

Roadside traders still breaking rules

Stalls lining public walkway pose risk to road users

By BAVANI M.

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TRADERS operating on the pavements along the bustling Jalan Jalil Perkasa 1 in Bukit Jalil, Kuala Lumpur, are causing congestion and endangering pedestrians there.

Some traders also leave behind tables, chairs, pots and pans at the site when they close for the day, which is in violation of their licensing agreement with Kuala Lumpur City Hall (DBKL).

Residents complain that these items are obstructing the public walkway.

"There is no place for me to walk, because some stalls place their goods all over the ground," said Kelly Tan.

"I am forced to walk on the road, which is a main street. It is dangerous as the traffic is heavy and vehicles move fast along that stretch," Tan added.

Another resident, Jeeva Mala said she used to jog along the stretch.

She noted that before the Covid-19 pandemic, only one or two stalls were operating there but later, the number mushroomed and took up the entire stretch of pavement.

"I know the mobile traders have

a licence under the Wilayah Prihatin programme, but they are not supposed to leave their items and block the walkway," she said.

The Wilayah Prihatin programme was initiated by DBKL and Federal Territories Ministry during the movement control order period to alleviate the hardship faced by those who lost their jobs.

Suitable sites were identified so mobile traders could operate from food trucks, tricycles and stalls with canopies, but they had to clear the site at the end of the day.

On a recent visit, *StarMetro* found dozens of closed stalls, some covered with tarpaulin, along with chairs and tables cluttering up the pathway.

When contacted by *StarMetro*, a DBKL officer from the Seputeh branch confirmed that traders in the area were notorious for not following rules.

"Our officers are constantly issuing summonses to them."

Under the programme, over 5,000 licences were approved in all three federal territories.

However, there have been complaints that the traders were creating various problems such as congestion, littering and pollution.



Roadside stalls occupying a public walkway along the busy Jalan Jalil Perkasa 1 in Bukit Jalil, Kuala Lumpur.
— CHAN TAK KONG/The Star



An enforcement officer issuing a notice to traders for various infringements at Jalan Jalil Perkasa 1 in Bukit Jalil.
— Photo courtesy of DBKL

Penduduk rayu campur tangan PM

Pemilik kediaman Kampung Sungai Baru resah kemelut pemaju ambil tanah tak selesai

Oleh Muhammad Yusri Muzamir
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Kuala Lumpur: Perdana Menteri, Datuk Seri Ismail Sabri Yaakob dirayu turun padang bertemu penduduk Kampung Sungai Baru di Kampung Baru, di sini yang runting masih berdepan kemelut isu pengambilan tanah menempatkan kediaman mereka oleh syarikat pemaju.

Menurut penduduk, campur tangan Perdana Menteri amat perlu bagi membela nasib mereka yang tidak dapat berunding secara terus dengan pemaju, selain mendakwa gagal mendapat tawaran pampasan yang munasabah.

Ahli Parlimen Shah Alam, Khalid Abdul Samad pada sidang media bersama Jawatankuasa Bertindak Penduduk Sungai Baru semalam, berkata warta mengikut Seksyen 8 Akta Pengambilan Tanah 1960 (Akta 486) perlu ditarik balik supaya penduduk boleh berunding dengan pemaju untuk mencapai kata sepakat.

"Katanya ada rundingan khas di antara penduduk dan pemaju menerusi sesi libat urus baru-baru ini, namun penduduk men-



Khalid (dua dari kiri) bersama sebahagian penduduk pada sidang media di Pusat Kawasan Rukun Tetangga Kampung Sungai Baru, semalam. (Foto Fariz Iswadi Ismail/BH)

dakwa wakil pemaju tidak hadir, sebaliknya sesi dikendalikan Perbadanan Pembangunan Kampung Bharu (PKB) dan apabila diajukan soalan, pengerusi dikawala tidak menjawab.

"Jadi, kehadiran ke sesi libat urus itu sia-sia, malah tindakan PKB didakwa tidak tepat. Sepertinya mereka mewakili penduduk, namun dilihat seperti jadi wakil pemaju dan ini yang jadi persoalan," katanya pada sidang media di Pusat Kawasan Rukun Tetangga (KRT) Kampung Sungai Baru, semalam.

