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KERATAN AKHBAR
28 Sep 2020 (Isnin)

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KERATAN AKHBAR 28 September 2020		
Akhbar	:	Kosmo
Tajuk Berita	:	Jenama PN dapat sambutan, diterima pengundi sabah
Muka Surat	:	5

Jenama PN dapat sambutan, diterima pengundi Sabah

KUALA LUMPUR – Kejayaan Gabungan Rakyat Sabah (GRS) memenangi Pilihan Raya Negeri (PRN) Sabah kelmarin menyaksikan penerimaan rakyat negeri itu kepada Perikatan Nasional (PN).

Ini dibuktikan apabila peratus kemenangan calon PN dalam pilihan raya bekenaan mencecah sehingga 58.6 peratus.

Penganalisis politik, Dr. Kamarul Zaman Yusoff berkata, PN menang 17 daripada 29 kerusi ditandingi dalam pilihan raya tersebut.

"Peratus kemenangan calon Barisan Nasional (BN) pula sebanyak 34.1 peratus iaitu kemenangan 14 daripada 41 kerusi ditandingi.

"Apakah data-data ini menunjukkan bahawa jenama PN walaupun lebih baharu adalah lebih laku berbanding jenama BN yang lebih lama?

"Jika benar jenama PN adalah lebih laku berbanding jenama BN, apakah faktor-faktor yang menyumbang kepada fenomena ini?" katanya dalam satu hantaran di akaun Facebook beliau semalam.

Dalam pada itu, Ketua Penerangan PN, Datuk Seri Mohamed Azmin Ali berkata, keputusan PRN Sabah turut membuktikan keyakinan rakyat terhadap kepimpinan Perdana Menteri, Tan Sri Muhyiddin Yassin dan kerjasama erat antara PN dan GRS.

"PN akan menggalas mandat ini dengan tekad dan iltizam untuk menjana usaha pembangunan serta mencerdaskan ekonomi pasca pandemik Covid-19.

"Selaras dengan Wawasan Kemakmuran Bersama, negeri dan rakyat Sabah akan menikmati pembangunan yang inklusif, saksama dan berkualiti," katanya dalam satu kenyataan semalam.

Terdahulu, Mohamed Azmin berkata, keputusan PRN Sabah menyaksikan kematangan rakyat Sabah menjunjung semangat federalisme demi kemakmuran negeri dan kesejahteraan rakyat.

Menurut beliau, mandat yang diberikan oleh rakyat Sabah jelas membuktikan rakyat memilih sebuah kerajaan negeri yang prihatin, inklusif dan menjamin kedaulatan negeri serta keselamatan rakyat.

Tambah beliau, kemenangan itu pasti akan menyemarak kerjasama yang lebih utuh dalam PN.

KEHADIRAN Perikatan Nasional sebagai sebuah pakatan politik baharu mendapat sokongan pengundi tempatan. – GAMBAR HIASAN

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KERATAN AKHBAR 28 September 2020		
Akhbar	:	Sinar Harian
Tajuk Berita	:	Masalah air makin kritikal
Muka Surat	:	24

Masalah air makin kritikal

Penduduk harap ada penyelesaian terhadap isu yang berlarutan sejak dua tahun lalu

Oleh NORAFIZA JAAFAR

KUALA LUMPUR

Sebahagian penduduk Blok 41 Projek Perumahan Rakyat (PPR) Gombak Setia di sini terpaksa berdepan masalah gangguan air tidak berjadual yang berterusan sejak dua tahun lalu.

Penduduk mendakwa, keadaan itu membelenggu penghuni di pintu 17 hingga 24 di semua aras dan ada kalanya berlaku pada tempoh tertentu mengambil masa dua hingga tiga jam atau sepanjang hari.

Bagaimanapun, keadaan itu didakwa semakin kritikal selepas kerja mencuci tangki dilakukan apabila hampir setiap hari penduduk berdepan gangguan air.

Penduduk, Rosnita Abdul Kadir Jailani, 44, berkata, masalah sama berlaku kelmarin di kediamannya di tingkat 13 dari jam 10 malam hingga 7 pagi dan keadaan itu turut menyukarkan 168 keluarga lain terutama mereka yang mempunyai penghuni ramai, warga emas dan anak kecil.

