

120 Seri Kembangan roadside hawkers receive temporary licences

A TOTAL of 120 temporary licences were issued to roadside hawkers in Taman Puncak Jalil, Seri Kembangan.

This initiative was carried out via Subang Jaya City Council's MBSJ Prihatin programme.

Selangor local government, public transportation and new village development committee chairman Ng Sze Han, who is also Kinrara assemblyman, said prior to this, only six out of the 80 stall owners had MBSJ trading licences.

"In considering their plight, we discovered there were new traders who had set up shop after losing their income because of the movement control order," he said.

The temporary licences were issued to those setting up small food businesses during the Covid-19 pandemic.

"These licences will help the traders do business in a safe and structured environment," added Ng before visiting the stalls in Jalan PUJ 3, Taman Puncak Jalil Business Centre.

He urged other hawkers in Selangor to also apply for temporary licences.

Applications can be made online and approved in a short time, provided all relevant documents are submitted to the respective local councils.

Ng said these temporary licences were to cease last year, but Selangor government decided to extend the duration until December this year.

"The state government will study the need to extend it further, depending on the Covid-19 situation here.

"An important criteria is traders have to be fully vaccinated," he highlighted

He added that a long-term solution would involve MBSJ relocating the traders to a suitable trading site within the PUJ 3 area.

"We hope to accommodate as many of them as possible," he said.

Meanwhile, MBSJ Licensing Department director Muhammad Azli Miswan said there were too many traders in PUJ 3, therefore they were allowed to temporarily do business at the parking area.

"We will move them to a permanent location and free up the parking area eventually," he said.

Ng said based on Statistics Department data, **unemployment** in Malaysia had increased to 4.8% in the second quarter of this year, with more than 750,000 people without jobs, 4.4% of whom were in Selangor.

He said the state government, through all 12 local councils, had issued 8,300 temporary licences to hawkers since August last year.

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