

SMOOTH RUNNING

City Hall rejects bazaar fee claims

PUTRAJAYA: City Hall has dismissed claims that the low rental for Ramadan bazaar traders is inadequate for managing operations.

Minister in the Prime Minister's Department (Federal Territories) Dr Zaliha Mustafa said yesterday that City Hall, as a government agency, had specific allocations to assist in ensuring the smooth running of the programme.

She said this year, City Hall would issue licences directly to selected traders for Ramadan and Aidilfitri bazaars under its purview.

She added that bazaar maintenance will be carried out by



Minister in the Prime Minister's Department (Federal Territories) Dr Zaliha Mustafa (standing, seventh from right) kicking off the pushbike event at the Federal Territory Day Sports Carnival in Putrajaya yesterday. BERNAMA PIC

City Hall in collaboration with corporate bodies.

The initiative aims to support traders interested in doing business and increasing their income during Ramadan.

"I am not sure why that statement was made or on what basis by the parties responsible for organising the Ramadan bazaar programme in Kuala Lumpur in previous years."

She said this after the Federal Territory Day Sports Carnival in Precinct 18 here.

Present were the Federal Territories Department director-general Datuk Noridah Abdul Rahim and Putrajaya Corporation president Datuk Fadlun Mak Ujud.

Zaliha had said City Hall would fully manage matters related to business licences and the maintenance of Ramadan bazaars in the capital starting this year, rather than having organisers handle them.

This is to ensure that traders receive reasonable rental rates with better management.

The initiative, she said, was aimed at addressing complaints regarding the rental fees imposed on business licence applications.

Zaliha said City Hall was in the final stages of finalising the list of traders.

Twenty to 30 per cent of the 3,000 lot spaces remain unfilled, with participation still open.

She said in line with the directive from Prime Minister Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim, City Hall would take firm action by revoking licences of those who sell their bazaar lot spaces to third parties.

Zaliha said: "The direct issuance of licences was implemented last year in Kuala Lumpur, Putrajaya and Labuan because we are the authority with the capacity to carry out the process transparently."