



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

KERATAN AKHBAR
28 OKTOBER 2017 (SABTU)

AKHBAR

MUKA SURAT

The Star

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MPAJ to step up efforts against assessment tax defaulters

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AMPANG Jaya Municipal Council (MPAJ) will step up its efforts against assessment tax defaulters, following RM11mil in arrears for the second term collection this year.

MPAJ collects about RM90mil in assessment tax per term. The first term this year recorded RM7mil in arrears.

Its president Abdul Hamid Abdul Hussain said the council would use the Geographic Information System, a colour-coded system which can identify areas with high number of defaulters to help enforcement officers.

"MPAJ is already dealing with about 400 abandoned properties, whereby the owners cannot be traced, so, we have been maintaining it. There is a stark decrease in the assessment collection this term.

"We are not sure why but perhaps the slow economy and the increasing number of vacant properties are contributing to this situation.

"Most defaulters are residential owners as business premises owners will be obliged to pay their dues during the renewal of their business licences.



The view at the lookout point in Bukit Ampang. Abdul Hamid says anyone who wants to enjoy this view has to be a customer. — filepic

"I advise all property owners to pay up or face the consequences. Our enforcement officers will not hesitate to confiscate valuables from the properties of those who have not paid for two terms and more," he said to the media after a full board meeting at Menara MPAJ.

Abdul Hamid added that MPAJ had never approved of any business in Bukit Ampang, a scenic lookout point in the city.

"The area is a road reserve and cannot be used for commercial purposes. There is no electricity or

water supply, and even toilets.

"Due to its strategic location which attracts people to the great view, there are more than 20 hawkers taking advantage of it. So much so that anyone who wants to enjoy the great view has to be a customer and sit at the dining area to enjoy the view.

"MPAJ has the right to take action against them anytime. We have advised them to look for other suitable locations but they are persistent to stay put. We are taking court action against them. There is no place in Ampang that

we can relocate all of them together," he said.

When asked to comment on the stall operators' claim that MPAJ staff had refused to meet them for a discussion, Abdul Hamid said the meeting would not make any difference as the hawkers were trying to appeal to continue their businesses in Bukit Ampang which cannot be met.

"We want them to relocate to a more suitable and safer environment. Selangor State Forestry Department has plans to preserve the area too," he said.