



KEMENTERIAN PEMBANGUNAN WANITA,
KELUARGA DAN MASYARAKAT

LAPORAN PEMANTAUAN MEDIA KPWK

KHAMIS, 21 DISEMBER 2023

LAPORAN HARIAN





KEMENTERIAN PEMBANGUNAN WANITA,
KELUARGA DAN MASYARAKAT

LAPORAN PEMANTAUAN MEDIA KPWK



UKK KPWK

www.kpwkm.gov.my

[f](#) [t](#) [@](#) kpwkm

21/12/2023

BIL	PERKARA	SUMBER
1	PERLUASKAN PENUBUHAN PAWE, KURANGKAN BERGANTUNG PADA PUSAT KEBAJIKAN	
	https://www.melakahariini.my/perluaskan-penubuhan-pawe-kurangkan-bergantung-pada-pusat-kebajikan/	MELAKAHARIINI.MY

BIL	PERKARA	SUMBER
2	BANJIR GELOMBANG KETIGA DIJANGKA MEMBADAI PANTAI TERENGGANU	
	https://www.malaysiakini.com/news/690659	MALAYSIAKINI.COM

BIL	PERKARA	SUMBER
3	116 KES JENAYAH SEKSUAL BAWAH UMUR DILAPORKAN DI KELANTAN	
	https://www.kosmo.com.my/2023/12/20/116-kes-jenayah-seksual-mangsa-bawah-umur-dilaporkan-di-kelantan/	KOSMO.COM.MY
	https://www.hmetro.com.my/mutakhir/2023/12/1042635/jenayah-seksual-terhadap-remaja-bawah-umur-meningkat	HMETRO.COM.MY
	https://www.sinarharian.com.my/article/640572/berita/semasa/mangsa-jenayah-seksual-remaja-bawah-umur-meningkat	SINARHARIAN.COM.MY

BIL	PERKARA	SUMBER
4	TUKANG URUT TIDAK MENGAKU CABUL ANAK KANDUNG	
	https://www.hmetro.com.my/mutakhir/2023/12/1042572/tukang-urut-tidak-mengaku-cabul-anak-kandung	HMETRO.COM.MY
	https://www.buletintv3.my/nasional/amang-seksual-anak-kandung-tukang-urut-mengaku-tidak-bersalah/	BULETINTV3.MY
	https://www.freemalaysiatoday.com/category/bahasa/tempatan/2023/12/20/ama-ng-seksual-anak-kandung-tukang-urut-mengaku-tak-bersalah/	FREEMALAYSIATODAY.COM



KEMENTERIAN PEMBANGUNAN WANITA,
KELUARGA DAN MASYARAKAT

LAPORAN PEMANTAUAN MEDIA KPWK

UKK KPWK



www.kpwkm.gov.my

[f](#) [t](#) [@](#) kpwkm

21/12/2023

BIL	PERKARA	SUMBER
5	MANGSA BANJIR DI KELANTAN BERKURANGAN KEPADA 3,162	
	https://www.hmetro.com.my/mutakhir/2023/12/1042559/mangsa-banjir-di-kelantan-berkurangan-kepada-3162	HMETRO.COM.MY

BIL	PERKARA	SUMBER
6	[COLUMNIST] STOP NORMALISING CHILD MARRIAGES!	
	https://www.astroawani.com/berita-malaysia/columnist-stop-normalising-child-marriages-450837	ASTROAWANI.COM
	https://www.themalaysianinsight.com/s/477425	THEMALAYSIANINSIGHT.COM

BIL	PERKARA	SUMBER
7	LELAKI GANGGU JURUFOTO WANITA BAKAL DITUDUH JENAYAH MENGHENDAP	
	https://www.utusan.com.my/nasional/2023/08/lelaki-ganggu-jurufoto-wanita-bakal-dituduh-atas-jenayah-menghendap/	UTUSAN.COM.MY
	https://www.hmetro.com.my/mutakhir/2023/12/1042659/penghendap-tidak-waras-kes-diteruskan-dengan-perbincaraan	HMETRO.COM.MY
	https://www.buletintv3.my/mahkamah/pengakuan-bersalah-penghendap-acasia-ditolak-mahkamah/	BULETINTV3.MY
	https://www.bharian.com.my/berita/kes/2023/12/1191087/mahkamah-tolak-pengakuan-salah-lelaki-menghendap-jurugambar-wanita	BHARIAN.COM.MY
	https://www.malaysiakini.com/news/690693	MALAYSIAKINI.COM
	https://www.astroawani.com/berita-malaysia/ketidakwarasan-mahkamah-tolak-pengakuan-bekas-pereka-sambilan-hendap-jurugambar-wanita-450835	ASTROAWANI.COM
	https://www.freemalysiatoday.com/category/bahasa/tempatan/2023/12/20/mahkamah-tolak-pengakuan-salah-safiq-arah-dibicara-kerana-menghendap-wanita/	FREEMALYSIATODAY.COM
	https://www.sinarharian.com.my/article/640574/berita/semasa/ketidakwarasan-mahkamah-tolak-pengakuan-bekas-pereka-sambilan-hendap-jurugambar-wanita	SINARHARIAN.COM.MY
	https://www.kosmo.com.my/2023/08/09/lelaki-ganggu-jurufoto-wanita-individu-pertama-bakal-dituduh-jenayah-menghendap/	KOSMO.COM.MY



TOH Puan Asmah dan Kalsom bergambar bersama penerima anugerah pada majlis tersebut.

Perluaskan penubuhan PAWE, kurangkan bergantung pada pusat kebajikan



LIANA SAHABUDIN
RABU, 20 DISEMBER 2023 @ 10:10

Share Read Time: 1 Minute, 23 Second

AYER KEROH 20 Disember – Kerajaan Negeri menyasarkan sebanyak 28 Pusat Aktiviti Warga Emas (PAWE) ditubuhkan bagi mengurangkan kebergantungan warga emas kepada institusi kebajikan.

Exco Pembangunan Wanita, Keluarga dan Komuniti negeri, Datuk Kalsom Noordin berkata, penubuhan PAWE itu bagaimanapun akan dibuat secara berfasa bagi memastikan ia dapat dilaksanakan.

“Setakat ini kita ada tujuh PAWE yang mana salah satunya baharu ditubuhkan iaitu PAWE Taboh Naning.

“Tujuan kita menambah PAWE untuk memastikan warga emas di negeri ini mempunyai aktiviti mereka sendiri selain menjana pendapatan.

“Alhamdulillah ramai bertanya macam mana untuk mohon tubuhkan PAWE ini, insya-Allah selepas ini setiap Dewan Undangan Negeri (DUN) akan mempunyai PAWE,” katanya.

berkata demikian kepada Melaka Hari Ini selepas Majlis Apresiasi PAWE dan Pertubuhan Pemulihan Dalam Komuniti (PPDK) sempena Sambutan Hari Warga Emas dan Hari Orang Kurang Upaya (OKU) Negeri Melaka Tahun 2023 di Dewan Mini Bistari di sini, semalam.

