



City News

K U A L A L U M P U R C I T Y H A L L

CITY HALL ASSISTS SELANGOR STATE GOVERNMENT ACHIEVE 'ZERO SQUATTER POPULATION'

City Hall Kuala Lumpur will assist the Selangor State Government to achieve the target of 'zero squatter' population by the year 2005 in arranging for a group of 300 squatter families from a total of 1070 families in Kg. Berembang, Mukim Hulu Klang in the Gombak District move temporarily into City Hall's low cost houses in Taman Wahyu, Jalan Ipoh, Kuala Lumpur.

While the squatters are moved to their temporary accommodation, the Selangor State Government's subsidiary Permodalan Negeri Selangor Berhad (PNSB) will immediately start building high rise flats in the vacated area, originally occupied by these squatters.

Permodalan Negeri Selangor Berhad (PNSB) will develop altogether 33.4 acres and build 3540 units of low cost, low medium and medium cost flats.

The Selangor State Government currently has about 27000 squatter families to relocate and achieve 'zero squatter' status in about 17 months by 2005. City Hall has about 18,000 squatter families to resolve during the same period.

A Memorandum of Understanding will soon be signed between City Hall and the Selangor State Government's subsidiary on this agreement to temporarily accommodate the squatters in Taman Wahyu for a period of one and half years. PNSB will pay the rental for the City Hall flats (300 units) for the squatters until they move back to new housing projects in Kampung Berembang, Ampang by that period.

Cooperation between City Hall Kuala Lumpur and the Selangor

State Government goes back as far as the 1980's. In 1980, the Selangor State Government permitted the temporary lodging of 100 immigrant squatter families from Kampung Datuk Keramat and Jalan Telatek to Balakong. Following this another 200 squatter families were relocated from Sungai Way (Selangor) to Kampung Kerinchi (Federal Territory) in the early eighties caused by KTM Double Tracking Project.

Both City Hall and the State of Selangor also cooperated in relocating squatters for the construction of the MRRT II, the LRT projects, new highway and ERL.

The Selangor State Government also gave about 20 acres of land in Kampung Berembang for the construction of the SMART project to alleviate the flood problems in the City.

In fact, The Klang Valley Planning & Development Committee comprising of officials from City Hall and the Selangor State Government meet quite often to resolve problems related to planning and development in general.

Recently, City Hall and the Selayang Municipality cooperated to clean up the old wholesale market area and

also carry out fogging operations on 25 August 2003 (Monday). A gotong royong was organized in this regard with all stakeholders.

The Mayor of Kuala Lumpur, Datuk Mohamad Shaid bin Mohd Taufek when met by City News stated that cooperation between neighbours is very vital to ensure development of the Kuala Lumpur Metropolitan Region (KLMR).

Selangor and the Federal Territory have had very good relations for a long time and both believe in the Prime Minister's philosophy of 'prosper thy neighbour' and subscribe very positively towards this end. The relationship is symbiotic and reflects the concern of both parties to develop their states and overcome socio-economic problems.

Earlier, representatives from PNSB led by Dato' Haji Abdul Hanif b. Abdullah, Group Advisor of PNSB Acmar Sdn. Bhd, Datuk A. Jabar b. Kamin, Chief Executive of PNSB, Datin Hajjah Khairiyah bt. Abu Hassan, Deputy Chief Executive (II) of PNSB, Dato' Steven Tee, Group Managing Director of PNSB Acmar Sdn Bhd and other senior representatives had met the Mayor and other officials of City Hall on the 14 and 16 August 2003 to discuss the matter.

FROM THE MAYOR'S DESK....

THE CRAB MENTALITY



One of the common anecdotes related in team building courses is the 'crab mentality' that persists in some organizations. The story is told of a bunch of crabs put into a basket. When one crab tries to climb out of the basket, other crabs will climb over the first crab, and each following subsequently. In the process, the whole lot of climbing crabs come crashing down including the first one that tried to scale the basket.

There are some human beings particularly those who work in an office situation who suffer from the 'crab mentality'. The Indians in Malaysia term this as 'nandu syndrome' – meaning don't let others succeed if you can't.

What does this mean or translate in an office situation. When one officer is promoted, others feel jealous and all efforts and energy are channeled in bringing down this officer.

If this trait or culture were to manifest in an organization, it will have disastrous consequences for the organization and will affect the morale of the staff.

Some even go to great extent to send anonymous letters to all and sundry to smear the name of the Head of Department and others.

It must be borne in mind by all employees that promotions are based on merit, seniority, suitability and experience of an officer for a particular job. Honesty, integrity and loyalty are also criteria that may add value to the potential candidate.

Promotions are conducted by a panel of interviewers. Sometimes, the temperament and demeanour of an officer are also criteria that are evaluated to assess the suitability of a candidate for a particular job or appointment. There definitely is transparency in the process of recruitment or promotion.

I feel sad to note that at times lobbying is also conducted surreptitiously to solicit the support of some quarters to bear upon the powers that be to promote or relocate 'so and so'.

This unhealthy trend must be apprehended before it can harm and bring untold damage to the total organization. The 'crab mentality' and 'lobbying' for promotion must stop.

