidak memiliki penyata gaji termasuk peniaga kecil, pekebun dan nelayan membeli rumah.

"Mekanisme khas akan dilaksanakan, namun saya tidak boleh menyatakannya kerana ia akan diumumkan oleh Perdana Menteri dalam pengumuman bajet nanti," katanya.

Untuk golongan korporat pula, katanya, kerajaan akan terus menyediakan persekitaran perniagaan yang mesra sama ada untuk domestik mahupun luar negara.

Hadir sama pada majlis itu ialah Timbalan Menteri Kewangan Kedua, Datuk Dr. Awang Adek Hussin, Setiausaha Parlimen Kementerian Kewangan, Datuk Seri Dr. Hilmi Yahaya dan Ketua Setiausaha Perbendaharaan, Datuk Dr. Wan Abd. Aziz Wan Abdullah.

Tajuk Artikel: Jabatan, agensi kerajaan tidak guna CTOS

Sumber / Tarikh: Utusan Malaysia Online 27 Julai 2007 – Jumaat

PUTRAJAYA 26 Julai – Timbalan Perdana Menteri, Datuk Seri Najib Tun Razak berkata, semua jabatan dan agensi kerajaan tidak akan menggunakan khidmat Credit Tip Off Service Sdn. Bhd. (CTOS) walaupun bank-bank perdagangan masih mahu menggunakan khidmat syarikat rujukan kredit itu.

Beliau berkata, tindakan bank-bank perdagangan itu dibuat atas keputusan persatuan mereka.

“Terpulanglah kepada mereka untuk gunakan CTOS kerana itu keputusan persatuan mereka.

“Apa yang saya tahu semua jabatan dan agensi kerajaan tidak akan menggunakan CTOS sebagai rujukan,” katanya pada sidang akhbar selepas mempengerusikan mesyuarat pertama Majlis Penasihat Kebangsaan Mengenai Pendidikan dan Latihan di sini, hari ini.

Najib ditanya mengenai tindakan sejumlah 22 buah bank komersial yang menjadi ahli Persatuan Bank-Bank Malaysia (ABM) mahu terus menggunakan khidmat agensi rujukan kredit CTOS.

Pengerusi ABM, Datuk Seri Abdul Hamidy Hafiz dalam kenyataannya kelmarin bagaimanapun berkata, bank-bank terbabit diminta mendapatkan persetujuan daripada pelanggan terlebih dahulu sebelum merujuk kepada CTOS atau mana-mana agensi rujukan kredit.

Sementara itu, Menteri Kewangan Kedua, Tan Sri Nor Mohamed Yakcop dalam kenyataannya hari ini menyatakan pekeliing telah dikeluarkan kepada semua jabatan dan agensi kerajaan supaya tidak menggunakan CTOS sebagai rujukan.

“Keputusan itu telah diputuskan oleh Kabinet dan ia adalah jelas, jadi agensi kerajaan tidak akan lagi menggunakan CTOS,” katanya.

Mengenai tindakan Menteri Kebudayaan, Kesenian dan Warisan Datuk Seri Dr. Rais Yatim menarik diri daripada dicalonkan sebagai Setiausaha Agung Komanwel, Najib berkata, beliau akan membincangkan perkara tersebut dengan Perdana Menteri, Datuk Seri Abdullah Ahmad Badawi.

Tajuk Artikel: Kerajaan tidak sekat kebebasan penulis blog Sumber / Tarikh: Utusan Malaysia Online 27 Julai 2007 – Jumaat

KUALA LUMPUR 26 Julai – Kerajaan tidak akan menyekat kebebasan penulis laman web dan blog tetapi tindakan undang-undang tetap dikenakan sekiranya mereka melampaui batasan.

Naib Presiden UMNO, Tan Sri Muhyiddin Yassin berkata, kerajaan tidak akan masuk campur di peringkat awal kerana pengguna Internet dan blog mempunyai kebebasan sendiri.

