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SELANGOR JOURNAL



Zones of opportunity

THE Selangor government is on a quest to spur growth and innovation in targeted regions of the state in an effort to re-energise the economy post-pandemic. Under its newly-rolled-out Regional Development Plan, three 'game-changer' projects will be developed in separate zones — South

Selangor, Sabak Bernam, and along Sungai Klang — to attract investors, open up jobs, strengthen trade ties, and position Selangor as the new economic gateway to Asean.

Another high-impact project that is near to Sungai Klang is the redevelopment of the Shah Alam Stadium, which will feature state-of-the-art facilities and create an economic spillover in the region.

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Selangor eyes metropolis status

By SHEEDA FATHIL

SUBANG JAYA - Selangor aims to have its first metropolis within the next six or seven years, says Menteri Besar Dato' Seri Amirudin Shari.

He said the plan is achievable with the integration of four big cities, namely Subang Jaya, Petaling Jaya, Shah Alam and soon, Klang.

"God willing, the Klang Municipal Council (MPK) will be upgraded as a city in a year or two. After that, Selangor would have four connected cities in a state.

"I hope through the integration, we can streamline the administration which would benefit all parties.

"There are several requirements and needs to be met to become a metropolis, such as the total population, which we can work on to achieve," he said at a press conference after launching the MBSJ Vibrant Community Awards 2022 at Sunway Resort, here on Jan 15.

Amirudin, however, said that Klang is facing several challenges in its bid to get city status. Among the challenges is the

fact that some 30 per cent of the district is still categorised as villages.

"The villages should not hinder the local council from upgrading its status because Subang Jaya also has its village areas in Kampung Tengah, Kampung Bukit Lanchong and Kampung Sri Aman, but its development was properly planned.

"In Klang, we could consider some of the villages as traditional villages. Nonetheless, we hope MPK can make some improvements, not just by changing the status of its villages to towns but also to upgrade its facilities and services."

Amirudin also welcomes the idea of Kuala Lumpur joining Selangor to become a metropolis in the future.

"We have bigger cities than Kuala Lumpur and should it want to join us, it is a good move. We can be one huge Klang Valley," he said.

Meanwhile, Amirudin said that local councils that have attained city status must be able to incorporate the status into their quality of service and administration.

The Menteri Besar said that achieving



the status is not something to be merely proud of, but that the general public must be able to experience positive changes too.

"The local councils must ensure that the quality of their administration reaches the people. I believe this is a significant challenge that needs to be addressed because there still exists

semi-urban areas, some of which are of village status, and some still at risk of floods.

"Therefore, in addition to having a status that we can be proud of, there must be comprehensive solutions to existing problems and the capacity to serve the people to ensure their happiness," he said in his speech.

MB seeks feedback on new sports complex

SHAH ALAM - Menteri Besar Dato' Seri Amirudin Shari has again extended his invitation to the public to participate in the engagement session for the redevelopment project of the Shah Alam Sports Complex (KSSA), which includes the state stadium.

The session will take place at the SACC Mall shopping centre from Jan 26 to Feb 10.

"The public is invited to join in by providing feedback and suggestions at SACC Mall in Shah Alam, until Feb 10," he said in a Facebook post on Jan 30.

Amirudin also shared a video of the project that covers 76.08-hectares, so that members of the public can get a more accurate picture.

It showcases plans to make KSSA community-based, sustainable, and a hub for entrepreneurship. Visitors will have access to light rail transit (LRT) stations, bus transit hubs, and covered walkways.

The redeveloped stadium is expected to be able to accommodate between 35,000 and 45,000 seats at maximum capacity, and will be furnished with electronic scoreboards, disabled-friendly concourses, and corporate spaces.

There will also be dressing rooms and seat cooling systems, alongside the ability to transform from sports mode into indoor mode for other types of events.

On Jan 29, Amirudin shared that the



In this file photo dated July 15, 2022, Selangor State Secretary Dato' Haris Kasim (second from left) hands over the Letter of Intent to redevelop the stadium complex to MRCB executive vice-president Datuk Dell Akbar Khan Hyder Khan, witnessed by Amirudin (centre), at the Selangor State Secretariat Building in Shah Alam

public exhibition on the redevelopment project of the KSSA has managed to attract close to a million views online within two days

Amirudin said the exhibition recorded approximately 424,648 views on Twitter, 303,427 views on TikTok, 82,747 views on Facebook, and 42,400 views on Instagram.

Meanwhile, Menteri Besar Selangor (Incorporated), or MBI, is looking into conducting a public engagement road-

show in each of the districts in Selangor to ensure inclusivity in the development of the project.

"The KSSA development project is not only about the stadium, it will include recreational, leisure, and business areas. Therefore, it is for everyone," its Special Projects Unit general manager Datuk Ir Ruslan Abdul Aziz told *Selangor-Kini* on Jan 27.

Ruslan said that every feedback and recommendation received from the

public on the development of the sports complex will be considered, especially those from the public engagement sessions currently being held until Feb 10.

"The people are invited to come and give their feedback so that we can assess and examine what is needed to be included in the project," he said.

Members of the public may also forward their suggestions on the project's structure and development plan via email to kssa.maklumbalas@gmail.com.



SHOW OF RED ... Two lions perform for the Sultan of Selangor Sultan Sharafuddin Idris Shah Alhaj and Tengku Permaisuri Selangor Tengku Permaisuri Norashikin, Menteri Besar Dato' Seri Amirudin Shari, and other guests during the state-level Chinese New Year open house at the MBSA Auditorium in Shah Alam, on Jan 28 — Picture by NUR ADIBAH AHMAD IZAM

Stability, prosperity keys to attracting investors

By ZAREEF MUZAMMIL

SHAH ALAM - Stability and prosperity are the basis of Selangor's success in attracting investors to the state, said Menteri Besar Dato' Seri Amirudin Shari.

He said this was proven when Selangor attracted a total of RM25.7 billion in investments as of the third quarter of last year.

The state also managed to attract 199 manufacturing investment projects worth an estimated RM9.7 billion, which are expected to provide approximately 11,600 job opportunities for the people.

"The investments are a manifestation of foreign investors' confidence in selecting Selangor as one of Malaysia's main investment destinations since it will generate the economy as well as boost the state's manufacturing and service sectors.

"This accomplishment is also proof of the state government's excellence and the people's continued support for the administration," he said.

Amirudin was speaking in his address during the state-level 2023 Chinese New Year open house at the Shah Alam City Council (MBSA) Banquet Hall on Jan 29.

Sultan of Selangor Sultan Sharafuddin Idris Shah Alhaj and Tengku Permaisuri of Selangor Tengku Permaisuri Norashikin also graced the event.

The Menteri Besar added that he hopes 2023 will be a better, peaceful and prosperous year for all Selangor residents.

"The state leadership and I will ensure that Selangor continues to excel as a state that always moves forward, proving it as 'The Golden State of Malaysia'," he said.

Meanwhile, Amirudin said the Chinese New Year celebration organised by the state government is indicative of the people's harmony under the rule of His Royal Highness Sultan Sharafuddin.

He said although the state has witnessed various challenges, most of its people remain united.

"A multiracial and multiconfessional society is an integral part of the nation and the people's historical heritage.

"Although there have been various challenges along the way, the majority of the people have proven that unity is an important asset that must be preserved and constantly nurtured among our ranks," he added.

RS-1 the antidote to economic uncertainty

SHAH ALAM - The First Selangor Plan (RS-1) is a comprehensive development plan which will help the state face the anticipated global economic slow-down sometime this year, said Menteri Besar Dato' Seri Amirudin Shari.

He said the plan's five-year agenda includes strategies and initiatives to drive the local economy and make Selangor an industrial centre, as well as a smart, prosperous and livable state.

Several RS-1 projects will be strengthened, including the Integrated Development Region In South Selangor (Idriss) and the Sabak Bernam Development Area (Sabda).

"These areas will feature incentives to attract investors," he said on Jan 20.

"In addition, the sustainable development along Sungai Klang via the Selangor Maritime Gateway (SMG), the redevelopment of Stadium Shah Alam, the construction of a third port on Pulau Carey, and many more projects, will refresh Selangor's economic landscape," he said.

Amirudin added that RS-1 is also an opportunity for the state to strengthen its economic foundations.

"Selangor has a long-term development plan that is expected to bring great returns to the people," he said.

During his New Year message to Selangor civil servants, the Menteri Besar said RS-1 is the culmination of the state's development agenda that has taken years to plan.

The RS-1, which is RM212.44 billion in total value, was presented in July last year and takes into account the implementation of comprehensive policies, projects, and initiatives that are joint collaborations between the state and Federal governments.



One-stop counters at land and mines office

SHAH ALAM - The newly renovated Selangor State Land and Mines Office at the Selangor State Secretariat Building, here, will now facilitate the application, review and payment processes related to land deals.

Its director, Dr Yusri Zakariah, stated that the renovation of the office on the first floor of the building is in line with the goal of providing efficient services to its customers.

