

Bracing for a big flood

3

Aviation show scales new heights

7

Klang's Little India lights up

10



Air sports plan takes off

13

FREE | OCTOBER 2022 EDITION | www.selangorjournal.my

SELANGOR JOURNAL

Opportunities abound

THE Selangor International Business Summit (SIBS) is returning for the eighth consecutive year, with its host, Invest Selangor Bhd, aiming to make RM350 million in transaction value in four days. The summit will be held from Oct 6 at the Kuala Lumpur Convention Centre (KLCC), with an anticipated 30,000 people attending. Its exciting lineup of 850 booths and scheduled events promise visitors a chance to explore the global marketplace, network and collaborate.

MORE ON PAGES 8, 9 & 11



Time to green up Selangor

SEMENYIH - All state departments and agencies are urged to play a proactive role in making Selangor's tree-planting campaign a success.

Menteri Besar Dato' Seri Amirudin Shari said the campaign is important as the Sultan of Selangor Sultan Sharafuddin Idris Shah Al-haj has issued a decree for the state to plant 26 million trees by 2026.

Amirudin said the aim to plant 26 million trees also coincides with His Royal Highness's 26 years of ruling, which began in 2001.

As of September this year, a total of 545,000 trees have already been planted in the state under the nationwide '100 Million Tree-Planting Campaign' that was launched at the Federal level in January 2021 for the period 2020-2025.

"Let us work together towards greening the Selangor that we love," he said during his speech at the tree-planting programme held in conjunction with the state-level World Forest Day celebration in Bukit Broga here on Sept 24.

The event was graced by Raja Muda of Selangor Tengku Amir Shah.

Also present were Selangor State Secretary Dato' Haris Kasim, state executive councillor for the environment Hee Loy Sian, Peninsular Malaysia Forestry Department director-general Datuk Mohd Ridza Awang and Selangor Forestry Department director Datuk Ahmad Fadzil Abd Majid.

During the event, Tengku Amir also wit-

Tengku Amir plants a teak sapling in conjunction with the state-level World Forest Day at Broga Hill, Hulu Langat, on Sept 24



nessed the launch of an application for the state-level tree planting campaign and presented awards for the best display booth before making a tour of the exhibition site.

The Raja Muda of Selangor also planted a tree to commemorate World Forest Day.

Meanwhile, Amirudin said the Selangor government has always been consistent in its efforts to preserve and

protect the state's forests to ensure they can help to overcome the ill effects of climate change and reduce carbon emissions.

He said when faced with natural disasters such as prolonged rain or major floods, the state government has to continue its efforts to make Selangor resilient.

"In the recent tabling of the First Selangor Plan (RS-1), the management of

forest and environment sustainability was listed as among the plan's strategic themes.

"Therefore, the development of the plan would help us to prioritise our forests and the environment."

On Aug 2, the Selangor State Legislative Assembly approved the RS-1's five-year strategic development plan (2021-2025), which comes at a total cost of RM212.44 billion.

Enough water to last six months, says exco

By **ZAREEF MUZAMMIL**

SHAH ALAM - All dams in Selangor are at a reasonable level, with over 90 per cent capacity as of Sept 21, says state executive councillor for the environment Hee Loy Sian.

He said with that capacity, the state is able to supply water for a maximum of up to six months if there is no rain, thus making it sufficient to meet the people's needs.

He said research has also shown that the state's water supply is sufficient to meet domestic and industrial demands until 2065.

"We have invested a lot in developing a reliable water supply system, one that is based on research.

"This includes the development of water supply in Sungai Rasau and the implementation of the Hybrid Off River Augmentation System (HORAS) 3000," he said in his speech during the World River Day 2022 celebration organised by the Friends of Rivers Malaysia (FoRM) at Taman Awam Pengkalan Batu in Klang on Sept 25.

Meanwhile, Hee said the state's primary water sources are often affected by pollu-

tion incidents by irresponsible parties.

"This forces the water treatment plants to stop their operation, causing unscheduled water supply disruptions to consumers," he said.

Hee also urged project developers to adhere to their licensing conditions before implementing any activities, to avoid the risk of polluting the rivers in Selangor.

Water quality, particularly in the main river basin, can be affected by industrial activities, highway construction, agriculture activities and animal husbandry, among others.

"Not complying with licence conditions or not getting the right authorisation to carry out projects can negatively impact the quality of Selangor's rivers. In addition, there are certain quarters who, without any hesitation, dump scheduled waste into the sewerage system or dispose of illegal waste at riverbanks.

"As such, I call upon all industry players and the wider community to pay closer attention to the activities carried out near our rivers. Irresponsible activities will impact us and millions of others," he said.

State tackles online fraud with smart tech

SELAYANG - The Selangor government is implementing more cybersecurity programmes for next year to combat the worrying trend of online fraud cases in the state.

Menteri Besar Dato' Seri Amirudin Shari said the state government is also ready to cooperate with the police to help combat the problem, which he said has caused many people to fall prey.

"After concentrating on data collection and analysis, we will focus on cybersecurity as part of the smart state project next year.

"This could help to prevent the theft or unlawful collection of data by certain quarters, as seen with the widespread problem of online fraud activities lately," he said at the Gua Damai Extreme Carnival here on Sept 11.

Amirudin also advised the public to exercise caution.

He asked the people to be wary of messages received through

their smartphones, adding that they should get them verified first.

"These days, many individuals are desperate and have taken to committing online fraud. This is especially worrying as over 70 per cent of the Selangor people are connected (online).

"Every single person with a smartphone is in danger of becoming a victim," he said.

On Sept 10, media reports stated that online fraud in Selangor is at an alarming level, with approximately RM92.8 million in losses recorded in the first nine months of 2022.

Head of the Commercial Crime Investigation Department (CCID) in Selangor ACP Azman Ali said fraud cases account for 76.9 per cent of the state's commercial crime records.

Out of the 2612 reported cases of fraud, 2,011 cases were committed online.

Selangor braces for more rain

SHAH ALAM - Selangor's state agencies and departments have been called to gear up for the northeast monsoon season, which is expected to begin in early November.

In an official directive issued on Sept 14 by the Selangor state secretariat and signed by state secretary Dato' Haris Kasim, the monsoon season is expected to bring more rainfall that could lead to floods, flash floods, storms and landslides in the state.

According to the directive, the Selangor Drainage and Irrigation Department (JPS) has identified 87 flood hotspots throughout the state's nine districts.

The districts of Klang, Sepang, Kuala Selangor, Sabak Bernam, Kuala Langat and Petaling are also at risk of facing high tide.

"The administration requests that all District Disaster Management Committees (JPBD) in Selangor prepare for the northeast monsoon season based on the National Security Council (NSC) Directive No. 20 (Revised) that relates to the Policy and National Disaster Management Mechanism.

"The disaster operations room at the district level and all local authorities are requested to report disaster-related information to the Smart Selangor Operations Centre (SOCC)," the directive read.

As part of the state's contingency measures, all district officers who serve as the chairman of JPBDs have been tasked to immediately hold meetings at the district level to ensure readiness in the management of evacuation and rescue assets, the management of evacuation centres, and in the supply of food provisions in the event of a disaster.

Other measures to be undertaken from Sept 14, are as below:

- JPS to provide a list of flood-prone areas to JPBD and the State Disaster Management Committee (JPBN) and to work with the local authorities and the state's Public Works Department (JKR) on a flood hotspot plan.
- The state-level Police Force, the Fire and Rescue Department, the Malaysian Civil Defence Force, and the 11th Brigade of the Malaysian Armed Forces to remain on the alert.
- The Selangor Social Welfare Department (JKM) and local authorities to be prepared and ensure that the procedures for identifying and managing Covid-19 cases at the temporary relief centres (PPS) are followed.
- All assets for search and rescue (SAR) operations to be in good working condition and placed at strategic locations.
- Disaster evacuation facilities in Selangor and supplies from JKM to be adequate and in good condition.
- JPS to ensure that all water or flood pumps are in good condition and ready. All telemetry stations, warning stations, discharge gauge stations, rainfall stations, water level stations and flood monitoring camera stations to be inspected and in good working order.
- The Standing Regulations for Flood Disaster Response Operations to be distributed to all state departments and agencies.

The northeast monsoon season usually brings heavy rain between November and March. In Selangor, wet weather is expected in the evenings and at night.

The state is expected to see an average rainfall of between 210 mm and 370 mm in November and December.