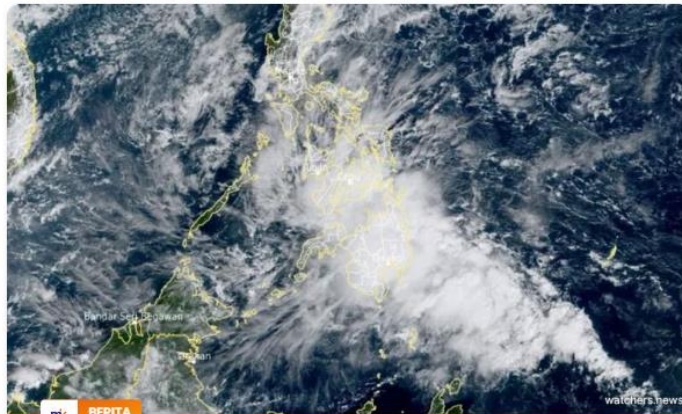
Majlis berkenaan diserikan dengan kehadiran isteri Yang di-Pertua Negeri, Toh Puan Datuk Wira (Dr) Asmah Ab Rahman.

Hadir sama isteri Ketua Menteri merangkap Pengerusi Badan Amal Kebajikan Isteri Wakil-wakil Rakyat Negeri Melaka (BISTARI), Datin Seri Utama Zuriyah Abd Aziz; isteri Setiausaha Kerajaan Negeri, Datin Wira Rohaya Kamaludin; Timbalan Exco Pembangunan Wanita, Keluarga dan Komuniti negeri, Leng Chau Yen dan Pengarah Jabatan Kebajikan Masyarakat (JKM) Melaka, Zulkifli Hanifah.

Mengulas lanjut, Kalsom berkata PAWE ditubuhkan bagi menghimpunkan warga emas untuk melakukan aktiviti yang berfaedah.

“Kita tiada had untuk tubuhkan PAWE dan untuk makluman akan ada penambahan dua PAWE lagi tahun hadapan.

“Akan ada pertambahan lagi PAWE setiap tahun, sebelum ini kita sasarkan enam PAWE ikut parlimen sahaja, tetapi selepas ini kita sasarkan mengikut DUN,” katanya.



Banjir gelombang ketiga dijangka membadai pantai Terengganu

Diterbitkan: Dec 20, 2023 11:22 AM - Dikemaskini: 11:22 AM

Penduduk di kawasan pesisir pantai di Terengganu diingatkan supaya berwaspada dengan kemungkinan banjir gelombang ketiga antara 22 hingga 26 Dis ini.

Setiausaha Kerajaan Negeri Datuk Tengku Farok Hussin Tengku Abdul Jalil berkata amaran itu susulan fenomena ribut tropika Jelawat dari Filipina yang dijangka turut memberi kesan kepada negeri berkenaan.

"Berikutan daripada ribut tropika Jelawat dari Filipina...kalau kesannya agak serius, kita akan hadapi hujan yang agak berat.

"Kalau betul sebagaimana ramalan, kita bukan sahaja akan ada hujan, tetapi angin yang agak kuat. Jadi saya nasihatkan penduduk di kawasan pesisir pantai dari Besut ke Kemaman supaya bersedia," katanya ketika menghadiri majlis penyampaian pakej prihatin oleh Petronas kepada Jabatan Kebajikan Masyarakat (JKM).

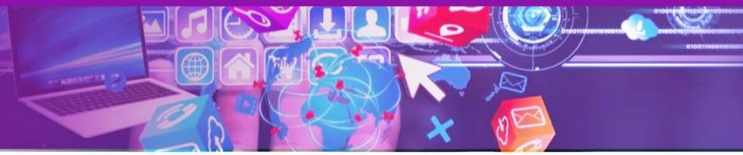
Menurut Tengku Farok Hussin yang juga Pengerusi Sekretariat Jawatankuasa Pengurusan Bencana Negeri Terengganu (JPBNT), kerajaan negeri juga telah bersedia sepenuhnya menghadapi kemungkinan banjir gelombang ketiga.

"Untuk Monsun Timur Laut (MTL) ini kita memang sentiasa siap sedia. Kalau ikut ramalan (ribut tropika Jelawat) bukan sahaja di Pantai Timur tapi seluruh Malaysia," katanya.

Terengganu dilanda banjir gelombang pertama pada 20 Nov hingga 1 Dis lepas disusuli dengan gelombang kedua pada 14 Dis sehingga semalam.

Dalam tempoh itu, hampir 8,000 mangsa terpaksa dipindahkan ke pusat pemindahan sementara (PPS) di lapan daerah iaitu Kuala Terengganu, Kuala Nerus, Marang, Hulu Terengganu, Kemaman, Dungun, Setiu dan Besut.

- *Bernama*



116 kes jenayah seksual bawah umur dilaporkan di Kelantan

Oleh ROSLIZA MOHAMED 20 Disember 2023, 4:44 pm



Muhamad Zaki (dua dari kanan) menyampaikan cenderahati kepada wakil masyarakat pada Majlis Penutup Program Pocket Talk Ketua Polis Kelantan 2023, di Kompleks Kota Darulnaim, Kota Bharu hari ini. FOTO ROSLIZA MOHAMED/ KOSMO!

KOTA BHARU – Kes jenayah seksual rogol, liwat dan cabul melibatkan remaja bawah umur dilaporkan di Kelantan meningkat kepada 116 kes sepanjang tahun ini berbanding 91 kes direkodkan pada tahun lalu.

Ketua Polis Kelantan, Datuk Muhammad Zaki Harun berkata, berdasarkan statistik sehingga 17 Disember lalu, kesemua mangsa yang terlibat berusia 16 tahun ke bawah termasuk pelajar dan bukan pelajar.

Menurutnya, daripada jumlah itu, ia melibatkan seramai 72 pelajar dan 44 orang bukan pelajar.

“Statistik tahun lalu pula, seramai 70 pelajar dan 21 orang bukan pelajar menjadi mangsa kes jenayah seksual di negeri ini.

“Bagi kes yang disiasat mengikut Akta Kesalahan-Kesalahan Seksual terhadap Kanak-Kanak 2017 bagi mangsa berusia 18 tahun ke bawah, sebanyak 66 kes dilaporkan pada tahun ini manakala 52 kes tahun lalu,” katanya kepada pemberita selepas Majlis Penutup Program Pocket Talk Ketua Polis Kelantan 2023, ‘Gejala Sosial Remaja : Caknakah Kita’ di Kompleks Kota Darulnaim, di sini hari ini.

Mengulas lanjut, Muhamad Zaki memberitahu, semua suspek yang terlibat dalam kes berkenaan merupakan individu berusia 19 tahun ke bawah termasuk pelajar dan bukan pelajar.