CITY HALL PROMOTIONS/TRANSFERS

A total of 49 officers working in 17 Departments in City Hall have been promoted and /or transformed to other Departments effective 15 August 2003. Some of the officers were retained in the same department.

Among those who have been promoted as Directors of Departments are as follows:

NAME	DESIGNATION/DEPARTMENT
1. Puan Normah binti Malik	Director Administration Department
2. Encik Sariffuddin bin Ibrahim	Director Culture, Arts, Tourism and Sports Department
3. Encik Ramly bin Othman	Director Economic Planning and Development Co-ordination Department
4. Encik Saringat bin Haji Adnan	Director Licensing Department
5. Encik Mohd Yusof bin Ibrahim	Director Hawkers and Petty Traders Management Department
6. Encik Ayoub bin Hussin	Director Community and Social Development Department
7. Puan Hajjah Che Meriam binti Ismail	Director Information Technology and Communication Department

Earlier, Tuan Haji Salleh Bin Yusup, Director of the Economic Planning & Social Services Department was promoted as Deputy Director General (Services), City Hall Kuala Lumpur. With his elevation, there are currently three Deputy Director Generals at the top hierarchy of City Hall management.

Encik Zainal Abidin bin Mohd Zain has been transferred to the Human Resource Management Department as Director. On 1 April 2003, City Hall administration had undergone a structural change to meet the new emerging challenges in the City.

The changes were approved by the Public Services Department, facilitating the above promotions and transfers that were long overdue.

City Hall employs 8,500 permanent staff, the biggest Local Authority in Malaysia.

DBKL SPORTS CLUB CARNIVAL 2003
Are you ready to participate at the carnival?
Why not start training and get prepared to compete. Your participation and your family's involvement will foster better relationship and goodwill among City Hall's families.
**BERSATU TEGUH,
BERCERAI ROBOH!!**

DG ATTENDS SEMINAR CONFERENCE IN ANKARA

Director General City Hall, Datuk Haji Ruslin bin Haji Hassan attended the First Summit Conference of Sister Cities of Ankara from 13-16 June 2003.

Theme of the Conference attended by 17 countries was 'Developing and Strengthening of Ties of Friendship among our Capital Cities through Cultural Cooperation'.

Datuk Ruslin in his paper presented at the Summit stated that since the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) was signed on 25 June 1996, many activities including cultural events and visits have taken place between the two sister cities of Ankara and Kuala Lumpur.

The programmes and cultural activities have helped to strengthen the friendly relations between the two cities.

Datuk Ruslin also called for efforts to graduate to a higher plane by being more innovative and address substantive issues particularly in business, socio-economic and ICT activities.

Sister Cities Twinning relationships could be mutually beneficial if cities work in tandem in all spheres that we are capable of and transferring technology, expertise and knowledge.

Datuk Ruslin also touched on some areas that could be explored for smart partnership programmes between twin cities. They are:

- * Develop, promote and encourage opportunities for networking between business and commercial sectors in the twin cities. The right and appropriate sectors for investment should be identified and given full support with City Hall playing the role of resource linker, catalyser and promoter. In fact, a clearinghouse should be considered in all sister cities to look into this aspect of collaboration.

- * Twinning sister city programmes should move on to more current ICT based projects besides the traditional and conservative areas of business. City Hall could act as the focal point



Datuk Haji Ruslin (3rd from left) seated amongst the Mayors during the presentation of all Mayors Representative of the Sister Cities of Ankara - Photo KL City News

for bringing the parties together

- * More NGOs and the private sector should be involved in the projects as enunciated in Agenda 21. Some projects could be privatized and joint ventures established with the twin cities to encourage B to B tie ups

- * City Governments should also explore the idea of giving seed money, support and encouragement to flourish the growth of projects and programmes in the respective cities. Initially, they could start off as pilot projects and if found successful they could be grafted with other twin partners

- * Solid waste collection, disposal and management including recycling projects. In some of the twin sister cities, waste collection and disposal systems still need new technology and management expertise. Recycling is a new emerging and economic activity where the monetary ventures are satisfying. Most cities are committed to the three R's (Recycle, Reuse and Reduce).

- * Urban poverty and income generating activities for the hardcore poor and single parents is another area to be explored.

- * Housing particularly low cost housing, accommodation for single girls and bachelors project could be initiated with the help of other twin cities to build hostels, apartments and flats to provide affordable accommodation

- * Sourcing for new sources of water supply, treatment and distribution of water can be another project. Sanitary and sewerage services also provide ample opportunities for collaboration

- * The new emerging problem of geriatric care is another area that has great potential for collaborative efforts.

- * The development and nurturing of a civil society is another area. This is vital to create a 'sharing and caring society' in our cities more so in cities that have a multiethnic, multireligious and heterogeneous society.

- * Officers in certain disciplines and sectors could be sent for attachment training and impart best practices that could be shared.

- * For twinning programmes to succeed, there must be commitment and continuity. Regular communication should be sustained to ensure the issues are kept alive and reminded. Constant follow up and monitoring should be done to ensure projects are implemented.

To commemorate the First Summit, a Friendship Garden was launched with a grand ceremony. The garden plaza is located within a busy commercial district. As a focal feature of the garden, a sculpture with emblems of participating cities was included as a symbol of friendship and a wish for a more friendly and peaceful world.