Khalid berkata, penggunaan Seksyen 8 Akta 486 juga meningkatkan persoalan kerana tanah yang diambil berstatus pemilikan peribadi, mempunyai geran dan sudah menjadi milik penduduk terbabit sejak berpuluhan tahun.

"Jadi, Perdana Menteri perlu masuk campur turun jumpa pen-

deduk. Saya juga sudah membentuk jawatankuasa dianggotai beberapa peguam yang boleh kaji mengikut sudut undang-undang, lihat bagaimana boleh cabar keputusan untuk membantu pemilik supaya diberi hak mereka," katanya.

Sementara itu, wakil Jawatankuasa Bertindak Penduduk Sungai Baru, Azlan Mustafa berkata, penduduk terbabit dengan pengambilan tanah sudah menerima arahan mengikut Seksyen 4 dan Seksyen 8 Akta 486 supaya mengosongkan kediaman pada 31 Julai depan.

Katanya, rayuan penduduk untuk melanjutkan tempoh pengosongan itu sudah dikemukakan kepada Jabatan Ketua Pengarah Tanah dan Galian (JKPTG), namun dimaklumkan ia perlu dibuat melalui PKB selaku pemegang hak harta tanah bagi pembangunan se-

mula Kampung Sungai Baru, tiada halangan membenarkan pemilik kediaman itu terus mendiami rumah berkenaan sehingga 31 Julai depan.

Rancangan pembangunan di Kampung Sungai Baru dilapor membatikan penduduk di dua jenis kediaman, iaitu Flat PKNS dan rumah di tanah perseindian, dengan 264 daripada 328 unit adalah flat dan selebihnya rumah teres dianggar berkeluasan 6.8 hektar.

Difahamkan, 30 peratus penduduk tidak bersetuju dengan pam-pasan ditawarkan, iaitu RM240,000 hingga RM260,000 bagi unit flat dan kira-kira RM400 sekaki persegi bagi kategori rumah teres.

Azlan yang juga Ahli Jawatankuasa (AJK) Penduduk Kampung Sungai Baru mengakui pihaknya faham kesukaran untuk mencapai kesepakatan antara dua pihak, namun peluang mengadakan rundingan dengan pemaju sekurang-kurangnya akan memberi keleegan kepada penduduk.

"Hampir setahun kami dikenakan warta, tertekan mental dan fizikal kerana banyak usaha sudah dilakukan sebelum ini. Namun, sesi libat urus pada 6 Jun lalu tidak dihadiri wakil pemaju, sebaliknya diterajui PKB, jadi bagaimana mahu capai matlamat?"

"Penubuhan PKB sepatutnya untuk memantau pembangunan di kawasan ini, namun jika ini yang dibawa, bukan pembangunan yang dibawa, tetapi hak kami sebagai penduduk di sini digadai," katanya.

Bekalan terhad, harga daging dari India melambung

Johor Bahru: Selepas ayam segar, bekalan daging sejuk beku dari India pula dilaporkan semakin terhad dengan harga produk berkenaan dilihat turut melambung kira-kira 20 peratus.

Tinjauan di pasar basah sekitar bandar raya ini termasuk di Pandan, mendapati bekalan daging 'kotak' dari India dilihat tidak sebanyak seperti sebelum ini, manakala harganya naik kepada RM17 sekilogram (kg) berbanding antara RM13 hingga RM14 sebelumnya.

Peniaga daging, Hafizul Mohamad, 40, berkata daging dari India menjadi pilihan peniaga makanan dan pengguna kerana lebih murah berbanding daging segar tempatan, namun sejak sebelum Aidilfitri lalu, produk import itu yang diterima daripada pembekal mulai berkurangan hampir separuh.

"Bekalan yang kami terima berkurang hampir separuh daripada biasa menyebabkan stok terhad. Keadaan semasa bekalan produk itu, terutama bahagian 'batang pinang' sudah mula ter-

putus menyebabkan peniaga makanan terutama peniaga sate dan pengguna mengeluh.

"Pembekal memaklumkan bekalan daging dari India sukar diperoleh sejak dua minggu lalu, malah peniaga daging kini juga sukar memperoleh tulang dan paru lembu dari Australia yang merentas permintaan tinggi daripada peniaga dan pengguna," katanya.