Menurutnya, berdasarkan statistik, pelajar yang ditahan kerana terlibat dengan pelbagai kes jenayah adalah seramai 61 orang bagi tempoh Januari hingga November tahun ini dan sepanjang tahun lalu. – KOSMO! ONLINE



Tukang urut tidak mengaku cabul anak kandung

Alias Abd Rani
am@hmetro.com.my



TERTUDUH dibawa keluar dari Mahkamah Sesyen selepas tidak mengaku cabul anak kandung. FOTO Alias Abd Rani

Muar: Seorang tukang urut dihadapkan di Mahkamah Sesyen di sini, hari ini atas pertuduhan melakukan amang seksual fizikal terhadap anak kandungnya di sebuah rumah di Batu Pahat, pada Mac lalu.

Tertuduh berusia 56 yang juga duda bagaimanapun mengaku tidak bersalah dan mohon dibicarakan sebaik pertuduhan dibaca oleh jurubahasa di hadapan Hakim Irwan Suainbon.

Mengikut pertuduhan, didakwa melakukan amang seksual fizikal terhadap anak perempuannya berusia 12 tahun dengan kejadian berlaku pada jam 10 pagi, Mac lalu.

Berikutan itu, tertuduh didakwa melakukan kesalahan mengikut Seksyen 14 (b) Akta Kesalahan-Kesalahan Seksual Terhadap Kanak-Kanak 2017 dan boleh dipenjara sehingga 20 tahun serta sebatan, jika sabit kesalahan.

Pada prosiding itu, pihak pendakwaan diketuai Timbalan Pendakwa Raya Nur Sulehan Abd Rahman sementara tertuduh tidak diwakili peguam.

Terdahulu, pihak pendakwaan dalam hujahnya memohon mahkamah supaya tidak membenarkan ikat jamin terhadap tertuduh kerana kesalahan dilakukan adalah serius.

"Bagaimanapun, terpujang kepada budi bicara mahkamah untuk membenarkan ikat jamin. Jika dibenarkan, saya memohon mahkamah membenarkan ikat jamin sebanyak RM30,000 dengan seorang penjamin," hujahnya.

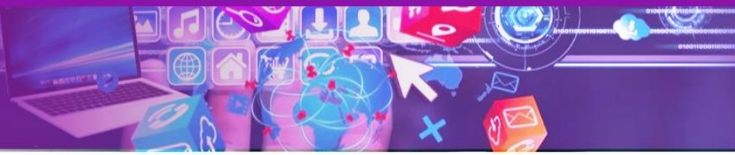
Mahkamah kemudian membenarkan ikat jamin sebanyak RM8,000 dengan seorang penjamin dan menetapkan 22 Januari ini sebutan semula kes, serahan dokumen serta lantikan peguam tertuduh.

Mahkamah juga menetapkan dua syarat iaitu tertuduh perlu melapor diri di balai polis berhampiran serta tidak boleh mengganggu mangsa atau keluarga serta saksi pendakwaan sehingga kes ini selesai.

Kejadian menimpa mangsa terbongkar apabila salah seorang guru menemuinya kerana dia kelihatan murung serta kerap tidak hadir ke sekolah.

Guru terbabit kemudian memanggil ibu mangsa untuk datang ke sekolah sebelum menceritakan kejadian sebenar.

Satu laporan polis dibuat telah ibu mangsa pada 13 September sebelum tertuduh ditahan pada hari sama.



Mangsa banjir di Kelantan berkurangan kepada 3,162

Nor Fazlina Abdul Rahim
nfazlina@nstp.com.my



Sebahagian penduduk terpaksa membina titi untuk bagi merentasi air banjir di perkaran rumahnya di Kampung Lubok Gong Hilir, di sini, semalam. FOTO NIK ABDULLAH NIK OMAR

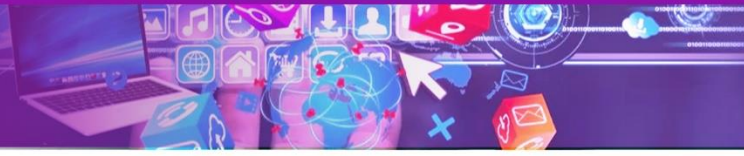
Kota Bharu: Cuaca semakin baik sejak beberapa hari lalu menyaksikan mangsa banjir di Kelantan kini semakin berkurangan kepada 3,162 orang setakat jam 12 tengahari ini.

Kesemua mangsa membabitkan 978 keluarga itu ditempatkan di 10 pusat pemindahan sementara (PPS) di Rantau Panjang.

Berdasarkan portal Info Bencana Jabatan Kebajikan Masyarakat (JKM), daripada 10 PPS yang masih dibuka PPS Sekolah Kebangsaan Gual To'Deh merekodkan mangsa banjir paling ramai iaitu 901 mangsa.

Sejak beberapa hari lalu, cuaca semakin baik dan kebanyakan mangsa banjir masih berada di PPS disebabkan banjir termenung.

Disiarkan pada: Disember 20, 2023 @ 12:55pm



[COLUMNIST] Stop normalising child marriages!

AWANI Columnist
Disember 20, 2023 17:05 MYT



The fact that child marriage remains 'still LEGAL' in Malaysia may have unintended 'normalisation' effect on the rape cases. - PEXELS

WHILE there has been a global decline in child marriages in recent years, this deeply ingrained and widespread practice continues to persist, flagrantly violating human rights and standing as a significant moral blight, tarnishing the very societal fabric.

Despite global attempts to eradicate this practice, millions of young girls find themselves thrown into child marriages, perhaps willingly or unwillingly, often with significantly older spouses.

It is certain that eradicating child marriages requires reforms in law pertaining to child marriages and the reproductive rights of girls and women. Such a gap in law and policies must be addressed and not overlooked.

After all, the persistent support for child marriages among Malaysian lawmakers and religious leaders reflects same-old identity politics play and misuse of religion but, as we can see from the above analysis, has nothing in common with healthy national development. *Masjidi-Muslim* community, in addition, in 2020 it was reported that 44% students dropped out of secondary school due to marriage.

As reported, approximately 1,500 children were married off each year (between 2007 to 2019) and 90% of them were girls. A recent parliament session highlighted a positive decline in child marriages, with a 19% decrease reported—from 1,354 cases in 2020 to 1,086 cases in 2021.

To date, accurate statistics on child marriages in Malaysia remain elusive due to the absence of a centralised database, exacerbated by the sensitivity of the topic and the prevalence of undocumented cases.

A meta-analytical study by *Kohno et al. (2020)* found evidence that among the major reasons for child marriages are poverty, human insecurity, family conflicts, inadequate legal protection for victims, victims lack of knowledge on child marriage, cultural and religious values, influence of the patriarchal influence, etc.

