

Relevant authorities monitoring foreign beggars

KUCHING: The Women, Family and Community Development (KPWKM) Minister, Nancy Shukri has called on the public, especially local citizens, not to be deceived by foreign begging syndicates.

She assured the public that KPWKM was working closely with the Royal Malaysian Police (RMP) and the Malaysian Immigration Department (JIM) to eradicate foreign begging syndicates operating in several locations in the country.

Nancy cited some begging activities had been identified as syndicates involving foreigners.

"We have to strengthen the enforcement of welfare with the city commissions, the police, the Immigration Department and local authorities.

"Everyone has to work together to ensure effective enforcement.

"The syndicates may disappear within a few days, but after that, they will come back by changing their places (for begging) so we have to be alert and ready," she

said.

Nancy told reporters after attending the Ihya Ramadan and handing over of Ramadan contributions for Santubong parliamentary at Surau Darul Hijrah Blok A Perumahan Darul Hana here yesterday.

Having said that, Nancy stated that integrated operations were currently underway, especially in major urban centres, including Kuala Lumpur City Hall (DBKL).

"This matter is not a new thing, so monitoring is always ongoing... as I said the enforcement is not done by just the Malaysian Welfare Department (JKM) but also the Immigration, Police, DBKL," she emphasised.

She also revealed that there were several focal locations for this syndicates to operate in, namely, states close to the borders.

"Malaysians are indeed generous people, they always give alms. So that's why many people take advantage of the generosity of Malaysians," she said.