Katanya, walaupun harga daging import dari India naik antara RM3 hingga RM4 setiap kilogram, ia tetap lebih murah dan menjadi pilihan peniaga makanan serta pengguna berbanding daging segar tempatan berharga RM45 setiap kilogram yang hanya menerima sambutan ketika musim pe-rayan.

"Kini saya hanya terima 200kg daging import India daripada pembekal berbanding 400kg sebelumnya, jadi tak dapat tam-pung permintaan peniaga makanan dan pengguna," katanya dan turut diakui seorang peniaga daging di Pasar Taman Dahlia, Tampoi, Mohd Kamal Kamsan.

Mohd Kamal mengakui bekalan daging import India semakin berkurangan dan terhad sejak sebelum Aidilfitri lalu, namun tidak pasti punca sebenar melainkan maklumat pembekal bahan-wa produk itu menjadi rebutan banyak negara.

Peniaga makanan, Mohammad Izam Seran, pula berkata kenaikan harga daging import India yang mendakwa daripada RM215 sekotak kepada RM280 menyebabkan peniaga terpaksa meningkatkan harga makanan bersama-sama.

"Peniaga makanan, terutama nasi campur guna daging import India sebagai ramuan utama makanan berasas daging. Sekotak ada 20 paket, setiap paket 800 gram. Sejak harga daging India naik mendakwa dua bulan lalu, saya terpaksa naikkan harga makanan berasas daging sebanyak RM1.50," katanya.

Dalam perkembangan berkaitan, Timbalan Menteri Perdagangan Dalam Negeri dan Hal Ehwal Pengguna (PJDNEP), Datuk Rosol Wahid memberi jaminan bekalan barang akan termasuk ayam dan daging mencukupi bagi menampung permintaan sempena Aidiladha, bulan depan.

"Pengguna tak perlu bimbang mengenai bekalan barang asas. Kementerian Pertanian dan Industri Makanan (MAFI) memaklumkan bekalan berkaitan ternakan cukup, namun kami tetap memantau pasar raya seluruh negara me nerusi 2,000 penguat kuasa supaya tidak terjadi kekurangan bekalan."

"Kita tak mahu dengan maklumat salahaja tetapi tiada peman-tauan. Jika ada kekurangan bekalan, kita akan bincang dengan MAFI untuk pastikan stok mencukupi dalam pasaran," katanya.

yang ditemui ketika meninjau Program Jualan Keluarga Mala-yisia (PJKM) di Lotus Tebrau, semalam.

Katanya, pemantauan bekalan bukan sahaja oleh penguat kuasa, tetapi turut dibantu persatu pengguna dan rakyat yang boleh menyuarakan maklumat kepada KPJDNEP sekeranya mengesan kekurangan bekalan barang asas di pasaran untuk tindakan segera.

Mengenai PJKM, Rosol berkata, program itu sehingga kini merekodkan hasil jualan mencecah RM54 juta menerusi operasi di lebih 1,702 lokasi seluruh negara termasuk Sabah dan Sarawak bagi membantu rakyat yang terkesan dan terbeban dengan kos sara hidup.

"Di Johor pula, sehingga 4 Jun lalu, PJKM telah dilaksanakan di 273 lokasi meliputi semua kawasan Parlimen dengan nilai jualan mencecah RM7.1 juta," katanya memaklumkan antara barang tumpuan pengunjung adalah ayam segar, telur, minyak masak, gula, tepung dan sayur-sayuran.



Rosol Wahid

DBKL nafi lantik SCIB ganti tiang lampu

Berita Harian . 13/6/2022 (Bsin) - M/S: 17

Kuala Lumpur: Dewan Bandaraya Kuala Lumpur (DBKL) menafikan laporan media yang mengatakan pihaknya melantik Sarawak Consolidated Industries Berhad (SCIB) untuk melaksanakan apa-apa kerja bagi pihak berkuasa tempatan (PBT) itu.

"DBKL tidak pernah memberi kebenaran kepada mana-mana pihak bagi melantik SCIB atau mana-mana anak syarikatnya untuk melaksanakan apa-apa kerja bagi pihak DBKL," menurutnya dalam kenyataan semalam.