He said following the renovation, the Single Point of Contact (SPOC) style of service, which is part of the e-Tanah System, will be implemented.

"The SPOC counter will provide comprehensive customer service, allowing all land-related matters to be handled at one counter as opposed to multiple counters as in the past," Dr Yusri said during the handover ceremony of the office, here on Jan 26.

He said the new office is set up with the Smartbox system, which conducts transactions using the FPX payment method and also allows money to be deposited.

Customers will also be able to personally check the status of their applications, submissions and quit rent payments at the 46 counters there.

More free health checks

SHAH ALAM - The Selangor Saring free health screening programme will resume on Feb 18, in conjunction with the Jelajah Selangor Penyayang roadshow.

State executive councillor for public health Dr Siti Mariah Mahmud said the second phase of the initiative will see several improvements, including offering dental and ear checks, as well as physiotherapy sessions.

"Apart from that, we also will collaborate with a non-government organisation (NGO) that is well-versed in handling cervical cancer patients. They will be involved in the screening process.

"We will also conduct a health exhibition to disseminate information to the participants of the programme. The exhibition would involve the state's health department," Dr Siti Mariah told *SelangorKini* when contacted, adding that the venue for the event has yet to be decided.

Last year, the state government introduced the Selangor Saring initiative to help people undergo free health screenings.

The programme offers a variety of physical examinations, including screenings for the eyes, breasts, cervix, and colorectal tissues, as well as blood and urine tests.

Selangor to up chicken production

By **ZAREEF MUZAMMIL**

SHAH ALAM - The Selangor Agricultural Development Corporation (PKPS) has partnered with Charoen Pokphand Group (CP), the world's largest food conglomerate, to increase chicken production to 14.8 million by 2025.

Its chief executive officer, Dr Mohamad Khairil Mohamad Razi (*pic*), said the initiative is a part of the Ehsan Food Price Intervention Programme (PIHE) and will involve the development of breeder farms, hatcheries and egg production farms.

He said PKPS will identify suitable locations for the farms and provide the infrastructure while CP will bring in the technical expertise.

"We will try our best to utilise CP's vast experience and strength as one of the world's largest food manufacturers with operations and investments in over 40 countries while implementing PIHE," he said in a statement.

Commenting further, he said the project would reduce the dependency on imported

chickens thus helping to stabilise the supply and price of chicken in Selangor.

"The agreement also includes short-term solutions for the supply of fresh chicken and eggs through direct import methods from CP farms and knowledge-sharing and training between us.

"CP as the owner of Lotus's Hypermarket would also like to explore a potential collaboration to market and sell Ehsan's products," he said.

Meanwhile, Dr Mohamad Khairil said PKPS would have further discussions with Menteri Besar Dato' Seri Amirudin Shari and other relevant parties on the first phase of the breeder project which will cost RM50 million.

"Selangor aims to be a sustainable state in terms of food supply and is not entirely dependent on imports.

"Thus, PKPS, as one of the agencies responsible for the state's food security, is planning a high-impact project to ensure that basic food supply for the people of Selangor continues to be sustainable in the future," he said.



Community involvement vital for agrotourism

SHAH ALAM - Tourism Selangor is encouraging members of the community and related agencies to get involved in agrotourism and help to strengthen the industry in the state.

Its chief executive officer, Azrul Shah Mohamad (*pic*), said that community-based agrotourism can both stimulate the state's economy and give visitors an engaging experience.

"Community-based tourism is anticipated to enhance this industry by introducing new concepts to visitors from abroad as well as within the nation.

"It is also expected to boost the state's economy, particularly through agriculture, farming, and small- and medium-sized businesses," he said, adding that the state's tourism agency collaborated with 21 community hosts and six local governments last year for the community host programme.

Azrul also identified a number of potential locations for the development of agrotourism, such as the Sungai Panjang Agro Tourism (SPAT), the Sekinchan Tourism Development Association and the Dengkil People's

Welfare Association (Persatuan Kebajikan Rakyat Mukim Dengkil).

He said other areas include Inap Desa Sungai Sireh in Kuala Selangor, Homestay Haji Dorani and Inap Desa Banghuris.

"SPAT, which is managed by the Young Entrepreneur Community Integration Association, focuses on improving the socioeconomic status of the local population, especially the youth and women in Sungai Panjang and the surrounding areas.

"Visitors can personally experience community-based tourism concepts such as excursions to gardens maintained by more than 25 commercial farm operators.

"At the same time, they can experience the greenery of the paddy fields by cycling and riding a tram or using an all-terrain vehicle (ATV) provided by a nearby homestay operator," he added.

The 2023 Selangor Budget allocates RM500,000 for the development of agrotourism under the Selangor Agro Transformation Plan (PeTA), which is the core of the state's agriculture sector.



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JOURNALIST: Nasuha Badrul Huzaini

MARKETING & ADVERTISING:

Nadhras Azlan nadhras@mediaselangor.com

Syahir Khadri syahir@mediaselangor.com

PHOTOGRAPHER: Zakki Jilan, Hafiz Othman,

Raheemie Arifin & Fikri Yusof

GRAPHIC & LAYOUT: Graphics Department MSSB

Level 11, Menara Bank Rakyat, No. 1, Jalan Indah 14/8,

Seksyen 14, 40000 Shah Alam, Selangor

Tel: 03-5523 4856 Fax: 03-5523 5856 Email: info@mediaselangor.com

Campsite laws drawn up

By **SOFIA NASIR**

SUBANG JAYA - Selangor is now the first state in the country to enforce guidelines and licences for camping activities under the Trade, Business and Industry Bylaw.

State executive councillor for local government Ng Sze Han (*pic*) said the registration of campsites will be made mandatory once the bylaw is tabled during the next Selangor State Executive Council meeting.

This ruling follows a three-day town hall and workshop that were held with relevant stakeholders from Jan 29 to obtain feedback on the matter.

"The results of the discussions at the workshop will be tabled during the

executive council meeting within two months.

"Once it has been established as policy, it must be adhered to by all agencies and campsite operators. Legal action can and will be taken if unregistered campsites are discovered," he said during a press conference on Jan 30.



Ng added that all campsite operators in Selangor must also be registered with the local authority of their respective area, beginning this month.

He said granting Temporary Business Licences and Temporary Building Permits to campsite owners will begin in April.

"The mandatory minimum require-

ment for the licence and permit application is a land survey plan carried out by a certified land surveyor.

"There are over 200 campsites in Selangor and it is possible that not all sites will obtain a permit as it is subject to the suitability of the camping location," Ng said.

Ng also said that the three-day Selangor Camping Activities' Business Management Guidelines Preparation Workshop received participation from 16 representatives from various ministries, departments, agencies, local authorities, and state government subsidiary companies.

They include Local Government Development Ministry representatives, the Hulu Selangor Municipal Council, the Public Works Department, PLANMalaysia @ Selangor, the Forestry Department, the Selangor State Land and Dis-

trict Office, and Tourism Selangor Sdn Bhd.

Eleven organisations, including Malaysia Inbound Tourism Association, Campsite Owners Hulu Selangor, Family Camping Malaysia, the Malaysia Camping Association, and The Nest @ Maeps Mardi Serdang, participated in the town hall session which was held before the workshop.

On Dec 22, 2022, Menteri Besar Dato' Amirudin Shari stated that guidelines and regulations for camping activities would be enforced to ensure safety and prevent the loss of life.

This comes after a landslide measuring nearly 300m in distance and 70m in height took the lives of 31 campers at the Father's Organic Farm campsite in Gohtong Jaya, Batang Kali, on Dec 16 last year.

Pahang, Selangor commit to highland safety

KUANTAN - Issues relating to the safety of slope and highland areas bordering Pahang and Selangor will be among the focus of cooperation between both states, said Pahang Menteri Besar Datuk Seri Wan Rosdy Wan Ismail (*pic*).

He said the two states also agreed to raise the attention of the Federal government on the issues, including establishing the National Slope Council.

Wan Rosdy said this at a joint press conference with Selangor Menteri Besar Dato' Seri Amirudin Shari after attending a meeting between the Pahang and Selangor governments at Wisma Sri Pahang, here on Jan 27.

Meanwhile, Amirudin said it is important to coordinate development efforts in highland areas in the two states to ensure their safety.

"There should be coordinated efforts in highland areas like Genting Highlands, not only in terms of development, but also involving regulations, laws and monitoring.

"... this is because both states are experiencing and facing similar potential risks and at the same time, (Selangor and Pahang) have good (tourism) poten-

tial," he said.

In the meantime, Wan Rosdy said other issues discussed at the meeting were hiking activities in forest reserve areas bordering Pahang and Selangor, joint enforcement of overloaded timber-laden lorries and the re-demarcation of the two states.

He said issues pertaining to the raw water supply from Pahang to Selangor, which is expected to start next year, were also brought up at the meeting.