Consistently, data collected by the Department of Shariah Judiciary Malaysia (JKSM) in 2018 indicates, there was a high prevalence of child marriages in Sarawak (974 cases), Kelantan (877 cases) and Sabah (848 cases). The total ban on child marriages is contested, particularly in these states that also persistently experience high levels of poverty.

Child marriage often occurs covertly, leaving the child as a silent victim. Public awareness about this phenomenon only rises when the media spotlights specific incidents. The following are a few instances of the tabloid-worthy mentions of child marriage in Malaysia:

- An 11-year-old Thai girl who had become the third wife of a 41-year-old Kelantanese rubber trader, as the man promised a comfortable life to the child's parents while his second wife revealed he provides insufficient financial support to the family;
- A 15-year-old girl, who had become the second wife of a 44-year-old Kelantanese People's Volunteer Corp (Rela) member. The child had 13 siblings and due to poverty, her parents had married her off. Interestingly, both instances share a commonality: they both occurred in the state of Kelantan.

Furthermore, as recently reported, Kelantan recorded 533 registered underage marriages in the past four years.

Could this imply that there is an inadvertent endorsement of immoral human rights practices in the state?

The *Malaysian Child Act 2001 [Act 611]* defines a "child" as an individual who is below eighteen years old. While federal involvement in the state jurisdiction is limited, the federal government should be a signatory of the "Convention on the Rights of the Child", 1989, to reduce the prevalence of child marriages as a child is accorded protection under:

- Article 6 - Ensuring survival, well-being, and growth;
- Article 19 - Safeguarding against violence, abuse, and exploitation;
- Article 24 - The child has the right to optimal healthcare, emphasising primary care and preventive measure;
- Article 28 - The child has the right to education, which should be achieved progressively and with a commitment to providing equal opportunities.

In addition, the patriarchal social structure in Malaysia contributes to the high rate of child marriages, which highlights the larger problem of female autonomy in decision-making and participation in the nation.

The fact that child marriage remains 'still LEGAL' in Malaysia may have unintended "normalisation" effect on the rape cases. Men who rape young children can escape prosecution and punishment simply by opting to marry the victim as was the case of a 13-year-old girl who was raped by a 40-year-old restaurant manager who then legally married the child.

In another case, a 35-year-old Negeri Sembilan man wed a disabled 14-year-old after he was accused of raping her. The guy then allegedly compelled his wife to record on camera him raping his sister-in-law, who was eleven years old.

Shockingly, *Shabudin Yahaya*, a Malaysian politician and a former Syariah court judge, opined that the act of a rape victim marrying the perpetrator, viewed as a potential solution to escalating social issues, did not inherently pose a problem.

Implication on the physical, mental and emotional well-being of the child

The study by Susan Mayor indicates that pregnancy and childbirth complications are the leading cause of death in 15-19-year-olds in developing countries, resulting in 70,000 annual deaths. In addition, these girls face twice the risk of dying from pregnancy-related causes compared to women in their 20s, and their infants face a 50% higher likelihood of mortality (*"Pregnancy and childbirth are leading causes of death in teenage girls in developing countries"*, National Library for Medicine, May 15, 2006).

Another study by *Prof Caroline et al* with 22,188 respondents involved found that children whose mothers were 19 years of age or younger had a 20-30% higher risks for preterm delivery and low birthweight, associating teenage motherhood is detrimental to newborns.

Subsequently, pregnancy and child marriage will have a greater detrimental impact on the mental health of the victim. For instance, while 6.5% to 12.9% of women in high-income countries experience perinatal mental health issues, in developing nations like Malaysia, the rate jumps to 48.5% (*"Rising Concern on Perinatal Mental Healthcare in Malaysia"*, EMIR Research, 2023).

Hinders education opportunities and personal development of the child

Often overlooked, child marriages might contribute to **intergenerational poverty** by restricting educational and economic possibilities. Early marriage frequently leads to school dropout, impeding skill development and future employment opportunities for young brides.

According to the *Deputy Education Minister, Lim Hui Ying*, the dropout rate for female students in Malaysia increased from 0.40% in 2019 to 0.71% in 2022, while for male students the rate decreased from 0.72% in 2019 to 0.29% in 2022. Based on the ministry's Student Database Application System from 2019 to 2023, it is found that one of the many reasons was due to marriage.

After marriage, child brides or grooms, but especially the brides, may be prohibited from going to school as typical gender roles are frequently prioritised by societal norms and expectations.

The recent emphasis by the Malaysian government on **compulsory secondary education for all is commendable**. However, it is crucial to prevent the immoral practice of child marriage from undermining this envisioned brighter future.

Hence, EMIR Research proposes the following to supplement the current National Strategy Plan in Handling the Causes of Child Marriage (2020-2030):

1. There is a need for reliable data and extensive research on the root causes of child marriages and mitigation pathways.

Beyond merely compiling data on the incidence of child marriages by local and state governments, there is a crucial need to establish a centralised and systematic database of detailed case studies—a crucial resource for developing workable strategies towards the eradication of child marriages in Malaysia.

Moreover, close collaboration between the Department of Social Welfare (JKMM) and MWFC is essential. They should jointly analyse and offer support to victims of child marriages, which includes conducting periodic home visits to evaluate living conditions and standards of living. It is also vital to inform victims about their rights and legal protections under Malaysian law, especially in cases involving violence.

This collaborative initiative aims to expedite and improve the implementation of solutions for protecting and supporting victims of child marriages while empowering the victims to make their own decisions.

Additionally, creating such a centralised database would facilitate civil society (i.e. activists, think tanks etc.) in conducting thorough research on child marriages, contributing to efforts to eliminate this immoral practice from society.

2. Creating decent jobs in rural and sub-urban areas to break the cycle of poverty

Poverty is one of the key drivers of child marriages. Thus, creating employment in industries suitable for our rural communities, such as community-based tourism, handcraft manufacturing, and agricultural entrepreneurship, will empower the family heads and enhance the overall well-being of the family while also providing economic expansion.

In addition to fostering skill development and financial security, such efforts decrease dependence on the immoral and often exploitative practice of child marriage.

Creating a wide variety of good jobs—especially in industries that complement local resources—can lead to a significant economic uplift in rural and suburban areas, breaking the persistent cycles of poverty.

3. Improving access to quality maternal care for pregnant and parenting girls and women

Adequate healthcare empowers young mothers while also minimising health risks and infant mortality. Education and support offered during maternity care raises understanding about reproductive health, stopping the cycle of misinformation.

Prioritising maternal care and community support for young mothers' actions and autonomy subverts social norms endorsing child marriage and fosters an environment conducive to healthier futures.

Additionally, emphasising the importance of family planning allows couples to manage family size, promotes economic stability and education, and reduces child marriage likelihood.