Media sebelum ini melaporkan, SCIB melalui anak syarikat milik penuhnya, SCIB Properties Sdn Bhd menerima surat lantikan bagi kontrak kejuruteraan, pemerolehan, pembinaan dan pengoperasian (EPCC) bernilai RM30.75 juta daripada Ennova Sdn Bhd (Ennova) membabitkan penggantian 200 unit tiang lampu di Lembah Klang untuk DBKL.

Penggantian tiang lampu yang dijangka bermula bulan ini dan berakhir Mei 2023 itu mencetuskan komen beberapa pihak yang mempertikaikan nilai kontrak yang disifatkan tidak sepadan dengan kerja pembinaan.

Sementara itu, Ketua Pegawai Operasi Ennova, Megat Rozaimi Jaafar, berkata penggantian

Sebenarnya ada 29 syarikat mendapat kebenaran ini dan setiap satu mempunyai cara mereka masing-masing untuk melaksanakan projek itu. Kontrak Ennova dengan SCIB membabitkan sebahagian daripada tiang lampu yang diberikan oleh DBKL melalui konsep ubah sewa.

**Megat Rozaimi Jaafar,
Ketua Pegawai Operasi Ennova**



tiang lampu konvensional di sekitar bandar raya ini bukan hanya memperkuatkkan rangkaian perkhidmatan 5G, malah menjadi sumber kewangan kepada DBKL.

Beliau yang menjawab kekelebihuan daripada kenyataan media Ahli Parlimen Kepong, Lim Lip Eng, kelmarin berkata tiang lampu sedia ada akan digantikan dengan tiang lampu berintegrasi yang juga boleh menampung *repeater* yang diperlukan untuk meluaskan jaringan telekomunikasi terutama teknologi 5G.

Katanya, Ennova mendapat kebenaran DBKL untuk melakukan kerja penggantian dengan kos dan pelaburan ditanggung pihak

syarikat bagi tempoh lima tahun.

"Ennova kemudian memberikan kontrak itu kepada SCIB untuk membina dan mengoperasikan 200 tiang lampu terbatit bagi pihak Ennova bermula bulan ini hingga Mei tahun depan.

"Justeru, tidak timbul DBKL memberikan kontrak bernilai RM30 juta kepada syarikat swasta hanya untuk menggantikan tiang lampu.

"Sebenarnya ada 29 syarikat mendapat kebenaran ini dan setiap satu mempunyai cara mereka masing-masing untuk melaksanakan projek itu.

"Kontrak Ennova dengan SCIB membabitkan sebahagian dari

pada tiang lampu yang diberikan oleh DBKL melalui konsep ubah sewa.

"Jadi, adalah tidak adil Lip Eng menyalahkan DBKL dalam hal ini sedangkan kontrak itu antara Ennova dan SCIB serta tidak membabitkan DBKL," katanya kepada BH semalam.

Katanya, setiap tiang lampu terdiri pelbagai saiz dan ketinggian itu akan membolehkan DBKL memperoleh nilai sewaan antara RM600 hingga RM1,000.

"Tiang lampu berintegrasi itu juga bukan pertama kali dipasang di negara ini, malah sudah banyak kawasan menggunakaninya termasuk di sesetengah tempat di bawah DBKL.

"Selain memberikan pencahayaan yang lebih baik, lampu ini boleh menyumbang kepada perluasan rangkaian teknologi 5G di ibu negara. Ia sebenarnya berintegrasi dengan menara 5G, separuh memang untuk lampu jalan dan sebahagian lagi bagi menampung *repeater*.

"Kita sewakan tapak *repeater* ini kepada syarikat telekomunikasi dan mendapat keuntungan sebelum membayar sewa kepada DBKL," katanya setiap tiang lampu itu boleh bertahan antara 20 hingga 30 tahun dengan penyeleggaraan yang baik.

Sinar Harian - 13.6.2022 - Isnin

SELANGOR/KL • PAHANG • NEGERI SEMBILAN

DBKL nafi lantik SCIB ganti tiang lampu

Tidak pernah beri kebenaran laksana kerja-kerja bagi pihak DBKL

Oleh ENGU
SHARIFUL AZNI
KUALA LUMPUR

Dewan Bandaraya Kuala Lumpur (DBKL) tidak pernah memberi kebenaran kepada mana-mana pihak melantik syarikat Sarawak Consolidated Industries Bhd (SCIB) melakukan kerja bagi agensi tersebut.