Wan Rosdy said the two states also agreed to enhance cooperation between state government subsidiaries in various aspects including food security.

"We can learn from each other ... for example, in terms of the economy, Selangor is ahead of us (Pahang) and maybe in tourism, they (Selangor) can learn from Pahang," he said.

Wan Rosdy said several technical committees have also been formed to fine-tune the matters raised during the meeting before being discussed again at the second meeting between both state governments. - Bernama



State to spend more on Batang Kali slope repairs

SHAH ALAM - The Selangor government has agreed to increase the allocation for the slope repair works in Batang Kali by RM21.1 million, as recommended by the Works Department.

Menteri Besar Dato' Seri Amirudin Shari said the decision was made after the Selangor State Executive Council was presented with the findings of the report on the Batang Kali landslide disaster.

"Guidelines for business activities and campsites would be developed together by the state government and local authorities to improve the safety of Selangor residents who engage in these activities," Amirudin said in a statement on Jan 16.

The landslide that took place at the Father's Organic Farm campsite in Batang Kali, Hulu Selangor, on Dec 16 last year

was nearly 300m in distance and 70m in height.

The death toll was 31, with the body of the last victim found on Dec 24.

Meanwhile, Amirudin said cliff strengthening works in Bukit Permai Phase 2, Ampang, are currently in progress while waiting for the full analysis report from the Hulu Langat District and Land Office to be completed.

"The Ampang Jaya Municipal Council has issued a notice to the occupants of 15 houses to vacate their homes as the area is unsafe for occupancy due to soil movement," he said.

Four people were killed while one person suffered minor injuries in the aftermath of a landslide tragedy at Taman Bukit Permai 2 in March 2022.

ESTABLISHING special economic zones that are conducive to foreign investments and implementing new policies are some of the ways to promote economic growth as it aims to attract businesses to operate in the area, provide jobs and strengthen trade opportunities.

As the highest contributing state to the national gross domestic product (GDP), Selangor has consistently introduced new initiatives and incentives to woo foreign investors into the state. In July last year, it unveiled an even more specific blueprint to focus on such long-term investments — the comprehensive five-year First Selangor Plan (RS-1).

From a broad perspective, the RS-1 intends to provide Selangor with a strategic and holistic approach to realise its vision to be liveable, prosperous and smart by 2025.

It will focus on building four key areas — economic growth, empowerment of the people, sustainable development, as well as good and transparent governance — through the development of 262 projects and initiatives, 20 of which are deemed as game changers.

The entire plan comes at a cost of RM212.44 billion.

Through the RS-1, the Selangor government has introduced a Regional Development Plan to attract investors to the state, by providing them with a gateway into the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (Asean) via specialised, investor-friendly zones.

The development of these zones has already begun. Among them are the Integrated Regional Development in South Selangor, the Development of the Sabak Bernam Area, and the Selangor Maritime Gateway Economic Development Zone, all considered by Menteri Besar Dato' Seri Amirudin Shari as game-changers in their own right.

In adopting the concept of business clusterisation and regional development planning, the state administration would leverage the strength of each region to offer a wide range of incentives designed to entice new businesses to locate there.

Earlier this year, Amirudin stated that this form of clusterisation would importantly empower the local population in the different regions and create a spill-over effect of economic growth beyond the urban cities and heavily populated regions.

The Integrated Regional Development in South Selangor

Referred to by the acronym Idriss, this project includes integrated private investment development in the Sepang and Kuala Langat districts, equipped with facilities by the state government and supported by state and federal incentives.

The project spans an area of 40,000 hectares with a gross development value of RM1 trillion.

Economic zones bustling with potential



A special task force would be established to facilitate, coordinate and implement identified projects, and offer solutions to issues.

The task force would be responsible for several matters such as encouraging high-impact and high-value development and investment activities in the Sepang and Kuala Langat districts, ensuring that development proposals follow through by assisting in solving issues that arise, and ensuring that the development process is carried out sustainably, focusing on conserving the natural environment.

It would also be tasked with overseeing the execution of project development recommendations, ensuring that the welfare of locals and neighbourhoods is maintained, and monitoring project progress and performance reports.

Development of the Sabak Bernam Area

By stimulating growth in the Sabak Bernam district, Sabda, as the project is called, aims to develop the state's agriculture sector with RM1.9 billion promised for the development of 1,317 hectares of land.

The project is expected to generate approximately RM 248 million in revenue annually from its five core economic activ-

ities and create some 3,600 jobs.

The core activities are to add high-value commodities and increase productivity levels by using the most recent agricultural technology; to develop the industrial chain, create jobs, and expand market opportunities; to develop agrotourism and ecotourism products; to attract new investments to develop downstream industrial activities; and to improve infrastructure and public facilities.

The Selangor Maritime Gateway Economic Development Zone

This project, dubbed the ZPE SMG, is a new economic development corridor for the state that covers two economic zones, one consisting of an area of 27,960 hectares around the Sungai Klang, recognised under the Klang Municipal Council (MPK) Local Plan 2035, and the other involving three local governments, namely the Shah Alam City Council, the Subang Jaya



City Council and the Petaling Jaya City Council, with an estimated area of 5,180 hectares.

Expected to complete by 2024, the projected investment totalled RM2.2 billion across an area of 27,960 hectares.

By this year, the project aims to establish the ZPE SMG Master Plan, implement the Integrated Water Resources Management (IWRM) Project and build half of the total number of affordable homes it has planned on around 94 hectares of land.

Towards the end of 2024, the state government aims to launch the Riverfront Development in Section 24, Shah Alam.

Gateway projects take off

By ZAREEF MUZAMMIL

SHAH ALAM - The construction of Rumah Selangorku and a cultural centre will be two of the first initiatives developed in the Economic Development Zone of the Selangor Maritime Gateway (ZPE SMG).

State executive councillor for industry and trade Dato' Teng Chang Khim (*pic*) said the projects under the First Selangor Plan (RS-1) are now requesting planning approval.

"The lands along Sungai Klang are

used as compensation for those involved in the process of developing projects that can stimulate the economy and are associated with housing.

"The first project to commence is Rumah Selangorku and a cultural centre. These projects are expected to take a longer time



to complete since the area along Sungai Klang is quite large, extending from the border between Kuala Lumpur and Selangor to the delta of the river," he told *SelangorKini*.

Menteri Besar Dato' Seri Amirudin Shari, when tabling the RS-1 last year, said the state government had identified several areas that will be developed.

The projects include the development of ZPE SMG, the Integrated

Development Region in South Selangor (Idriss) and the Sabak Bernam Development Area (Sabda).

Previously, Landasan Lumayan Sdn Bhd expressed its commitment to execute the project to ensure RS-1 succeeds in improving the state's economy and encouraging sustainability.

A wholly-owned subsidiary of Menteri Besar Selangor (Incorporated), or MBI, LLSB stated that it plans to implement infrastructural and socio-economic development, which are key to RS-1.

Opportunities abound at upcoming halal expo

SHAH ALAM - The second edition of the Selangor International Halal Convention (Selhac) has targeted business matchings worth RM50 million.

Some 8,000 visitors are expected to throng Selhac 2023, which will be held from March 10 to 12 this year at the Kuala Lumpur World Trade Centre.

Menteri Besar Dato' Seri Amirudin Shari said the RM50 million target is based on the business matching value of RM38 million recorded during Selhac 2022.

"This year's convention will involve the participation of more than 200

exhibitors comprising local and international companies," he said after launching Selhac 2023 here, on Jan 17.

Amirudin said the programme will focus on six components, namely business forum, Islamic finance, exhibition, business matching, halal supply chain, and digital marketing.

"This convention also covers various clusters including food and beverage, pharmacy and healthcare, raw materials and halal ingredients, beauty products, as well as tourism and hospitality.

"For industry players, this programme offers room to explore business opportunities, besides enabling them to forge collaborations among themselves," he said.

For Selhac 2023, the small and medium enterprises under the state government agencies will also be given opportunities to feature their products.

"Some of the entrepreneurs have huge potential, so we will select those among the participants from Yayasan Hijrah, Selangor State Development Corporation (PKNS), Platform Selan-

gor (Plats), and several others.

"We will give them the chance to explore as they may not have the opportunity to introduce their products previously," Amirudin said.

Last year, the Selhac expo which lasted for three days in March, recorded transactions worth RM37.73 million, exceeding the initial target of RM20 million.

The event featured a forum for visitors, in addition to exhibitions on food, halal ingredients, and pharmaceutical, beauty, tourism and fashion products. - Bernama

Budding entrepreneurs make RM2.5m

SHAH ALAM - Programme Tunas Niaga (PROTUNE) 2022 organised by the Selangor State Development Corporation (PKNS) managed to record a jump in its total income of RM2.54 million last year.

PKNS deputy chief executive officer (corporate and entrepreneurship) Suhaimi Kasdon said the amount is much higher than the income recorded in 2021, which was RM165,479.30.