"Hampir semua rumah akan menyimpan air sehingga memenuhi ruang bilik air dan ada yang terpaksa mengangkut air dari tangki yang disediakan di bawah unit ini jika tidak mencukupi," katanya kepada *Sinar Harian* kelmarin.

Seorang lagi penduduk, Ismail Kadir, 58, yang tinggal bersama 11 ahli keluarga lain termasuk tiga cucu mengakui berdepan kesulitan setiap kali berlaku gangguan air apatah lagi mereka sekeluarga tidak diberikan sebarang notis.

"Rumah saya pernah tiga hari tiada air, pernah juga seharian kami anak-beranak tidak mandi. Kalau lebih enam jam terpaksalah kami mengangkut air dari bawah," katanya.

Sebahagian penduduk berkumpul meluahkan masalah gangguan bekalan air dihadapi mereka yang semakin kritikal sejak kebelakangan ini.

Ketua Blok 41 PPR Gombak Setia, Khair Nasaruddin Mohd Khair berkata, isu tersebut telah dikemukakan kepada pihak Dewan Bandaraya Kuala Lumpur (DBKL) dan juga Timbalan Menteri Wilayah Persekutuan, Datuk Seri Dr Santhara Kumar dalam usaha memulihkan gangguan air tidak berjadual itu.

Sementara itu, Datuk Bandar Kuala Lumpur, Datuk Nor Hisham Ahmad Dahlan ketika mengulas perkara itu berkata, ia berpunca akibat tekanan air rendah dan pihaknya dimaklumkan gangguan dilaporkan berlaku setiap minggu melibatkan penghuni di tingkat 12 hingga 16.

"Saya sudah meminta pegawai Pengurusan Air Selangor turun bersama DBKL berjumpa jawatankuasa penduduk bagi mencari penyelesaian masalah tersebut," katanya.

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KERATAN AKHBAR **28 September 2020**		
Akhbar	:	Sinar Harian
Tajuk Berita	:	PKNS tawar diskaun beli rumah sehingga 20 peratus
Muka Surat	:	24

PKNS tawar diskaun beli rumah sehingga 20 peratus

Komuniti setempat menyertai acara berbasikal yang dianjurkan sempena Kempen Promosi 48 Jam Mesti Beli@Antara Gapi di Tasik Antara Gapi, Serendah kelmarin.

HULU SELANGOR – Pembeli projek perumahan Antara Gapi, Serendah menikmati diskaun sehingga 20 peratus menerusi kempen promosi 48 jam Mesti Beli@Antara Gapi yang bermula pada 26 September sehingga semalam.

Ketua Pegawai Operasi Perbadanan Kemajuan Negeri Selangor (PKNS), Siti Zubaidah Abd. Jabar berkata, promosi istimewa selama dua hari itu merupakan siri 48 Jam Mesti Beli keenam tahun ini yang dianjurkan oleh PKNS bagi menarik lebih ramai pembeli untuk datang dan menikmati tawaran istimewa seperti diskaun sehingga 20 peratus untuk projek terpilih.

Menurutnya, siri 48 Jam Mesti Beli sebelum ini berjaya merekodkan jualan sebanyak RM21 juta.

"Kami berharap kejayaan yang sama dapat dicapai pada siri kali ini khususnya projek yang terletak di Antara Gapi," katanya ketika ditemui selepas Kempen Promosi 48 Jam Mesti Beli@Antara Gapi di Tasik Antara Gapi, Serendah di sini kelmarin.

Beliau berkata, terdapat tiga projek iaitu Azhara, Cassia, Lavender dan dua pusat komersial terlibat untuk promosi 48 jam Mesti Beli@Antara Gapi.

"Kesemua projek perumahan ini merupakan rumah berkembar dua tingkat berkeluasan dari 2,375 kps dan telah sedia untuk diduduki.

"Pengunjung yang membuat tempahan dan pembelian hartanah sepanjang tempoh promosi akan menikmati tawaran diskaun sehingga 20 peratus dan percuma yuran guaman SPA serta duti setem MOT," katanya.