Unit Media DBKL menerima satu kenyataan pada Sabtu memberikan respons ber-

hubung kenyataan Ahli Parlimen Kepong, Lim Lip Eng tentang dakwaan kontrak RM30.75 juta untuk menggantikan 200 tiang lampu di Lembah Klang.

"Pihak DBKL tidak pernah melantik SCIB atau mana-mana anak syarikatnya atau memberikan kebenaran kepada pihak lain untuk melantik SCIB bagi melaksanakan kerja perkhidmatan kejuruteraan untuk penggantian tiang lampu pintar bersepadu DBKL bagi pihaknya," kata kenyataan itu.

Pada Sabtu, sebuah portal berita melaporkan tentang kontrak RM30.75

Kenyataan Unit Media DBKL yang dikeluarkan pada Sabtu.

juta yang diberikan oleh DBKL kepada sebuah syarikat untuk menggantikan 200 tiang lampu di Lembah Klang.

Lip Eng berkata, kos tersebut terlalu mahal dan meminta DBKL bersikap telus untuk mendedahkan butiran kerja yang terlibat dan penetapan harga.

DEWAN BANDARAYA KUALA LUMPUR
UNIT MEDIA (JABATAN PERANGKARDAN KORPORAT)
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KENYATAAN MEDIA

(Untuk Siaran Serta Merta)

DBKL Nafi Lantik SCIB

Kami ingin menegakkan kepada antara di beberapa media yang menyatakan Sarawak Consolidated Industries Bhd (SCIB) akan melaksanakan kerja di kawasan untuk DBKL.

Pihak DBKL tidak pernah memberi kebenaran kepada mana-mana pihak untuk melantik SCIB atau mana anak syarikatnya untuk melaksanakan apa-apa kerja bagi pihak DBKL.

Sekian.

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THE STAR, MONDAY 13 JUNE 2022

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Selangor

Over 100 firms have 20,000 vacancies to fill at mega job fair in Shah Alam
→4



Johor

Exco member going all out to identify those behind illegal dumpsite in JB
→5



Penang

Rest and relax at George Town bicycle hub aimed at promoting cycling in city
→6

Slowing down to save lives

Speed limits are being lowered on more Kuala Lumpur roads, especially around schools, malls and transport hubs in efforts to get motorists to reduce the rush in parts of the capital city. Pedestrians say the authorities should also act on hawkers at road junctions and motorists who double park and endanger road users. →2&3



Clear sign: Some roads in Kuala Lumpur already have a 30kmph speed limit such as this one in Jalan 1/152, Taman Perindustrian OUG, Jalan Kelang Lama. — CHAN TAK KONG/The Star

THE owner of a terrace house who alleged that his neighbour's renovations had structurally damaged his property is welcome to lodge a complaint with the relevant authorities if he suspects elements of corruption.

Klang Municipal Council's (MPK) Corporate Communications Department director Norfiza Mahfiz said this when asked about a video from the house owner which had gone viral.

The owner of the house in Taman Klang Jaya claimed he had to move out of his property for his family's safety as there were

MPK: Houseowner can file report with authorities over corruption allegations

wide cracks after his immediate neighbour turned his single-storey house into a double-storey structure.

"Our initial investigations based on the allegations made in the video revealed that plans had been submitted to the council where renovation

permits were issued to the consultants in 2012.

"The renovation works had received consent of the neighbours involved," she said.

Norfiza added that MPK had responded to issues brought up by the complainant after approval was given.

"We had also appointed a consultant to detect the cause of the cracks and to study the additional structure that was built," she said.

Norfiza added that MPK upheld the values of transparency and integrity.

"Our Legal Department will study the video in detail."

"MPK will not hesitate to lodge a report against individuals who issue defamatory statements against council employees."

"Legal action may also be taken against individuals who issue defamatory remarks against MPK," she said. — By EDWARD RAJENDRA



STAR METRO WATCH

WATER DISRUPTION

There will be a scheduled water supply disruption in 47 areas in the Petaling district from 9am on June 21. Water supply is expected to be fully restored by 9am the next day. For details, visit www.airselangor.com or call 15300 (Air Selangor Contact Centre).

