

# theSun

TELLING IT AS IT IS

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INSIDE

Concern over public transport  
'full capacity' move **page 2**

Penang relaxes rules for  
foreigners to buy property **page 6**

**GOOD SIGN ...**

Local tourists from Bangi in Selangor enjoying trishaw rides at Lebuh Muntri in Penang after interstate travel was allowed with the implementation of the recovery movement control order on Wednesday. — **MASRY CHE ANI/THE SUN**

See  
also  
page 4



# New way to learn

BY **CINDI LOO**  
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**PETALING JAYA:** Both the home and the classroom should jointly serve as centres of learning in the future.

That is the consensus reached among parties such as parents, teachers and educationists.

Part of the learning process should be conducted at home, and that will be supplemented by physical activities or project-based learning in school, according to stakeholders *theSun* spoke to yesterday.

"An integration of the two systems is the way to go," said

➤ Combination of home and school teaching modules the way to go, says national PTA head

National Parent-Teacher Association president Prof Datuk Mohamad Ali Hasan.

National Union of the Teaching Profession (NUTP) president Aminuddin Awang and Chinese

educationist Chan Tuck Loong also agree with Mohamad Ali Hasan that in line with such a move, the number of

Turn to  
page 3

## PAPA, I LOVE YOU







Passengers with face masks maintain social distancing while travelling on the MRT during the RMCO period. – ADIB RAWI YAHYA/THE SUN

# Concern over full capacity public transport operation

➤ Commuters fear risk of infection riding in cramped vehicles

BY AMAR SHAH MOHSEN  
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**PETALING JAYA:** Public transport users have expressed concern over the government's announcement that vehicles for these services can now operate at full capacity.

Malaysians, particularly those who rely on public transport to commute to work daily, said while the move would help reduce waiting time during peak hours, it would be at the expense of safety.

Instead, they suggested that public transport providers increase their frequency to cater to more Malaysians returning to work

following the relaxation of restrictions.

Rehvathi Rajendhiran, 33, an office manager at an IT company in Kuala Lumpur, said she would rather wait a little longer for a train than board one which is cramped with passengers.

"I'm not sure if it's safe yet to operate at full capacity. Although it will save time, you have to be concerned about your own health," she said yesterday.

"Unfortunately, many of us do not have a choice but to take public transport. The only thing we can do is to wear face masks and use hand sanitisers often."

The mother of two said even prior to the announcement, many Malaysians had disregarded social distancing in trains, and allowing full capacity in public transport would only make things worse.

Insurance company manager Au Yuen Yee said some of her colleagues who commute to work using public transport are now considering buying cars fearing for

their safety.

"Of course we are very concerned. The bus that I took everyday before the movement control order (MCO) was enforced was packed to the brim with little room to move. Can you imagine what will happen now with the Covid-19 threat?"

The 39-year-old said she would have preferred if the frequency of buses and trains was increased, rather than passenger loads.

One public transport operator that announced an increase in service frequency is the Express Rail Link Sdn Bhd, which operates KLIA Ekspres and KLIA Transit.

The service will be available at 20-minute intervals during peak hours from June 15 compared with 30 minutes during the MCO.

Yesterday, Senior Minister Datuk Seri Ismail Sabri Yaakob announced that flights and public transport could now operate at full volume, including public and express buses, ferries and rail services.

## SOP must be followed: Minister

**PETALING JAYA:** Public transport and flights can now begin operating at full capacity, Datuk Seri Ismail Sabri Yaakob announced yesterday.

The senior minister (defence) said they include public buses, ferries, rail services and express buses nationwide.

However, service providers and passengers are required to adhere to all standard operating procedures (SOP) outlined by the government to ensure safety and minimise the risk of infection.

"Passengers must practise social distancing in vehicles which allow people to stand. Additionally, everyone must wear face masks at all times, have the MySejahtera app on their phones and use hand sanitisers when on board," he said in his daily media conference in Putrajaya.

"As for flights, passengers' temperature must be recorded before boarding, and the wearing of face masks is compulsory.

"In the case of express buses, which can now operate 24 hours, operators have to register all passengers through the MySejahtera app or manually. Buses must also be sanitised after every journey."

Ismail's announcement follows the lifting of various restrictions under the recovery movement control order (RMCO), which started on Wednesday, including the lifting of restrictions on interstate travel.

It also comes just a day after the minister dismissed Rapid Rail Sdn Bhd's announcement that it was ending social distancing measures for all its train services, claiming this restriction was still applicable.

Previously, all public transport was only allowed to operate at half capacity, as the government looked to minimise contact among passengers.

Other than public transport, Ismail announced the lifting of the requirement to have only members of the same family living under one roof to travel in the same car.

## First day of RMCO sees spike in highway traffic

**PETALING JAYA:** Highways recorded double the volume of vehicles on the first day of the recovery movement control order (RMCO) and the reopening of interstate travel.

Senior Minister Datuk Seri Ismail Sabri Yaakob yesterday said PLUS highways registered a huge jump in the number of vehicles, from 1.2 million on Tuesday to 2.04 million on Wednesday.

On the Kuala Lumpur-Karak Expressway,

85,989 vehicles were recorded, as opposed to just 37,789 on Tuesday.

