# LAPORAN LIPUTAN MEDIA HARIAN
# JUMAAT 26 OGOS 2022

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UKKMAFI

UNIT KOMUNIKASI KORPORAT
KEMENTERIAN PERTANIAN DAN INDUSTRI MAKANAN
(UNTUK EDARAN DALAMAN MAFI, JABATAN DAN AGENSI SAHAJA)

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# Selesaikan segera isu daging halal

**PETALING JAYA:** Gabungan pertubuhan bukan kerajaan (NGO) Islam mencadangkan Jabatan Kemajuan Islam Malaysia (Jakim) menubuhkan jawatankuasa siasatan menangani isu daging import halal.

Desakan itu dibuat enam NGO iaitu Persatuan Pengguna Islam Malaysia (PPIM); Pertubuhan Kemasyarakatan Rakyat (Pekemas); Pertubuhan Produk Ummah Malaysia; Pertubuhan Kebajikan Darul Islah Malaysia (Perkid), Persatuan Anti Diskriminasi dan Salah Laku serta Sahaba 99.

Ketua Aktivis PPIM Datuk Nadzim Johan berkata, langkah itu penting selepas timbul banyak keraguan membabitkan prosedur sembelihan.

Malah, beliau menyatakan kesediaan membantu Jakim dan bekerjasama dengan atase halal di Australia.

"Kita bersedia menghantar NGO ke sana (Australia) bagi melaksanakan tugas-tugas pemantauan. Ini kerana banyak keraguan yang perlu diperjelaskan termasuk hasil Jakim dan Jabatan Perkhidmatan Veterinar (JPV) yang dikatakan masih tidak melakukan pemeriksaan di rumah sembelihan berkenaan.

"Sekiranya suara NGO tidak dipedulikan, ada masalah dalam sistem sedia ada.Perkara ini (isu halal) telah berlaku bertahun-tahun. Justeru dengan adanya pembabitan wakil NGO, ia dapat mengikis keraguan pengguna pada masa akan datang," katanya dalam sidang akhbar di Ibu Pejabat PPIM di sini semalam.

Tambah Nadzim, gabungan NGO itu juga akan menghantar memorandum kepada Perdana Menteri, Datuk Seri Ismail Sabri Yaakob dalam masa terdekat bagi menyelesaikan perkara terbabit.

Presiden Pekemas, Faizan Mohd. Nor berkata, sehingga ke hari ini, Jakim masih tidak berjumpa dengan pihaknya untuk memberi penjelasan berhubung isu daging import halal.

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ANGGOTA APMM menemui 50 set bubu naga yang dipasang di perairan Tanjung Hantu, Segari pada Selasa lalu.

# APMM Perak rampas 50 set bubu naga

**LUMUT** – Maritim Malaysia (APMM) Perak merampas 50 set bubu naga di lokasi kira-kira 2.7 batu nautika barat Tanjung Hantu, Segari, dekat sini Selasa lalu.

Pengarah Maritim Perak, Kepten Maritim Mohd Hambali Ya'akup berkata, bot peronda APMM yang melakukan rondaan Op Pintas dan Op Sayong, mengesan kewujudan bubu naga di sekitar perairan Tanjung Hantu kira-kira pukul 12.30 tengah hari.

"Semua 50 set bubu naga yang dijumpai itu diserahkan kepada pegawai penyiasat Maritim Perak untuk tindakan lanjut," katanya dalam kenyataan semalam.

Ujar beliau, pemilik bubu naga boleh didakwa di bawah Seksyen 11(3)(c) Akta Perikanan 1985 kerana memasang atau menyebabkan pemasangan apa-apa belat ikan, peralatan perikanan atau peranti mengumpul ikan tanpa kebenaran Ketua Pengarah Perikanan sebelum suatu lesen berkenaan dengannya dikeluarkan.

Jelasnya, berdasarkan rekod APMM Perak, dalam tempoh enam bulan pertama tahun ini, sebanyak 680 set bubu naga dengan anggaran nilai rampasan RM75,360 telah direkodkan menerusi pemantauan dan penguatkuasaan di kawasan perairan Kuala Kurau, Pulau Talang dan Pantai Remis.

Ujarnya, penggunaan bubu naga secara berleluasa oleh pihak tidak bertanggungjawab di perairan Perak boleh mengganggu habitat marin untuk jangka masa panjang.

"Ini menyebabkan ekosistem marin terancam, terutamanya ikan-ikan kecil di pesisir pantai dan boleh mengakibatkan kepupusan serta menjejaskan sumber pendapatan nelayan pantai.