TAJUK : COURT DISMISSES GUILTY PLEA BY STALKER

HARI : KHAMIS

AKHBAR : THE BORNEO POST

TARIKH : 21 DIS 2023

M/SURAT : 06

TONE : NEGATIF

SEKTOR : KPWKM

Court dismisses guilty plea by stalker

SHAH ALAM: The Magistrates' Court here yesterday dismissed a guilty plea by a part-time event management consultant who was charged with stalking a female photographer by repeatedly harassing her through three communications on his Twitter account.

Magistrate Sasha Diana Sabtu decided this after allowing a preliminary objection by the prosecution against the guilty plea by Mohamad Safiq Rosli, 37.

Sasha Diana said the court dismissed Mohamad Safiq's guilty plea on grounds of insanity as raised by the prosecution.

"The (guilty) plea by the accused cannot be accepted. I consider it as claim trial," said the magistrate, who set Jan 17 to hear the case.

Three prosecution witnesses will be called to testify, including the victim Acacia Mardiana Daud, 31, who is expected to testify via video conference.

Earlier, Deputy Public Prosecutor Zilfinaz Abbas requested to proceed with the trial of the case even though the accused had pleaded guilty to the charge, which he considered conditional.

He said the psychiatric report proved the accused was not sane when he committed the offence, but it was not by Section 84 of the Penal Code.

The law states that nothing is an offence which is done by a person who, at the time of doing it, by reason of unsound mind, is



Mohamad Safiq under police escort at the court. — Bernama photo

incapable of knowing the nature of the act, or that he is doing what is either wrong or contrary to law.

"The accused must fulfil the sanity factor according to the law and sanity in the medical report to be used in the guilty plea.

"The medical report by Hospital

Bahagia Ulu Kinta, Perak, is only a health examination regarding sanity, the sanity examination under the law is not answered.

"The only way to prove sanity according to the law is to go through a full trial," he said.

Lawyer Fithril Hakim Ab Jalil, representing Mohamad Safiq, argued that justice cannot be

served if the client is kept in prison due to his mental state.

"The prosecution knew about the mental state of the accused when they stated that this case should be brought to trial.

"The client will continue to be in prison and there will be no justice for him if he remains there," he added.

Mohamad Safiq was the first individual charged with the offence under Section 507A(1) of the Penal Code.

He had pleaded not guilty when the charge was first read out to him last Aug 10.

On the same day, the court also allowed the prosecution's request to refer the accused to the Forensic Psychiatric Unit of Ulu Kinta Hospital for observation.

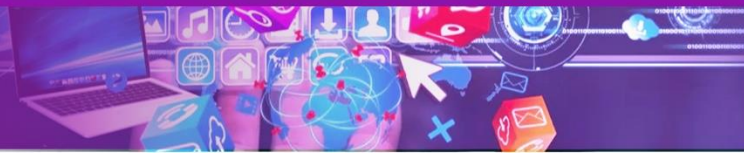
However, he changed his plea to guilty when the case came up for mentioned on Dec 15.

He was charged with repeatedly harassing Acacia Mardiana Daud, 31, through the Twitter application under the account name '@sopert99' by sending three communications which expressed his feelings for the woman on her Twitter account '@ShaFoShizzle'.

This was despite him knowing that the act was likely to cause, distress, fear or alarm to the woman.

The offence was allegedly committed between 1.40am on July 15 and 5.58pm on July 21.

He faces imprisonment for up to three years or a fine or both if found guilty. — Bernama



TAJUK : PPDKS PROVIDE DISABLED CHILDREN HOPE FOR BRIGHTER FUTURE, SAYS MAYOR

HARI : KHAMIS

AKHBAR : THE BORNEO POST

TARIKH : 21 DIS 2023

M/SURAT : 05

TONE : POSITIF

SEKTOR : KPWKM

PPDKs provide disabled children hope for brighter future, says mayor

KUCHING: Initiatives such as community-based rehabilitation centres (PPDKs) not only provide relief to children with disabilities but also plant the seeds of hope for a brighter future, says Dato Wee Hong Seng.

The Kuching South mayor said children with disabilities face challenges that no child should ever have to endure.

"But even as they faced adversity, they have not lost hope.

"Our responsibility as a society extends beyond providing necessities. We must also foster an environment where every child feels supported, encouraged, and empowered to reach their full potential," he said at a Christmas luncheon hosted by Meritin Hotel for Hidup Mesra Teng Bukap PPDK here yesterday.

He pointed out that charity knows no boundaries and is not limited to a particular time or place, but a year-round commitment to uplift and support one another.

"I encourage each and every one of you here today to continue making a difference in the lives of these children beyond this event.

"Whether it's through mentorship, education, or simply lending a helping hand, we can all contribute to a brighter future for them."

Wee also said that through collective efforts, it is possible to create a community where

no child is left behind and where every child can have the opportunity to thrive and succeed.

"We have the power to bring smiles to their faces, to ignite the spark of possibility within them, and to remind them that they are loved and valued," he added.

He commended Meritin Hotel, sponsors and volunteers who have worked tirelessly to make the event possible.

"Your commitment and dedication are truly inspiring, and your efforts will undoubtedly make a significant difference in the life of these PPDK trainees," he said.

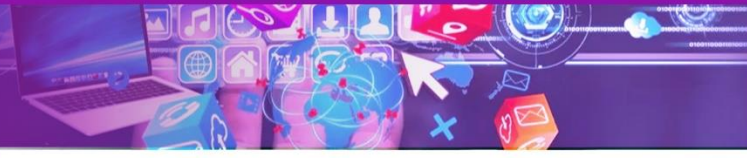
Meanwhile, Meritin Hotel executive director and general manager Olivia Ting said the Christmas luncheon was organised as part of the hotel's corporate social responsibility programme.

"The aim here is to bring joy and festive cheer to these special children during the holiday season," she said.

Wee presented 21 children from Hidup Mesra Teng Bukap PPDK, along with their caregivers, with Christmas goodies in the form of hampers during the event.

The guests were treated to a sumptuous Christmas lunch at the hotel as well as a festive Christmas carol performance presented by members of Hope Church Kuching.

Also present was Hidup Mesra Teng Bukap PPDK chairman George Young Si Ricord Junior.



TAJUK :	'INSANITY PLEA EXPECTED AND MUST BE DEALT WITH FAIRLY'		
HARI :	KHAMIS	AKHBAR :	THE STAR
TARIKH :	21 DIS 2023	M/SURAT :	04
TONE :	POSITIF	SEKTOR :	KPWKM

'Insanity plea expected and must be dealt with fairly'

By **FAZLEENA AZIZ**
fazleena@thestar.com.my

PETALING JAYA: The plea of insanity by the defence in the first stalking case in the country brought to trial under the newly-crafted Section 507A of the Penal Code should not come as a surprise as it was expected, say legal experts.

Litigation lawyer Daljit Singh said the case was still about stalking and Section 507A, but the focus has shifted to the possible punishment with the accused having pleaded guilty.