All PPS will be equipped with the basic necessities, as seen in this photo taken during the disaster simulation programme at Dewan Jubli Perak, Shah Alam, on Sept 28

RM5m set aside for flood response

By **NORRASYIDAH ARSHAD**

SHAH ALAM - Selangor has allocated RM5 million to prepare for the major floods expected at the end of the year.

Menteri Besar Dato' Seri Amirudin Shari said the allocation includes RM4 million from a Covid-19 fund that was donated by members of the public, while RM1 million is from the state government.

"The allocation will go towards the purchase of communication equipment, including satellite phones, in the event of a communication network disruption should the electricity supply be cut off," he said.

Amirudin was speaking at the launch of the state disaster simulation and training programme, which saw 343 people from 67 agencies taking part at Dewan Jubli Perak at the Selangor State Secretariat Building, here on Sept 29.

He said that the state administration's level of preparedness for the year-end floods stands at 80 per cent and that assets have been placed in each district.

He said the remaining 20 per cent of work will be carried out when the floods actually occur. They involve mobilisation efforts during search and rescue operations.

"The remaining 20 per cent is for the 'real thing' itself — measures that will need to be taken in real-time, such as reporting and so on. Even today we are experiencing a real-life situation with the small-scale flood at Sungai Sireh in Klang.

"We have learned much from last year's incident and will improve on other needs," he said.

Previously, the National Disaster Management Agency (Nadma) reported that eight of Selangor's nine districts have been identified as flood hotspots.

The Department of Irrigation and Drainage said that the districts are Klang, Petaling, Gombak, Hulu Langat, Sepang, Kuala Langat, Sabak Bernam, and Kuala Selangor with the exception of Hulu Selangor.

All related agencies in the state have been put on standby following a report that heavy rainfall predicted for this month and December may cause floods, storms and landslides.

A total of 796 temporary relief centres (PPS) have been gazetted and can accommodate 151,000 flood victims, while 164 boats, lorries and four-wheel drive (4WD) vehicles have been sent to all state districts.

More on page 12 ►

Budget to be tabled on Oct 28

SHAH ALAM - The third meeting of the fifth term of the 14th Selangor State Legislative Assembly will see the tabling of the 2023 Selangor Budget and the Anti-Party Hopping Enactment Bill when it takes place from the end of October until early November.

State Legislative Assembly Secretary JK Gayathri Prasena said the meeting will take place in three stages, beginning on Oct 28.

"The meeting on Friday, Oct 28, 2022, will commence at 3pm, and will focus on the tabling of the Budget by the Menteri Besar," she said in a statement on Sept 23.

The second stage of the sitting will run from Oct 31 to Nov 4, while the third stage will run from Nov 7 to Nov 10.

"The meetings will begin at 10am to 1pm, and then continue from 2.30pm to 4.30pm. On Fridays, it will start at 9.30am until 12pm, and continue from 3pm to 5.30pm."

On July 29, Assembly Speaker Ng Suee Lim said the tabling of the Anti-Party Hopping Enactment Bill will use the Constitution (Amendment) Bill (No 3) 2022, which was passed on July 28 by the Dewan Rakyat, as a reference to avoid any contradictions.

State brings back free health screenings

SUBANG JAYA - The second phase of the state's free health screening programme Selangor Saring will take place at the Jelajah Selangor Penyayang (JSP) roadshow next month.



State executive councillor for public health Dr Siti Mariah Mahmud (*pic*) said the decision was made to continue with the programme following an encouraging response from the public, even though the initiative ended on Sept 11.

"The programme received a good response — over 66 per cent of individuals who were registered users of the SELangkah mobile app came for the screenings held in the 56 state constituencies.

"It was a pilot project, and Selangor has successfully provided health screenings for its people for free. The Selangor Saring programme does not focus on patients who have already been diagnosed with a disease. Instead, it aims to help identify those who are at risk of developing an illness due to their family history or being overweight," she said when met during the launching of Medan Selera Puchong Permai, here on Sept 25.

Also present was Subang Jaya mayor Datuk Johary Anuar.

The second instalment of the roadshow will continue in four districts, namely Klang, Sabak Bernam, Sepang and Hulu Selangor. It will focus on explaining the First Selangor Plan's (RS-1) agenda and the 2023 Selangor Budget to the people.

Siti Mariah said the preliminary analysis of the data collected from the screenings shows a worrying trend concerning non-communicable diseases in the community.

"For example, in Klang alone, there are over 1,000 individuals who are at risk of developing kidney failure should they continue to ignore their health condition. If nothing is done, more people will require dialysis quite soon," she said.

Meanwhile, the Selangor government will be giving away free eyewear to Selangor Saring participants during the roadshow.

State public health advisor Dr Mohammad Farhan Rusli, on Sept 20, said the initiative would only be provided to those who have been diagnosed with eye problems following their test.

On Sept 22, Menteri Besar Dato' Seri Amirudin Shari said the first phase of Selangor Saring received an overwhelming response with over 45,000 individuals taking part, surpassing the initial target of 31,000 participants.

Out of that total, some 4,809 individuals have been referred for further treatment.

The programme ran from May 22 to Sept 11 with a RM3.4 million budget.

Drawing youths to aero sector

By **SITI ROHAIZAH ZAINAL**

SHAH ALAM - Menteri Besar Selangor (Incorporated) or MBI has collaborated with GE Engine Services Malaysia Sdn Bhd (GE Malaysia) to launch the Selangor Aerospace Apprentice Programme.

Its chief executive officer, Norita Mohd Sidek (*pic*), said the programme would also involve the Human Resource Development Division of the Selangor State Secretary (BPSM SUK).

She said through the collaboration, MBI seeks to strengthen youth participation in the aerospace industry to develop a talent pool or a sustainable workforce within the sector in Selangor.

"To further propel the aerospace industry to greater heights, we aim to address the issue at its source, which is the difficulty in attracting enough talent to work in the sector.

"Therefore, we have collaborated with GE Malaysia and BPSM SUK to provide on-the-

job training to more than 50 apprentices.

"The programme covers engine maintenance training and technical engineering in the mechanical and electrical system," she said in a statement.



Norita said most of the sessions will take place at the GE Malaysia training facility, while some will be held in other GE locations around the world.

"Apart from that, we also partnered with 10 aerospace companies that are based in Selangor such as Spirit AeroSystems Malaysia Sdn Bhd.

"MBI has also established a partnership with a local company to set up the Selangor Skills Framework Platform (SSFP), a one-stop centre that offers access to job skill requirements and career paths to empower and utilise the industry's strength," she said.

On Sept 8, the partnership between MBI and GE Malaysia was launched during the Selangor Aviation Show 2022 at the Skypark Regional Aviation Centre in Subang.

Roadshow returns to promote government campaigns

SHAH ALAM - The second phase of the Jelajah Selangor Penyayang roadshow (JSP) is scheduled to kick off in October in another four districts.

The roadshow, which is a continuation of the previous JSP, will make its rounds beginning at Sabak Bernam on Oct 14 and 15, Klang (Oct 22 and 23), Sepang (Oct 29 and 30) as well as Hulu Selangor on Nov 5 and 6.

On Aug 29, Menteri Besar Dato' Seri Amirudin Shari said the roadshow will provide more information on the Iltizam Selangor Penyayang initiative, the state's five-year First Selangor Plan (RS-1) and sum up the main points of the 2023 Selangor Budget.

The second phase of JPS will be held following the encouraging response from thousands of visitors at the earlier roadshow, which ran from June 19 to July 31.

With a RM350 million allocation, the latest roadshow replaces the Inisiatif Peduli Rakyat programme and allows more people to receive monetary aid and other benefits.

Activities like traditional performances, games and martial arts shows have also been planned.

During the roadshow in Kuala Selangor that focused on health aspects, Amirudin said RM67 million had been allocated to implement 10 programmes. They are the Iltizam Selangor

Sihat (ISS), the Heart Treatment scheme, the Selangor Health Aid (BSS) and the Selangor Saring screening programme.

Also included are the Selangor Cancer (CanSEL) screening, Selangor Child Nutrition (Asas), Selangor Mental Health (Sehat), tuberculosis treatments, eye examinations as well as the Women Health Scheme.

"We will, from time to time, improve on the people's health programmes, particularly the Peduli Sihat initiative. We are considering adding more insurance coverage if needed," Amirudin said.

