



Five interesting buildings in KL

LOCATED in the central region of Malaysia with an area of 243sq km, Kuala Lumpur is a city that is rich with British colonial buildings, magnificent skyscrapers and a mix of modern and postmodern architecture.

Here are five interesting facts you probably didn't know about Kuala Lumpur:

- **Home to one of the tallest buildings in the world.**

The Merdeka 118 tower, also known as PNB 118 is set to become the second tallest building in the world after Burj Khalifa upon completion in late 2022. The tower, standing at 118 floors and 678.9m is classified as a mega tall skyscraper by the Council on Tall Buildings and Urban Habitat.

The cladding for the structure is made up of 18,144 panels, 114,000sq m of glass and 1,600,000kg of window frame extrusions. According to ARUP, the design of Merdeka 118 was inspired and modelled after Tunku Abdul Rahman's gesture when he chanted "Merdeka!" as he proclaimed Malaysia's independence on Aug 31, 1957.

- **The Petronas Twin Towers are inspired by Islamic architecture and culture.**

The Petronas Twin Towers are undoubtedly the most iconic landmark across Malaysia. The building is 88 storeys high and once held the record for the tallest building in the world.

The architect, César Pelli, based his designs off the Rub El Hizb, the eight-pointed star in the Islamic religion. The structure of the Rub El Hizb can also be seen from the bird's-eye view. The twin towers have the world's largest foundation with 120m of solid foundation beneath its concrete footings to withstand the height and weight of the towers.

- **Malaysia's very own opera house**

Istana Budaya was established in 1999 and it is the country's main venue for numerous local and international performances.

The design of Istana Budaya is said to be based on several aspects of Malay culture. The sloping roof is a resemblance of the 'sirih junjung', which is a betel leaf arrangement used at Malay weddings and ceremonial functions to welcome guests. Besides that, the building features the design elements of a Malay house with three main parts.

The 'serambi' or foyer inspired the design of the lobby, 'rumah ibu' or main house for the auditorium and 'rumah dapur' or kitchen for the rehearsal hall.

As the first theatre in Asia to have state-of-the-art equipment and home to talents such as the National Symphony Orchestra, Istana Budaya is rated as one of the most sophisticated theatres in the world, on par with London's Royal Albert Hall.

- **The magnificent Sultan Abdul Samad Building**

Inspired by Moorish and Neo-Mughal architecture, this building is one of Malaysia's most iconic landmarks. According to the *Journal of the Malaysian Branch of the Royal Asiatic Society*, the construction of this building used approximately 4 million bricks, 2,500 barrels of cement, 108,862kg of lime, 2,268kg of copper and 45,359kg of steel and iron, and about 850 cubic metres of lumber, making it the biggest construction at the time. The engineer incorporated several types of arches that helped with ventilation throughout the building. As one of the first government offices in Malaysia, this structure was the city's first to be lit by electricity and exterior gas lights.

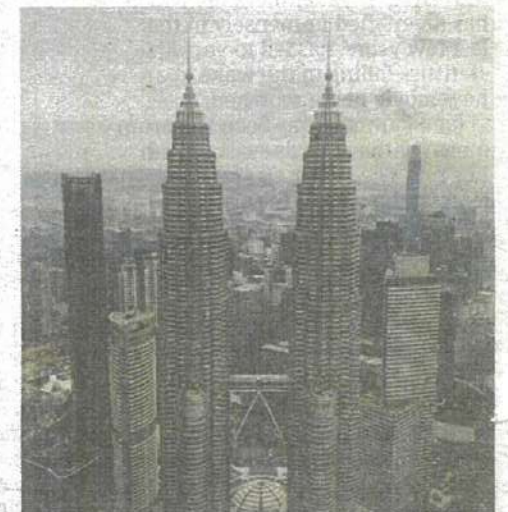
- **The futuristically designed Saloma Link**

Saloma Link (Pintasan Saloma) is a pedestrian and cyclist bridge constructed to connect Kampung Baru and Kuala Lumpur City Centre. Similar to Istana Budaya, the architecture of the bridge was inspired by the 'Sirih Junjung' concept of Malay culture. The bridge is a single span steel construction with over 4,000 diamond facade panels that are lighted up with LED lighting that changes pattern from time to time.

These buildings highlight stunning architecture with a nod to contemporary

designs and local culture. But in addition to this, one also has to admire the engineering and construction that went into making such buildings possible.

It is perhaps the expectation for new structures to incorporate both dazzling design and practicality. As such, there is always a demand for high-calibre engineers and architects, a possibility only with advanced tertiary education.



