

CHINESE NEW YEAR GREETINGS



FEATURES

LAB SERIES 1: PREPARATION PROGRAMS, PROJECTS AND INITIATIVES ELEVENTH MALAYSIA PLAN (RMK-11) FOR CORE 3.

Economic Planning Unit (EPU) was organized a Lab Series 1: Preparation Programs, Projects and Initiatives Plan Eleventh Malaysia for Core 3: Improving Human Capital Development for developed Countries. This one day event was held on 23 February 2016 at Putrajaya International Convention Centre which was attended by Dato' LAr. Ismail Ngah.



Based on the discussion, there was recommendations from EPU on Strategy A2: Improving labor market operations to maximize efficiency and effectiveness. [[Click here](#)]

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WISMA ZELAN CHINESE NEW YEAR OPEN HOUSE



Wisma Zelan Chinese New Year Open House was held on 18 February 2016 at BIM Multi Purpose Hall, Bandar Tun Razak, Cheras. President, Dato' LAr. Ismail Ngah was attended this event with two other Exco Members, Dato' Dr Vincent Ng In Hooi and Ir Gunasagaran Kristnan.

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ABOUT MEMBERS

YOUNG PROFESSIONAL WORKSHOP ON URBAN RESILIENCE, 3rd to 4th March 2016, Novotel Malacca



Malacca Historical City Council (MBMB) together with Malaysian Institute of Planners (MIP) will be organizing a 1 1/2 days workshop with the themed Urban Resilience from 3rd - 4th March 2016 at Novotel Hotel, Malacca in conjunction with the 2nd Asia Pacific Forum.

We are now inviting young professional, universities students and members of public age from 18-35 years old to be part of the workshop with the registration fee at only RM150.00 per person.

For more information and to register, please download registration [here](#) and email us at pertubuhanperancang@gmail.com. For other enquiries, contact MIP Secretariat at 03-78770636 or 03-7877 0637.

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3CPD : HEALTHCAREBUILD ENVIRONMENT ASIA (HBE ASIA) CONFERENCE, 28th to 30th March 2016, PWTC Kuala Lumpur



HealthcareBuild Environment Asia (HBE ASIA) is an annual conference, exhibition and networking Summit. It designed to be a multi-disciplinary environment that inspires health, construction and technology stakeholders to evoke change for the advancement of a better delivery of healthcare for staff, patients and their families, HBE ASIA focuses on the use of technology and the physical environment that positively affects healing and promotes well-being.

For more information, visit conference website and registration form [here](#).

CURRENT ISSUES

PHARMACIST CLAIMS TO HAVE FOUND CURE FOR DENGUE

The Sun Daily, 29 January 2016

KUALA LUMPUR: While the country faces a myriad of dengue cases every year, a pharmacist is claiming to have found a cure for the disease.

Consultant Pharmacist and Naturopathy Centre founder K. Ananthan said he had found an "arsenal" to protect mankind from dengue fever.

He said that he had found through research that natural food-based edible seeds and spices which have been consumed by humans for thousands of years are the key ingredients to fight against dengue.

Ananthan, who claimed to have done research on natural and alternative medicine for more than 10 years, said the ingredients could boost the immune system to restrain the dengue virus from causing harm.

He told Bernama he had come up with a formula that combines 60 types of ingredients in a capsule to fortify the immune system.

Ananthan said the ingredients included jintan manis (fennel), bunga cengkih (clove), cinnamon, turmeric, red bean, soya bean, kidney bean and malt.

He said he presented his findings to the Health Ministry and to the Institute of Medical Research in 2012 seeking a follow-up study on natural remedy for dengue fever. However, no such study had been carried out.

Ananthan was a pharmacist with the health ministry from 1976 to 1993.

The highest position he held in public service was as Pharmacy deputy head at Kuala Lumpur General Hospital.

According to Health Ministry statistics, from January to Sept 12, 2015, the number of dengue cases increased 21.5% to 85,488 from 70,337 in 2014.

The number of deaths from dengue during the same period increased to 234 from 133 in 2014.

PILFERING MEDICINE ' A MATTER OF CULTURE '

The Sun Daily, 16 February 2016

PETALING JAYA: The act of pilfering medicines and other pharmaceutical items by hospital staff is not a hush-hush phenomenon.

