Cheras folk carry on oblivious to haze

KUALA LUMPUR: Despite the noticeable haze in Cheras here yesterday afternoon, many people went about their day oblivious to the conditions, even as the Air Pollutant Index there went as high as an unhealthy 150.

Fatin Haizatul Nazreen Wahab, 26, an employee of a pharmacy in Bandar Mahkota Cheras, said some people were unaware of the unhealthy air reading because the weather seemed clear.

The API reading in Cheras, however, showed fluctuating levels. According to the Malaysian Air Pollutant Index Management System (APIMS), the last moderate reading of 100 was recorded at 10am yesterday. That was an improvement from Saturday, where an API reading of 150 was recorded at 5pm.

"It is a bit hot outdoors, but we thought it was a normal weather change.

"Some customers even said they were not taking any precautions despite the haze," Fatin Haizatul told the *New Straits Times*.

"In my neighbourhood, people were jogging and going for brisk walks in the morning.

"None of them were wearing masks outdoors."

Azmeera Azme, 26, a resident of Bandar Sri Permaisuri, said most people were not aware of the hazy condition as there was not much news about it.

"Most people do not wear masks any more.

"I wear a mask outside, but that is because of Covid-19 concerns" (and not because of the haze). "At first, I didn't know about the haze because there is little news about it.

"So everything went on as usual."

Checks by the NST showed sev-

Haze enveloping central Kuala Lumpur yesterday. PIC BY AIZUDDIN SAAD

eral residents, including the elderly, exercising at public parks. On the Cheras-Kajang Expressway, most of the motorcyclists were seen not wearing any face protection.

do not wear the haze