Menurutnya, Antara Gapi terletak di Serendah, Selangor dan dikelilingi pemandangan hijau semula jadi sesuai bagi mereka yang menginginkan ketenangan dan kedamaian.

"Kawasan mempunyai akses yang mudah ke Stesen Komuter Serendah dan dihubungkan oleh Jalan Persekutuan Rawang bypass Kuala Lumpur," katanya.

Projek perumahan Antara Gapi di Serendah boleh dianggap antara projek penempatan terbaik yang ditawarkan PKNS dengan pelbagai prasarana dan kemudahan lengkap.

Sejak dibuka pada 1995 dengan keluasan keseluruhan 385.50 hektar melibatkan enam seksyen, sebanyak 1,947 unit rumah kediaman dan 111 unit kedai dibangunkan di Antara Gapi.

Projek pembangunan itu siap tahun ini dan mendapat sambutan menggalakkan dengan jualan hampir 70 peratus.

Akses yang menghubungkan bandar-bandar utama di kawasan sekitar termasuk ke Kuala Lumpur merupakan ciri utama yang menggamit pembeli untuk memiliki kediaman Antara Gapi.

Antara Gapi merupakan antara bandar baharu yang dibina oleh PKNS dengan menghubungkan Bernam Jaya dan Kota Puteri.

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KERATAN AKHBAR **28 September 2020**		
Akhbar	:	Sinar Harian
Tajuk Berita	:	Harimau Kumbang buru keputusan positif baki perlawanan
Muka Surat	:	39

Harimau Kumbang buru keputusan positif baki perlawanan

Pemain Pulau Pinang, Changhoon Lee (kanan) diasak pemain UKM FC, Mohd Irwan Syazmin Wahab pada perlawanan di Stadium Selayang petang kelmarin.

PULAU Pinang bertekad memanfaatkan satu aksi terakhir di laman sendiri dengan keputusan positif dari dua baki liga dalam misi mencipta sejarah merangkul kejuaraan Liga Premier selepas bangkit menewaskan UKM 2-1 di Stadium Majlis Perbandaran Selayang, petang kelmarin.

Menurut pengendali Harimau Kumbang, Manzoor Azwira Abdul Wahid, biarpun objektif saingan musim ini untuk layak ke saingan Liga Super 2021, namun beliau mahu pemain-pemain Pulau Pinang memberikan sepenuh tumpuan kepada dua baki perlawanan berkenaan.

"Syukur alhamdulillah, kami berjaya membawa pulang tiga mata dari tempat lawan biarpun menentang UKM FC ini bukan satu perlawanan yang mudah.

"Kemenangan ke atas UKM ini sekali gus membolehkan skuad Harimau Kumbang mengungguli saingan liga dengan kelebihan tiga mata dan jaringan berbanding pesaing terdekat Kuala Lumpur.

"Apa pun masih terdapat dua perlawanan lagi yang tidak kurang sengitnya, perlu diberikan perhatian serius oleh pemain-pemain terutamanya apabila beraksi di laman sendiri nanti.

"Sememangnya menjadi harapan semua pasukan tidak terkecuali Pulau Pinang dalam melakarkan kemenangan terakhir perlawanan liga di tempat sendiri," katanya.

Pada aksi petang kelmarin itu, anak buah Manzoor Azwira terlebih dulu dikejutkan UKM FC hasil jaringan penyerang import tuan rumah, Akanni-Sunday pada minit ke-17.

Namun Harimau Kumbang bangkit pada babak kedua hasil jaringan peledak dari Brazil, Casagrande pada minit ke-48 sebelum sepakan penalti Endrick Dos Santos (66') menoktahkan kemenangan pelawat.

Pulau Pinang selepas ini akan menerima kunjungan Kelantan United di Stadium Bandaraya pada Jumaat ini sebelum berkunjung ke Kuala Terengganu menentang Terengganu FC II di Stadium Sultan Ismail Nasiruddin Shah pada 9 Oktober.

Pada masa sama Manzoor Azwira mengakui masih terdapat beberapa penambahbaikan perlu dilakukan walaupun Harimau Kumbang sudah meraih slot ke saingan liga elit bola sepak negara tahun depan.