Islamic architecture is incorporated in the design of the Petronas Twin Towers.

Tunggakan gaji selesai sebelum jumpa JDT

MASALAH tunggakan gaji yang membelenggu Kuala Lumpur (KL) City FC akan diselesaikan sebelum aksi Liga Super berdepan penyandang juara, Johor Darul Ta'zim (JDT) bulan depan, lapor **ZURAIMEE ZAINAL**.

Itu jaminan Ketua Pegawai Eksekutif (CEO) KL City FC, Stanley Bernard sambil menyifatkan situasi dihadapi juara Piala Malaysia kendalian Bojan Hodak bukan suatu perkara baharu.

"Ya... ini bukan kali pertama (masalah tunggakan gaji) berlaku sebab kami pernah berdepan situasi sama musim lalu semasa kempen Piala Malaysia, cuma tidak begitu kedengaran seperti sekarang.

"Yang bagusnye apabila berdepan situasi sebegini, KL City sudah ada jawapan untuk barisan kejurulatihan dan pemain. Malah, mereka tahu duit itu ada dan boleh diselesaikan.

"Minggu ini kita akan bayar apa yang patut dibayar dan saya beri jaminan perkara ini akan di-



Stanley (kanan) dan Hodak meraikan kejayaan KL City muncul juara Piala Malaysia di Stadium Nasional, Bukit Jalil musim lalu.

selesaikan sebelum menentang JDT," katanya kepada *Sukan Sinar* pada Isnin.

Selepas dua perlawanan, *The City Boys* kendalian Bojan Hodak yang kini menduduki tangga ketujuh Liga Super akan menanti kunjungan JDT di Stadium Bola Sepak Kuala Lumpur, Cheras pada 6 April depan.

Ditanya mengenai desas-desus statusnya sebagai CEO KL City, Stanley berkata, beliau menyertai *The City Boys* tanpa sebarang pengaruh politik, sebaliknya secara

merit sebagai 'orang bola sepak'.

"Itulah sebab perlunya penswastaaan kelab yang akan jadi *bullet proof politics* sebab sebarang perubahan landskap politik tidak akan menjejaskan operasi kelab, sekiranya itu berlaku di KL City, ia sesuatu yang bagus.

"Namun saya akui kelab juga memerlukan kerjasama erat dan sokongan berterusan dalam kalangan orang politik dalam aspek penajaan dan dana bagi memastikan legasi kelab pada masa depan," ujarnya.

Oleh Firdaus Hashim
firdaushashim@hmetro.
com.my

Kuala Lumpur: Perbezaan ideologi politik menyaksikan juara Piala Malaysia musim lalu, **Kuala Lumpur City FC (KL City)** menjadi mangsa keadaan dan ia terbukti apabila gaji pemain dan pegawai pasukan sangkut sejak dua bulan lalu.

Menurut Presiden Persatuan Bolasepak Kuala Lumpur (KLFA), Khalid Samad, beliau sanggup melepaskan jawatannya dalam persatuan itu demi kebaikan pasukan KL City.

Katanya, kegagalan pasukan menjelaskan gaji pemain ekoran geran tahunan yang sepatutnya diberikan

Dewan Bandaraya Kuala Lumpur (DBKL) tidak disalurkan.

Ujarnya lagi, situasi itu mungkin disebabkan kedudukannya daripada parti politik berlainan yang menyaksikan dana itu tergantung, sekaligus

Isu gaji KL City ada kaitan politik?

Harian Metro • 15/3/22 (Selasa) • pg. 45



KHALID dan Kapten KL City, Paulo Josue menjulang trofi Piala Malaysia.

tidak boleh menjelaskan gaji pasukan.

"Kerana 50 peratus pegangan saham itu tidak muncul dan tanggungan kos sebanyak 50 peratus juga tidak berlaku. Syarikat ini pula diberikan Stadium Kuala Lumpur yang dipajak kepada mereka atas alasan

ia merupakan syarikat yang menyokong KL City FC tetapi sebenarnya tidak.

"Soal jawatan presiden KLFA ini tidak penting kerana apa yang penting adalah KL City ini dapat dimajukan dan dijayakan. Saya tidak mahu KLFA dijadikan tempat untuk berpolitik

atas kepentingan individu atau kumpulan tertentu," katanya pada Kongres ke-33 KLFA, kelmarin.