He said the programme which was implemented for 10 months starting last March also enabled small entrepreneurs from 50 selected schools in Selangor to record a net profit of RM745,067 last year, compared to a profit of RM56,094.56 the previous year.

"PKNS is very pleased to be able to continue the PROTUNE legacy for 24 consecutive years in collaboration with the Selangor State Education Department (JPS) and we feel obliged to implement this initiative to boost the world of entrepreneurship among the

community, especially students," Suhaimi said.

The programme was deemed successful with encouraging participation by a total of 23,073 students and 1,125 companies registered with the status of sole proprietorship from 1998 until now.

"This year alone, a total of 1,250 participants were accepted, consisting of students from Form One to Five, with the guidance of 100 teachers from 50 selected schools in Selangor," he said at the 24th Convention of the Programme Tunas Niaga (PROTUNE) 2022 at Dewan Aster, PKNS Headquarters Building, here on Jan 19.

PROTUNE is a programme organised by PKNS to cultivate entrepreneurship among Bumiputera students with priority given to rural schools.

The ceremony also saw the presentation of awards to schools that showed excellent performance in the field of entrepreneurship last year.

A total of 10 PROTUNE award cate-

gories at the state level were contested, namely, Hope Award 2022, Best Service Award 2022, Best Creative Product Award 2022, Best Innovative Product Award 2022, Best Financial Report Award 2022, Best Chief Executive Officer Award 2022, Best Mentoring Teacher Award 2022, Best Presentation Award 2022, Best School Award 2022 and Best Company Award 2022.

The awards were presented by the state executive councillor for housing, urban wellbeing and entrepreneur development Rodziah Ismail.

Meanwhile, Rodziah said the state government will offer an entrepreneurial counselling programme to all entrepreneurs to get guidance to advance their business by next March with the cooperation of the Credit Counselling and Management Agency (AKPK).

A similar programme was held by PKNS last year which was attended by about 1,000 entrepreneurs for the same service. - Bernama

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IN THE SUPREME COURT OF
BRITISH COLUMBIA
BETWEEN
ALEXANDER BURECHAILO
PLAINTIFF
AND
MOHAMED JAKEL and
WTH CAR RENTAL ULC
DEFENDANTS

To: MOHAMED JAKEL

TAKE NOTICE THAT on 22 December 2022, an Order was made by Master Harper, in Action No. VIC-S-M-213067, Supreme Court of British Columbia, Victoria Registry, 850 Burdett Avenue Victoria, BC, ordering that the Defendant shall be served substitutionally with this order by publishing a regular notice of substituted service of the order in the Selangor Journal.

Master Harper also ordered that the time for Response is forty-five (45) days after service and advertisement of the Order.

You may obtain a copy of the order of Master Harper, pronounced on the 20th of December 2022 from the Victoria Registry at the Supreme Court of British Columbia, 850 Burdett Avenue Victoria, BC.

Monte W. Prior
201-19 Dallas Road
Victoria, BC V8V 5A6
Phone: 250-388-4433

By IDA NADIRAH IBRAHIM

A multi-functional, all-inclusive, and state-of-the-art facility built for all. This is the inspiration behind the redevelopment plan for the Shah Alam Stadium, which has been the official home of the Selangor football club, the Red Giants, since 1994.

The re-creation of a state landmark has been planned to serve beyond football and sports, aiming to attract a wider reach by including retail and recreational areas that may be used by people of all ages.

While the planned design of the stadium will showcase cutting-edge concepts and the latest in technology, the reconstruction of the Shah Alam Stadium and its surrounding area, dubbed the Shah Alam Sports Complex (KSSA), is welcoming public feedback to ensure that the new facilities meet the needs of the community.

Beginning Jan 26 until Feb 10, Menteri Besar Selangor (Incorporated), or MBI, in collaboration with identified potential developer Malaysian Resources Corporation Berhad (MRCB), will hold an engagement session on the project at SACC Mall in Shah Alam to gather constructive opinions and suggestions from the general public.

MBI Special Projects Unit general manager Datuk Ir Ruslan Abdul Aziz speaks with *Selangor Journal* about how things are coming along with the redevelopment plans and what the public can expect in 2023.

Outstanding features

The new design for the KSSA redevelopment project has been planned to ensure that it would be fully utilised by the public from all walks of life and not sports enthusiasts alone.

Aside from retaining the main silhouette, which is the Shah Alam Stadium, as an icon of the state, recreational parks, an indoor youth and sports centre, a public transportation hub, an arena, a shopping centre and a hotel are also planned for the complex to maximise the use of the area.

Public parks, solar panels, the use of recycled water and flood mitigation measures have been taken into consideration to be part of the redevelopment plan, so visitors and users alike can look forward to a greener and environmentally sustainable sports complex.

"This project is designed for everyone, whether they are looking for a place to go for a casual stroll or to develop their athletic skills for an upcoming competition, we have the place for them."

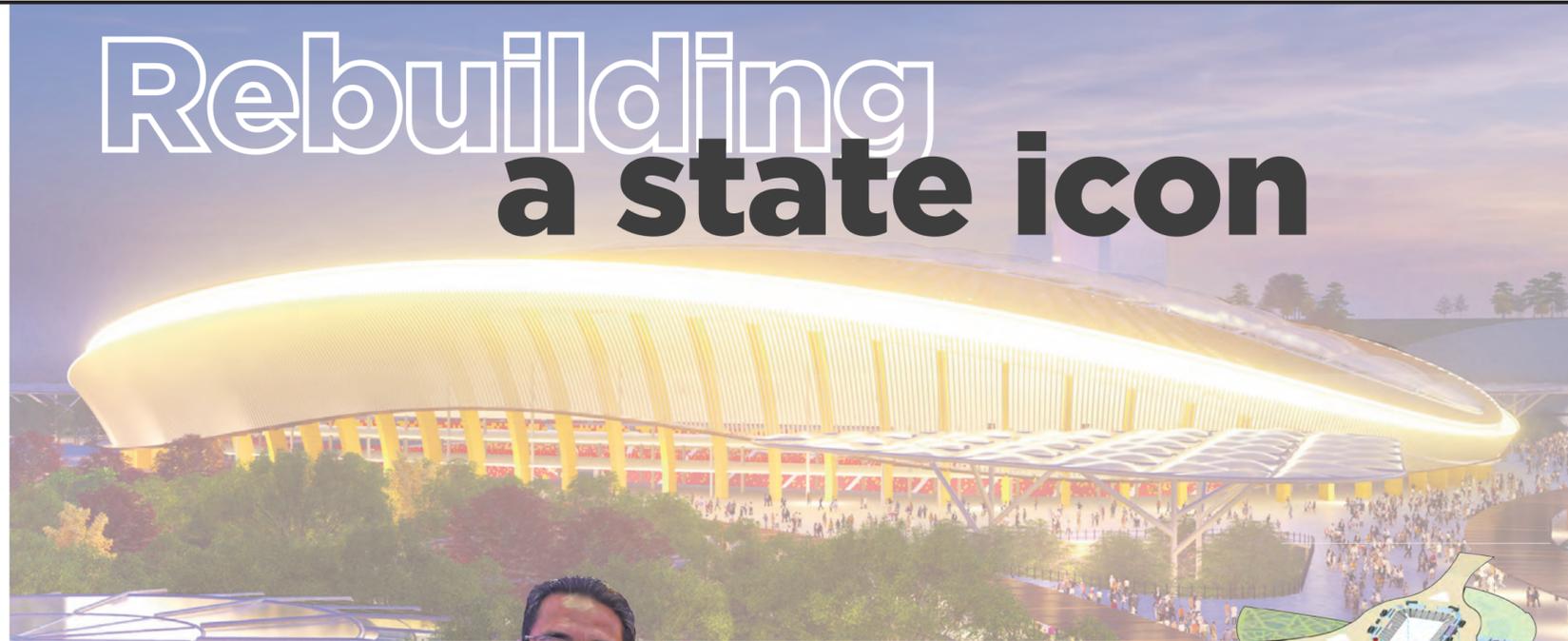
"The stadium is the main attraction and we have made an effort to keep its recognisable architecture intact, where you can see the similarity in the shape between the proposed and existing designs."

"The stadium and surrounding complex have been thoughtfully designed with accessibility, security, public transportation (including LRT connectivity), and ample parking in mind," said Ruslan when met recently.

He added that the project will provide between 7,000 and 8,000 covered parking lots as opposed to the current 5,000 opened lots.

As for the stadium and its facilities, Ruslan said that the design would include a retractable football field, which would allow it to become multipurpose and provide convenience for maintenance.

He said the three main access into the stadium not only provide seamless access for all, but they also provide better security, which allows better



Rebuilding a state icon

crowd dispersion in the case of emergencies.

"The security aspect of the stadium has also been thought through, so these are some of the facilities that are of world-class standards," he said.