"Kami akan menggunakan segala ruang yang ada ini bagi meningkatkan prestasi pemain-pemain sebagai persediaan mengharungi saingan Piala Malaysia pula selepas ini

"Apa pun saya mahu pemain mengambil satu perlawanan ke satu perlawanan pada masa sama mengibaratkan setiap perlawanan umpama perlawanan akhir," katanya.

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KERATAN AKHBAR 28 September 2020		
Akhbar	:	The Star
Tajuk Berita	:	Concerted efforts to curb dengue spread
Muka Surat	:	2

Task force for Hulu Langat

An inter-agency committee will be stepping up efforts to tackle dengue in the district, which recorded the highest number of hotspots nationwide this month. >2&3

Concerted efforts to curb dengue spread

Task force will step up health and cleanliness inspections at premises throughout Hulu Langat

By JADE CHAN
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AN INTER-agency task force led by Hulu Langat District Officer Najmuddin Jemain has been reestablished to tackle dengue, following reports that the district has the highest number of hotspots in Malaysia.

"This task force comprises representatives from the Hulu Langat District Health Office (PKD), Kajang Municipal Council (MPKj) and Ampang Jaya Municipal Council (MPAJ)," said MPKj public relations head Kamarul Izlan Sulaiman.

"An inter-agency task force is formed from time to time when multiple agencies are involved on certain health issues.

"Dengue matters are handled by PKD, while the council's role is to assist with logistics and manpower.

"The task force will be stepping up efforts over the next few weeks to address the dengue outbreak, such as sending teams to inspect premises for health and cleanliness aspects.

"The locations to be visited and schedule of inspections will be decided by the district officer," said Kamarul.

He said the team would comprise officers from Hulu Langat PKD and MPKj's Town Services and Health Department, adding that the local councils typically assisted with *gotong-royong*, fogging as well as distributing brochures on dengue awareness and abate to kill mosquito larvae.

The Hulu Langat district is administered by two municipal councils, namely MPKj and MPAJ.

The district covers several state constituencies – Kajang, Semenyih, Sungai Ramal, Balakong, Pandan Indah and Lembah Jaya.

In Ampang, there have been a total of 2,988 dengue cases recorded as of Sept 23.

MPAJ press relations officer Norhayati Ahmad said the council was implementing dengue control and prevention measures.

"MPAJ Health Department officers are conducting search-and-destroy programmes and larvaciding.

"We are also working with Kumpulan Darul Ehsan Bhd (KDEB) Waste Management Sdn Bhd to clean up places that have been identified as hotspot areas," she said.

The authorities are taking the issue seriously even though Selangor recorded a decrease in dengue cases, of 6.1%, for the third week of September compared to the week before.

In the latest update posted by Selangor Health Department (JKNS), the statement disclosed that 524 dengue cases were recorded during the period between Sept 13 and 19 (epidemiology week 38), compared to 558 cases for the period between Sept 6 and 12.

"A total of 38,312 dengue cases have been reported throughout Selangor as of week 38, marking a 29.6% decrease in cases compared to the same period last year with 54,446 cases," said state Health director Datuk Dr Sha'ari Ngadiman in the statement.

"The five districts with the highest number of cases are Petaling with 13,445 cases which is 35.1% of the total, Hulu Langat with 7,905 (20.6%), Klang at 6,390 (16.7%), Gombak 5,520 and Sepang 2,179."

The Hulu Langat district has the highest number of hotspots with 11 locations, while Petaling has eight hotspots.

The hotspots in the Petaling district are from Jalan U10/68 to Jalan U10/77B in Section U10 of Shah Alam, Jalan USJ12/2 in Subang Jaya, Jalan 7/29 to 7/35 in Section 7 of Shah Alam, Jalan 1A/1 to 1A/9 in Bandar Baru Sungai Buloh Phase 1A, Kristal Condominium at Jalan Pualam 7/32 in Shah Alam, Bukit Puchong Flats in Bandar Bukit Puchong, Impian Baiduri Flats in Section 51A and Prima 16 Condominium at Jalan 16/18, both in Petaling Jaya.