On July 24, the Menteri Besar also launched the Anak Istimewa Selangor (Anis) and Wanita Berdaya Selangor (WDS) (Single Mother Development) programmes during the roadshow at Dataran Boulevard, Laman MBPJ.

The event also highlighted 12 state initiatives focusing on family and community well-being.

The initiatives include Bantuan Kehidupan Sejahtera Keluarga (Bingkas), Skim Air Darul Ehsan, Jom Shopping festive vouchers, Roda Darul Ehsan, the Selangor Legal Aid Fund and Skim Mesra Usia Emas (SMUE), among others. The fifth instalment of the roadshow, which had focused on the educational cluster, was held at Padang Awam Batu Caves in Gombak on July 31 and drew over 8,000 visitors.

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New water plant brings hope

By **NORRASYIDAH ARSHAD**

PETALING JAYA - The Sungai Rasau water treatment plant (WTP) in Klang, expected to be completed in 2025, will be able to mitigate the risks of water supply disruption in the future.

Menteri Besar Dato' Seri Amirudin Shari said the WTP was built with a more systematic ecosystem to allow sufficient reserves of water, regardless of any issues, including pollution.

"In the event of disruptions to one water resource, the other plant can help with water supply.

"Currently (water resources) utilise a one-way process, which means whenever one plant is forced to halt operations, it can affect thousands of consumers.

"Once the Sungai Rasau WTP is completed with a new system, it will help to solve this problem and subsequently reduce the number of affected consumers," he said after launching the Pengurusan Air Selangor Sdn Bhd (Air Selangor) coffee table book, here on Sept 13.

Held at the One Utama Shopping Complex, the launching ceremony was also attended by Deputy Minister of Environment and Water Datuk Mansor Othman and Air Selangor chief executive officer Suhaimi Kamaralzaman.

Meanwhile, Suhaimi said that Air Selangor had successfully increased its water reserve margin to over 13 per cent last year compared to three per cent in 2015.

He said the increase is in tandem with the company's 30-year plan to be the leading water services provider in Asia by 2030.

"The achievement was also contributed by the development of three WTPs in the past five years that include Semenyih 2, Labohan Dagang and Langkat 2," he said in his speech during the launch.

Suhaimi said as of last year, Air Selangor has replaced 556 kilometres (km) of pipes while work on the remaining 260 km is still ongoing. This will ensure that consumers get access to clean and safe water.

"This is the outcome of the more than RM4 billion contract awarded by the National Water Services Commis-

sion (SPAN) to us as the sole water services provider for Selangor, Kuala Lumpur and Putrajaya.

"In the meantime, we are currently upgrading 53 water retention ponds and pump houses while 11 more are being repaired. The non-revenue water (NRW) rate last year stood at 28 per cent compared to 32.2 per cent in 2016," he said.

In August, Air Selangor operations head Abas Abdullah said the Sungai Rasau WTP was built using the Off-River Storage (ORS) with a total allocation of RM3 billion and can produce up to 1,400 litres of water daily.

The same method also applies to three other WTPs namely Semenyih 2, Labohan Dagang and Sungai Labu.

Selangor seeks return of medical tourists

SHAH ALAM - Tourism Selangor has again participated in the Malaysia Healthcare Expo (MHX) 2022, which was held at Centre Point Shopping Mall in Medan, Indonesia, from Sept 22 to 25.

This was the second time the expo was held in Indonesia after a similar event took place in Jakarta earlier this year, in which Tourism Selangor also participated.

Organised by the Malaysia Healthcare Travel Council (MHTC), the expo showcased hospitals, health centres and ambulatory care in Selangor and the rest of the country, so that our neighbours are more aware of the healthcare services that are available here.

The Selangor delegation was led by Tourism Selangor chief executive officer Azrul Shah Mohamad, together with representatives from MSU Medical Centre, ReGen Rehab Hospital and Dental Republik, who spoke on bariatric treatment, rehabilitation and dentistry respectively.

Azrul said that he is confident the expo will draw more Indonesians to Malaysia, whether for tourism in general or health treatments.

"The Malaysian government has recently relaxed the (Covid-19) standard operating procedures for travellers entering Malaysia. From Aug 1, sightseeing and medical tourists can enter Selangor easily.

"Selangor has 46 hospitals and health centres equipped with advanced medical equipment, as well as highly qualified medical experts, to provide a fulfilling medical tourism experience. They focus on excellent service and friendly hospitality," he said in a statement issued on Sept 22.

Selangor is the main gateway to Malaysia with two of the country's major airports located in the state. It also welcomes tourists who enter via cruise ships at the Cruise Terminal in Port Klang.

Malaysia is a familiar destination for medical tourism with recognition by the International Medical Travel Journal as the top country for Health Tourism based on volume in 2018.

In 2019 before the pandemic, a total of 1.3 million medical tourists sought treatment in the country, of which 60 per cent were from Indonesia.

This contributed to the increase in medical tourism revenue for Selangor from RM175 million in 2017 to RM285 million in 2019.



MB: Let's upgrade scenic spots

SELAYANG - Improving the state's tourism facilities will be an important focus for the 2023 Selangor Budget, said Menteri Besar Dato' Seri Amirudin Shari.

He said the previous budget had also placed emphasis on the local tourism industry but more attention was paid to promoting and reviving it due to Covid-19.

Amirudin said it is necessary to upgrade the amenities and facilities at tourist spots in Selangor as the state is a popular choice for both domestic and international visitors.

"We should add a bit more value (to Gua Damai), perhaps place

more signs as well as provide restaurants, prayer halls (for Muslims) and toilets, to make it easier for visitors.

"We are also upgrading the restaurant and toilets at SkyMirror in Kuala Selangor since visitors usually spend half a day there," he said, after officiating the Gua Damai Extreme Carnival here on Sept 11.

Also in attendance were Selangor Municipal Council (MPS) president Mohd Yazid Sairi and Orang Besar Gombak Tan Sri Wan Mahmood Pa'wan Teh.

The Menteri Besar added that in the past, the upgrade of faci-

lities and all tourist spots were funded by the local authorities and private companies.

"I believe that if the state can help in providing some funds, things will go a long way," Amirudin said.

The 2022 Selangor Budget has set aside RM114.6 million for the tourism sector for the 2021-2025 period. So far, assistance has been given to tourism operators in the form of recovery grants and post-pandemic promotions.

The budget has also been spent on the development of the state's official tourism application, Go Selangor.

Targets will be met, says exco

By **NASUHA BADRUL HUZAINI**

SHAH ALAM - The state government remains confident that Selangor is able to achieve its total target investment for this year despite facing various economic uncertainties.

State executive councillor for investment, industry and trade Dato' Teng Chang Khim said this confidence stems from the aggressive and comprehensive initiatives implemented by the state in the first half of 2022.

"The economic slowdown and weak currency will affect the majority of countries in the Asian region and not

just Malaysia as many of these countries are dependent on the US dollar for their external trade transactions.

"However, on the state level, the state government has introduced the First Selangor Plan (RS-1) to boost its economy.

"The five-year plan helps to stimulate the development of key areas in Selangor through nine high-impact sectors. The RS-1 framework will offer a strategic and holistic approach with a vision to make Selangor a liveable, prosperous and smart state by 2025.

"This vision will be done through strengthening the economy, enhancing

social inclusivity and wellbeing, advancing sustainability as well as advocating smart and effective governance," he told *Selangor Journal* on Sept 26.

Teng added that the state's economic development plan was formulated based on three major factors.

"The factors are identifying a high growth sector that has the potential to be expanded and recognising a new sector that has high-growth potential.

"Aside from that, the state government also would emphasise on strengthening key and strategic sectors, including ports and logistics, the digital economy, electrical and elec-

tronics (E&E) and mechanical and electrical systems (M&E), life sciences, tourism, aerospace, automotive, halal industry and agrotechnology."

On Sept 27, the ringgit continued to end lower against the US dollar for the fourth consecutive day on a broad strengthening of the greenback as investors sought safe-haven currencies amid rising risk factors, an analyst said.

The analyst said the strength of the US dollar was driven by investors' expectations that the US Federal Reserve (Fed) would continue its aggressive monetary policy tightening due to high inflation.

State to boast nation's first drone centre

SUBANG - Selangor is now the first state in Malaysia to establish a Centre of Excellence for Drones (SDEC) in Bestari Jaya, to further spur the industry's progress.

Selangor Aviation Technology and Innovation Sdn Bhd (Selati) managing director Mohd Zulkifli Zakaria said the state government has mandated the company to develop SDEC which will feature several components, namely drone testing, training, development, maintenance, repair and overhaul (MRO), as well as drone games.