Economic spillover

While the Shah Alam Stadium was once regarded as a state-of-the-art facility, the deteriorating condition of the infrastructure has led to its limited use. It has been taken into account that the stadium and its surrounding area would be redeveloped to be used for various activities, such as large-scale events, shopping and even travel.

Ruslan said that the plans to construct a shopping mall, a hotel, and an arena would be revenue-generating establishments that would contribute to the complex's ongoing maintenance costs and also create a spillover effect on the state's economy.

"We expect that it will churn up a lot of business in the area as we will have a commercial hub, the shopping mall, the hotel, and the arena," he said.

KSSA has been touted as one of the 20 game-changer projects in the First Selangor Plan (RS-1), and befitting that status, the four pillars of a smart city — physical, social, institutional and economic infrastructure — were incorporated into its blueprint to ensure that it conforms to Selangor's vision of becoming Asean's Premier Smart State by 2025.

"We estimate the stadium is expected to complete in 2026 and the Smart State vision, by 2025, so hopefully it will be in time to complement that aspiration. However, the timeline is still to be developed and finalised further in time and that these plans will be further developed to ensure its functionality," Ruslan said.

Overwhelming response

Up until Feb 10, the public display and engagement session will be available at the SACC Mall in Shah Alam, to give the public time



The stadium is the main attraction and we have made an effort to keep its recognisable architecture intact, where you can see the similarity in the shape between the proposed and existing designs. The stadium and surrounding complex have been thoughtfully designed with accessibility, security, public transportation (including LRT connectivity), and ample parking in mind

Datuk Ir Ruslan Abdul Aziz
MBI Special Projects Unit general manager

to learn more about the possible scheme of the concept plan. A QR code is shared with the visitors, which they can scan and provide their feedback and suggestions.

However, the engagement session does not stop there. Ruslan said that the state agency will be participating in the Jelajah Selangor Penyayang roadshow starting on Feb 18, where information on the project will be displayed at several identified locations over the weekend.

"Before we had this public engagement, we went through with all our stakeholders, namely MSN Selangor, Selangor FC and also with the government agencies, with regards to their requirements, aspirations or wishlists. We then held discussions with MRCB, our identified potential developer, and came up with this possible scheme of the concept plan."

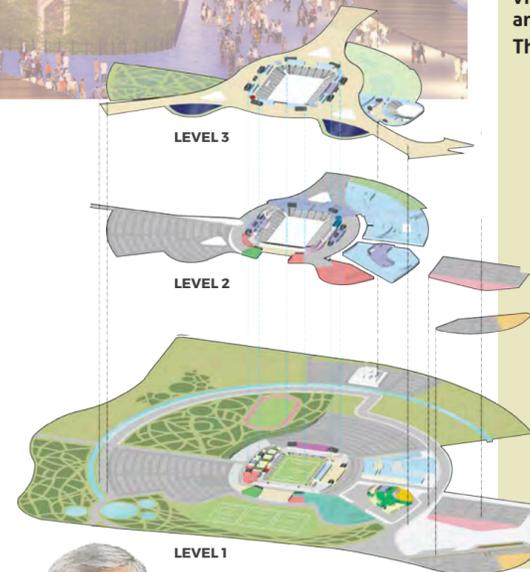
"The public engagement session is held so that we can get in detail what people want to see in their stadium. We welcome constructive feedback from the public."

Ruslan said that the response from the public has been constructive and overwhelming, with over a million reach recorded across MBI's social media platforms and hundreds of responses received over a span of less than a week.

"We have received a lot of responses and we have people analysing and sorting them into different categories, such as sports facilities, the environment, and recreation, to name a few."

"The public display in Shah Alam is held for two weeks, which we feel is enough time for the public. We have had people from Sabak Bernam and Hulu Selangor and also all the way from Johor, Singapore, and Perlis, who may be Selangorians, coming here and giving their thoughts on the project."

"We are now at the detailed planning stage, and what is being displayed at SACC Mall is the possible scheme of the concept plan for the area. So we are going to go into the details — how big the mall should be, how many parking lots there are, how many sports facilities or detailed facilities — and that would take us about a month or two (to process)," said Ruslan, adding that the project is anticipated to kick off this year.



The maintenance of football fields is very sensitive and detailed. If we look at the fields in the Middle East, they are comparable to Europe's. During competition day, they would appoint specialists that are imported (from FIFA, for example) for the maintenance of the field. As for the Shah Alam Stadium, the field should be according to FIFA standards. Officials from either FIFA or AFC (Asian Football Confederation) should be invited to assess it to ensure that the field is certified by international bodies and fit for international games.

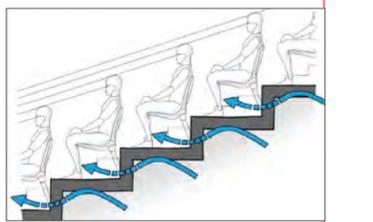
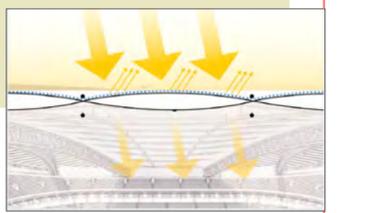


KSSA AT A GLANCE

The Shah Alam Sports Complex (KSSA) redevelopment project aims to build a vibrant, sustainable stadium with sports facilities featuring the latest technology and breathe new life into its surroundings.

The proposed key features of the new Shah Alam stadium:

- Retractable football field allows multipurpose use
- Seating capacity of 35,000–45,000
- Three-tier design with an elevated platform for the football field to prevent floods
- Membrane roof with ETFE ceramic for temperature and heat control; partly transparent for natural lighting
- Seat-cooling system
- Parking space with natural ventilation system
- Increased green landscape by 173 per cent including recreational parks, urban forests, jogging tracks, botanical gardens and green roof
- Various sports facilities such as indoor wall-climbing, skate park and courts
- Accessibility: direct access from LRT3 station and planned bus terminal hub
- Projected timeline completion:
 - ▶ Phase 1: 2022–2026
 - ▶ Phase 2: 2028



In addition to that, not many stadiums have the features that we have planned in terms of safety. In the event where an evacuation takes place, the surrounding area is the evacuation area whereby once you are outside, you are safe. Aside from being accessible to all, including disabled persons, there are escape routes and this is very important for safety.

If we were to just refurbish the current stadium, then the use of the facilities would be limited. But by redeveloping it, we can cater the changes to suit the present time.

Datuk Dell Akbar Khan Hyder Khan
MRCB executive vice-president



Inspired by faith and family

By **SULYN CHONG**

SHAH ALAM - Three men with scraggly beards are fussing over a large structure decorated with thousands of peacock feathers and one of them, with a few greying hairs, seems to be the master, giving ever so slight nudges of instructions on how the feathers should be placed.

The youngest of the three introduces himself as SR Sathish, who then explains that the massive form they are building is known as a *kavadi*, a semicircular decorated canopy supported by ratan and steel frames that would be carried by Hindu Tamil devotees at temples during Thaipusam to worship the god Murugan.

Thaipusam is celebrated during the full moon in the Tamil month of *Thai*, which usually falls around January or February and coincides with the *Pushya* star, also known as *Poosam* in Tamil.

The festival commemorates the lore of when Parvati, the Hindu goddess of power, love and motherhood, gave

Murugan, the Hindu god of war, a *vel* (divine spear) to vanquish the evil demon Soorapadman and his brothers, thus restoring peace.

This holy day sees devotees going on pilgrimages to temples. As an act of devotional sacrifice, they will perform the *Kavadi Attam* (*kavadi* performance) through dancing, food offerings and sometimes self-mortification of the body.

The carrying of *kavadi*, which bears the meaning 'burden', bare-footed throughout the performance is also a tradition in tribute to Murugan as they seek his assistance and blessings, usually for their

loved ones, as well as a means of balancing their spiritual debt.

Sathish, aged 24, together with his father, PK Sevaraja, 54, and brother, P Teenesh, 26, have been making *kavadi* for sale, rent and for themselves for over a decade.

However, due to inflation, prices for supplies have skyrocketed, putting a pinch on makers as well as devotees as they prepare for this holy day, with one *kavadi* costing upwards of RM5,000 to build, and with larger compositions totalling about RM20,000.

"It has been two years since our last Thaipusam celebration before the pandemic hit and the prices for all the items you see here today have al-

most doubled. We actually planned to build 20 *kavadi*, but we reduced it to 10. Finally, we ended up only making five because it is not easy work," he says.

Nevertheless, the spirit of celebration is not dampened as Sevaraja points out that making these *kavadi* is as much a show of faith as it is a show of pride and skill. There is healthy but stiff competition among the makers, and although no one says it out loud, each year the best ones earn the makers new respect.

"My father used to carry the *kavadi*, back when we were staying in Maran, Pahang, but one day he got into an accident and could no longer do it. It was then that I decided to immerse myself in the tradition," says Sevaraja.

"When I started learning how to prepare for Thaipusam, I relied a lot on my friends about what to do as my father could not teach me. I even learned to build the *kavadi* from them because back then there was no YouTube. After a while, it became a healthy competition among us.