Difahamkan, hari ini Khalid Samad dan Ketua Pegawai Eksekutif KL City, Stanley Bernard akan mengadakan pertemuan dengan Menteri Wilayah Perseku-

Soal jawatan presiden KLFA ini tidak penting kerana apa yang penting adalah KL City ini dapat dimajukan dan dijayakan"

Khalid Samad

tuan, Datuk Seri Shahidan Kassim bagi mencari jalan penyelesaian.

Musim lalu, di bawah kepimpinan Khalid Samad dan Stanley, KL City berjaya menamatkan kemarau 32 tahun memenangi Piala Malaysia apabila menewaskan Johor Darul Ta'zim (JDT) 2-0 di perlawanan akhir yang berlangsung di Stadium Nasional Bukit Jalil.

Pahang

Those keen on visiting Mossy Forest need to use a travel agent service for now >2



Selangor

Landslips in Section 4, Taman Kinrara causing residents sleepless nights >2



Johor

New Chinese primary school in Iskandar Puteri to start classes soon >4

Perched: Friends of Sungai Klang co-founder Syuen Toh looking at a trolley stuck in a tree after it was thrown from a pedestrian bridge connecting Gardens Mall to the Abdullah Hukum apartment. - YAP CHEE HONG/The Star

Carted away

Shopping trolleys are ending up in unlikely places because of public apathy

By BAVANI M
bavanim@thestar.com.my

ABANDONED shopping trolleys near carparks and mall parking bays are a common sight but of late, there seems to be more that end up in the strangest locations. During last December's big flood, waste removal contractor Alam Flora not only discovered many of these trolleys in man-

holes and public drains, but also in Sungai Klang.

In fact, trolleys that have been abandoned by shoppers are ending up further away from the malls or supermarkets they originate from.

Trolleys have been found blocking pedestrian walkways, roads, drains, kerbs and road reserves and even alleys and lanes.

They are likely to have been transported there by vagrants and homeless people.

While there is no data on the number of abandoned shopping trolleys in Kuala Lumpur, Alam Flora contractors say they have collected thousands all over the city the past few years alone.

Since the trolleys belong to a third party, the waste collection company usual-

ly leaves the trolleys at a safe location to be collected later.

Lack of civic consciousness

Judging from the number of abandoned trolleys, it would seem that shoppers are apathetic about returning them to the stores.

> TURN TO PAGE 3

By FARID WAHAB
faridwahab@thestar.com.my

RESIDENTS of two housing estates affected by landslides in Ampang, Selangor have been urged to contact the authorities.

Ampang Jaya Zone 23 councillor Mohamad Samat said the authorities were trying to determine the exact number of people affected in Taman Mega Jaya and Taman Bukit Permai.

"After the landslide, many residents vacated the area quickly before the authorities could get their information.

"There is a need for a proper registry for coordination purposes.

"A WhatsApp group has been set up to relay updates to residents.

"Those who have yet to get in touch, can call me at 012-246 8539," he told *StarMetro*.

Mohamad noted that the police, with help from Ampang Jaya Municipal Council (MPAJ), was stepping up patrols in the area. "This is to ensure that no criminal activities take place at the vacated houses,

Get in touch with authorities, Ampang landslide victims urged

"MPAJ also installed a spotlight in the area to help with the slope monitoring and patrols at night," he added.

He explained that the Public Works Department, Mineral and Geoscience Department, and Malaysian Institute of Public Works were still mapping the slope.

On Sunday, the police ordered the evacuation of 15 houses along Jalan Bukit Permai 1 after soil movement was detected on the hill.

However, no casualties or destruction of property were reported.

Taman Bukit Permai is located atop a hill next to the Taman Mega Jaya housing area. A landslide on March 10 had claimed four lives while a fifth victim suffered minor injuries.

Fifteen houses and 10 vehicles were also damaged in the incident.

The area was declared a disaster zone a day after, resulting in the evacuation of residents from 48 homes in Jalan Teratai 1/2K, Jalan Teratai 1/2J and Jalan Mega 15.

None of the residents, however, chose to stay at the relief centre set up at Dewan MPAJ in Kampung Cheras Baru.

Hulu Langat Welfare Department officer Mohd Faizal Anwar said many victims preferred staying at a hotel or with their relatives.

"There were some who came here and registered their names but did not spend the night.

"Unlike during the movement control order, people are now able to travel and

book private accommodation, and this may have contributed to the low occupancy here," he said.

Mohd Faizal added that Hulu Langat district officer Dr Ani Ahmad, who also chairs the disaster committee at local level, would decide how long the centre would remain operational.

"The staff here will prepare accordingly and provide basic assistance such as bedding items to newcomers," he elaborated.