"The accused raised insanity as part of his guilty plea, which was objected to by the deputy public prosecutor (DPP), hence the dilemma.

"The DPP's argument is that it has to be legal insanity, as such there are steps to be taken to determine whether the accused suffers legal insanity," he told *The Star* in response to the twist in the case against Mohamad Safiq Rosli yesterday at the Shah Alam Magistrate's Court.

He explained that the test for insanity under Section 84 of the Penal Code is a legal and not a medical test.

Legal insanity under Section 84



Not a small matter: Mas Ermeyati says greater awareness of the severity of stalking will ensure more people take this matter seriously. — Photo posed by models

is related to factors that impair the cognitive faculties of a person.

It must make the offender incapable of knowing the nature of his act, or that what he is doing is wrong or contrary to the law.

Daljit said even though this was the first case brought under the new anti-stalking law, it still needed to be fair should other similarly-accused persons require help in cases involving genuine legal insanity. He said just because it is a new law, it does not mean punishment must be meted out.

"Justice must be done, not only seen to be done, because if a person is really suffering from mental illness, there must be proper measures put in place to help

them," he said.

"There is also this common misconception among the public that those holding a disabled person's card automatically allows them to raise legal insanity (as a defence)."

Lawyer Datuk Wan Azmir Wan Majid echoed the sentiment, saying that pleading insanity is a legitimate defence under the law.

"The reasoning behind such a law is not to punish those who are mentally ill, but to treat them to recovery. Such a defence is available not only to stalking but to all offences under the Penal Code.

"The case went to trial as he pleaded not guilty initially, and legal unsoundness is different from being medically unsound. So

the defence has added an extra defence to their case," he said.

Human Rights Commission of Malaysia commissioner Ragnath Kesavan said the law was still an important development as it criminalises harassment via social media.

He said it was important for the criminal justice system to move in tandem with current needs and challenges.

With the explosion of social media as a tool for communication, it has also created new forms of crimes which were difficult to police without specific laws, Ragnath added.

That being the situation, most people welcome the additional provision to deal with stalking.

"However, awareness of this law and the protection it provides must be carried out especially among the public to ensure they know that stalking is a crime.

"The importance of education in the law will ensure greater social responsibility. However, since it is new, it will take time to see its effectiveness — nonetheless, this is a good start," said Ragnath.

Former law minister Datuk Mas Ermeyati Samsudin, who had tabled the Anti-Stalking Bill, was happy to see the first case brought

to court.

She hoped the punishment meted out as per the law would serve as a lesson to perpetrators of such crimes.

"This will help give exposure to others that stalking is a crime and more people will be aware of this.

"The government should carry out more engagements on stalking, especially among university and school students, as well as the general public.

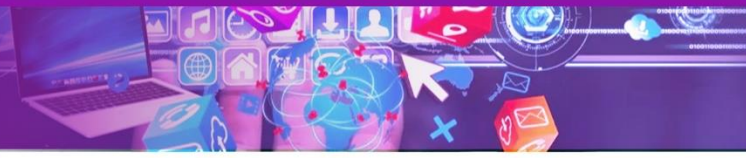
"Greater awareness will ensure that more people take this matter seriously instead of just trying to brush it off lightly," she added.

Mas Ermeyati also highlighted the written response on Nov 7 from the Home Ministry in the Dewan Rakyat on the number of cases recorded on stalking and protection order (PO) issued.

The ministry said nine investigation papers were opened, of which two were opened in July and the rest in August.

Only one PO was issued and one investigation paper was opened under Section 509 of the Penal Code with the case charged under Section 507A.

The Dewan Rakyat passed the Anti-Stalking Bill in March this year. Its first reading was on Aug 4, 2022.



TAJUK : GUILTY OR NOT GUILTY, THAT'S THE POSER

HARI : KHAMIS

AKHBAR : THE STAR

TARIKH : 21 DIS 2023

M/SURAT : 04

TONE : NEGATIF

SEKTOR : KPWKM

Guilty or not guilty, that's the poser

Twists and turns in country's first stalking case as defendant uses the insanity plea

By WANI MUTHIAH
wani@thestar.com.my

SHAH ALAM: He should have been sentenced yesterday after pleading guilty to stalking a 31-year-old woman in the first such case in Malaysia.

But following a plot twist or three, Magistrate Sasha Diana Sabtu rejected Mohamad Safiq Rosli's guilty plea and said a full trial must take place.

The scheduled sentencing went awry yesterday after the prosecution protested against not having a trial as it would pave the way for the accused to plead insanity.

The defence then said it would not use insanity as a plea but still wanted Mohamad Safiq, 37, to be sentenced.

Later in the day, the defence counsel went back on that and said their client wanted a trial as well and would be using a plea of insanity as his defence.

Sasha Diana then set Jan 17 next year for Mohamad Safiq's trial.

The accused is the first person in the country to be charged under the newly-crafted Section

507A of the Penal Code, for stalking and harassing photographer Acacia Mardiana Daud.

The anti-stalking law that came into effect in May this year provides a maximum of three years imprisonment or a fine, or both.

"After taking into consideration the submission of both parties (the prosecution and the defence), I decline to accept the accused's guilty plea," said Sasha Diana.

Mohamad Safiq had initially claimed trial when charged in August, but changed his plea on Dec 15.

Sasha Diana rejected Mohamad Safiq's guilty plea following deputy public prosecutor (DPP) Zilfinaz Abbas' contention that the prosecution wanted its objection on record if the accused was sentenced without a full trial.

She said the psychiatric evaluation report issued by Hospital Bahagia in Ulu Kinta, Perak, stated that Mohamad Safiq was mentally unsound when committing the offence. Hence, his guilty plea was unconditional and this was not legally permissible.

The prosecution said it did not want the accused to use insanity

as a defence under Section 347 of the Criminal Procedure Code (CPC) to escape imprisonment and a fine.

"We have no objection if he pleads guilty without the defence of insanity," she said.

Zilfinaz added that the onus was on Mohamad Safiq to prove that he was indeed mentally unstable and had no *mens rea* (intention or knowledge) when stalking and harassing the victim.

Mohamad Safiq's defence counsel Fithril Hakim Ab Jalil said that pleading insanity was not an attempt for his client to escape culpability.

"Justice is not served if he is imprisoned. If he is sent to a mental hospital, there is a chance of rehabilitation where he can get treatment, counselling and psychotherapy," he said.

Fithril Hakim added that Mohamad Safiq could be held at a mental healthcare facility at the pleasure of the Selangor Ruler in line with Section 348 of the CPC.

He also said the prosecution's protest against his client pleading insanity to seek treatment was "an abuse of process".

The proceedings were adjourned for a short while for the magistrate to make her decision, but when it resumed, Fithril Hakim said the defence wanted sentencing to be meted out on that day itself (yesterday) without a trial.

He added the contentious insanity plea will not be used to defend Mohamad Safiq.