"APMM Perak bimbang, sekiranya kegiatan penggunaan bubu naga ini masih diteruskan, populasi habitat marin di negeri ini bakal berkurang dan generasi akan datang bakal terkesan," ujar beliau.

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# 680 set bubu naga RM75,360 dirampas di perairan Perak

*Anggota Maritim Malaysia Perak merampas bubu naga di perairan Tanjung Hantu, Lumut.*
(Foto ihsan Maritim Malaysia Perak)

**Lumut:** Agensi Penguatkuasaan Maritim Malaysia (Maritim Malaysia) Perak merampas 680 set bubu naga dianggarkan bernilai RM75,360 di sekitar perairan Perak dalam tempoh tujuh bulan pertama tahun ini, tahun ini.

Pengarah Maritim Malaysia Perak, Kepten Maritim Mohd Hambali Ya'akup, berkata rampasan itu dilakukan di perairan Kuala Kurau, Pulau Talang dan Pantai Remis sepanjang Januari hingga Julai lalu.

Beliau berkata, pihaknya mengesan penggunaan bubu naga di perairan negeri ini berleluasa yang boleh mengganggu habitat marin dalam jangka panjang dengan menyebabkan ekosistem marin terancam, terutama di pesisir pantai.

"Ia sekali gus menjejaskan sumber pendapatan nelayan pantai. Kita bimbang jika penggunaannya masih diteruskan, populasi habitat marin di negeri ini bakal berkurang dan generasi akan datang bakal terkesan.

"Biarpun penguatkuasaan dilakukan dan bubu itu dirampas, penggunaan alat terbabit di laut sukar dibendung kerana ia digunakan secara pasang dan tinggal, selain mudah didapati di pasaran terbuka," katanya dalam kenyataan, semalam.

## Peralatan tak dituntut

Mohd Hambali berkata, berikutan penggunaan bubu naga adalah secara pasang dan tinggal, tiada mana-mana pihak tampil menuntut peralatan berkenaan sekiranya ia dirampas pihak berkuasa.

Dalam kes terbaru, katanya, Maritim Malaysia Perak merampas 50 bubu naga pada kedudukan 2.7 batu nautika barat Tanjung Hantu, di sini, kira-kira jam 12.30 tengah hari Selasa lalu.

"Semua 50 set bubu naga itu diserahkan kepada pegawai penyiasat Maritim Malaysia Perak untuk tindakan lanjut," katanya mengingatkan, pemilik bubu naga boleh didakwa mengikut Seksyen 11(3)(c) Akta Perikanan 1985.

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# APMM tahan dua bot

BOT dikendalikan warga asing yang ditahan.

**Kuala Selangor:** Agensi Penguatkuasaan Maritim Malaysia (APMM) Selangor menahan sebuah bot pemancing dan sebuah bot nelayan tempatan Kelas C secara berasingan pada Selasa lalu.

Pengarah APMM Selangor Kepten Maritim Siva Kumar Vengadasalam berkata, kedua-dua bot itu ditahan oleh KM Bagan Datuk ketika rondaan Op Ehsan, Op Benteng Laut dan Op Belangkas di perairan Selangor.

Menurutnya, bot pertama ditahan dibuat terhadap bot pemancing jam 2.15 petang di kedudukan 34.2 batu nautika barat Tanjung Karang.

"Ketika ditahan, bot itu dikendalikan oleh tekong berusia 44 tahun bersama 10 pemancing berusia 40 hingga 76 tahun yang semuanya warga tempatan.

"Hasil pemeriksaan lanjut mendapati bot terbabit tidak mempunyai lesen pengoperasian yang sah serta tidak dilengkapi dengan peralatan komunikasi dan alat keselamatan seperti pemadam api," katanya.

Siva Kumar berkata, bot, tekong dan semua pemancing dibawa ke jeti Pasukan Polis Marin (PPM) Pulau Indah sebelum diserahkan kepada pegawai penyiasat Maritim APMM untuk disiasat mengikut Ordinan Perkapalan Saudagar (MSO) 1952.

"Pada hari yang sama, penahanan bot kedua dibuat terhadap sebuah bot nelayan tempatan Kelas C pada kedudukan 34 batu nautika barat Tanjung Karang jam 2.50 petang.

"Hasil pemeriksaan awal, bot nelayan itu dikendalikan oleh seorang tekong serta dua kru dipercayai warga Indonesia dalam lingkungan usia 20 hingga 39 tahun," katanya.