MAH MERI CARNIVAL

Mah Meri Carnival 2022 will be taking place on June 18 and 19 at Kampung Orang Asli Sungai Bumbun, Pulau Carey, Selangor, from 10am to 5pm. It is the first time such a community-centred carnival will be held there involving all five Mah Meri villages on the island. There will be cultural performances, demonstrations and sales booths. For details, visit Jakao Negeri Selangor dan Wilayah Persekutuan Facebook page.

BLOOD DONATION

>Sunway Healthcare Group in collaboration with the National Blood Bank is organising a blood donation drive in Sunway TCM (Traditional & Complementary Medicine) Centre at Sunway Geo (June 13-14), Sunway Medical Centre Velocity (June 15-16) and Sunway Medical Centre, Sunway City (June 16-17). No walk-ins allowed. To register, go to https://bit.ly/SHGBloodDonationDrive_TCM, https://bit.ly/SHGBloodDonationDrive_SMC >Cardiac Vascular Sentral Kuala Lumpur (CVSKL) is holding a blood donation drive today at CVSKL, Level 1, Training Room, Jalan Stesen Sentral 5, Kuala Lumpur Sentral from 10am to 4pm. The programme will be assisted by medical professionals supported by the National Blood Bank. Donors must be aged 18 and above. To register, go to <https://forms.office.com/r/P9F8Vc2Kre>

TRAFFIC MATTERS

There will be lane closures and traffic diversions on Federal Highway, Kuala Lumpur bound (near Petronas and Shell Petrol Station) and Klang bound (BHP Petrol Station), from June 15 until Dec 31 all day on New Klang Valley Expressway after the Subang Toll Plaza (Subang/Shah Alam-bound) from June 15 to 30 from 11pm to 5am daily and on Jalan Langat (between Persiaran Batu Nilam 1 and Lebuh Batu Nilam junctions, Klang-bound) from June 14 to 18 from 10pm-5am daily, to facilitate LRT3 project-related works. For details, call 1-800-18-2585 (LRT3 helpline).

CANCER TALK

Cansurive Malaysia is organising a free webinar on cancer prevention, complementary holistic treatments and nutrition on June 25 from 3pm to 4.30pm. For details, visit www.cansurive.org.my and to register, go to <https://tinyurl.com/bdz23eyk>.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

>Kuala Selangor Nature Park is calling for volunteers to plant mangrove saplings on June 18. For details and registration, visit <https://forms.gle/445v8TAvn5szu-Lh99>. >Global Environment Centre is calling for 100 volunteers on June 25 for its monthly tree planting programme at Raja Musa Forest Reserve in Bestari Jaya, Selangor. For details and registration, visit <http://bit.ly/317cd1A>



The Star
EXCLUSIVE

There is a perception that motorists can ignore speed limits and get away with it on city roads. — Photos: CHAN TAK KONG, AZLINA ABDULLAH and BAVANI M

Paving the way for safe speed on roads in KL

Proposal to go slow at highly pedestrianised areas reduces risks of death or serious injury from accidents, says safety agency

By BAVANI M
bavanim@thestar.com.my

TEN more roads in the heart of Kuala Lumpur may soon have a mandatory speed limit of 30km per hour (kmph) imposed.

This is being proposed by Kuala Lumpur City Hall (DBKL) and Malaysian Institute of Road Safety Research (Miros), an agency under the Transport Ministry.

The roads being considered will probably be located in and around schools, malls and transport hubs.

While the locations have yet to be identified, newly appointed Miro's chairman Prof Dr Wong Shaw Voon said they hoped to introduce it at 10 highly pedestrianised areas.

The locations were also chosen based on actual records involving vulnerable road users as well as the high number of complaints and feedback received from the community.

Prof Wong, who is a lecturer at the Mechanical and Manufacturing Engineering Department of Universiti Putra Malaysia, said the authorities would also include speed management interventions like road humps, roundabouts and speed table rumble strips (transverse bars) to help slow down traffic in these areas.

Studies on the feasibility of the initiative are expected to be completed by the end of the year.

"DBKL has already imposed a 30kmph speed limit in some school zones."

