



MAJLIS PERBANDARAN AMPANG JAYA
BAHAGIAN PERHUBUNGAN AWAM DAN SEKRETARIAT
MENARA MPAJ, JALAN PANDAN UTAMA,
PANDAN INDAH, SELANGOR,
55100 KUALA LUMPUR

KERATAN AKHBAR
24 MAC 2018 (SABTU)

AKHBAR

MUKA SURAT

The Star

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Address shoddy cleaning jobs, Pandan MCA tells local councils

TS 24/3/18

N/S 04

LOCAL councils in Selangor have to buck up on its primary task of keeping its areas clean or the Pandan MCA will get the Malaysian Anti-Corruption Commission (MACC) to check why this is happening.

Pandan MCA chief Datuk Leong Kok Wee said he would give the councils two weeks to shape up.

He added that about RM1bil was spent on domestic waste collection and cleaning up work but it was not up to par.

"It is not only happening in Ampang Jaya, but at almost all areas including Shah Alam, Subang Jaya and Puchong.

"I have been collecting data from other MCA branch representatives and they have said that the cleaning of drains in many residential and commercial areas have not been done for a very long time," he said in a press conference in Pandan Jaya, Ampang.

He said the Ampang Jaya Municipal Council (MPAJ) spent RM5mil a month on domestic waste collection and general cleaning, with

the latter taking up most of the costs.

"This is equivalent to RM60mil a year but clogged drains are still everywhere including in Pandan Indah, Taman Putra, Bandar Baru Ampang and Pandan Perdana.

Leong said as drains were cleaned up only after complaints were made, he decided to take the matter higher up.

"If the councils do not address the issue within two weeks, we will lodge a report with the MACC," he said.

Pandan Jaya resident Happy Tan, 62, said the drains in the busy commercial centre had not been cleaned for over three months.

"There is always a foul smell from the drains that are clogged with grease and other debris.

"I have even see the cleaners blowing dried leaves into the drains, which are not collected later," he added.

Action also was not taken against premises owners who closed up drains in front of their offices with cement.



Leong (right) during a visit to several areas in Pandan Jaya where the drains had not been cleaned for at least three months.



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STARMETRO, SATURDAY 24 MARCH 2018

Comment 7

The access to Bukit Kembara in Taman TAR was fenced up for the second time last year because of land ownership issues.

In a huff over trail closure

TS 24/3/18
M/S 07.

Bukit Kembara hikers bearing the brunt of council's lack of transparency

Citysism
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WHILE I huffed and puffed with every step, 64-year-old Sunny Low looked as cool as a cucumber as we made our way up the Bukit Kembara hiking trail in Taman Tun Abdul Razak (Taman TAR), Ampang.

The great outdoors and I have not been the best of friends lately, so endurance and stamina have been in short supply.

But for Low and many of his neighbours, hiking up Bukit Kembara is an escape and opportunity to keep themselves fit.

There is no official name for the trail, but hikers have nicknamed it "Bukit Kembara". It is referred to as the Ampang Impounding Reservoir trail as the hike leads to an old, disused reservoir surrounded by the Ampang Forest Reserve.

It is believed to be the first water supply reservoir in Kuala Lumpur completed in 1892 and was operational until the 1970s.

While there is another access via nearby Bukit Indah, the Taman TAR entry point is more popular among hikers as the former is quite steep.

The trail leads to a picturesque site of the old reservoir dubbed "the lake" by regulars, and it is a relatively strenuous (for me, at least) but short hike to the top.

At the top, it is a 360-degree walk around the lake with a mini waterfall surrounded by lush forest.

There is even a lookout point that stretches to the middle of the lake that was used to measure the reservoir's water level. Now, it is a favourite spot for anglers and photography enthusiasts.

Simply put, it is a charming spot for everyone, from nature lovers, jungle trekkers, dog walkers, bird watchers to senior citizens.

Herpetologists (specialists in reptiles and amphibians) occasionally organise walks to

visit the place during field trips.

Hikers have enjoyed unrestricted access to the trail for more than 30 years, so it was disappointing when the Taman TAR access point was suddenly closed off several times since last year.