Beliau berkata, pemeriksaan lanjut terhadap dokumen mendapati bot itu melakukan kesalahan mengikut Akta Perikanan 1985 kerana melanggar syarat sah lesen iaitu melakukan aktiviti menangkap ikan di luar kawasan yang ditetapkan kerana bot itu didaftarkan di Hutan Melintang, Perak.

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**PENGANJURAN Expo Malaysia Agriculture, Hortikultur dan Agro Pelancongan (MAHA) 2022 adalah terbaik dengan naratif menurunkan harga makanan agro dan memastikan sekuriti makanan selaras temanya Sekuriti Makanan Untuk Masa Depan."**

# Naratif MAHA terbaik untuk turunkan harga makanan

**SAUDARA PENGARANG,**

**SAYA** terpanggil mengucapkan syabas kepada pihak Sekretariat Expo Malaysia Agriculture, Hortikultur dan Agro Pelancongan (MAHA) 2022, Kementerian Pertanian dan Industri Makanan (MAFI) atas kejayaan penganjuran berptestij Expo MAHA 2022 mulai 4 hingga 14 Ogos lalu di Taman Ekspo Pertanian Malaysia (MAEPS).

Sekretariat MAHA yang dipengerusikan oleh Menteri Pertanian dan Industri Makanan Datuk Seri Dr. Ronald Kiandee membawa keberhasilan dan penganjuran yang baik bagi manfaatkan rakyat serta pemain industri agro makanan negara ini.

Expo MAHA 2022 ini disempurnakan Perasmian oleh Perdana Menteri Malaysia Datuk Seri Ismail Sabri Yaakob pada 6 Ogos lalu berlangsung dengan cemerlang. Perdana Menteri membuat pengumuman-pengumuman penting dalam ucapan perasmiannya.

Sehingga 14 Ogos bilangan pengunjung yang direkodkan secara fizikal seramai 1.4 juta orang termasuk pengunjung virtual seramai 266,321 orang. Dari aspek jualan keseluruhan direkodkan sebanyak RM260 juta jualan langsung, termasuk . RM25,270,436.35 jualan secara atas talian. Direkodkan padanan perniagaan RM234,985,432.10 manakala sebanyak 33 memorandum persefahaman (MoU) yang ditandatangani. Dari aspek pembiayaan pula sebanyak RM460.8 juta dengan 2,947 permohonan direkodkan. Kesemua rekod ini mengatasi rekod 4 tahun sebelum ini.

Penganjuran kali ini adalah terbaik dengan naratif menurunkan harga makanan agro dan memastikan sekuriti makanan selaras temanya Sekuriti Makanan Untuk Masa Depan. Mesej MAFI adalah tuntas menyeru dan mengajak Keluarga Malaysia untuk Jihad Inflasi melalui kegiatan bertani di rumah.

**YOSRI ABU MAHSIN**
Putrajaya.

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# Incentives for growth

Three farmers in Selangor are reaping the benefits of various government schemes and subsidies for agricultural development as the need to raise food production in the state intensifies. >2&3

**Farm to table:** Pineapple farmer Mohd Noorhardy Mohd Noorzain not only grows pineapple at his farm in Kampung Sungai Merab Luar, Sepang, but has also opened a hilltop cafe offering pineapple-based food and drinks. — LOW BOON TAT/THE STAR

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# Cultivating success through innovation

## Farmers closely monitored to ensure expansion projects do not result in wastage and failure

Stories by GRACE CHEN
gracechen@thestar.com.my

SEVEN years ago, when Mohd Noorhardy Mohd Noorzain's restaurant and car rental business went bust, the Universiti Putra Malaysia graduate took up selling MD2 pineapples, touted to be the sweetest variety.

He borrowed his father's one-tonne lorry and along with his wife, Noorhardy opened a stall at the Malaysia Agro Exposition Park Serdang (MAEPS) selling the fruit whole, cut or juiced.

Later, the couple ventured into the wholesale business.

"I went to the morning, night, wet and wholesale markets with no prior appointments, just with my business cards and some samples," he recalled.

On weekends, he said sales could reach up to RM800 a day while on weekdays, it was RM400.

That was when Noorhardy got the idea of planting pineapples to enjoy better margins.

Hamad has a 21-year lease on a 4ha land where he has planted 800 jackfruit trees.

### Starting with seedlings

By August 2018, the first seedlings were growing in land the size of two football fields, belonging to his father-in-law.