In fact it is a norm.

"It is well known as it happens," said Malaysian Medical Association (MMA) president Dr Ashok Philip.

He said in most cases it is a matter of culture, whereby some are not inclined to waiting in line for receiving medical care, instead they choose to opt for the short-cut of taking the relevant medicines to treat their cause.

However, there is no excuse as the waiting time for medical consultation has reduced tremendously.

Meanwhile, there are quarters who are prompted by getting favours done for contacts who are in need of a specific medicine or pharmaceutical item.

"They shouldn't do it as it is wrong. After all the government provides them with free medical care. I hope they (authorities) get on top of the situation," he added.

Ashok said self treating without a doctor's prescription could further lead to health complications, as the person may not be fully in the know of how to treat the condition.

On the Pharmacy Information System, a computerised system which is set to come into effect by December this year, he said: "We are hearing about the computerised system for years."

At present, only four government hospitals nationwide are fully equipped with the system, while log-books and bin cards are prevalent record-keeping methods.

Today, *theSun* front-paged a story on the rife occurrences of medicine and pharmaceutical items pilfering by hospital staff, primarily for personal reasons.

In response to *theSun's* queries, the director-general of Health Datuk Dr Noor Hisham said the act is an offence and action will be taken on those found to be involved.

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LACK OF YOUTH IN AGRICULTURE MAY CAUSE FOOD CRISIS

The Star, 16 February 2016

KUALA LUMPUR: Malaysia could be bracing for a food crisis if the younger generation does not participate in the agriculture and agro-based industry.

This is because only 15% of the 800,000 members of the Farmers Organisation Authority are aged below 40 years old, said deputy Agriculture and Agro-Based Industry Minister Datuk Seri Tajuddin Abdul Rahman.

He said 45% of FOA members are aged 60 years and above.

Tajuddin, however, gave an assurance that there was no food crisis in the country yet.

“It (agriculture and agro-based industry) is like a car. If you don’t have the engine, the car cannot move. The engine for this industry is the people,” Tajuddin said yesterday when he was asked if the lack of young people in the industry could lead to a food crisis.

He had earlier launched a campaign to rejuvenate the FOA in an effort to increase the participation of young people in the agriculture and agro-based industry.

The FOA targets to increase the participation of youth to 30% by the year 2020.

Tajuddin said the lack of interest among the younger generation was the reason for their low participation in the sector.

He said they should realise that the agro-based industry could be economically rewarding. “Those who want to *makan gaji* (salaried workers) as factory workers, I urge you to become an entrepreneur in the agriculture industry. This is more lucrative.

“There needs to be a change in mentality among the younger generation,” he said. He also urged commercial banks to provide loans for young entrepreneurs who wanted to get involved in agriculture.

“Bank Negara Malaysia should ask commercial banks to have a quota where a certain percentage of their loans should be allocated for the agriculture sector.

“You cannot just depend on Agrobank to provide loans,” he added.

Tajuddin said Malaysia was dependent on food imports. He said in 2014, at least RM18bil was spent on items such as rice, meat, vegetables, fruits and animal feed.

The cost of importing such goods, he added, also shot up by 30% due to currency depreciation.

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IRON LADY OF ARCHITECTURE

The Star, 19 February 2016



Tan said that when she first started out almost three decades ago contractors were reluctant to take instructions from her.

She has been one of the forces behind the shaping of Malaysia's skyline, while her heart remains rooted in continuing to inspire others. As former president of the Malaysian Institute of Architects (PAM), Datuk Tan Pei Ing says she still has her work cut out for her.

Recently conferred the title of Datuk, Tan has been one of the driving forces of the country's architecture scene.

As the first female head of PAM in 90 years since its inception in 2001 – and the proprietor of her own architecture design firm – Tan said it has not been an easy journey.

“It was not easy breaking into this business, especially when I first started out almost three decades ago.

“Back then, the contractors were hesitant to deal with a woman and they used to bully me.

“They were reluctant to take instructions from me and there were a lot of prejudices against me because of my gender.

“But over the years, I managed to earn their trust,” the 56-year-old said.

However, Tan acknowledged there was still some ways to go to achieving gender equality within the industry.