"SDEC has all the facilities needed for drone testing including land, water and air space. Our testing space spans 40 kilometres and we also provide professional drone training for pilots.

"The pilots will be challenged to fly the drone not only under ordinary circumstances but also under duress including during fires, accidents, stormy weather and disasters," he said when met at a press conference after signing a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Sky Futures (M) Sdn Bhd (Sky Futures) during the Selangor Aviation Show (SAS) 2022 on Sept 9.

The MoU marks the collaboration between both parties for developing the SDEC where Selati will provide a training centre for Sky Futures.

Mohd Zulkifli added that Selati had conducted testing procedures with a few companies since March this year.

"Next, we will be conducting tests with one of the biggest government-linked com-



Aerospace engineering executive Mohd Alfathi Mohd Aljaffry shows off the Raven drone produced by Performance Rotors at the Selati exhibition stand at the SAS 2022, on Sept 8

panies in Malaysia for three months. Following that, we will be manufacturing a drone prototype for a local petroleum company.

"The company will purchase the drone and we will provide space for testing. It is not easy to find testing space, therefore with all the facilities that we have, we will try and help players in the drone industry to test their prototypes and obtain flying approval.

"As Selangor is an industrial state, we have to ensure we can provide the best facilities for the industry according to its current needs and requirements," he said.

The SAS 2022 took place at the Skypark Regional Aviation Centre (RAC), Subang from Sept 8 to Sept 10. Among the companies that participated include Dassault Aviation, Systematic Aviation Services Sdn Bhd, and Superb Access Solutions Sdn Bhd.

PNSB subsidiary to invest in best startups

SHAH ALAM - Permodalan Negeri Selangor Bhd (PNSB) through its newly-established subsidiary PNSB Innovation Ventures Sdn Bhd (PIV) has allocated RM30 million in venture capital funds for potential startups in the Klang Valley.

Menteri Besar Dato' Seri Amirudin Shari said the RM30 million is derived from the RM100 million allocation under the Selangor Innovation Fund that was announced during the tabling of the state's 2021 Budget.

He said PIV will identify potential startups that can be invested in, whether they are companies already in operation or new ones.

"They will complement the Selangor Information Technology and Digital Economy Corporation's (Sidec) role in finding promising startups that can be the next big thing.

"As of now, we have identified five to six companies from various backgrounds, including the service sectors, fintech, health tech and property that we would like to invest in.

"As a start, we aim to channel between RM500,000 and RM1 million to shortlisted companies. The amount can be increased from time to time, depending on the needs and the direction of each company," Amirudin said at a press conference after the launch of PNSB venture capital on Sept 6.

Also in attendance were PNSB chief executive officer Raja Ahmad Shahrir Iskandar Raja Salim and Sidec chief executive officer Yong Kai Ping.

Meanwhile, Raja Ahmad Shahrir said PNSB has been mandated to spearhead the venture capital fund segment for Selangor.

"This is a relatively new segment for us since we are heavily involved in property development as our core business. However, the recent move is aligned with PNSB's strategy to continue diversifying our revenue sources through new business segments.

"In fact, we are the first state government subsidiary in Malaysia to explore the venture capital segment, with full support from the Selangor government," he said.

At the same event, PNSB also inked a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Sidec to be the latter's strategic partner for the implementation of the Selangor Accelerator Programme (SAP 2022).

Organised by Sidec, SAP is an intensive and structured three-month programme that will benefit tech startups in Selangor with excellent guidance from well-versed mentors, as well as comprehensive workshops that can further prepare them to become investment-ready.

Air show rises to the challenge

By **NASUHA BADRUL HUZAINI**

THE second instalment of the Selangor Aviation Show 2022 (SAS 2022) was met with an amazing response, not only from trade visitors but also the public, drawing a 10,563 crowd over the three-day event.

Given that SAS 2022 was the first air show organised in the country during the recovery period of the pandemic, visitors were eager to explore the event together with their family members.

Children were seen in air force and pilot uniforms as they made their way to the aircraft displays.

This year, a total number of 30 static aircraft were displayed, almost double from last year's SAS 2021. Among the prominent static aircraft exhibits were the Falcon 8X by Dassault, the B Cessna CAR V by HM/PA, and the P. 180 Avanti belonging to Kris Sakti.

Themed 'The One & Only Business Aviation Show in the Region', SAS 2022 focused on the business and general aviation industry in Selangor. Worldwide data has shown that this sector of the industry is more resilient to the changes caused by the pandemic, is able to recover faster and is also more sustainable.

The show was held at the Skypark Regional Aviation Centre in Subang, attracting international players in the aviation industry from Thailand, Indonesia, China, Hong Kong, Singapore, South Korea, Brazil, Canada, France, Switzerland, Czech Republic, Nigeria, the United Kingdom and the United States.

The event's launch was graced by Raja Muda of Selangor Tengku Amir Shah. Also in attendance were Menteri Besar Dato' Seri Amirudin Shari, Finance Minister Tengku Datuk Seri Zafrul Tengku Abdul Aziz and state executive councillor for investment, industry and trade Dato' Teng Chang Khim.

Surpassing RM1 billion

Invest Selangor on Sept 30 announced that the SAS 2022 had generated RM1.06 billion in potential transaction value from 13 memorandums of understanding (MoU) signed throughout the event, far surpassing its initial target of RM700 million.

It said that the annual event managed to assemble a total of 62 exhibitors from five countries representing the world's best in aerospace technology and aviation, who displayed their exhibits either on the tarmac or in the exhibition areas at the venue.

"The agreements signed cover various collaborations such as research and development for the aerospace industry, dual licence and air transport pilot training, one-stop maintenance, repair and overhaul (MRO) centre for drones and maintenance of 'amphibious' aircraft.

"This includes collaborations between Menteri Besar Selangor (Incorporated) and 11 aerospace companies, among them Aerodyne Group, Asia AeroTechnic Sdn Bhd, GE Engine Services Malaysia Sdn Bhd, Hicom-Teck See Manufacturing Sdn Bhd, Sapura Industrial Berhad and Smartlink Engineering Sdn Bhd," it said.

The air show also saw a collaboration between the Selangor Aviation Technology and Innovation Sdn Bhd (Selati) and green aviation technology company Volar Air Mobility Ltd (Volar) from China and Hong Kong.

The deal worth RM675.1 million (US\$150 million), aims to introduce the first green air taxi service in Malaysia within two years and to promote green aviation in Malaysia.

The place for MRO

In his opening speech at the SAS 2022, Amirudin said Selangor remains the top destination for aerospace and aviation companies who seek opportunities to set up their operations in the country.

He said since 2020, more and more companies from the sector have set up operations in the state.

"The Sultan Abdul Aziz Shah Airport alone houses up to 19 fixed-wing business aviation and general aviation operators as



Visitors of all ages get a close-up view of the aircraft models on display at Subang's SkyPark RAC, on Sept 10

well as up to 13 helicopter operators, of which more than 80 per cent are locally owned.

"The airport will also be the centre for the MRO of aircraft with the expertise of original equipment manufacturer (OEM) Execujet MRO Services.

"The regional MRO hangar facility is set to be operational by the third quarter of next year," he said.

Meanwhile, Tengku Zafrul said SAS 2022 will serve as a bridge to connect industry players from the Asean region with those from around the world to do business in Malaysia and had expressed his hope that the aviation show would become a permanent fixture in Malaysia and the Asean region.

He said the business will involve sectors such as business aviation, general aviation, sports aviation, and helicopters and drones.

Take to the sky

This year, one newly-introduced activity stood out among the rest. Members of the public were given the opportunity to go on helicopter 'joyrides' for a thrilling birdseye view of the Shah Alam city centre.

Two helicopters operated by Systematic Aviation Services Sdn Bhd were employed for the rides, with more than 1,000 bookings received.

Each ride cost RM200 per person for roughly 10 minutes in the air, including take-off and landing.

Teng said the joyride activity was aimed at attracting more visitors to the show and to make it more lively.

"It was met with an overwhelming response for all three days as all of the sessions were fully booked," he said.

Other highlights of the SAS 2022 include a meet and greet session with the cast and crew of *Air Force The Movie: Selagi Bernyawa* Aiman Hakim Redza, Datuk Adi Putra, Nas-T, Luqman Hafidz, Johan As'ari, Pablo Amirul, Carmen Soo and Iman Corrine, and also product, services and technology exhibitions, static aircraft displays, drone displays, networking sessions and talks on the industry's hot topics.