“Mereka mempunyai kebebasan untuk melakukan yang sesuai asalkan tidak melampaui batasan. “Sekiranya pengguna Internet dan penulis blog dianggap telah melampaui batasan seperti menghina, memfitnah atau melakukan kesalahan undang-undang, mereka tetap boleh didakwa,” katanya.

Muhyiddin yang juga Menteri Pertanian dan Industri Asas Tani berkata demikian pada sidang akhbar selepas merasmikan Pesta Jentera Antarabangsa Malaysia 2007 di Pusat Dagangan Dunia Putra (PWTC) di sini hari ini.

Beliau berkata demikian sebagai mengulas siasatan yang dilakukan oleh polis ke atas pemilik laman web Malaysia Today, Raja Petra Raja Kamaruddin, 57, semalam.

Laman web itu dikatakan menyiarkan komen sensitif berhubung kedaulatan Yang di-Pertuan Agong, keagamaan dan perkauman.

Menurut Muhyiddin, tiada siapa yang boleh terlepas daripada dikenakan tindakan undang-undang sama ada perbuatan itu dilakukan menerusi alam maya (siber) mahupun alam nyata.

Tajuk Artikel: Jalur lebar wayarles yang mudah dan pantas
Sumber / Tarikh: Utusan Malaysia Online 27 Julai 2007 – Jumaat
Oleh MOHD. KHUZAIRI ISMAIL

iZZipro merupakan modem untuk sambungan kepada jalur lebar berkapasiti besar seperti di pejabat.



SIAPA yang tidak teruja untuk sentiasa dapat berhubung dengan Internet sepanjang masa dan di mana-mana, seterusnya menikmati pengalaman jalur lebar (broadband) itu dengan harga yang murah?

Lebih menarik, pengalaman melayari Internet itu pula berlangsung dengan kepantasan sehingga 1.0 megabit sesaat (Mbps) atau dalam perbandingan mudah, dengan kemampuan menonton video klip di laman web YouTube tanpa tersekat-sekat.

Jika pengalaman itu yang anda dambakan, iZZinet Sdn. Bhd. (iZZinet) iaitu sebuah syarikat terbaru yang menawarkan perkhidmatan jalur lebar tanpa wayar sepenuhnya sewajarnya diberikan perhatian. Tampil dengan tiga produk untuk capaian kepada jalur lebar iaitu iZZipro, iZZione dan iZZiyou, ia menawarkan pilihan baru kepada pengguna untuk menikmati gaya hidup moden dengan sentiasa berhubung kepada Internet.

Menjelaskan lebih lanjut, Pengarah Pemasaran dan Perniagaan iZZinet, Dennis Chan berkata, teknologi yang dibawa dari Jepun itu membolehkan orang ramai melayari Internet menerusi laptop dan komputer meja semudah 'plug and play'.

"Pengguna juga boleh melayari Internet menggunakan laptop mereka tidak kira di mana dan pada bila-bila masa sahaja termasuk di dalam kenderaan, di tempat awam atau di dalam bangunan," ujar beliau ketika berucap melancarkan produk itu di Kuala Lumpur, baru-baru ini.

Menggunakan teknologi yang dikenali sebagai iBurst atau High Capacity Spatial Division Multiple Access (HC-SDMA), ia menawarkan sambungan data jalur lebar khusus untuk keluasan yang luas.

ia disokong dengan pembinaan terminal atau stesen data yang mampu merangkumi keluasan sehingga 13 kilometer serta mobiliti kad maksimum sehingga 100 kilometer sejam.

Dengan kemampuan itu, ia menawarkan sambungan kepada jalur lebar atau pelayaran Internet yang pantas dan dibuktikan apabila kumpulan wartawan diberi peluang menguji perkhidmatan iBurst menerusi laptop ketika menaiki sebuah bas yang mengelilingi sekitar ibu kota.