“Currently, I am in an international organisation under Professional Practice Commission where we are looking at gender equity in architecture.

“While there has been an increase in the number of females who take up architecture, the number of women who are active practitioners is significantly lower than their male counterparts,” Tan said.

While the initial involvement is quite high, over the years the number has dwindled, she added.

“We need to examine why that is the case. Is it because the building industry does not encourage a suitable environment or the lack of support system for female architects?”

“We are looking at addressing these issues to encourage more women to be more actively involved in the building industry,” she said.

In the regional scene, Tan has also scored a coup – she was elected the first woman president of the Architects Regional Council Asia (ARCAAsia) for the 2012-2013 term.

ARCAAsia is an amalgamation of 18 architect associations in Asia including China, Japan, South Korea, India, Indonesia, Singapore and Malaysia.

Adding to her many accolades, Tan has completed a wide range of projects including the IOI Mall, IOI Business Park, the Marriot Hotel in Putrajaya – for which her firm won the 2004 FIABCI Award under the hotel category – clubhouses, service apartments, shops, office buildings, industrial buildings and the jewel in her cap, the newly launched IOI City Mall in Putrajaya.



Tan is not afraid to get her hands dirty as she inspects work sites.

From her firm of two staff members, Tan’s practice, PI Architect, has evolved into a 30-member team.

As if not busy enough, in 2012, Tan started through PAM a Malaysian Chapter on Architecture for Humanity, a volunteer non-profit organisation set up to promote architecture and design to seek solutions to global social and humanitarian crisis.

“We initiated a project to build an orphanage in Klang where the land was donated by a developer.

“Unfortunately we have not been able to get approval for the structure,” she said.

Having lived and grown up in the small town of Kajang, Tan said her frequent trips to Kuala Lumpur made her realise how architecture could change the environment and wanted to be part of the process.

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“I was drawn to the profession because it is a creative vocation that can also shape the environment and impact how we live.

“Initially, I wanted to be a doctor so that I could help people.

“But, I realised I am an emotional person and would get too attached,” she said with a laugh.

Tan said that although her parents initially disapproved of her profession, they later turned out to be her biggest supporters.

“They strongly objected because it was a very male-dominated industry and the course at the time would have taken six years to complete.

“But, I convinced them and in the end, they supported me,” she explained.

With four other siblings in various professions, she said her parents did not impose their dreams onto their children, but allowed them to follow their passion.

Tan said she has followed this principle with her two children as well, by allowing them to decide on their future ambitions and careers.

“Integrity and professionalism are key in excelling in any career or industry.

“One has to also be committed and believe in what you’re doing.

“In voluntary work especially, you must go in without any personal agenda because what we do will shape the industry and profession,” she said.

“You can also just warm the seat and do nothing when taking up the profession but at the end of the day, people will judge you by your legacy.

“It is important to me to be recognised for work well done than someone who has become president for three years without anything to show,” she added.

BIM MEMBER INSTITUTIONS

- Malaysian Pharmaceutical Society (MPS)
- Royal Institution of Surveyors Malaysia (RISM)
- The Institution of Engineers Malaysia (IEM)
- Pertubuhan Akltek Malaysia (PAM)
- Malaysian Medical Association (MMA)
- Malaysian Dental Association (MDA)
- Malaysian Institute of Planners (MIP)
- Veterinary Association Malaysia (VAM)

- Malaysian Institute of Interior Designers (MIID)
- Malaysian Society of Soil Science (MSSS)
- Malaysian Association of Social Workers (MASW)
- The Plastics & Rubber Institute of Malaysia (PRIM)
- Agricultural Institute of Malaysia (AIM)
- Institut Rimbawan Malaysia (IRIM)
- The Chartered Institute of Building Malaysia (CIOBM)
- Institute of Landscape Architects Malaysia (ILAM)

- Institute of Internal Auditors Malaysia (IIAM)
- Institut Bahan Malaysia (ICMM)
- The Chartered Institute of Logistics And Transport Malaysia (CILTM)
- International Institution of Plantation Management (IIPM)

CORPORATE AFFILIATE

- Malaysian Association of Productivity (MAP)
- Malaysian Institute of Human Resource Management