Hosted by the state government and organised by Invest Selangor, the event also importantly served as a networking opportunity for industry players, and especially for business and general aviation companies to make a name for themselves in the region.



By NASUHA BADRUL HUZAINI

Dubbed as one of the biggest international business summits in the region, the Selangor International Business Summit (SIBS) is making its return for the eighth consecutive year at the Kuala Lumpur Convention Centre (KLCC), from Oct 6 to Oct 10.

The business summit has proven to withstand the test of time and was a success even during the Covid-19 pandemic, where it was organised virtually in 2020 and in hybrid mode last year.

Despite facing uncertainties on whether it was able to draw visitors amid the country's strict rules on movement control, its 2020 and 2021 editions had recorded a laudable transaction value of RM1.09 million and RM217.6 million, respectively.

As the country moves towards the recovery phase of Covid-19, state executive councillor for investment, industry and trade Dato' Teng Chang Khim shares with *Selangor Journal* how the Selangor administration, through Invest Selangor Bhd (Invest Selangor), is gearing up to bring back the much anticipated global business summit this year.

All in the numbers

Since it was first held in 2015, SIBS has seen encouraging participation, with the highest number of visitors registered in 2019 at 34,638.

Although the pandemic put a damper on the event in 2020, an impressive 25,410 visitors showed up the following year for the physical event.

With 30,000 visitors targeted for 2022, this year's instalment, themed 'Beyond Tomorrow', aims to secure RM350 million in transaction value in four days.

Teng said the state government expects a considerable slice of the investments to come from the food and beverage sector under the Selangor International Expo, or SIE (F&B), and from the research and development sector under the Selangor Industrial Park Expo

Biggest business summit returns



(SPARK 2022). "SIBS was first held in 2015 and we have expanded from four components to six. The summit has seen an upward trend in terms of the number of visitors and transaction value, except when the world was hit by Covid-19.

"However, as we are entering the recovery phase, we are coming back stronger and have opened up the space to showcase 850 booths, which is the highest since we first hosted SIBS eight years ago.

"I am proud to say that SIBS 2022 will be occupying the entire event space and that 95 per cent of the booths have already been reserved.

"The positive response has secured SIBS's position as Malaysia's largest international business summit. What's more, we want to continue to position the summit as a platform for Selangor to tap into the Asean market and vice versa," he said when met at his office recently.

Right from the start, the summit had been planned as an annual event to provide networking opportunities for business leaders and industry players. It has aided in boosting the state's economy by providing exhibitors with the chance to secure new deals and be

updated by developing trends in their relevant sectors.

"In addition to that, SIBS also creates a platform for exhibitors to supply their products to international buyers and increase employment opportunities here," Teng said.

He added that the underlying motivation for the state to hold the business summit on such a large scale is its intention to position Selangor as the economic powerhouse in the Asean region.

"We do not want to only compete with other states in Malaysia but to go against other cities in the Asean region."

Stepping stone for SMEs

During the Covid-19 pandemic, the state's small and medium enterprises (SMEs) were among the most affected groups and many are still struggling to restructure their business plans.

One of the biggest components of SIBS, the SIE (F&B), features high participation from the SME sector.

Teng said SIBS 2022 is a good platform for entrepreneurs looking to recover their business operations and exhibit their products due to the large number of trade attendees, some of whom are purchasing departments of well-known domestic and international hypermarkets.

"Many of the buyers want to renew their buying activities and look out for new items and supplies. This could be because their previous suppliers had shut down due to

the pandemic.

"Some 200 local and international trade buyers have already signed up for the SIE (F&B) 2022, in comparison to the 107 recorded last year," he said.

Seven hypermarkets, including LuLu Hypermarket, have committed to attending the event.

"The hypermarkets' purchasing teams will visit the SME booths at the summit to look into potential business collaborations," he added.

Apart from industry players, the exhibitors will also get the opportunity to showcase their goods and services to potential customers as the summit is open to the public in the last two days (Oct 8 and 9).

"Many SMEs have migrated their traditional operations to digital marketplaces such as Shopee and Lazada.

"But they should not miss out on the opportunity to market their goods and services directly to consumers, which will help them increase their direct sales," he said.

Wide range of industries

Similar to what was done in the previous edition, Teng



The positive response has secured SIBS's position as Malaysia's largest international business summit. What's more, we want to continue to position the summit as a platform for Selangor to tap into the Asean market and vice versa

TENG CHANG KHIM
State executive councillor for industry and trade

said all the components for this year would be featured simultaneously.

The components are the eighth edition of the Selangor Industrial Park Expo (SPARK); the sixth edition of the Selangor Asean Business Conference (SABC); the seventh edition of the Selangor Smart City and Digital Economy Convention (SDEC); and the third edition of the Selangor Research and Development and Innovation Expo (SRIE).

Teng said the SIE F&B, themed 'Inspire F&B and Beyond', offers 421 booths for local entrepreneurs to showcase their products.

"Among the exhibits will be fresh produce, cakes and pastries, healthy and organic foods and food technology ingredients.

"As for the SIE Medic, in addition to the participants in the biotechnology, cardiology, medical imaging, neurology and orthopaedic divisions, this year's exhibitor profiles will also include dental clinics," said Teng.

As for the SDEC, Teng said that its organiser, Selangor Information Technology and Digital Economy Corporation (Sidedec), has invited 12 mayors, among them from South Korea, Thailand, Vietnam, Indonesia and Taiwan, to share their experiences and perspectives.

"They have agreed to present their paperwork at the event and most of the presidents of the local authorities will also be there to hear the talks, particularly those on smart cities."

All set to dazzle



By **ALANG BENDAHARA**

The muted celebrations of last year's Deepavali will soon be a thing of the past as Selangor shines a spotlight on this year's festivities.

In anticipation of the holy day for Hindus this month, *Selangor Journal* speaks to V Ganabatirau, the co-chairman of the Special Committee for Buddhism, Christianity, Hinduism, Sikhism, and Taoism (Limas) on the state's preparations for the events it has planned.

In his busy office at the Selangor State Secretariat Building in Shah Alam, Ganabatirau was eager to talk about the state-level Deepavali Open House.

"Definitely, Selangor will host a mega Deepavali celebration this year, as we used to before the Covid-19 pandemic struck. It will be held on Oct 22 at the place where it was held every year in the past, the Jalan Tengku Kelana area in Klang, also known as Little India.

"But instead of two days of festivities, we will hold it for one day only, but it will be grander and merrier than before," he said with a glint of joy in his bespectacled eyes.

The event that will start at 7pm aims to attract 10,000 visitors with a big variety of Indian food and delicacies, along with lively cultural performances.

It will be attended by Menteri Besar Dato' Seri Amirudin Shari.

"Despite the rising cost of food, tents

and other event-related things, we will keep to the same budget allocated to us each year but will make it memorable for everyone attending," he said.

When asked about the rationale for holding it two days before Deepavali, Ganabatirau said a lot of excitement is usually generated leading up to a festival and therefore, this event is guaranteed to be a crowd-puller.

He said since 2008, Selangor has always held the state-level Deepavali Open House except for in 2020 and 2021 due to the pandemic, where the budget was instead used to provide food baskets to the Indian community.

Excitement in the air

Ganabatirau said the festive mood for the Indian community, which makes up 14 per cent of Selangor's nearly seven million population, has started to kick in.

"People have started cleaning their homes, throwing out old and broken items as well as putting up decorations. They are also making plans to pray at temples and to 'balik kampung'.

"The festive mood has returned after two years. Also, Indian shops are offering promotions and discounted items to attract customers."

Ganabatirau, who is also the state

executive councillor for socioeconomic development, social welfare and workers empowerment, said he is also busy making preparations to host Selangor's Exco Deepavali Open House.

Timely help

As with the practice for all major festivals, the state government has made it a point to ensure that the needs of those who are struggling financially are met at this important time.

Ganabatirau said RM2 million has been allocated to provide Jom Shopping Deepavali vouchers worth RM100 to every family in the B40 group.

"The vouchers have been given out to the respective state constituencies. More than 20,000 families will benefit from this initiative, and the vouchers will be distributed from the first week of October," he said.

Safety first

Although the Covid-19 standard operating procedures for big-scale events have been relaxed since Chinese New Year and Hari Raya Aidilfitri this year, Ganabatirau still wants people to remain vigilant about contracting the virus.