A total of 36 deaths had been reported as of epidemiology week 38, marking a 25% drop compared to the same period last year with 48 deaths.

Dr Sha'ari reminded Selangor residents to spare 10 minutes a week to check the spaces in their homes to ensure there were no unnecessary water containers or spots where mosquitoes could breed.

DENGUE STATISTICS IN SELANGOR

Number of dengue cases and hotspot localities based on districts, as of epidemiology week 38 (Sept 13 to 19, 2020)

District	Accumulated number of cases	Number of hotspot localities
Petaling	13,445	8
Hulu Langat	7,905	11
Gombak	5,520	0
Klang	6,390	0
Sepang	2,179	0
Hulu Selangor	1,252	0
Kuala Selangor	764	0
Kuala Langat	738	0
Sabak Bernam	119	0
Selangor	**38,312**	**19**

Source: Selangor Health Department

Dr Sha'ari reminds Selangor residents to spare 10 minutes a week to check their homes for spaces mosquitoes can breed in.

Filepic of an MPAJ worker fogging. Ampang has 2,988 dengue cases as of Sept 23.

MBSA staff conducting larvaciding and checking for mosquito breeding sites in Section 7 two months ago.

Kamarul: The locations and schedule of inspections will be decided by the district officer.

Norhayati: MPAJ is working with KDEB to clean up dengue hotspots.

DENGUE HOTSPOTS IN SELANGOR

As of epidemiology week 38 (Sept 13 to 19, 2020)

District	Location	Cumulative cases	Start of outbreak (2020)
Petaling	Jalan U10/68 to Jalan U10/77B, Section U10, Shah Alam	32	Aug 4
	Jalan USJ 12/2, Subang Jaya	12	Aug 8
	Jalan 7/29 to 7/35, Section 7, Shah Alam	20	Aug 11
	Jalan 1A/1 to 1A/9, Bandar Baru Sungai Buloh Phase 1A, Shah Alam	11	Aug 10
	Kondominium Kristal, Jalan Pualam 7/32, Shah Alam	18	Aug 10
	Flat Bukit Puchong, Bandar Bukit Puchong	12	Aug 10
	Flat Impian Baiduri, Section 51A, Petaling Jaya	5	Aug 17
	Prima 16 Condo, Jalan 16/18, Petaling Jaya	5	Aug 18
Hulu Langat	Pangsapuri Mewah, Taman Damai Mewah	13	June 23
	Jalan Impian Indah, Saujana Impian	22	June 25
	Section 6, Bandar Sri Putra	17	July 21
	Apartment Taman Cahaya	19	July 27
	Jalan 15/1 shophouses, Section 15, Bandar Baru Bangi	11	Aug 1
	Jalan 6/5, Section 6, Bandar Baru Bangi	15	Aug 6
	Evergreen Park Acorn And Hazel Condominium, Bandar Sungai Long	9	Aug 8
	Apartmen Sri Ria, Taman Sepakat Indah	24	Aug 12
	Jalan Desa Ampang 3, Taman Sri Ampang	5	Aug 18
	One Ampang Avenue, Taman Ampang Utama	5	Aug 19
	Jalan Kesuma 6/1, Bandar Tasik Kesuma	5	Aug 19

Source: iDengue

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KERATAN AKHBAR 28 September 2020		
Akhbar	:	The Star
Tajuk Berita	:	MPKj launches online platform for building use application
Muka Surat	:	2

MPKj launches online platform for building use application

By VIJENTHI NAIR
vijenthi@thestar.com.my

KAJANG folk wanting to start a kindergarten, nursery or care centre can apply to change the building's use via Kajang Municipal Council's (MPKj) newly introduced "We Care Online" system.

MPKj is preparing for an increase in applications for such businesses in the coming years, as the population of children and senior citizens is expected to rise.

According to MPKj data, Kajang has a population of over 1.3 million.

It is projected that in five years' time, there will be 111,880 children and 78,316 senior citizens.

And by 2035, the numbers are expected to increase to 135,010 children and 94,507 senior citizens.