On Jalan Bukit Permai 2, several men were seen putting up tarpaulin sheets on the slope while being supervised by MPAJ personnel and the police.

At Taman Mega Jaya, several houses and roads next to the slope were still covered in mud and earth.

'Trolley dumping affects environment'

> FROM PAGE 1

Taman United resident Mary Gan said the situation was never this bad 20 years ago when most supermarkets employed the coin-operated lock system, where shoppers needed to insert a coin to use a trolley.

"Now, citizens have this *tidak apa* attitude and think it's okay to leave their trolleys on a road kerb," said Gan.

"I have seen a resident from the Abdullah Hukum flat abandon his shopping trolley on a bridge and I have also witnessed a woman driving a luxury vehicle leaving her trolley on a busy road kerb at Jalan Sepadu off Jalan Kelang Lama - both times these adults were with their children.

"How is that okay?" griped Brickfields resident Dr Jaya Bushani.

"What kind of lessons are you teaching your children when you do this in front of them?"

"People who litter and abandon their trolleys are irresponsible," she added.

In 2005, when Bank Negara announced the withdrawal of the RM1 coin, many supermarkets did away with the coin-lock system.

As a result, more trolleys were abandoned, posing a nuisance to **Kuala Lumpur City Hall** and Alam Flora.



Trolleys abandoned by shoppers at a pedestrian bridge in the Mid Valley area in Kuala Lumpur. — YAP CHEE HONG/The Star



Ummi suggests installing a tracker on trolleys to curb dumping.



Kalithasan says trolley dumping strains river infrastructure.



Dr. Jaya says people who abandon trolleys are irresponsible.



Tan calls on supermarkets to take responsibility for lost trolleys.

Environmental impact

Global Environment Centre (GEC) river care programme manager Dr K. Kalithasan said trolley dumping was impacting the environment significantly.

"Trolleys that end up in the river and monsoon drains can strain the infrastructure placed there to trap rubbish," he said.

Tzu Chi recycling centre coordinator Francis Tan concurred with Kalithasan, adding that shopping trolleys had at least a 20-year lifespan.

"Imagine being underwater for years and apart from the rust build-up, rubbish also gets trapped inside the trolleys.

"Also, if the lost trolleys are not returned, then these would have to be replaced by the owners, and the vicious cycle continues with more trolleys ending up at the bottom of rivers and seas," he said.

Both Tan and Kalithasan said the trolley owners, which were supermarkets and supermarkets, must take responsibility for these lost trolleys.

"They cannot say it is beyond

their jurisdiction or control and should take it as their social responsibility to do something about it," said Kalithasan.

Meanwhile, Public Cleansing Corporation (SWCorp) Federal Territories director Umami Kalthum Shuib, when contacted, said it was an offence to dump waste indiscriminately under the Solid Waste and Public Cleansing Management Act 2007.

"In the case of abandoned shopping trolleys, it is not fair to blame the supermarkets as they are not the ones abandoning them," she said.

"It is akin to people living in strata units dumping waste outside their properties — we cannot blame the joint management body or management corporation.

"There is no proof where the waste came from."

"But we know who these trolleys belong to and we can get in touch with the owners and engage with them to find ways to resolve this issue," she said.

Umami also suggested solutions such as introducing a coin deposit system or installing a tracker for the trolleys to curb indiscriminate dumping.

Coin-lock system reintroduced to curb trolley removal

By BAVANI M
bavanim@thestar.com.my

SUPERMARKET operator Aeon Co (M) Bhd has pledged to work closer with stakeholders, in the vicinity where it operates, to ensure its collection teams are sufficiently resourced to enable effective and timely collection of abandoned trolleys.

Its chief operating officer Sunny Setiawan said Aeon was aware of the abandoned trolley issue.

"Although it is not happening at all outlets, we are aware of our trolleys being abandoned and misused."

Sunny explained that Aeon's trolleys were identified with dedicated serial numbers.

"They are being maintained regularly and strategically placed at trolley bays for the convenience of users."

"Users are highly encouraged to return the trolleys to trolley bays," she said.

She added that trolleys outside the building perimeters would be collected by Aeon employees.

"However, challenges arise when trolleys are taken beyond the boundaries of our business premises and into spaces not identified as collection areas."

"The trolleys are brought into residential properties that our employees cannot access."

"Among the best practices being



Supermarket trolleys cost about RM300 to RM400 each.

adopted by Aeon to manage this situation is through a cooperation formed with security and facilities management personnel, with the support of building owners and joint management body.