"Every year we try to make a better

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If people like me do not pass the knowledge on to my sons, I think they would end up knowing very little about Thaipusam. The fasting, the praying, the cleansing ... all these must be done in the correct order

PK SEVARAJA

and nicer *kavadi* no matter the cost. That is why our *kavadi* is kept secret and we do not mind spending on it. I will only show it on Thaipusam. It will be my little surprise," he says, grinning.

This little rivalry has its merits as Sevaraja's innovative production back in 2011 earned him the title for the tallest *kavadi* in the *Malaysian Book of Records* — a title which he did not claim — as well as recognition for being the first person to use battery-powered LED lights as decorations.

"You know, I carry the *kavadi* every year out of faith in God and I do it from my heart. I do not do it for fame. There is actually nothing to show off about although it is nice to see who makes the best one among us. This is an offering you do to thank God for the goodness and kindness he has provided," he says.

As far as traditions go for Thaipusam, not much has changed in the past century with many of the rituals being pre-

Sathish (top, right), together with his father Sevaraja and brother Teenesh, shows off a few almost-ready *kavadi* at their home in Telok Panglima Garang on Jan 26



served to a tee and much of the knowledge passed down from generation to generation.

"If people like me do not pass the knowledge on to my sons, I think they would end up knowing very little about Thaipusam because you cannot learn these things from YouTube. The fasting, the praying, the cleansing ... all these must be done in the correct order or things will not go as planned.

"It takes a lot of patience and understanding to prepare for this festival. It is not easy, but it does get easier," he says.

Sathish adds, "There are lots of challenges like hunger and anger that we have to control. But our dad taught us everything we need to get through them. After all, old is gold. And if anyone needs guidance, we are more than happy to help."

Thousands to throng temples

WITH devotees gearing up for Thaipusam on Feb 5, state executive councillor for caring government V Ganabatirau anticipates that this year's celebrations are going to be big, especially since Covid-19 put a damper on the festivities two years in a row.

"We are expecting a large crowd at the temples for this year, similar to those during pre-pandemic days. Crowds will likely number about 20,000 at the smaller temples like the Arulmigu Sri Subramaniam Temple in Kerling and 50,000 at the Sri Subramaniam Swamy Temple in Kuala Selangor, while the Sri Subramaniam Swamy Temple in Batu Caves will definitely be receiving much more visitors ... about one million, maybe.

"This is why we are holding special events on the eve (Feb 4) of the festival at these three temples. We will be having cultural shows as well as offering food and drinks to the people," he said when met at his office at the State Secretariat Building in Shah Alam.

However, Ganabatirau, who is also the state's Special Committee for Non-Islamic Affairs co-chairman, wants to remind the people to be socially sensitive and to wear a mask when enjoying the celebration.

"There is no SOP (standard operating procedure) on mask-wearing, but to keep ourselves safe, I would suggest wearing it whenever possible as the crowds would be huge and we just never know.

"I would also like to appeal to everyone who is attending this celebration to be culturally sensitive — but I'm sure many Malaysians already understand this — such as not wearing footwear in the temples or eating and selling non-vegetarian food on temple grounds, dressing appropriately as a sign of respect to the Hindu religion, as well as not drinking alcohol," he said.

Ganabatirau said that although Thaipusam is a religious festival, its celebratory atmosphere makes it suitable for everyone to join in.

"All the devotees are celebrating Thaipusam to fulfil their vows to god Murugan. My family and I will also be doing our rituals and vows with our milk pots. But it has become more than just religion in Malaysia.

"Many Chinese, Malays and even foreigners will be joining in the celebration, especially at Batu Caves which has become such an iconic tourist attraction. Our diversity and acceptance in celebrating every cultural festival are what make us unique. We are a melting pot of cultures and everyone should promote this.

"The acceptance of our fellow brothers in Malaysia is what makes us different and united. This is how our country can flourish as unity brings peace and harmony. In turn, it will bring much-needed economic value. So, let us pray for this continued unity and acceptance of each other's differences," he said.

According to Ganabatirau, this Thaipusam will see 20 Hindu temples receiving aid for their upkeep and religious activities.

The state government allocates RM1.8 million annually to assist Hindu temples in Selangor. There are about 1,000 temples in the state, out of which 300 to 400 temples will be chosen yearly to receive this aid.



A village goes cashless

SEKINCHAN, a village located in the northwest of Selangor, is the first non-urban area in Malaysia to turn almost completely cashless, bringing much-needed convenience to visiting tourists.

The 'Project Cashless Kampung' at Sekinchan was rolled out on Jan 14 in conjunction with the 'Visit Sekinchan 2023' campaign through partnerships with Hong Leong Bank Berhad (HLB) and Payments Network Malaysia Sdn Bhd (PayNet).

All this was made possible through the support and efforts of the 24,000 residents and all 800 businesses in Sekinchan, who have started using digital payment tools provided by HLB and PayNet.

With this future-forward progress, the scenic fishing village, which is already an alluring place for visitors, is set to become even more popular, establishing itself as a full-fledged holiday destination for locals and foreigners alike.

Sekinchan assemblyman Ng Suee Lim said that both the campaign and the project has become an important milestone for Sekinchan, as it not only recognises the significance of going digital in financial management and payment transactions, but also the socio-economic value it brings to the village.

"This will spur local development as small businesses can now explore other digital business options, such as e-commerce and expand their products further afield," he said after officiating the 'Visit Sekinchan 2023' campaign, here on Jan 14.

Ironing out bumps

Going cashless was not an easy process. During the rolling-out stage of the initiative, many vendors and businesses did not understand the importance and convenience of providing cash-free options. However, they were not confident that they could handle the tools and transaction process as they believed they were not 'tech-savvy' enough.

HLB staff were deployed to the ground to observe and listen to the challenges faced by the people. Concerns were addressed, solutions were provided, and slowly the people grew in confidence in using the latest dig-



Ng (centre) together with Fuda and Payments Network Malaysia Sdn Bhd group chief executive officer Farhan Ahmad at the official launch of 'Visit Sekinchan 2023' on Jan 14



ital tools.

Through this project, Sekinchan residents have been assisted by HLB personnel in opening bank accounts, attaining debit cards and being overall connected with the bank digitally without having to visit a branch.

Business owners as well as schools in Sekinchan have been progressively equipped with HLB DuitNow starter kits which include a DuitNow QR code for businesses that will accept contactless QR payments from mobile banking apps and eWallets, as well as an All-in-One Payment Terminal that accepts both card and QR payments.

Apart from businesses, places of worship such as the famous Pantai Redang Datuk Kong Temple have also adopted the cashless concept. The temple management was quick to point out the convenience of contactless donations as it saves the hassle of managing the donation box

and prevents theft, while visitors can make their contributions with discretion.

Closing the cashless divide

HLB group managing director and chief executive officer Domenic Fuda said the 'Project Cashless Kampung' is in line with the bank's 'Digital at the Core' strategy and ESG (Environmental, Social, and Governance) values to drive both digital and financial inclusion in the communities that the financial institution operates in.

"While there is a clear shift towards digital and cashless payment methods in Malaysia, there is still a lower rate of adoption in rural areas which this initiative aims to address as part of HLB's effort to drive financial inclusion in the country.

"We also believe that financial inclusion does not simply stop at cashless penetration and adoption. It also involves increasing access to fair banking opportunities as well as financial education for young digital natives to nurture money-and-digital-smart future generations so that no one is left behind in this digital economy," he said in a statement.

Meanwhile, PayNet group chief ex-

ecutive officer Farhan Ahmad said that through their Digital Payments Insights Study released earlier this year, it notes that the urban-rural divide in cashless adoption still exists, with nearly two-thirds of Malaysians in non-urban areas still preferring cash payment options whereas only 36.2 per cent in urban areas are still using cash to make payments.

"This project is aimed at closing that gap through the adoption of cashless payments via DuitNow QR or with their MyDebit ATM cards. To optimise impact, we intend to take the key learnings from this rollout and expand them to other non-urban areas," he said.

In support of this effort, Sekinchan is currently running a fun-filled digital 'SekinGo' Treasure Hunt where the public and tourists can experience the village first-hand across 20 locations also known as 'SekinStops'. The 'stops' span from famous sightseeing destinations such as Pantai Redang and the Wishing Tree, to local spots like Pasar Awam Sekinchan and other hidden gems.

At each 'SekinStop', visitors can earn 'SekinCoins' by scanning the QR code available and win up to RM15,000 worth of prizes. The 'SekinGo' Treasure Hunt will run until April 30.



Dispelling myths about cancer

By **NASUHA BADRUL HUZAINI**

Cancer remains one of Malaysia's silent killers. In 2021, a total of 48,639 new cancer cases were recorded and the World Health Organisation (WHO) has predicted that cancer incidence in Malaysia will double by 2040.