Kepantasan pelayaran Internet yang sama turut dinikmati apabila kumpulan wartawan diberi peluang menguji perkhidmatan itu sambil menaiki Eye On Malaysia sekali gus melambangkan kestabilan dan kemampuan iBurst memberikan pengalaman jalur lebar sebenar kepada pengguna di negara ini.

iZZione misalnya dikhususkan untuk kegunaan peribadi menerusi laptop dan didatangkan dalam bentuk kad PCMCIA untuk sambungan kepada Internet dengan mudah dan pantas.

Bagi capaian kepada Internet di rumah menggunakan sama ada laptop atau komputer meja pula, iZZiyou yang didatangkan dalam bentuk modem kad USB boleh menyokong kepada kedua-dua komputer tersebut. iZZipro pula dikhususkan untuk kegunaan yang lebih besar misalnya di pejabat dan boleh digunakan secara tunggal atau perkongsian rangkaian komputer dan dilengkapi dengan antena berkuasa tinggi, Ethernet dan sambungan USB untuk sambungan yang lebih pantas.

Menurut Dennis, perkhidmatan jalur lebar iZZinet ketika ini hanya merangkumi sekitar Lembah Klang termasuk Kuala Lumpur, Petaling Jaya, Shah Alam, Cheras dan Ampang.

Namun ia bakal diperluaskan ke seluruh negara selewat-lewatnya September ini serta di Sabah dan Sarawak menjelang penghujung tahun ini.

"Malah, kepantasan Internet yang ketika ini pada 1.0 Mbps juga akan dipertingkatkan sehingga 2.5Mbps dalam masa terdekat selain memperluaskan kemampuan capaian menerusi peranti mudah alih lain terutamanya telefon bimbit dan pembantu digital peribadi (PDA)," ujar beliau.

Maklumat lanjut mengenai produk yang ditawarkan oleh iZZinet boleh diperoleh dengan menghubungi talian 03-9289 6000 melayari laman web www.iZZi.com.

iZZione

* RM88 sebulan.

* Langganan setahun: RM1,138 + percuma modem (kad PCMCIA)

iZZiyou

* RM98 sebulan

* Langganan setahun: RM1,258 + percuma modem (terminal USB)

iZZipro

* RM118 sebulan

* Langganan setahun: RM1,498 + percuma modem.

Tajuk Artikel: Guna Telefon Bimbit Semasa Memandu Tingkat Risiko Kemalangan 300 Kali Ganda

Sumber / Tarikh: Bernama Online 27 Julai 2007 – Jumaat

SHAH ALAM, 26 Julai (Bernama) -- Penggunaan telefon bimbit semasa memandu walaupun menggunakan alat bebas pegang adalah sangat berbahaya kerana ia menyumbang risiko tinggi kemalangan terhadap pemandu dan penumpang sebanyak 300 kali ganda.

Ketua Pengarah Jabatan Keselamatan Jalan Raya (JKJR) Datuk Suret Singh berkata ini adalah hasil kajian yang dilakukan di Sweden dan Australia pada tahun lepas.

Bagaimanapun kajian itu yang diumumkan beberapa minggu lalu, belum lagi dilakukan di negara ini, katanya kepada pemberita pada sidang akhbar sempena penganjuran Pertandingan Pemandu Scania Malaysia/Singapura 2007 di sini hari ini.

"Tidak salah jika kajian untuk perkara baik yang dilakukan di luar negara dijadikan panduan bagi mengurangkan kadar kemalangan di jalan raya," kata beliau.

Buat masa ini, JKJR sedang mengadakan kempen untuk menyedarkan pengguna jalan raya bahawa penggunaan telefon bimbit semasa memandu atau menunggang adalah mengundang risiko kemalangan kepada diri sendiri dan pengguna jalan raya, katanya.

Katanya beliau akan meminta JKJR dan Institut Penyelidikan Keselamatan Jalan Raya Malaysia menjalankan kajian mengenai risiko penggunaan telefon bimbit di jalan raya.

Mengenai kemalangan yang melibatkan kenderaan berat di Malaysia, beliau berkata, purata 200 pemandu dan kelindan maut setahun dan jumlah itu meningkat hampir 800 orang setahun jika diambil kira kematian membabitkan pihak ketiga termasuk pemandu kenderaan ringan dan penunggang motosikal.