"I urged the people to not take their safety lightly. Follow the Ministry of Health's recommendations and instructions at all times," he said.

Also, due to predictions of bad weather brought upon by climate change in the coming months, Ganabatirau has advised those living in flood-prone areas to ensure that their important documents and belongings are kept in a safe place.

He also asked residents to only trust verified news from official sources and to avoid fake news on WhatsApp.

Message for all

Taking a cue from the meaning of Deepavali which is the light that will illuminate human lives and eliminate evil thoughts, words and deeds, Ganabatirau urged the people to not forget the difficult times they had gone through in the last two years.

"Not only did we live through the pandemic, but we also experienced a weakened political situation that led to an unstable economy, and witnessed corruption cases that dampened our spirits as Malaysians.

"So, with the celebration of light approaching and hope, let us learn from these experiences and ward off all evil such as treachery and corruption. May we all be able to celebrate with joy and make it a multiracial celebration for all Malaysians," he said.



Definitely, Selangor will host a mega Deepavali celebration this year, as we used to before the Covid-19 pandemic struck. It will be held on Oct 22 at the place where it was held every year in the past, the Jalan Tengku Kelana area in Klang, also known as Little India

By ALANG BENDAHARA

THE Selangor Smart City and Digital Economy Convention (SDEC) 2022 will be held in conjunction with the Selangor International Business Summit (SIBS) 2022, from Oct 6 to 9 at the Kuala Lumpur Convention Centre (KLCC).

Selangor Journal recently interviewed SDEC's organiser, Yong Kai Ping (pic), who is the chief executive officer of Selangor Information Technology and Digital Economy Corporation (Sidec), to learn more about the four-day convention and its intended impact.

Yong said SDEC's theme this year, 'Sustainable Digitalisation Towards a Net Zero Future', coincides with the administration's push to make Selangor a liveable Smart State in Asean by 2025, as well as its focus on climate change and the environment.

"Smart city or digitalisation is a method of using technology and data to solve society's problems such as waste, floods, and the effects of climate change. So, SDEC's theme is in line with the state's focus on climate change," he said.

Gathering of mayors

Yong said the seventh edition of SDEC will be bigger than its previous instalments and feature five core elements.

"SDEC will host the Asian Smart City Conference, the Selangor SME Digitalisation Conference, the Selangor Fashion Accelerator (Demo Day), and the Livestream Festival and Exhibition.

"This year, we expect to get 10,000 visitors as last year and during the pre-pandemic time we received 5,000 visitors (for each instalment). So we've booked bigger halls and all of our 100 booths have completely sold out," he said.

Yong said that the Asian Smart City Conference will be one of the biggest conferences that Sidec has ever planned as it will bring experts and representatives from cities around the world.

The conference will have two big elements which are the Mayors Summit and the Net Zero and Circular Economy Forum.

"It will be the largest smart city conference in the Southeast Asia region, as we have invited 10 mayors from countries such as Australia, South Ko-



rea, Thailand, Indonesia, India and Malaysia to share the progress of their smart cities.

"The forum will see 24 experts and speakers from different industries speak on smart mobility and zero-emission vehicles, waste and river management, solar and biomass energy, cloud and data governance, smart technologies for energy as well as on green investment and financing."

Unicorns and soonicorns

Yong said the Selangor SME Digitalisation Conference will see 16 experts talk on topics such as fintech and digital banks, digital trade, achieving unicorn status as well as using livestream to elevate retail business.

The conference will act as a platform for C-level executives, policy-makers, institutions, innovators, startups and investors to meet SMEs seeking to embrace digitalisation.

"We will have speakers from Car-



Menteri Besar Dato' Seri Amirudin Shari looks at the exhibits during a walkabout at SIBS 2021 in KLCC

business to become a unicorn, as well as from two soonicorn or "soon-to-be unicorns" Dropee and Commerce.Asia on how to become a soonicorns.

Business models

Sidec will also showcase its in-house programme, the Top E-Commerce Merchant (Top ECM) Awards and the Selangor Fashion Accelerator (SFA) during SDEC.

"For the Top ECM Awards, we will hold a livestream marathon with its participants for four days from two studios at KLCC from 10am to 6pm.

"As for SFA, Malaysian national music icon and businesswoman Datuk Seri Siti Nurhaliza Tarudin will be there as one of the judges for the eight finalists who will pitch their business ideas and showcase their modest fashion attire during a show," he said.

Best way forward

Yong said SDEC has made many achievements in business matching and transactions, yet its biggest contribution is making Selangor a busi-

ness conference hub for smart cities and digital economies in the region, as well as creating a paradigm shift in people's mentality.

"Selangor is the only state which is actively holding conferences such as SIBS and SDEC, to the point where overseas exhibitors have started comparing us to Singapore. China and Singapore's success is due to the various conferences they have done to sell their manufacturing products.

"Besides manufacturing, we also need to sell, so this is the best way to sell. Also, hosting conferences brings benefits to the state's economic sectors such as hotels, food and beverage (F&B) and tourism," he said.

He added that many startups in tech companies involved in net zero circular economies who previously worked in silos have also thanked the state government for helping them to match with their buyers or potential users like the local government.

"A lot of other states now want to follow and learn from Selangor. Previously they did not have smart city or digital economy conferences but now they do."

Showcasing Selangor's smart solutions



Rapid Squad Members of the Kuala Langat Municipal Council put their skills to the test at the disaster simulation programme in Dewan Jubli Perak, Shah Alam, on Sept 28

Equipped, organised and ready

By AMIN RIDZUAN ISHAK, SITI ROHAIZAH ZAINAL AND NORRASYIDAH ARSHAD

THE major floods that hit Selangor last December following continuous heavy rain was an example of a disaster that was caused by several factors including climate change.

The incident also served as a lesson to all — be they governments, civil society organisations, or the society at large — to prepare for rising water levels even though flooding is a common phenomenon in Malaysia.

Learning from the deluge that took the lives of 25 people and caused many to lose their homes and belongings, the Selangor government has doubled up on its efforts and made preparations to face the possibility that such unprecedented rains will come again.

The Malaysia Meteorological Department (MetMalaysia) has already forecasted as such.

On Sept 28 and 29, a state-level disaster simulation and training programme was held — involving 343 personnel from 67 agencies in Selangor — to prepare for any eventuality.

Ahead of time

The two-day flood simulation initiative focused on improving intra-agency communication during rescue operations.

Menteri Besar Dato' Seri Amirudin Shari said the programme also reviewed and made adjustments to

the standard operating procedures (SOPs) for rescue operations, in line with the National Security Council's (NSC) directive.

"This is to ensure smoother and faster disaster management and to lower fatality risks.

"The simulation has made it obvious that it is not easy for departments to function when a disaster occurs. As such, we will mobilise our assets ahead of time," he said after the launch of the event on Sept 29.

Amirudin said all rescue assets, including those from the Social Welfare Department (JKM) and local authorities in each state district, are prepared to face the floods.

"In previous instances, the assets were centralised. But when floods occur, help could not be sent out or supplies were cut off. These were learning lessons for us, and so we have been mobilising assets since August," he said.

During the programme, Amirudin also revealed that the state has allocated RM5 million for flood preparedness. The bulk of the money, RM4 million, was sourced from a Covid-19 fund donated by the public, while the state government provided the remaining RM1 million.

Amirudin said that the state administration is 80 per cent ready. The remaining 20 per cent of the work can only be carried out when a flood actually happens.

More than just numbers

A total of 796 temporary relief centres (PPS) are also ready to receive flood victims. They can house up to 151,000 people across the state.

In addition, 164 boats and other vehicles, including lorries and four-wheel drive (4WD) vehicles, have been stationed in the nine districts, and 15,972 personnel from different agencies have been put on standby to conduct search and rescue operations.

State division secretary (Management Services) Muhammad Shah Osmin said the PPS, which are run by JKM, will be provided with cubic tents, mattresses, pillows and comforters.

"The PPS are located across Selangor and they are divided into three categories namely big, medium and small centres, depending on their locality and the needs of the area.

"We estimate that in total, they would be able to accommodate 151,000 flood victims. We are ready to activate them when needed. They are regarded as official centres so all assistance will be channeled there," he said on the first day of the flood simulation programme on Sept 28.