It was reported in August last year that the route was illegally closed off by residents citing safety concerns. The fence was removed by Ampang Jaya Municipal Council (MPAJ) following complaints.

However, on Oct 11, it was discovered that the route was again fenced up, this time with a signboard stating that the land belonged to a private developer. Once again, it was deemed illegal and removed.

At the time, MPAJ stated that the narrow strip of land between two bungalows was state land.

However, the closure on March 1 received approval from MPAJ, stating that it was privately owned land.

The metal fencing is a stark intrusion to the forested area, with its cemented bricks, barbed wire and poles drilled into rocks cutting across a stream.

These inconsistent statements by the council drew confusion and the necessity for the fence remains a mystery.

There is no indication that the closure is a sign that any development will take place.

While respect should be given to the rightful owners of the land, it was the abrupt closure that did not sit well with most people.

Low, who has hiked up the trail daily for the past 10 years, said it was the lack of transparency that was most disappointing.

"We have always had a close relationship with the council. When there were any signs of soil erosion or fallen trees, we would inform them."

"Hikers also help to maintain the trail and it is a gathering spot for us," he said.

A recent peaceful protest and petition campaign failed to have any effect.

There has been no indication on why the fence was put up or if any leeway will be given for the use the trail.

For now, those who can manage the more difficult trail can have access to the reservoir.



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TS 24/3/18 n/s 09.

5 EARTH HOUR WITH MPAJ

Ampang Jaya Municipal Council (MPAJ) is hosting the Ampang 2018 Earth Hour Celebration today at Melawati Mall, Taman Melawati, Ampang, from 6pm to 10pm. Activities include a treasure hunt, stargazing and lantern handicraft sessions, as well as a talk on energy saving. For details, call 03-4285 7012 / 019-360 0723.



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Muka Surat	C3

2018年3月24日 星期六

大事

沟渠里堆满各类垃圾，也发出臭味。

cp 24/3/18 n/s C3.

溝渠垃圾清理疑涉“干捞”

梁國偉促地方政府交代

(班丹23日讯) 马华班丹区会主席拿督梁国伟质疑地方政府在处理清理沟渠和收固体垃圾开销存有舞弊成分，今日向雪州政府和安邦再也市议会喊话，要求两造在2周内交代相关开销细节。

梁国伟扬言，若两造无法合理解释，他将全州卫生情况报告呈给反贪委员会，让当局调查涉及“干捞”或舞弊成分。

他指出，近期接获班丹区不同地区居民投诉，包括班丹英达、班丹柏兰岭、班丹再也、太子园、丽华镇安邦新村、安邦新

镇等。

“居民指沟渠阻塞情况严重，有些沟渠的污水几乎不流动，如同死水，衍生卫生问题。”

衛生開銷一年6000萬

他说，收固体垃圾和清理沟渠是地方政府最庞大的开销，以安邦再也市议会为例，一年税收1亿令吉，其中60%用在卫生开销。

“雪州12个地方政府，估计一年花费1亿令吉在上述用途，不过卫生状况却不理想。”

他谴责地方政府监督不严，若承包商

没履行合同内容，但是地方政府继续付钱给他们，质疑当中有“干捞”成分。

梁国伟今日带领记者前往班丹再也商业区巡视，发现有些餐馆直接把油垢排入沟渠，有些沟渠则被泥沙或各种垃圾堵住，臭气熏天。

他说，地方政府有责任安排巡查队伍监督承包商的工作，若承包商没做好本分，继续获得付款就存有舞弊。

“地方政府要有问责的态度，如果承包商没有履行责任，就应该追回之前所付的款额。”

他说，油垢、垃圾都堆积在沟渠，造成沟渠排水受阻，令空气中洋溢臭味。

他揶揄雪州自夸是先进州，但是多年来的骨痛热症病例高居不下，是全国之冠，已反映雪州政府在管理卫生方面表现差劲。

“收固体垃圾的承包商表现一般，但清理沟渠的承包商更糟糕，导致多处的沟渠出现阻塞，成为连雨成灾的黑区。”

梁国伟(右)前往班丹再也商业区巡视，多个沟渠都有阻塞问题。

■熟食业者没安装隔油器，油垢直接被排入沟渠。

中国报 C3