The situation is a grave concern because the rising number of cancer cases will become a major health issue, putting physical, emotional and financial strain not just on the sufferers but also their caregivers, families and the country's healthcare system.

In Malaysia, the most common cancers are breast cancer, colorectal cancer, lung cancer, nasopharyngeal cancer and liver cancer. The leading causes of death for Malaysian women are breast and cervical cancer.

According to a study published in BMC Public Health, cancer prevalence in Malaysia is influenced by certain risk factors such as being overweight, alcohol consumption, physical inactivity, and smoking. However, cancer cases may be controlled if more people are aware of their unhealthy lifestyle and are willing to change for the better.

The cancer awareness campaign must be expanded to ensure that the general public has the right idea about the illness because many people still think that hav-

ing cancer is equivalent to receiving the death penalty, even though the disease is treatable, especially at an early stage.

In conjunction with World Cancer Day which falls on Feb 4, *Selangor Journal* reached out to state executive councillor for public health Dr Siti Mariah Mahmud to hear more about the state government's initiative to create more awareness about the disease.

Silent no more

Selangor has been actively organising cancer-related programmes for its people such as the Selangor Cancer (CanSEL) programme and the Selangor Saring programme.

Dr Siti Mariah said the state government has also partnered with academic institutions and non-governmental organisations (NGOs) to create more awareness, especially on the importance of early screening, health-seeking behaviour, and debunking the myth and stigma that revolve around cancer.

"At the moment, we also provide counselling services through Talian Sehat from the Mental Health programme to address psychosocial issues among people who have barriers to health-seeking behaviours.

"Apart from that, we also have a monthly forum called 'Forum Tanya Apa Saja' (Ask Us Anything) that takes place

on social media where people can tune in to ask health experts any questions.

"For World Cancer Day this year, we already have programmes planned for the whole year. We will be talking more about the programmes on the forum themed 'Close the Care Gap' which will be held on Saturday (Feb 4)," she said.

Free screenings

To take things a step further, the state government has been offering free cancer screenings under its CanSEL and the Selangor Saring programmes.

"Selangor Saring is a screening programme that is inclusive of early screenings for various types of diseases including cancer while the CanSEL programme provides specific screening for cancer," she said.

CanSEL, introduced in February 2022, provides access to tools for early detection of the disease, targeting Selangor citizens in 56 constituencies. The programme provides early screening test facilities including mammograms, and colorectal and prostate tests.

Meanwhile, for the Selangor Saring free health checks that was launched in May last year, Dr Siti Mariah said it focuses on screening for four types of cancers namely breast, cervical, colorectal and prostate.

"Last year, out of 45,000 participants,

some 9,597 of them were screened for breast cancer, cervical cancer (12,091), colorectal cancer (2,550) and prostate cancer (1,877).

"Out of the total, some 2,490 cases have been referred for further treatment at hospitals and the cost was borne by the state government," she added.

The state government has allocated RM3.1 million to organise Selangor Saring, which has received a very positive response. The programme offers screenings for blood and urine, eyes, breasts and the cervix, as well as offer colorectal and prostate tests.

In the 2023 Selangor Budget, the state government allocated RM1.5 million for the continuation of the programme while some RM1 million has been set aside for CanSEL.

Dr Siti Mariah said Selangor Saring will resume on Feb 18 in conjunction with the Jelajah Selangor Penyayang roadshow.

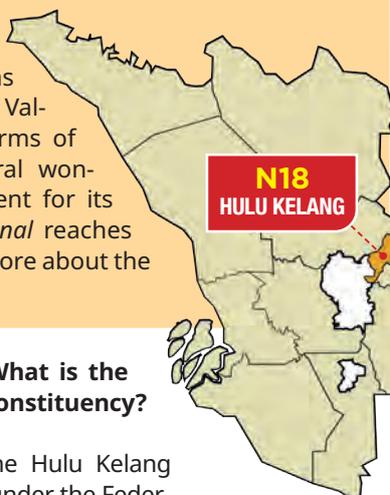
She said the second phase of the initiative will see several improvements, including the offering of dental and ear checks, as well as physiotherapy sessions.

"Apart from that, we will also collaborate with an NGO that is well-versed in handling cervical cancer patients. They will be involved in the screening process," she said.

Hulu Kelang has something for everyone

By **NASUHA BADRUL HUZAINI**

Located northeast of Kuala Lumpur lies Hulu Kelang, a subdistrict of Gombak under the jurisdiction of the Ampang Jaya Municipal Council (MPAJ). The area is notable for its picturesque highland views and varied selection of attractions, making it popular with tourists. Represented by three-termed seasoned politician Saari Sungib since 2008, Hulu Kelang has become one of Klang Valley's rare gems in terms of providing both natural wonders and entertainment for its visitors. *Selangor Journal* reaches out to Saari to learn more about the constituency.



Selangor Journal (SJ): What is the main industry in your constituency?

Saari Sungib (SS): The Hulu Kelang area is a free trade zone under the Federal government's purview. Since the 1970s, the focus in this area has been electronics, semiconductors, radio telecommunications and pharmaceutical products. Besides that, Hulu Kelang houses numerous small and medium enterprises under the jurisdiction of the MPAJ.

SJ: What is the main attraction in Hulu Kelang?

SS: One of the most famous attractions is Zoo Negara (the National Zoo of Malaysia), which sits on 45 hectares of land in Hulu Kelang and houses many species of animals including birds, pandas, elephants, giraffes and lions. We also have the first and oldest earthen dam in the country, namely the Klang Gate Dam. Aside from that, those who enjoy watching sunrises and sunsets should pay a visit to Bukit Tabur. As a representative

of the constituency, I am proud to inform the public that Hulu Kelang is also home to the world's longest quartz ridge, Permatang Kuarza, which stretches 16 kilometres.

SJ: What are the concerns raised by your constituents and how do you address them?

SS: One of the main concerns raised by the constituents is the economic disparity between the wealthy and the poor. They claim that wealth circles around the already well-to-do people. I can't do much to help resolve this problem because it is beyond my scope of work. However, I do understand where they are coming from because Hulu Kelang is a developed area, and constituents should be able to reap the benefits of economic activities occurring within the constituency. Apart from that, other concerns include development issues in Kampung Fajar and

Kampung Taman Warisan which have yet to be resolved since 2016. This issue was also raised in the Selangor State Legislative Assembly.

I also received several complaints about extortion activities where suspicious individuals claiming to be law enforcement officers but dressed in civilian attire went around at night extorting money from food sellers and restaurant owners. Rest assured that I have taken the necessary action to resolve the problem.

SJ: What are your achievements so far in your constituency?

SS: With nearly 15 years of service in the Hulu Kelang constituency, I have conducted numerous programmes for the people to ensure their wellbeing. One of the initiatives was the eradication of poverty programme which was held during the movement control order in 2020. Through it, I helped to coordinate

the distribution of some 25,000 food baskets from the state government to those badly affected by Covid-19 in Hulu Kelang. Apart from that, I also distribute shopping vouchers worth RM100 each every year. This year, the value of the vouchers has been increased to RM150.

SJ: What are some of your problem-solving methods?

SS: As a state representative, I adopt the SWOT (strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats) analysis to solve a variety of problems that my constituents face. I also use the method to evaluate my position in order to come up with strategic planning to tackle the problems. The SWOT analysis can be used to assess internal and external factors, as well as current and future potential. For problems that are beyond my responsibility, I will try to assist by forwarding and highlighting them to the appropriate authorities so that the complaints are heard.

FROM TOP

Saari officiates the Chinese New Year Jom Shopping programme at a Giant Supermarket in Hulu Kelang

State allocations have made repairs possible for the futsal court in AU1B Keramat Permai

The seasoned Hulu Kelang representative hands out donations to six families in Pangsapuri Ukay Indah, Sungai Sering



Women's league set for kick-off

SHAH ALAM - The FAS Women's Super League (WSL) is back for a new season with 12 teams vying for the championship title.

The teams are divided into two groups with group stage matches starting on Feb 8 at Radia Arena, Bukit Jelutong, while the knockout stages will be played at the Subang Jaya City Council (MBSJ) Arena and the Petaling Jaya City Council (MBPJ) Stadium.

FAS secretary general Izrin Nabil said the teams re-



turning from the 2021 season are the champion of the inaugural tournament Negeri Sembilan Women's FC (NSW FC), FC SWAT, SSS Leopard FC, MBSJ FC, Shah Alam United and UiTM Lioness.

The other six teams making their first appearance are Kelana United, Sternen FC, Permodalan Negeri Selangor Berhad (PNSB), PJ Kita FC, Universiti Pertahanan Nasional Malaysia (UPNM) and Spicegals.

Izrin added they are committed to developing women's football and is confident that the FAS WSL will soon grow to 20 teams.

"For this year alone, we received many entries and had to reject some, because they had passed the dead-

line. However, we hope that each player can highlight their respective talents as this is their platform to go further," he said.

This year, FAS has made it mandatory for all teams to have female coaches.