Muhammad Shah said that the highest number of PPS is in Klang, with a total of 188 centres, followed by Hulu Selangor (89); Petaling (85); Kuala Langat (66); Hulu Langat (61); Gombak, Kuala Selangor and Shah Alam (60 each), Subang Jaya (59); Sepang (42) and Sabak Bernam (26).

He said the state's Disaster Management Unit (UPBN) has also streamlined its communication system to prevent the same problems it faced last year from recurring.

Muhammad Shah added that 12 damaged PPS in Hulu Langat, Kuala Selangor and Sepang have been repaired, costing the National Disaster Management Agency (Nadma) some RM97,087.

Nadma has identified eight out of the nine districts in Selangor as frequent flooding areas. They are Klang, Petaling, Gombak, Hulu Langat, Sepang, Kuala Langat, Sabak Bernam and Kuala Selangor.



Sports aviation spreads its wings

By ALANG BENDAHARA

SELANGOR, already an industry leader with more than 63 per cent of Malaysia's aerospace economy located in the state, is set to achieve another goal by becoming a sports aviation hub for the Asean region.

After the success of the Selangor Aviation Show (SAS) 2022, *Selangor Journal* met up with one of its participants, Malaysian Sports Aviation Federation (MSAF) president Nurhaqimy Ismail (*pic*) to find out more about the federation's grand plan that will be carried out in collaboration with the state.

Background

Nurhaqimy said MSAF was set up in 2002, as the governing body or National Airport Control (NAC) for all sports aviation activities such as paragliding, paramotoring, parachuting, general aviation, navigating drones, aeromodelling and hot air ballooning in Malaysia.

"In aviation, there are three main sectors. First is the commercial sector with planes for normal folks, and second is the sector for uniform bodies such as the Police, Armed Forces, and the Fire and Rescue Department.

"Sports aviation is the third sector, covering anything used for recreational flying," he said.

Nurhaqimy said MSAF liaises with Fédération Aéronautique Internationale (FAI) which is the world governing body for air sports and the Civil Aviation Authority of Malaysia (CAAM).

He added that MSAF organises national and international air sports tournaments, issues permits and licences, and drafts standard operating procedures (SOPs) for sports aviation in Malaysia. It also investigates sports aviation accidents and mishaps.

Ambitious plan

Even though Nurhaqimy is barely into his first year of helming MSAF for the 2021-2023 term, he already has an ambitious plan for sports aviation in the country, which is to turn Selangor into a sports aviation hub for the Asean region.

"As you can see, paragliding alone has become a multimillion ringgit industry and we have successfully incorporated sports aviation into the tourism sector.

"We now want to create an ecosystem for sports aviation as before, we were just recreational users or just flying for fun. We want to venture into manufacturing not only for the local market but also for export globally," he said.

Although Malaysia is renowned for



Nurhaqimy (in blue shirt) observes as a tailor works on a safety harness at Mines 2 Trade Centre, Seri Kembangan, on Sept 15

its manufacturing prowess, nearly all or most of the factories for sports aviation original equipment manufacturers (OEM) are located in Thailand, Vietnam, China and North Korea.

To make this plan a reality, MSAF had partnered up with investors such as a gyrocopter manufacturer from Germany and an amphibian aircraft maker from the UK.

Such partnerships are evident from the second instalment of the SAS where MSAF itself has signed several memorandums of understanding (MoU) with overseas-based manufacturers.

Although Selangor has only two popular destinations for sports aviation — in Jugra and Kuala Kubu Bharu — and mostly for paragliding and paramotoring, Nurhaqimy said the state is a frontrunner in the aerospace industry and is very receptive to new ideas.

"We managed to get a lot of support from Invest Selangor Bhd (Invest Selangor). It gives a lot of trading and manufacturing benefits if we set up in the state," he said.

So for a start, Nurhaqimy said they aim to relocate all sports aviation manufacturers in Selangor and

have already begun to produce paragliding equipment in Mines 2, Seri Kembangan.

Space to fly

He said the jewel of their sports aviation plan is a physical space that is located at the Sungai Bernam Airfield area, within the Hulu Selangor district.

It stretches across 100 acres of land and includes a one-kilometre-long private runway.

"It will be turned into an Airport City or Sports Aviation Hub for the Asean region.

We will focus on light sport aircraft (LSA) which will be assembled there along with other aircraft including amphibious planes.

"We plan to attract all LSA owners to come for a

vacation, where they can park their planes in front of their own or rented bungalows and do recreational activities with nature there," he said.

We ask Nurhaqimy — why LSA? He said, "We aim to make air sports inclusive for all so that everybody can fly aeroplanes at a much cheaper cost, in Malaysia and regionally".

The cost of owning an LSA is about half a million ringgit, while the training and licence cost for such aircraft is cheaper than for other types. Yet, few are aware of LSA in the country, except for aviators in Thailand and Indonesia.

He said MSAF would collaborate with Invest Selangor to develop the Sungai Bernam area into a sports aviation hub, as its long distance from the Subang Airport offers 10,000 feet of unrestricted airspace.

Growing in tandem

Nurhaqimy said he is very grateful for the full support of the Selangor government on their ambitious plan to develop sports aviation into an industry.

"If you look at Malaysia, Selangor is the only state that is busy with all things related to aviation in the country. Following that, we want to streamline our ambition with that of Selangor's for the aviation industry.

"So I hope sports aviation can be developed together with the aerospace sector, in line with Selangor's aspirations for dominance in these industries," he said.



Daring to break convention

By NASUHA BADRUL HUZAINI

FROM the biggest conglomerates to the smallest startups, companies the world over are switching over to digital platforms — either as a means to keep up with trends or that traditional methods of doing business just do not cut it anymore.

Setting up a business online, however, is easier for some than others. For Boss Boleh Sdn Bhd (Boss Boleh), a provider of secretarial services, offering to provide those services on the internet meant that it dared to break from tradition and challenge the norm.

Its co-founder, Billy Lee, said one of the toughest challenges faced by the company was to change the mindset of industry players.

“Most professionals in this industry believe that a service-based business like ours cannot be digitalised. Today, Boss Boleh has shown that not only is this possible but that we are able to provide cutting-edge software technology and employ bank-level security solutions.

“This has allowed us to scale fast. “Digitalisation is at the heart of our business. It gives our clients the best service they can get, responds to queries promptly, and executes documents in a matter of minutes.

“It has helped us not just to be responsible but also responsive to our clients. It gives our clients the confidence to focus on running their business without delays from the company secretary,” he said in an interview with *Selangor Journal* recently.

Sidec as mentor

At its core, Boss Boleh is an online company secretary, providing a one-stop platform for clients to request secretarial services at the click of a button, sign off on documents online using digital signatures, and store Companies Commission of Malaysia (SSM) documents on its cloud for access at any time, anywhere.

It prides itself on disrupting the Malaysian company secretarial landscape. The company was among the Top 5 winners of the Selangor Accelerator Programme (SAP) in 2021, a competition organised by the Selangor Information Technology and Digital Economy



▲ Participants of the Selangor Accelerator Programme 2020 take a group photo with the organisers on Demo Day — Picture by Sidec

▼ Lee and his team prove critics wrong by showing that digitalisation can speed up secretarial work



Corporation (Sidec) to find and mould the best startups.

Lee said his participation in SAP was by far the best compared to similar programmes he joined previously.

“We came across SAP on Facebook. What’s interesting about the programme is that Sidec brought in real founders to share their experience, not just trainers who give topics by the book,” he said.

Plans for the future

Moving forward, Lee said he hopes Boss Boleh would be able to help uplift the local economy.

“We continue to innovate and improve our services to ensure a hassle-free and low barrier of entry for Malaysian entrepreneurs. There is still a lot more room for improvement in the business sector in this country, which is becoming our focus for now.

“In the future, we may look at expanding to neighbouring countries with similar regulatory requirements. As most companies are heading towards the digitalisation agenda, I think one aspect that can be improved is to establish an agency to smoothen the process for everyone.

“Currently, there are many government agencies involved in the digitalisation agenda, but separated by industry. Therefore, the plan should be shared among them and implemented simultaneously to expedite digital transformation,” he said.

Ice princess seals MBI sponsorship

By MUSTAKIM RAMLI

PETALING JAYA - Rhythmic ice-skating athlete Sree Abiraame B Chendren received sponsorship worth RM30,000 from Menteri Besar Selangor (Incorporated) (MBI) to help her train for the 2030 Winter Olympics.

Sree, 10, said the sponsorship has lifted her spirits and encouraged her to train harder in South Korea next month.