The proceedings were once again adjourned, but when it resumed slightly over an hour later, Fithril Hakim dropped the bombshell that the defence now wanted a trial.

"After discussing with the accused and his family members, we have decided to go with the plea of insanity," he said.

Fithril Hakim then asked if the trial could be concluded in one day and his client sentenced on that same day.

DPP Zilfinaz said all documents were ready and could be submitted to the court immediately and the trial could be concluded in one day if everything went smoothly.

Sasha Diana then added that sentencing too could be done on the same day.

The victim Acacia Mardiana and two others are expected to be called to testify via written statements in an online proceeding on Jan 17.

Mohamad Safiq had initially pleaded not guilty when charged in August, but changed his plea to guilty on Dec 15.

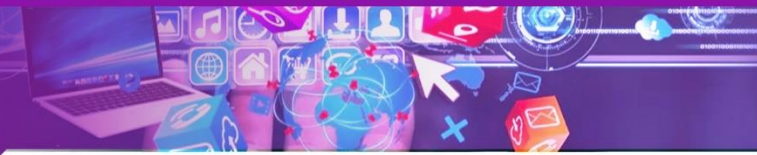
He had pleaded guilty to repeatedly stalking Acacia Mardiana on her X account @ShaFoShizzle through his account @sopert99.

He was initially supposed to have been sentenced on Dec 19, but the relevant authority had forgotten to bring him to court on that day.

He had been granted bail amounting to RM20,000 when charged in August but had not put up the money and hence has been under detention since.

Sasha Diana reminded Mohamad Safiq that he can post bail to be released from custody.





TAJUK : JEALOUSLY LEADS TO MURDER

HARI : KHAMIS

AKHBAR : THE STAR

TARIKH : 21 DIS 2023

M/SURAT : 07

STONE : NEGATIF

SEKTOR : KPWK

Jealousy leads to murder

Man stabs lover to death in broad daylight in Klang car park

By FARIK ZOLKEPLI
farik@thestar.com.my

SHAH ALAM: A 44-year-old man stabbed his lover, believed to be out of jealousy, near a restaurant in Klang, say Selangor police.

State deputy police chief Deputy Comm Datuk S. Sasikala Devi said authorities are investigating how long the suspect and the 26-year-old victim (*pic*) were in a relationship.

"The suspect and the victim were lovers and the motive behind the attack is believed to be jealousy.

"The suspect is not married and has no criminal record," she told a press conference at the state police headquarters here yesterday.

She said police had recorded the statements of two witnesses to assist with the investigation.

A local woman died after being stabbed several times in the front and back by a man in broad daylight in Jalan Bayu Tinggi 5, Taman Chi Liung, in Klang on Monday afternoon.

South Klang OCPD Asst Comm Cha Hoong Fong said police received a report at 2.17pm from a woman regarding the murder.

According to him, the woman said the victim was stabbed by a local man, who then drove her away in a car.

"Our investigations found that at 1.20pm on Monday, the victim met the suspect at a restaurant in Jalan Bayu Tinggi 6.



"After eating, both went to the car park in Jalan Bayu Tinggi 5.

"When they reached a silver Chevrolet car, the suspect stabbed the victim several times with a knife and then placed her in the car before leaving," he said on Tuesday.

He said the man then drove to his house in Jalan Sungai Nibong 5, Kapar, and upon arrival, the suspect tried to wake up the victim.

When he failed to do so, the suspect then stabbed himself, likely with the same knife, before police arrived at the location at 4.20pm on Monday to arrest him.

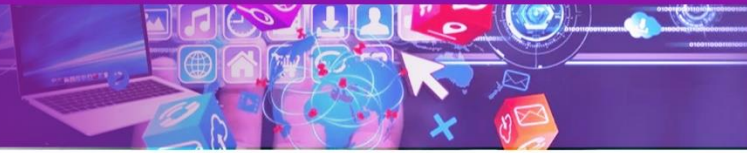
"We found the victim in the

front passenger seat in an unconscious state and the ambulance that arrived at the scene confirmed the woman had died.

"The police forensic unit also found a knife believed to be used by the suspect," he added.

Those suffering from mental health issues can reach out to the Mental Health Psychosocial Support Service (03-2935 9935 or 014-322 3392); Talian Kasih (15999 or 019-261 5999 on WhatsApp); or Jakim's (Islamic Development Malaysia Department) family, social and community care centre (011-1959 8214 on WhatsApp).

They can also reach out to Befrienders Kuala Lumpur (03-7627 2929), Befrienders Penang (04-291 0100) or go to befrienders.org.my/centre-in-malaysia for a full list of numbers nationwide and operating hours, or email sam@befrienders.org.my.



TAJUK :	JOHOR COPS ON THE HUNT FOR THREE SUSPECTS IN ATTEMPTED KIDNAPPING		
HARI :	KHAMIS	AKHBAR :	THE STAR
TARIKH :	21 DIS 2023	M/SURAT :	06
TONE :	NEGATIF	SEKTOR :	KPWKM

Johor cops on the hunt for three suspects in attempted kidnapping

JOHOR BARU: Police are searching for three local men over their alleged involvement in the abduction of a seven-year-old boy along Jalan Serampang here.

Johor Baru South OCPD Asst Comm Raub Selamat said the victim, a Chinese national with Singapore permanent resident status, was abducted not far from the city centre at around 4.30pm on Dec 12.

"Police have arrested the main

suspect, a 41-year-old car mechanic and business partner of the victim's father, who had planned the kidnapping with three others, seeking a RM300,000 ransom.

"However, no ransom was paid, as police successfully arrested the main suspect on the same day, remanding him for seven days and charging him under Section 363 of the Penal Code for kidnapping," Comm Raub said.

"The police are actively track-

ing down the three remaining suspects, all in their 30s," he added urging those with information to contact the Johor police hotline at 07-221 2999 or report to the nearest police station.

A Singapore news portal reported that a businessman had taken his wife and two young children, a girl and a boy, to Johor Baru as he was planning to invest here.

The couple were inside a shop-lot and their children were play-

ing outside at the time of the incident.

A man got out from the front passenger side of a car and grabbed the boy.

As the car drove away, the girl alerted her parents.

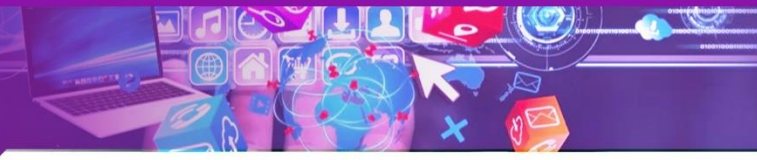
Fearing for his son's safety, the businessman then jumped into his car and gave chase. He managed to overtake the other car and block it from moving.

He punched the driver's car

window, which shattered, and saw his son sitting in the back seat.

Despite the abductors attempting to escape by ramming the businessman's car, he held on to the doorframe and was dragged several metres until injuries forced him to let go.

