



KEMENTERIAN TENAGA DAN SUMBER ASLI

## KERATAN SURAT KHABAR

SURAT KHABAR	:	STAR METRO		
TARIKH	:	27/12/2021 (ISNIN)	MUKA SURAT	: 3
JABATAN	:	JPSM		

STARMETRO, MONDAY 27 DECEMBER 2021

3

# Forest reserve remains under threat

> FROM PAGE 1

Its suggestion to the state government was to build a retention pond and water pump on the outer ring road in the area.

On Oct 1, Menteri Besar Datuk Seri Amirudin Shari announced that the "100-Year Flood Mitigation Project" in Selangor was expected to be completed within a year.

He said works for the project were ongoing but some were affected by the movement control order due to the Covid-19 pandemic.

The existing 50-year mitigation project for the drainage and irrigation system was no longer able to accommodate large amounts of rainwater in some areas due to rapid development.

Amirudin said it was decided last year that the project could not be done in a hurry as it required technical reports from relevant departments.

The project's completion would no doubt be eagerly awaited by weary citizens of the state capital.

With climate change and disasters like floods becoming a pressing issue to the country, many realised that protecting nature was important, and urged the government to make it a priority. Development in green lung zones remained a touchy issue among Shah Alam folk who want the city's remaining green areas to be protected.

One area under threat is the Shah Alam Community Forest (SACF) in Setia Alam that has been gazetted a forest reserve.

Popular for its hiking trails and scenic views, SACF is part of the wider Bukit Cherakah Forest Reserve (BCFR).

A Shah Alam local structural plan indicated that 70% of the SACF land had been earmarked for a housing project while 30% was to be used for a cemetery.

To date, a petition against these projects gathered over 10,000 signatures.

Environmental activist group SACF Society insisted that the land earmarked for development should remain a forest reserve due to the absence of any gazette notification in the Selangor State Government Gazette. However, the state government issued land titles to developers.

The issue seemed to have reached an impasse. However, with the issuance of land titles, development was likely to happen as clearing of part of the land had begun.

Nevertheless, plans to build parking lots for hikers offered hope to those who frequent the forest.

Two notice boards on the proposed plan were recently erected near the forest's Trailhead C in Setia Alam and Backyard Trail in Bukit Bandaraya, Shah Alam.

The location of the proposed parking lots are at Jalan Setia Gemilang U13/47, Section U13 and Jalan Gunung Nuang U11/8, Section 11 respectively.

SACF Society founder and secretary Alicia Teoh said the group welcomed the plans to build parking lots as it would provide convenience to hikers.

"We hope this is an indication of support by the local council for the community forest."

"Although the plans came as a surprise to us, we certainly hope this is an endorsement by the state government and a sign that it is keen on protecting the forest," she said.



SACF's mirror lake is one of the forest reserve's top attractions.



The Ideal Convention Centre in Shah Alam, which was converted into a PPV this year, was closed on July 13 after a healthcare worker tested positive for Covid-19. — Filepic

### Less than ideal

As the nationwide vaccination programme was being gradually rolled out earlier this year amid the pandemic, several convention centres in Shah Alam were used as mega vaccination centres (PPV).

However, the Ideal Convention Centre that was transformed into a PPV had to close on July 13 after a healthcare worker contracted Covid-19.

It created unease among the public, especially those who had gone to the PPV for their vaccinations.

The Covid-19 outbreak involving volunteers and healthcare workers was eventually classified as a cluster.

The PPV was closed for a day for sanitisation works, with all appointments rescheduled.

### Recognition

MBSA had a fair share of achievements this year.

The city council was once again recognised for its sustainable development efforts by the Asean Working Group for Environmentally Sustainable Cities (AWGESCI).

MBSA won its fifth Environmentally Sustainable



Haris was appointed the new Selangor state secretary in November. (Right) Zamani is the ninth mayor of Shah Alam.



Cities (ESC) Award and fourth certificate of recognition from AWGESCI, which was hosted by Indonesia through a virtual ceremony.

Former Shah Alam mayor Datuk Haris Kasim was also appointed the new Selangor state secretary in November.

Haris, 58, the eighth person to helm MBSA, had served in that position from May 2019.

In June, Datuk Zamani Ahmad Mansor was named the ninth mayor of Shah Alam.

### New market

The new Pasar Modern Sri Muda was completed in March.

The six-storey building has 217 trading lots and is equipped with disabled-friendly facilities, a surau, CCTV system for security purposes, and toilets.

It can accommodate between 800 and 1,000 visitors at a time.

The market's design prioritises natural lighting and ventilation to create a conducive and comfortable space for traders and shoppers.

Unit Komunikasi Korporat | Kementerian Tenaga dan Sumber Asli

No. Tel. : 03-8000 8000 | Faks : 03-8889 4763 | Web : [www.ketsa.gov.my](http://www.ketsa.gov.my)



KeTSAMalaysia



KeTSAMalaysia



ketsa.malaysia