"Under the new proposal, several roads with a current speed limit of 40kmph will be reduced to 30kmph while roads with 60kmph speed limit will be reduced to 50kmph," he added.

Prof Wong said by lowering the speed limit, the probability of death or serious injury could be reduced too.



The authorities will also include other speed management interventions like road humps, roundabouts and transverse bars to help slow down traffic in the city.

"People are constantly in a rush to get somewhere."

"If they could just slow down, we can prevent accidents."

"With speed management we can also reduce the number of accidents by adopting the safe system approach incorporating the three Es, namely engineering, education and enforcement."

"The safe system approach utilises the four elements of safer people, safer roads, safer speeds and safer vehicles."

He gave an example of a person driving fast who meets with an accident, but if the car is equipped with anti-braking system, airbags coupled with good road infrastructure, these would reduce the likelihood of fatalities or

serious injuries.

Prof Wong said under the safe system, all aspects needed to be improved, so that if one were to fail, the others would kick in.

"You can't control the accident but you can control the speed, which is essential in reducing accidents," said Prof Wong who was one of Malaysia's participants to the Third High Level Conference of Global Road Safety in Stockholm in February 2020.

Nine recommendations were proposed with a target of 50% reduction in road deaths and serious injuries by 2030.

Malaysia is one of the countries that ratified the "Stockholm Declaration" on road safety and one of the nine recommendations was

mandating a 30kmph speed limit in urban areas.

Prof Wong said that reducing the speed limit to 30kmph was recommended in some urban areas to protect vulnerable road users and accommodate human errors.

Many cities in the world have already adopted the system.

"Take Sydney, Australia, the central business district does not have schools or hospitals yet the speed is set at 30kmph because there are a lot of pedestrians," he said.

It has been reported that 80% of road accidents in Malaysia are caused by human error.

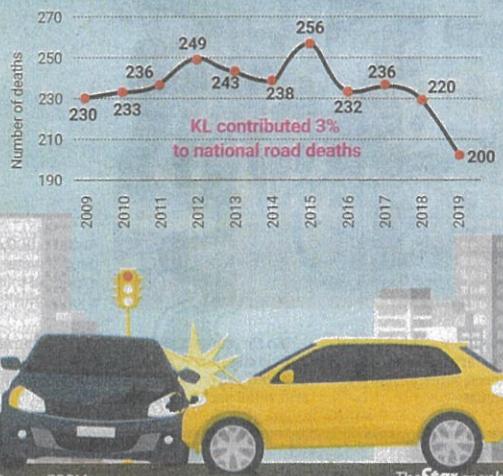
According to police data, in Kuala Lumpur alone, over 200 lives are lost every year in road accidents.

In national statistics, Kuala

"People are constantly in a rush to get somewhere. If they could just slow down we can prevent accidents. We have an opportunity here to save lives."

Prof Dr Wong Shaw Voon

Road deaths in Kuala Lumpur (2009-2019)



Source: PDRM

Lumpur contributed 3% of road deaths. (see chart)

The percentage of fatalities due to speed related crashes was 30%, while serious injuries accounted for 31%.

Speed-related crashes included vehicles that went out-of-control, overturned or hit roadside objects.

"We have an opportunity here to save lives by getting people to slow down," said Prof Wong, adding some residents had put up signs asking people to slow down on their own initiative.

An area in Kajang put up a sign board asking people to drive at 30kmph a few years ago.

"It was a neighbourhood with a lot of elderly folk and children."

"They did this although the speed limit was not sanctioned by the authority."

Prof Wong acknowledged there were already areas in the city where a 30kmph speed limit had been imposed but it was being ignored.

"This is where enforcement comes in which is part of the safe system approach."

"Together with engineering and education, we also need enforcement," he added.

Making city roads safer

Transportation planning expert Goh Bok Yen said road safety should be viewed from a broader perspective, not just reducing the speed limit.

"It is timely for DBKL to transform city roads and make them user-friendly to non-motorised vehicles such as bicycles and pedestrians."

"Achieving a more balanced redistribution of road space between vehicles and pedestrians in the central business district is crucial," Goh said.

He added that new road design guidelines to accommodate lower speed must come with wider and safer walkways for non-motorised users.

There must be a shift from traditional car-centric road design and operation to a balanced one which looks into the needs of multiple road users, said Goh.