"We are emphasising the role of female coaches by making it mandatory for each team to register at least one female head coach or assistant. This is one of our main agenda — to empower women coaches, in addition to finding new talent in women's football," he said during the 2023 FAS WSL voting ceremony on Jan 25.

Selangor Menteri Besar (Incorporated) or MBI has agreed to continue being the main sponsor for the league.



Pix from Selangor FC Facebook

From left Noor, Ayrton and Rauf

Red Giants snap up Colombian hotshot Ayrton

SHAH ALAM - Selangor FC have confirmed the signing of Colombian striker Ayrton Del Valle as their third import player for the 2023 Malaysia League (M-League) season.

The 34-year-old is the sixth player to join coach Tan Cheng Hoe's Red Giants following the signing of Ahmad Khuzaimi Piee, V. Ruventhiran, Mohamad Faisal Abdul Halim, Noor Al-Rawabdeh and Rauf Salifu.

Ayrton refused to make any promises about the number of goals he will score but vowed to do his best for the team, adding that his age should not be an issue.

"Age is not a problem because I come from a competitive league in Colombia. I'm fit to play, I know my skills and capabilities," he told reporters at the Selangor Jersey Day and Shah Alam Stadium Exhibi-

tion at the SACC Mall, here on Jan 28.

Meanwhile, Selangor FC chief executive officer Dr Johan Kamal Hamidon said Ayrton is their third foreign import for the new season.

"We recently signed Jordan's Noor Al-Rawabdeh and Ghana's Rauf Salifu. Today, we also want to introduce our new assistant coach Ramon Marcote, who will help out Cheng Hoe.

"We are proud and happy to be able to bring the players and coach on board. All the players have excellent playing records.

"Ramon has been hired after we listened to the views of Cheng Hoe, who used to work with the former when they were coaching Kedah. We hope their collaboration will provide us with solid momentum," he said. - Bernama

Para athletes grateful for equal rewards

PUTRAJAYA - The state government has handed out RM228,500 in rewards to the members of the Para Malaysia Games (Para Sukma) Selangor contingent who won medals in November last year.

Menteri Besar Dato' Seri Amirudin Shari said the monies are a sign of appreciation and recognition for the 50 athletes who performed exceptionally, bringing glory to Selangor's name.

"I am happy and moved by the achievements of the Para Sukma 2022 athletes. Despite the Covid-19 pandemic, all of you performed well and garnered 78 medals, placing Selangor in fourth position overall.

"You have all proven yourselves capable of bringing fame to the state, even though your abilities are different from others," he said during the handover ceremony at the Palm Garden Hotel on Jan 13.

Also in attendance at the event were state executive councillor for sports Mohd Khairuddin Othman, Selangor Youth and Sports Department (JBS) director Azura Sarbin, and Selangor State Sports Council (MSN) executive director Mohamad Nizam Marjugi.

The ceremony saw the gold medalists earn RM3,000, silver medalists RM2,000, and bronze medalists RM1,000.

Amirudin added that coaches and managers were also given incentives based on the medals obtained in each event, with gold earning RM500, silver RM300, and bronze RM150.

"I wish to express my special appreciation to all parties, especially the Selangor JBS, the Selangor Sports and Recreation Association for the Disabled (Pesron), Selangor Menteri

Besar (Incorporated) or MBI, and the Selangor MSN, for constantly providing strong support to the state's para-athletes.

"I also thank the managers and coaches who are always committed to guiding the athletes in becoming more competitive in every event," he said.

Meanwhile, para-athlete Amirul Alif Raof, 28, said the RM5,000 incentive for winning two silvers and one bronze has fueled his enthusiasm to strive for more success in the future.

"I am very satisfied as the incentive this time is the same as that received by the Sukma athletes; in fact, the amount is higher than before.

"When the state government and the Selangor Youth and Sports Department (JBS) support para-athletes, we are motivated to do more later on," he told *SelangorKini* on Jan 12.

The youngest of five siblings is actively preparing to make his international debut at the World Para Athletics Grand Prix 2023 in Dubai, UAE, at the end of February.

"Once there, I will endeavour to do my best to get a position, and qualify for the Asian Games," he said.

Swimming para athlete Carmen Lim, 23, also expressed gratitude to the state government, having achieved her wish to receive equal rewards as other able-bodied athletes.

"I am quite happy as the state government is finally aware of how important it is to give equal rewards. Certainly, the incentive will spur me to work harder, as I intend to participate in many tournaments," she said.

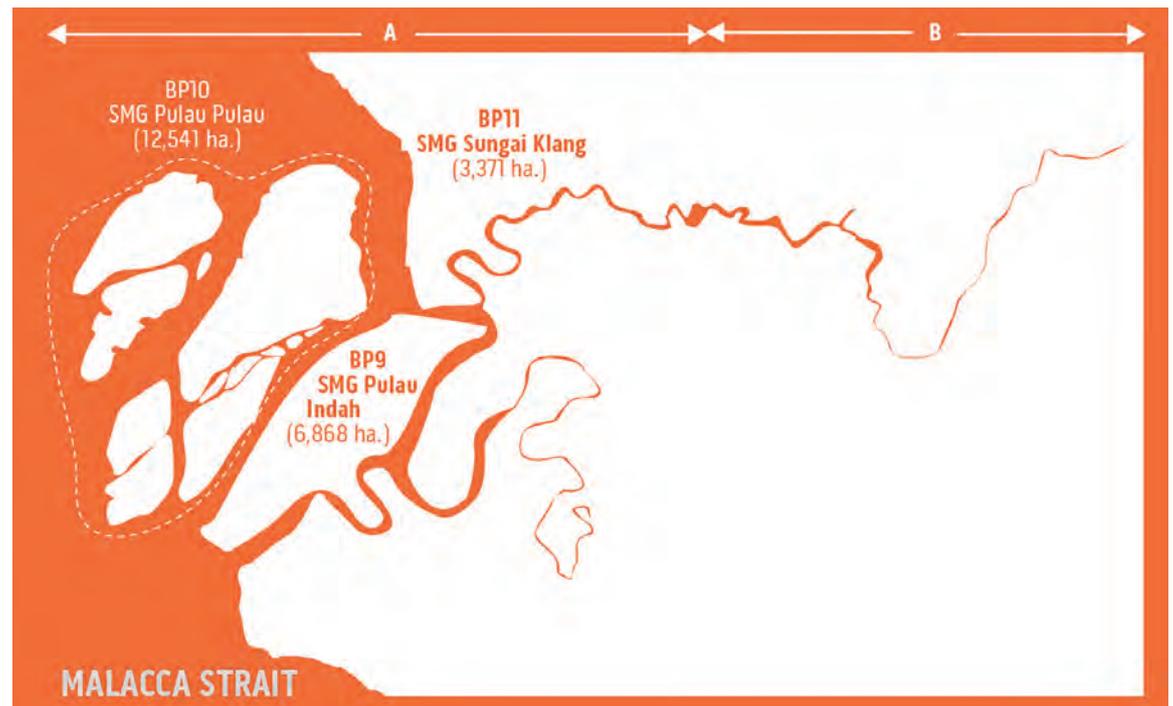
The 20th edition of Para Sukma took place from Nov 1 to 6 last year, with 15 state contingents participating in 10 sports and 294 events.

The Klang River Renaissance

The Selangor Maritime Gateway Economic Development Zone (ZPE SMG) will be the first investment corridor in Malaysia that recognises the river as a potential economic generator.

It is a major project under the First Selangor Plan 2021–2025 to accelerate economic growth by taking advantage of the Sungai Klang waterway, which is also the location of two major ports — Westports and Northport.

This new zone covers over 27,900 hectares of land from Mid Valley in Kuala Lumpur to the mouth of the river and islands near Port Klang.



Strategic goals



To address the five challenges at Sungai Klang — pollution, untapped land development potential, flooding, the ability to supply water to strategic locations, and telecommunication connectivity



To increase environmental conservation



To create sustainable living and affordable housing



To provide employment and income opportunities

High-impact projects under ZPE SMG

Integrated Water and River Management (IWRM) and Sustainable Livelihoods by Landasan Lumayan Sdn Bhd (LLSB)

To focus on flood mitigation, with the construction of new off-river storage and water channelling facilities, and a rainwater harvesting system for commercial and industrial use

Pulah Island infrastructure

To create a future investment hub in Pulau Indah and provide job opportunities for the people there

Redevelopment of Shah Alam Stadium by MBI

The 28-year-old stadium to be given a new lease of life and feature state-of-the-art facilities and safety features

Early warning system for floods improved by LLSB and Smart Selangor Delivery Unit (SSDU)

An application to provide up-to-date information and flood warnings for high-risk areas, including evacuation points and assistance

5G connection by LLSB and SMARTSEL

To provide 5G coverage at some 150 Point-Of-Presence (POP) sites along the ZPE SMG and transform the environment into an Industrial Revolution 4.0 solution