-- BERNAMA

Tajuk Artikel: Karnival Buah-buahan Anjuran FAMA Dapat Sambutan

Sumber / Tarikh: Bernama Online 27 Julai 2007 – Jumaat

SHAH ALAM, 26 Julai (Bernama) -- Karnival jualan buah-buah peringkat kebangsaan anjuran Lembaga Pemasaran Pertanian Persekutuan (FAMA) mendapat sambutan positif daripada para pengunjung mahupun daripada peserta yang terbabit dalam karnival tersebut.

Rata-rata mereka menyambut baik karnival seumpama itu yang diadakan di tapak pasar Tani Mega Stadium Shah Alam kerana ia memanfaatkan pengguna dan juga penjual.

Norashikin Karim, 48, salah seorang pengunjung karnival tersebut ketika ditemui berpendapat bahawa karnival seperti ini merupakan platform terbaik untuk petani memasarkan produk mereka kepada pengguna.

"Karnival seumpama ini dapat membantu petani meningkatkan hasil jualan mereka sekaligus menjana ekonomi negara melalui sektor pertanian", katanya lagi.

Katanya karnival ini juga memberi kesempatan kepada orang ramai untuk membeli buah-buahan pada harga yang amat berpatutan dan orang ramai sekitar Lembah Klang tidak harus melepaskan peluang untuk

berkunjung ke karnival ini.

Seorang lagi pengunjung, Rozi Sidek, 33, pula berkata beliau mengambil kesempatan untuk berkunjung ke karnival ini untuk mendapatkan buah-buahan pada harga yang murah dan berkualiti dan sebagai tanda sokongan kepada kempen makanlah buah-buahan tempatan.

"Di Karnival ini orang ramai boleh mendapatkan pelbagai buah-buahan seperti durian, dokong, rambutan pada harga yang murah dan segar. Mereka akan rasa berbaloi untuk datang ke karnival ini," kata Razi.

Seorang lagi pengunjung, Nordin Yusof, 54, ketika ditemui berkata karnival seperti ini menunjukkan usaha berkesan pihak FAMA untuk membantu petani dan pengeluar meningkatkan jumlah jualan sekaligus mendidik masyarakat mencintai buah-buahan tempatan.

"Pihak FAMA harus mengadakan karnival seumpama ini setiap tahun kerana ia bukan sahaja dapat mempromosikan buah-buahan tempatan kepada orang ramai tetapi juga pelancong asing", katanya.

Sementara itu, Abd Rahim Yatim, 49, salah seorang peserta karnival ini berkata, karnival ini merupakan platform terbaik bagi mereka sebagai pengeluar untuk membantu petani mendapatkan harga yang paling baik dan pengguna dapat membeli pada harga yang paling sesuai dan berpatutan dengan kualiti buah yang ditawarkan.

"Di sini pengguna mendapat bekalan buah-buahan segar terus daripada pengeluar dan buah-buahan tersebut diyakini berkualiti dan bebas daripada racun serangga," tambahnya.

Jualan buah-buahan dilaksanakan mengikut wilayah di mana FAMA wilayah tengah menjual durian dan belimbing, FAMA wilayah utara pula menjual rambutan, cempedak dan dokong, FAMA wilayah selatan menjual pulasan dan durian sementara FAMA wilayah timur pula menjual rambutan, durian dan dokong.

Mengulas tentang jualan buah-buahan mengikut wilayah, Abd Rahim berkata langkah tersebut sangat relevan kerana pengguna di kawasan bandar mendapatkan bekalan buah-buahan yang pelbagai.

Karnival yang berlangsung selama empat hari dari 25 Julai dibuka dari pukul 10 pagi hingga 10 malam dengan pelbagai aktiviti menarik menanti pengunjung.

Timbalan Menteri Pertanian Datuk Seri Mohd Shariff Omar telah merasmikan karnival tersebut pada 25 Julai.-- BERNAMA