"Arterial roads such as Jalan Kuching, Jalan Cheras and Jalan Tun Razak would still be vehicle-centric, whereas Jalan Tun HS Lee, Jalan Petaling and Jalan Tuanku Abdul Rahman should prioritise non-motorised vehicles by having wider walkways."

He said vehicle speed could be reduced by providing narrower lane widths for moving vehicles to lower operational speed.

Goh said the next move was to restrict certain categories of vehicles such as trailers in the CBD, only allow motorcycles on dedicated lanes in arterial roads and even having public transport-only roads like Oxford Street in London.

"Lowering the speed limit is the first step, what is more important is a mindset change on the part of motorists, pedestrians and other stakeholders."

Town planner Ihsan Zainal Mokhtar said KL needed to be made more walkable, hence a reduction in the speed limit of major roads was a way forward.

"But the roads, kerbs and walkways need to be redesigned too, otherwise it is just not safe," he said.



Traffic rules fall by the wayside in Jalan Sultan Abdul Samad in KL as vehicles cross the line at signalised traffic lights. The presence of roadside hawkers on pedestrian walkways in the background worsens the situation.

Dicing with danger every day at Jalan Sultan Abdul Samad

By BAVANI M
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EVERY day Sheila Shan says a prayer before taking her 11-year-old son to school.

Even though the school is only a five-minute walk from where she lives, the journey is stressful and treacherous.

On numerous occasions, she has almost been hit by a speeding car or motorcycle.

Sheila lives in a nearby condo in Brickfields, Kuala Lumpur, and uses the traffic light junction at Jalan Sultan Abdul Samad to cross the road and drop her son off at SJKT Vivekananda.

"I have almost been hit so many times that I have lost count."

"This happens even when the light is red, indicating the vehicles must stop."

"They (motorists and motorcyclists) don't care for our safety."

"I have to be constantly on the alert as they are travelling at high speed."

"That is why I have to take my son to school every day," she added.

What irks her even more is that Jalan Sultan Abdul Samad is a road with a gazetted speed limit of 30kmph.

It is located in the heart of residences, schools and places of worship and is heavily used at all hours of the day.

A grandmother who wanted to be known only as Devi, takes her granddaughters, aged five and six, to the same school.

She said that every day she literally dices with danger at the same junction.

"In one week there are near misses at least three to four times."

"Things are only okay when there is a traffic policeman on duty," she added.

"Sometimes those who almost hit me will apologise but that does not make their behaviour okay," said Devi, who fears for her grandchildren's safety.

Malar K, who works at the nearby Nu Sentral shopping centre, said motorists do not follow the traffic lights.

"The light turns green for pedestrians for only five seconds, yet they don't adhere to it and put us at risk."



Devi fears for her grandchildren's safety when crossing Jalan Sultan Abdul Samad in Brickfields.



Tamil Selvam says parents of SJKT Vivekananda pupils often double park to pick up and drop off their children.

Sheila said most motorists did not obey the traffic rules, including the 30kmph speed limit.

"There was a time a car came so fast as I was crossing."

"I stood my ground, yet he had the gall to threaten me," she recounted.

Lecturer John Manikam said roadside hawkers operating along the pedestrian walkway in front of Palm Court condo were endangering pedestrians.

"Cars are stopping at the traffic light junction to buy food and

drinks, contributing to the congestion and endangering schoolchildren."

"Why does Kuala Lumpur City Hall (DBKL) allow hawkers to sell at a traffic light junction?"

"What is the point of installing a signalled traffic light and CCTV when you allow hawkers to trade here?" he asked.

SJKT Vivekananda Parent-Teacher Association (PIBG) chairman Tamil Selvam said parents contributed to the congestion when they double parked to drop off and pick up their kids.

"Sometimes they have to go in circles to find a parking spot and this contributes to the congestion."

"We need a solution from DBKL as there have been minor accidents and near misses," he said.

StarMetro observed the traffic situation during a weekday and saw motorists flouting traffic rules along a stretch of Jalan Sultan Abdul Samad.

Despite road humps, 30kmph speed limit and Awas signs as well as the traffic light junction, pedestrians were not safe while crossing the road.



Watch the video
TheStarTV.com