

(31 March 2021) The Star, p-4

Bazaar heads back to Lorong TAR

DBKL: Ramadan stalls to be relocated from Jalan Raja following complaints from traders

By FARID WAHAB

faridwahab@thestar.com.my

THE Ramadan bazaar in the city centre, which was relocated to Jalan Raja in Merdeka Square two years ago amid much fanfare, will move back to Lorong Tuanku Abdul Rahman (TAR) come April 17.

Kuala Lumpur City Hall (DBKL) Licensing and Hawker Development Department director Khairul Anuar Mhd Juri said an association representing the traders had stated its preference to move back to the old site.

"The former site is considered more suitable in terms of convenience for traders and shoppers.

"It also receives more visitors during the day as it is closer to office buildings compared to Jalan Raja," he said when contacted by *StarMetro*.

Khairul Annuar said there would be 208 traders operating this year, with each stall limited to eight sq ft.

"There will also be a one-metre distance between each stall to ensure physical distancing.

"Visitors will be required to record their attendance and abide by the usual Covid-19 standard operating procedures," he said,

adding that DBKL enforcement personnel would be stationed on-site.

The bazaar, said Khairul Annuar, would operate daily from 10am to midnight throughout Ramadan.

He added that no new balloting would be carried out as DBKL would rely on the list of successful applicants from 2019.

On Dec 19, 2019, DBKL conducted a balloting session involving 1,349 applicants at Stadium Titiwangsa in Kuala Lumpur.

Successful applicants then had to pay RM2,638 which included the licence fee (RM23), services and cleaning fee (RM465), lot rental (RM1,150) and collateral (RM1,000).

However, the bazaar, which was to be held in Jalan Raja from May 1 to 24 last year, was cancelled following the implementation of the movement control order.

A DBKL spokesperson said priority this year would be given to traders who did not ask for a refund of the payments made last year.

"Those who were refunded can still apply but it is subject to availability of trading lots," he said while stressing that DBKL was still finalising the arrangement of stalls at the new site.

He added that this was because



The Ramadan Bazaar was shifted to Jalan Raja in 2019, but will now return to its original site in Lorong Tuanku Abdul Rahman. — Filepic

the site layout in Jalan Raja was different from Lorong TAR.

Hawkers and Petty Traders Association of Malaysia president Datuk Seri Rosli Sulaiman when contacted, said he was awaiting an official letter from DBKL on the move back to Lorong TAR.

He said traders were not keen on

operating in Jalan Raja because of the lower footfall as the area was far from other business premises.

"Water tends to stagnate in the area after a downpour and takes time before receding," he said.

On Monday, *StarMetro* reported that Federal Territories Minister Tan Sri Annuar Musa said the

Ramadan bazaar was likely to return to Lorong TAR.

"Lorong TAR has been upgraded and after visiting the area, I am satisfied with it.

"The area can hold a Ramadan bazaar, along with 66 other locations in the three Federal Territories," he said.