



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

**KERATAN AKHBAR
18 JULAI 2019 (KHAMIS)**

AKHBAR

MUKA SURAT

The Star

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Flawed market makeover

TS 18/7/2019 M 293

Traders are unhappy about the design of three newly upgraded markets in Ampang but the local authority says the former were consulted and it would be too costly to make changes now. >2&3





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Although there is a refuse room at Pasar Pandan Jaya, it is not open during operation hours and rubbish is dumped indiscriminately outside.
— Photos: LOW LAY PHON/The Star

Wet markets not up to the mark

Traders and customers unhappy about design and layout of three upgraded facilities in Ampang

By SHALINI RAVINDRAN
and YOSINI DEVI
shalini.ravindran@thestar.com.my

IT has been three weeks since traders at the Pasar Pandan Jaya, Ampang moved into their brand new buildings. But many traders have already identified several design and layout flaws at the three facilities.

The market is one of three that have been rehabilitated by the Ampang Municipal Council (MPAJ), with funds from the Federal Government in 2016.

Some traders complained to upgrade four markets in total with wastewater treatment plants installed. The plan is to keep rivers clean under the River of Life (RoL) project.

Other markets that have been upgraded are Pasar Kuala Ampang, Pasar Pandan Jaya and Pasar Tasek Tambahan. The work on Pasar Pandan Jaya is expected to start by next month.

However, some traders lament that even the other markets have issues that have not been addressed.

The Pandan Jaya market is now a two-storey complex while the other two are single-storey facilities.

Currently, only the ground floor of the Pandan Jaya market is occupied by 88 stalls.

Several traders said that there was enough space to accommodate the remaining 100 stalls and customers.

"The problem between the stalls are too narrow and because there are stalls on both sides, it becomes blocked when customers stop to purchase goods," said a trader.



A manhole covered with discarded signage and rotting pieces of wood at the Pasar Pandan Jaya. (Right) The lanes between the stalls are too narrow at Pasar Pandan Jaya.

Slippery when wet

Another trader pointed out that the floors were slippery when wet, which caused them to fall.

"This is a wet market, of course. The floors are going to get wet as we deal with meat and fish," he said.

It does not make sense that this was not taken into account when they were designing the type of floor," he said.

StarMetro reader VS Chidambaram, a 45-year-old trader at the market despite the long time taken to complete the building, said:

He pointed out that the interior of the market has split levels connected by narrow stairs.

"The stairs between the stalls are too narrow and because there are stalls on both sides, it becomes blocked when customers stop to purchase goods," said a trader.



Poor layout

Although Pandan Jaya Market Association chairman Lee Kam Ngoh commended MPAJ for resolving some of the market's layout problems that need to be addressed.

MPAJ installed handrails beside several stairs and also resolved the rubbish issue.

"There is a refuse room which should have been built during construction but isn't," he said.

"Now, rubbish is being thrown haphazardly on the floor," he said.

"While traders at the 60-year-old Pasar Kuala Ampang were generally happy with the layout changes, they said the concrete table tops were too high."

"The height of the stall is too high, above waist level and it is difficult to reach across the width of the stall," he said.

When asked if the concrete stall and rocky roads made traders operating next to the open sides using the walkway behind them as their own private areas, he said:

"I was stopped about twice when a woman operating a stall behind me used the walkway as her own private area," he said.

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"When you want to shop for meat and fish, we have to use makeshift platforms," trader BL Lee said.

"It is very inconvenient especially the situation soon as if it was hazardous to their safety."

"However, we are glad that the market was upgraded after many years," he added.

Making improvements

MPAJ's Valentine and Property Management Department director Kharulzamni Abd Rahman said the issues raised by traders will be tackled on a case-by-case basis.

"While traders at the Pandan Jaya market, in particular, had the same complaints, they said the concrete table tops were too high."

"The layout will be rearranged if needed based on traders' feedback," he said.

On the use of plastic colanders to trap waste from the outlets,

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"It is very inconvenient especially the situation soon as if it was hazardous to their safety."

"However, we are glad that the market was upgraded after many years," he added.

Better waste management

Upgrading the long delayed wastewater treatment plant at Pasar Pandan Jaya is still ongoing, adding construction was expected to take 12 months.

"With all the traders and MPAJ involved in the upgrading, he said, would improve the drainage system and the quality of water.

"On the treatment plant for wastewater, he said the system would improve the quality of water chan-

nelled to the river."

"Before this, effluent from the market was channeled directly into the drains and flowed into our river."

"The new process involves the collection of wastewater which will go through solid waste all and

then be treated before being discharged into the drain," said Kharulzamni.



Traders have to use plastic colanders to trap waste at the outlet.



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- PIHAK Majlis Perbandaran Ampang Jaya perlu cari jalan penyelesaian berhubung keadaan jalan di Taman Kosas yang semakin banyak lubang dan tidak terurus. >**AMPANG BOY**
KOSMO 18/7/19 ms 18
- ORANG ramai diingatkan untuk sentiasa memadam suis lampu jika meninggalkan rumah dalam tempoh lama supaya tiada kejadian yang tidak diingini berlaku seperti lintar pintas. >**FAKRUL SHAHARANI**
- RAJA Permaisuri Agung Tunku Azizah Aminah Maimunah Iskandariah sememangnya berjiwa rakyat apabila baginda sanggup melayan kerena netizen di laman sosial Twitter. >**ANIS ADRINA**

ISU DAN HAK PENGUNA

- PENGGUNAAN straw plastik yang kini dihadkan merupakan satu langkah baik kerajaan dalam mengatasi isu alam sekitar yang semakin meruncing. >**PENGAMAL ALAM SEKITAR**
- NETIZEN masih kurang kesedaran tentang kebersihan alam sekitar kerana ramai lagi pengguna jalan raya dilihat membuang sampah di luar kenderaan