"I will be training with The Skating Club Jewels for three years until 2025 and this sponsorship from MBI was one of the factors that helped me get there,"

she told *SelangorKini* after receiving the sponsorship from MBI chief executive officer Norita Mohd Sidek at Sunway Pyramid Hotel, on Sept 26.

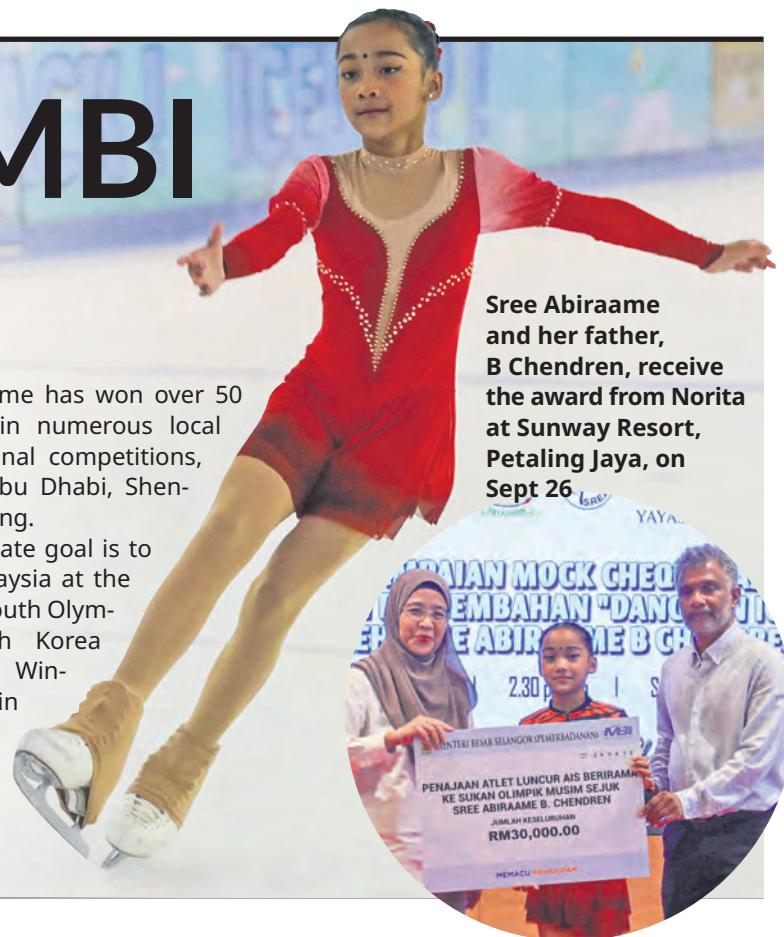
Her father, B Chendren Balakrishnan, also thanked the state government for its unwavering support.

"Thank you to the Selangor government through MBI for sponsoring Sree Abiraame. Since she started her journey as an ice skater in 2015, we have spent nearly RM1.4 million on sports expenses. The money came from various parties including the state government, private companies, and our savings," he said.

Sree Abiraame has won over 50 gold medals in numerous local and international competitions, including in Abu Dhabi, Shenzhen, and Beijing.

Her immediate goal is to represent Malaysia at the 2024 Winter Youth Olympics in South Korea and the 2026 Winter Olympics in Italy.

Sree Abiraame and her father, B Chendren, receive the award from Norita at Sunway Resort, Petaling Jaya, on Sept 26.



Extreme carnival thrills fans

SELAYANG - More than 3,000 people seized the chance to engage in a variety of extreme sports during the Gua Damai Extreme Carnival, which was held on Sept 10 for two days.

Menteri Besar Dato' Seri Amirudin Shari said the carnival, now in its seventh edition and held at Taman Ekstrem Gua Damai in Batu Caves, only charges participants RM5 to enjoy activities like skydiving, limestone climbing, abseiling, ziplining (flying fox), tree climbing, jumaring, slacklining, roller blading and paintball.

He also commended the Selayang Municipal Council (MPS), Tourism Selangor and Tourism Malaysia for successfully organising the carnival.

"This programme is a praiseworthy effort by its organisers to empower the community and give people the opportunity to try out extreme sports.

"I noticed that the participants were of both genders and various ages. Many parents came to en-

sure that their children get the opportunity to participate, and also to provide support," Amirudin said during the carnival's launch.

Also in attendance were MPS president Mohd Yazid Sairi and Gombak Orang Besar Tan Sri Wan Mahmood Pa'wan Teh.

The Menteri Besar said extreme sports, which have been in Malaysia since 1980, continue to grow and attract the interest of more youths with the various annual activities planned.

As a result, different types of sports were introduced at Taman Ekstrem Gua Damai due to the presence of facilities like a BMX circuit, futsal court, a skate park and natural limestone.

"Indeed, Gua Damai has become a location and attraction for extreme sports fans in Malaysia and abroad," Amirudin added.



We will improve for Sukma 2024, says MSNS

SHAH ALAM - The Selangor State Sports Council (MSNS) will conduct a post mortem to improve the performance of the state contingent for the next Malaysia Games (Sukma).

Its executive director Mohamad Nizam Marjugi said they will also evaluate the performance of the athletes at the recent Sukma 2022 to identify any training and preparation gaps.

He said many of the athletes made it to the finals but were defeated, which resulted in them losing the chance of winning gold.

"We will do a post mortem and also analyse the performance of other states that have won more medals than what they targeted.

"We want to know if their wins were due to individual performance or technical factors," he said on Sept 27.

Mohamad Nizam added that plans

are also underway to revamp the sports development programme for 2024 and change how the athletes prepare for the biennial sporting event.

Many of the state's athletes were also disqualified from this year's games due to their age, after a two-year break because of Covid-19.

Meanwhile, state executive councillor for sports development Mohd Khairuddin Othman congratulated the athletes for putting Selangor in the fifth spot among the 15 participating states.

"Despite the fact that Selangor was unable to be in the top three, I am still pleased with the athletes' effort because I think they gave it their all.

Selangor finished the competition with 31 gold, 55 silver, and 44 bronze medals, falling nine gold medals short of their 40-gold target.

Esports hub not yet ready

SHAH ALAM - The planned construction of Southeast Asia's largest esports development centre in Selangor is anticipated to start next year.

State executive councillor for youth development Mohd Khairuddin Othman said the project was initially scheduled to start this year but was delayed due to a number of unresolved problems.

"Some of the issues include the land status, which the state government is currently addressing. The construction of the centre is anticipated to

start next year.

"The centre would provide services beyond those at normal sports facilities. It will be equipped with accommodation facilities and simulation training devices," he told *SelangorKini* when contacted on Sept 19.

A cost of over RM10 million is expected for its construction.

The centre will occupy the former Carlton Hotel building in Section 13, here, which will be renovated to provide space for training studios for the academy.

Fast-tracking the digital dream

The Selangor government is committed to growing the state's digital economy.

The First Selangor Plan (RS-1), covering the years 2021 to 2025, aims to expand the startup ecosystem, the creative industry, and e-commerce.

Twelve projects, programmes and initiatives have been drawn up to realise this goal. They are:



The Selangor Broadband Industry (Jalin)

High-speed network infrastructure to be built in industrial areas



Selangor e-Commerce Education

A training programme for e-commerce merchants to adapt to new norms



The Selangor e-Commerce Onboarding Programme

Offers participants a free e-commerce platform to grow their business



The Malaysia Top e-Commerce Merchant Awards

Offers recognition and the opportunity to heighten levels of branding in the industry



The Selangor e-Bazaar Campaign

A collaboration between the Selangor government and Shopee and Lazada to improve e-commerce sales



The Selangor SME Digitalisation Matching Grant

Offers a 50 per cent matching grant or a maximum of RM5,000 for state SMEs



The Selangor Digital Entrepreneur Roadshow

Promotes digitalisation and e-commerce to businesses and entrepreneurs in rural areas



The Selangor Accelerator and Pitch Programme@Selangor

An intensive four-month acceleration programme for startups and pitching activities



The Selangor Digital Partners/Selangor Platform (PLATS)

Promotes a platform and digital directories to drive the micro, small and medium economies



5G Network Facilities in Selangor

SmartSel and Kusel act as facilitators to implement infrastructure development in the state



The Selangor International Business Summit (SIBS)

An annual trade show for interested parties to gather and explore the Asean and global markets and their potential



The Selangor Digital School

Focuses on digital-related curriculum, short-term courses, diplomas, and degrees