MPKj foresees the need for at least 808 such premises by 2035.

As of last year there were 579 such businesses registered.

At the launch of "We Care Online", MPKj president Datuk Zulkefli Khalid said the council had received many applications for change of building use for the purpose of setting up a kindergarten or care centre.

He noted that the customary method of applying over the counter took about 50 minutes per applicant.

"That was minus the time the applicant spent travelling to MPKj headquarters and looking for a parking space, as well as logistical costs.

"Our standard processing time was 30 days per application," he pointed out.

Zulkefli (centre) showing how the We Care Online system can be accessed via smartphone during the launch at Menara MPKj. With him are MPKj Planning Development Department director Datuk Nizam Sahari (left) and deputy president Mohd Raiz Radzuan.

"With the new system, every application can be processed in 20 days.

"Upon receiving the complete set of documents, our staff will notify the neighbouring buildings' occupants about the application and ask if there are any objections.

"If there is no objection in 14 days, the application will be approved immediately and the applicant can proceed to apply for the business licence.

"However, if the council receives objections within the stipulated period, we will call for an objection hearing," he explained.

Zulkefli said applicants could check the status of their applications online and once approved, payment could be made via the same platform.

"The approval letters will be issued digitally too. There is no need for an applicant to come to our office.

"So, applications can be done from anywhere, at any time," he highlighted.

He said the website would make MPKj's work more efficient and customer-friendly.

"There are over 700 such businesses in areas under MPKj jurisdiction.

"From the total, 412 are licensed. So far, the details of 153 businesses are in the "We Care Online" system.

"The system also serves as a database on the businesses. The public will be able to access relevant information on the registered kindergartens, nurseries and care centres in the municipality, such as their locations," he added.

Go to www.mpkj.gov.my to access "We Care Online"

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KERATAN AKHBAR 28 September 2020		
Akhbar	:	The Star
Tajuk Berita	:	TAX REBATE
Muka Surat	:	2

TAX REBATE

Houseowners who have made their homes more environmental-friendly will be eligible for assessment tax rebates from the Petaling Jaya City Council (MBPJ) until Oct 16. Download the form at https://bit.ly/33j6FOb. For details, call MBPJ Solid Waste Management and Public Cleansing Department at 03-7954 1440.

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Sea Park residents want new traffic study for condo project

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RESIDENTS of Sea Park in Petaling Jaya are concerned that a traffic study done last year for a high-rise condominium project may have overlooked crucial points.

They fear the project, comprising two 29 and 24-storey blocks, will worsen the situation at the already congested roads leading out of the neighbourhood.

Residents said the traffic impact assessment report for the project, consisting of nine survey points, failed to take into account the mainly one-way and narrow roads in the area.

"The entrance of the development is along Jalan 21/19 and is within the one-way street system.

"They have missed out on the egress of the project which leads to Jalan 2/35," said resident JT Wong.

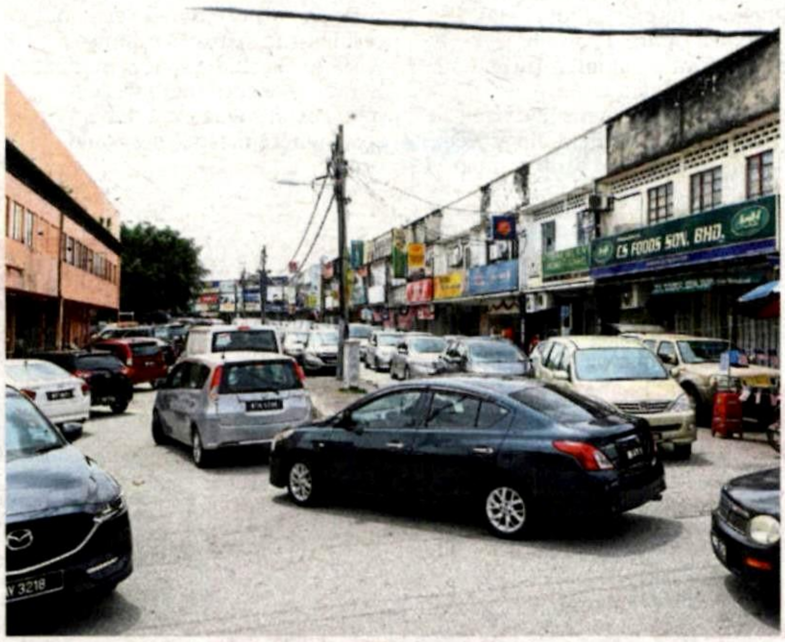
Residents are up in arms over the project, with 57.8% within a 3km radius objecting to the development in a survey last November.