The abductors then fled on foot, leaving behind the car and boy. Members of the public alerted the police.



TAJUK : NEED TO PREPARE CHILDREN FOR DIGITAL WORLD CHALLENGES

HARI : KHAMIS

AKHBAR : THE SUN DAILY

TARIKH : 21 DIS 2023

M/SURAT : 03

TONE : POSITIF

SEKTOR : KPWKM

Need to **prepare** children for digital world challenges

➤ Integrate media literacy into childhood curriculum to facilitate ability to differentiate truth and lies: Expert

■ BY **SIVANISVARRY MORHAN**
newsdesk@thesundaily

PETALING JAYA: With the barrage of fake news and misinformation that has deluged the internet, an expert has called for media and digital literacy to be integrated into the early childhood curriculum.

Universiti Teknologi Mara (UiTM) Communication and Media Studies professor Datuk Dr Azizul Halim Yahya said his suggestion is not a choice, but vital to navigate the modern information landscape.

"There is a critical need for media literacy in education to address the challenges posed by misinformation, disinformation and misuse of content to create 'deepfakes'.

"Understanding the credibility of information sources is a fundamental skill that must be instilled from very young so that children can learn to differentiate truth and lies from an early age," he said.

Calling critical thinking the bedrock of media literacy, he said the education system should take the responsibility to teach how to assess credibility.

"By doing this, we can foster skills that encourage students to question, evaluate evidence and draw informed conclusions. We can empower them to navigate the

complexities of the information age."

Azizul said navigating online platforms and understanding how digital content is created is also crucial to prepare children for the digital world they will inhabit.

"Social media platforms often rely on algorithms to curate and personalise content for users based on their preferences, past behaviour and demographic information.

"While users, including children, can choose who to follow, what content to engage with and what to share, these algorithms play a significant role in shaping the content that appears in their feeds," he said.

Azizul called for collaborative efforts between educators, parents, and policymakers to ensure the success of a holistic media literacy curriculum.

"Parents and teachers must be prepared with the materials that align with developmental stages, incorporating engaging examples and fostering discussions that resonate with young learners' experiences."

He said interactive methods are essential for capturing young students' attention in early childhood education.

"Storytelling, playing cards, hands-on activities and age-appropriate multimedia, including role-playing scenarios and group

discussions will enhance their understanding of human rights and digital and media literacy."

Azizul said workshops on media and digital literacy and human rights education will help educators to effectively meet the requirements to tackle misinformation and disinformation that students encounter.

"Teachers need ongoing training and support from private companies to keep up with new technology.

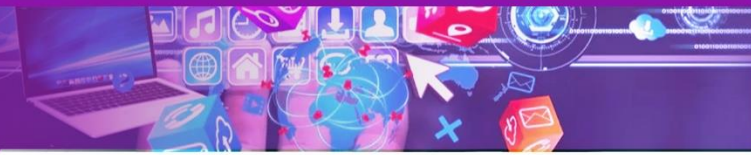
"Regular updates to the curriculum and working with technology experts help educators understand the latest trends," he said.

Centre for Independent Journalism executive director Wathshlah Naidu said as young minds, especially teenagers, begin to navigate the digital world's complex landscape, it is imperative to equip them with the necessary skills to critically analyse, interpret and engage with information at their fingertips.

Wathshlah said understanding and embracing human rights represents the initial stride towards media and digital literacy.

"Without incorporating human rights education, especially among early childhood pupils and older students, media and digital literacy will remain unattainable."

She added that it is essential to promote human rights education that emphasises values like equality, justice and dignity as these lay the foundation for socially responsible individuals.



TAJUK :	POLIS BUKA KERTAS SIASATAN PELAJAR DAKWA DIBULI		
HARI :	KHAMIS	AKHBAR :	UTUSAN BORNEO (SARAWAK)
TARIKH :	21 DIS 2023	M/SURAT :	13
TONE :	NEGATIF	SEKTOR :	KPWKM

Polis buka kertas siasatan pelajar dakwa dibuli

KUALALUMPUR: Polis telah membuka kertas siasatan berhubung kes seorang pelajar lelaki yang melarikan diri dari asrama sebuah sekolah di Cheras kerana didakwa dibuli pelajar lain.

Ketua Polis Kuala Lumpur Datuk Allaudeen Abdul Majid berkata siasatan dijalankan mengikut Seksyen 31 Akta Kanak-Kanak 2001 selepas ibu kepada remaja itu membuat laporan polis kelmarin.

“Kita (polis) akan memanggil semua pihak yang terlibat, mangsa, keluarga, rakan dan pihak sekolah untuk dirakam keterangan dalam masa terdekat, siasatan baharu sahaja bermula sila beri kita sedikit masa,” katanya.

Beliau berkata demikian kepada pemberita selepas Perhimpunan Bulanan Ketua Polis Kuala Lumpur di Ibu Pejabat Polis Kontinjen Kuala Lumpur, di sini semalam.

Ibu kepada pelajar lelaki

berkenaan membuat laporan polis di Pondok Polis Hospital Canselor Tuanku Muhriz, di sini, pada 11.16 pagi, kelmarin.

Pada 8 Disember lepas, pelajar itu ditemui dalam keadaan lemah oleh ibu bapanya dan guru sekolah di Masjid Saidina Othman, Bandar Tun Razak, beberapa jam selepas dilaporkan hilang dari asrama.

Sementara itu, mengulas mengenai perkembangan siasatan kes bunuh seorang akauntan sebuah syarikat swasta yang ditemui di tepi Jalan Kuari, Kampung Cheras Baru di sini 11 Disember lepas, Allaudeen berkata polis sedang memburu seorang suspek utama.

Beliau berkata reman dua rakan mangsa berusia 25 dan 35 tahun yang ditahan 12 Disember lepas akan tamat hari ini (semalam) dan pihaknya sedang menunggu keputusan daripada Pejabat Timbalan Pendakwa Raya sama ada

untuk menyambung perintah reman berkenaan atau tidak.

Mengulas mengenai indeks jenayah di Kuala Lumpur, Allaudeen berkata ia mencatatkan penurunan sebanyak 10 peratus berbanding tahun lepas.

Beliau berkata ia menunjukkan tahap keselamatan di ibu kota dalam keadaan terkawal serta selamat dan masyarakat tidak perlu takut untuk menjalankan aktiviti harian mereka.

“Secara keseluruhan saya berpuas hati dengan prestasi anggota dan pegawai Polis Kuala Lumpur pada tahun ini, secara umumnya semua petunjuk prestasi utama Polis Kuala Lumpur telah berjaya dicapai.

“Sebagai contoh Bahagian Jabatan Siasatan Jenayah yang berjaya mendakwa hampir 70 peratus kes disiasat, lebih tinggi berbanding 45 peratus yang ditetapkan dalam KPI,” katanya. — Bernama