"A good friend loaned to me RM16,000, with no interest. I have since repaid him and he gets to eat free at the cafe in my farm whenever he visits," said Noorhardy.

Having set up his initial base at MAEPS also made him aware of the small farmers scheme by the Malaysian Pineapple Industry Board (LPNM), which has an office there.

"They wanted to give me 51,000 free seedlings, which would have been enough to cover 1.21ha (at 17,000 seedlings for every 0.4ha), but I told them that I only had 0.8ha.

"It was only in 2019 that I had the courage to reapply for the remaining 17,000 seedlings after my father-in-law agreed to cede another 0.4ha of his land to extend the farm," he said.

As Noorhardy's farm was only about 1.21ha at that time, he would not have to repay LPNM for the seedlings.

For bigger commercial farms, with land over 4.04ha, the payback rate for seedlings is on a one-to-one basis.

Today, Noorhardy's pineapple farm has become an attraction at Kampung Sungai Merab Luar, Sepang in Selangor.

Coming from as far as Johor, visitors are flocking to the farm's hilltop cafe to sample its pineapple *sambal*, pineapple cheesecake and deep-fried pineapple chunks.

Thanks to their selfies among the rows of herbaceous perennials, the agrotourism spot has been getting a lot of exposure on Instagram.

Noorhardy credited village head Mohamad Aris Said for the farm's success since the latter introduced him to the Selangor Islamic Religious Council (Mais).

This led to Noorhardy leasing 4.04ha of Mais' land at RM110 per hectare per month in 2019, enabling him to expand his farm to its present size.

Today, he earns RM300,000 in monthly sales from the export of seedlings to Sabah and Sarawak, farm harvests and agrotourism activities.

Apart from benefitting the father of six, the farm has given the traditional village of 600 houses positive exposure.

Previously, the village was infamous for illegal dumping on its roadsides. However, the influx of visitors made residents more conscious of the village's appearance and dumping incidences have since decreased, according to Mohamad Aris.

### High-impact project

Elsewhere in Selangor, another farmer Hamad Mohd Yusof has been working on a 4ha land in Rawang with 800 jackfruit trees for the past six years.

He is one of the 30 participants who was allocated a plot at the Batu Arang Permanent Food Park (TKPM).

The gazetted agricultural land is where Hamad has secured a 21-year lease.

It is regarded as one of the cheapest government-owned real estate investment trusts in Selangor and farmers pay a yearly rate of RM500 per hectare.

The 145ha TKPM, which began in 2000, has its own electricity supply and road infrastructure.

Presently, fruit orchards occupy about 100ha, with the honey jackfruit being the top crop. There are livestock and aquaculture activities there as well.

To apply, Hamad had to prove that he had enough capital to sustain farming operations.

"Though there was ready infrastructure, it was still necessary to purchase saplings. I got mine from

Ho and Abdul Razak inspecting the vegetables at an aquaponics farm inside the Gombak and Petaling district agriculture office.

## Spaces for researchers to

THE Gombak and Petaling District Agriculture Office in Jalan Gombak, Selangor, facilitates planting research.

For the past 10 years, more than five farmers have benefitted from the rent-free sites with basic amenities such as greenhouses.

"Each participant is given two years to test out their planting methodology," said district agriculture officer Abdul Razak Abdul Rahman.

"Other district agricultural offices are also offering the same service. Those who intend to carry out research should enquire at their respective districts for space availability," he advised.

He said there were several ongoing projects.

At the aquaponics site, consultant Ho Yue Shin was inspecting a verdant blanket of duckweed covering the surface of her vegetable patches that were growing in deep water culture tanks.

She is hoping that it will one day replace the protein pellets to feed the tilapia fish nurturing her greens.

Ho has also been recording data on how guppies introduced into the tanks are reducing mosquito larvae growth.

She said she learned the importance of backup generators that activate immediately when a power outage occured, after nearly losing a tankful of jade perches in the early days of the farm's set up.

Other high-tech cultivation methods being researched here include growing of melons using hydroponics.

According to Abdul Razak, the researchers are testing an auto-dosing system where the administration of water, fertiliser as well as temperature and venti-

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Noorhardy's pineapple farm in Kampung Sungai Merab Luar, Sepang in Selangor, is also popular for agrotourism. – Photos: LOW BOON TAT/The Star

The Batu Arang Permanent Food Park in Gombak, Rawang in Selangor, is a gazetted agricultural land where farmers can rent plots.