Meanwhile, 88.9% of businesses in the commercial area were also against the project.

Damansara MCA division chief Tan Gim Tuan questioned how the development was given the green light when some 60% of residents were opposed to it.

Tan pointed out that just because the developer had submitted a proposal that fulfilled Petaling Jaya City Council (MBPJ) guidelines, it should not mean automatic approval could be granted as the city council had discretionary powers to look into the social impact of the project.

"The residents deserve another hearing with the authorities and want to submit an independent traffic impact report," he told a press conference at the site yesterday.



Sea Park residents are opposed to the high-rise development in the area, saying it will worsen traffic congestion. — SAMUEL ONG/The Star

Section 21 Rukun Tetangga (RT) chairman Gan Keng said Sea Park residents' main concern was traffic congestion.

"We are not against redeveloping the area.

"If the conditions are agreeable, we would support the project. However, an additional 420 units for the development will cause many more problems for residents and businesses here.

"Ever since the site was hoarded up on Sept 11, the carpark which could accommodate around 50 cars is no longer available.

"Business operators and their workers are now forced to take up the limited council parking spaces, reducing the number of bays available to visitors," he said.

Section 21 RT secretary James Chan said the project would also affect areas beyond Sea Park, such as Taman Paramount, SS2 and Section 22.

"This kind of development does not suit Sea Park because it is a very old neighbourhood," he said, adding that the infrastructure would not be able to cope with the new development.

"Who will want to come here if there is not enough parking?" Chan questioned.

He said residents were invited by the authorities to provide their input on two occasions, but they had yet to hear from them.

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Phase 1 of the Sungai Selangor Water Treatment Plant. Laws and enactments are being strengthened to protect this vital resource. PIC BY SHAHMI IMRAN

Water polluters in Selangor to face minimum RM200,000 fine

KUALA LUMPUR

THOSE who cause river pollution in Selangor will face a minimum fine of RM200,000, but not exceeding RM1 million, and a jail term of up to three years, following an amendment to the Selangor Water Management Authority (LUAS) Enactment 1999.

Under the current Section 70 of the LUAS Enactment, anyone caught polluting water is liable to a fine not exceeding RM100,000 or a jail term of up to three years, or both, and a further fine of RM5,000 for each day the offence is continued after a notice by LUAS requiring compliance has been served.

Menteri Besar Datuk Seri Amirudin Shari said LUAS was improving the LUAS Enactment 1999 and a bill would be tabled at the next state assembly sitting to address river pollution.

"The improved LUAS legislation will cover all aspects of the state's water resource management, especially in strengthening the laws to enable higher fines for polluters.

"The Department of Environment is also reviewing and amending the Environmental Quality Act 1974 for stricter punishment for water polluters."

The text of his speech was read out by state Infrastructure and Public Utilities, Modernisation of Agriculture and Agro-based Industry Committee chairman Izham Hashim at the state-level World Rivers Day celebration and the launch of the Friends of River Initiative in Subang Jaya, near here, on Saturday.

Amirudin said the executive council had decided that LUAS set up a team to improve monitoring of water resources and river basins to boost enforcement.

He said LUAS' Skuad Pantas would conduct 24-hour monitoring in vital water areas in the Sungai Selangor, Sungai Langat and Sungai Klang basins to prevent pollution and minimise disruption to water treatment plants' operations.

"The establishment of this squad is to strengthen the state government's initiative, Op Sumber Air, which started in March with various agencies.

"Seven pollution incidents that could have disrupted water treatment plants (yellow code) and water supply were stopped through Op Sumber Air. We hope monitoring and enforcement will be more stringent with this squad." **Bernama**