"Aeon employees are allowed periodical access to collect trolleys from identified hotspots that are away from our premises."

"For trolleys abandoned at other areas where we have no access, they will inform and allow us access to collect the trolleys when necessary," she explained.

Asked about the number of trol-

leys Aeon had lost since 2005, when the RM1 coin had been discontinued, the company was unable to disclose any figures.

However, Sunny said as part of its control measures, the company reintroduced the coin-lock system two years ago.

It uses the new 50sen to unlock the trolleys at some Aeon stores.

"Although it does not completely eradicate the problem, it has helped to reduce the number of trolleys leaving our buildings," she revealed.

Sunny said the price of each



Sunny: The coin-lock system has helped to reduce the number of trolleys leaving Aeon's premises.

trolley was about RM300 to RM400 each.

"A sizeable budget is allocated every year by our outlets for the cost of collecting, maintaining and replacing the trolleys in an effort to ensure that they are always in good condition for users."

"In order to minimise the potential environmental impact of abandoned trolleys, our efforts are ongoing to encourage responsible use through communication in the form of notice guides, educational posters and personal engagements."

Sunny urges the public with lost trolley information to call 1300-80-AEON(2366) or email feedback@aeonretail.com.my or customer.careline@aeonbig.com.my



TRAFFIC MATTERS

> Road closures and traffic diversions on Jalan Langkat, Klang (between Persiaran Batu Nilam 1 and Persiaran Botanik junctions, Klang-bound, and between Jalan Mahogani junction and Shell Bandar Botanik, Banting-bound) because of LRT3 project-related works from 10pm to 5am until March 18.

Motorists heading towards Klang will be diverted onto Persiaran Botanik and Persiaran Batu Nilam 16 before turning right to Persiaran Batu Nilam 1 before heading straight. Motorists heading towards Banting will be diverted onto Jalan Mahogani and Persiaran Mahogani before taking the fourth junction at the roundabout and turning left on Jalan Salam.

> Same applies to the New Klang Valley Expressway (NKVE) from KM14.9 to KM16.2 (Kuala Lumpur, Sungai Buloh, Shah Alam and Subang-bound) opposite Ara Damansara Winchester to Damansara Legenda from 11pm to 5am until March 31. Kuala Lumpur and Sungai Buloh-bound motorists will be diverted to the opposite side of NKVE via contra-flow traffic. Motorists from Shah Alam and Subang heading towards Petronas and Shell will have to access them from the extreme right lane. Four lanes will be made available to motorists from Kuala Lumpur and Sungai Buloh heading towards Shah Alam and Subang. For details, call the LRT3 helpline at 1-800-18 2585.

MARKET PLOT LICENCE

Plot selection and online payment of temporary licences for Ramadan food markets under the purview of Ampang Jaya Municipal Council are open until March 21. For details, call the Licensing and Entrepreneur Development Department at 03-4285 7344 or visit MPAJ's official website www.mpa.gov.my.

FREE TRANSPORTATION

Shah Alam City Council is offering free transportation to persons with disabilities cardholders as well as senior citizens who have medical appointments at Hospital Shah Alam, Klinik Kesihatan Section 7, Shah Alam, Klinik Kesihatan Section 19, Shah Alam, Klinik Kesihatan Bukit Kuda, Klang, Hospital Tengku Ampuan Rahimah Klang, Hospital Besar Sungai Buloh, Klinik Kesihatan Sungai Buloh and University Malaya Medical Centre, Petaling Jaya, from 9.30am to 5pm on weekdays. Prior booking is required. For details, call 03-5522 2732 or 03-5510 5133.

BULK WASTE DISPOSAL

Petaling Jaya City Council will hold a spring cleaning programme at S\$9 and PUJ3/18 on March 19, Section 6, 7 and 52 in Lorong Utara and Section 4 and 5 in Kota Damansara on March 20, PJS 2, 4 and Sri Damansara 9 on March 26 and PJS 5, 6 and Sri Damansara 8 on March 27. Residents are to place their unwanted items in front of their homes before 10am. For details, call the council's Solid Waste Management and Public Cleansing Department at 03-7954 1440.

POSTER COMPETITION

Malaysian Nature Society is organising a digital poster competition in conjunction with International Macaque Day. Closing date is March 31. To submit, visit <https://bit.ly/3t6s8q5>.

BEFRIENDERS TRAINING

Befrienders Ipoh will hold a hybrid training course for volunteers who are keen to provide support to the needy from April 2 to 10. For details, WhatsApp 012-534 0063.