Amurthalingham at his farm at Ladang Sungai Gumut in Kalumpang, Hulu Selangor, with some of the 10 cows he received through a subsidy programme.

the Tekam Yellow Research Centre, which comes under the Federal Land Development Authority in Pahang, for RM18 each.

"I had to carry out earthworks, build irrigation channels as well as workers' quarters and storage facilities for pesticides and fertilisers," said Hamad.

He said he was also able to show a proven track record with a 20-year-old, 4ha durian-and-coconut farm in Kuala Kangsar, Perak.

These controls, he said, were necessary to prevent wastage of government resources.

"Six years ago, I heard that aid given out to newbies to venture into farming had been wasted as their projects failed.

"Some of it was due to inexperience whereas some unscrupulous individuals used minimal funds to build structures just to meet the most basic requirements and spent the rest of the money elsewhere," he revealed.

As the Batu Arang TKPM has been marked as a high-impact project, farmers are not allowed to accrue arrears and their production numbers are constantly monitored by the state agriculture officers.

This means that Hamad has to reach a key performance index of four tonnes of jackfruit per month.

Participants who achieve their targets with their output, can apply for the Malaysian Standard Good Agricultural Practice (MyGap) certification which qualifies them for the export market.

Hamad is among those at TKPM who have received this certification.

Overall, he is pleased with this arrangement as participants benefit from affordable monthly rental rates, safety in numbers and access to technical support and consultation.

## Fresh milk production

Despite knowing about the existence of government aid for the last 15 years, dairy farmer Amurthalingham Muthiah only recently began taking advantage of the subsidies given under the Dairy Industry Development Plan (DIDP) by Agriculture and Food Industry Ministry.

Created under the 12th Malaysia Plan, the DIDP is aimed at achieving 100% self-sufficiency for local fresh milk production by 2025.

"These aid programmes were advertised in the newspapers.

"It was also announced on the Veterinary Services Department (DVS) website," said Amurthalingham, who runs a dairy farm at Ladang Sungai Gumut in Kalumpang, Hulu Selangor, with his business partner Thayalan Krishnasamy.

Amurthalingham applied for 10 cows, a refrigerated farm milk tank (RFT) and water heater.

The entire package is worth RM165,000 but with the 70% subsidy given by DVS for each item, he will only have to pay 30% of the sum.

Under this programme, DVS set a cap price of RM7,000 per cow, RM3,500 per unit of water heater and RM42,000 per 500-litre RFT.

Amurthalingham and Thayalan received the cows this May after submitting applications three months ago.

They said they knew of 12 ethnic Indian dairy farmers who received assistance under the programme and that the aid had been announced in a WhatsApp group that DVS had set up for livestock farmers.

"After we applied, DVS officers came to inspect our farm.

"Applications were only accepted from those who had been running their farms for two years and with good biosecurity systems in place.

"As our farm had 4.04 ha of napier grass for cow feed, our application was approved," said Amurthalingham.

He said the subsidy would go towards expanding the farm.

Its current milk yield was at 350 litres a day, he said, and the additional number of cattle would help him reach his target of 2,000 litres a day within the next two years.

"On our own, it would have taken a longer time to see profits.

"With this help from the government, we hope to achieve our goals faster," he added.

# test planting methods

lation controls can be made remotely using a smart phone.

"The information and knowledge gained from this testing is to be shared with other farmers.

"Not having to reinvent the wheel can save other farmers much time, expenses and hopefully reduce production time," he said.

At present, there are sites within the grounds for fertigation, conventional planting and a mushroom house.

Abdul Razak himself is five months into testing and developing his own fertigation system, which aims to reduce watering frequency by half.

He has been experimenting on growing chillies with lightweight expanded clay aggregate as well as with coco peat in pots with built-in irrigation.

He said that if participants had not worked on their plots for six months, they would be asked to make way for others.

"The public can visit during office hours to learn from duty officers about ongoing research.

"The Gombak and Petaling District Agriculture Office also hosts a farmer's market every Saturday, from 7am to 12.30pm," he added.

Abdul Razak said one of the aims of these research sites was to address food security in Selangor.

"Only 23% of fruits and vegetables sold in the wholesale markets are grown within the state.

"One of the challenges is the scarcity of agricultural land, as much of it has been allocated for industrial activities.

"This is why we are also reaching out to communities, encouraging them to start their own edible gardens," he said.

Melons grown using a hydroponic system. Here, researchers are testing out an auto-dosing system where the administration of water, fertiliser as well as temperature and ventilation controls can be made remotely via a smartphone.