Ismail said the numbers are expected to increase over the weekend as more Malaysians return to their hometowns to reunite with families.

He added that the number of fatal accidents rose on Wednesday compared with pre-RMCO days, based on information provided by police, but stopped short of mentioning figures.

"Police will monitor the traffic situation nationwide, and will also keep an eye on rest and recreation (R&R) areas to ensure the public obeys all SOP," he said in his daily media conference in Putrajaya.

Ismail advised those planning for interstate travel to continue exercising caution and maintain safe social distancing at R&R areas.

"Please don't crowd public toilets or surau. I would also like to remind all to drive safely."

## Retail ceiling prices of petrol, diesel not revoked: Minister

**KUALA LUMPUR:** The government has not revoked the retail ceiling prices of petrol and diesel as reported, said Domestic Trade and Consumer Affairs Minister Datuk Alexander Nanta Linggi.

"Don't misunderstand it. We have not removed the so-called ceiling price, it is the same," he said in

response to media reports that the federal government had revoked the price control order that sets ceiling prices.

Nanta explained in a media statement that the retail pricing of petroleum products using the Automated Price Mechanism formula is influenced by refined

products' prices in line with global crude oil prices.

He said on Feb 29, the ministry changed the mechanism for the control of retail prices of petrol and diesel through a directive issued under Regulation 12A of the Control and Supply Regulations 1974 under the Control of Supplies Act 1961.

The change was to strengthen enforcement and monitoring efforts in the event of any violation of the directive under the Act.

"From March 30, 2017, retail prices of petrol and diesel have been regulated on a weekly basis and enforced by the ministry under the Price Control and Anti-Profiteering

Act 2011. The gazetting is to enforce control on retail prices of petrol and diesel by oil companies and petrol station operators so that they do not exceed the prices set by the Ministry of Finance."

Nanta appealed to the public not to make misleading statements about the matter. – Bernama



theSun Says ...

## How we live and where it has taken us

BY EDDIE HOO

IT is a lesson that we have learnt many times over.

There was a proliferation of zoonotic diseases in recent memory, such as Ebola, HIV, severe acute respiratory syndrome (SARS) and Middle East respiratory syndrome (MERS), to name a few.

They are caused by transmission of pathogens such as bacteria, viruses, parasites or fungi from animals to humans.

Cross-species transmissions can

occur through direct and indirect contact between animals and people.

Coming into contact with body fluids of infected animals or areas contaminated with pathogens puts humans at risk.

Since the pathogens can be vector, food or water borne, we are increasingly at risk of contracting zoonotic diseases.

The World Health Organisation estimates that 61% of all human diseases are zoonotic in origin, while 75% of new diseases discovered in the last decade are zoonotic.

Covid-19 is said to be the latest to strike us. There are many theories on the origin of the pandemic and the leading one is that the virus made the leap into humans at a wildlife market in Wuhan, China in late 2019.

The pandemic brought the dangers of zoonotic diseases back into our focus. It has not only endangered our health but also triggered a collapse of global economic activity.

According to the World Bank, this pandemic-fuelled global recession is expected to be the deepest since

World War II.

How we exploit the environment in the pursuit of growth has come at a very high cost. From deforestation to enable the cultivation of crops to the building of networks of roads, we have encroached into territories that we take for granted as ours.

A rapidly growing human population of 7.8 billion means human settlements are destroying the original habitats of animals and forcing grave ecological changes.

Intensive animal farming accounts for large amounts of greenhouse gas

emissions, including 37% of all methane emissions and 65% of nitrous oxide.

On top of that, almost 50% of grain produced in the world are fed to livestock.

It is not that our food production and distribution are inadequate, but yet there are 800 million people suffering from malnutrition.

How we live and how much each of us consume will have a direct bearing on the world we live in.

Unbridled consumerism and greed have taken us down this path.

# Back to school SOP still lacking

➤ Additional requirements need to be included in guideline, says Parent-Teacher Association

BY CINDI LOO AND IAN MCINTYRE  
newsdesk@thesundaily.com

**PETALING JAYA:** Several more requirements should be added to the standard operating procedures (SOP) for the resumption of classes to ensure the safety of students, according to parent and teacher groups.

National Parent-Teacher Association president Prof Datuk Mohamad Ali Hasan said that while

the SOP outlined by the Education Ministry is good, there still is room for improvement.

"I believe it is not complete. There are areas that have not been addressed," he told *theSun*.

For instance, he said there are no guidelines on checking vehicles that enter or exit the school grounds.

"Neither is there a guide on managing the crowd at the entrance to the school compound," he added.

Mohamad Ali proposed that a

permanent committee be set up to review the SOP from time to time and to assess its effectiveness in ensuring the safety of students and teachers.

"A health official and a local authority representative should be included in this committee."

Other areas of concern, he said, are security, the cohesiveness of the school environment for learning and whether there is necessary sanitation for facilities such as labs, washrooms and the library.

He said the parent-teacher association of each school could help by cleaning and sanitising the school grounds and facilities a week before school reopens.

National Union of the Teaching

Profession president Aminuddin Awang said the SOP should be reviewed from time to time to meet the needs of the prevailing situation.

"We have conducted a study on pedagogy on the post-Covid-19 era for learning and teaching."

"For example, we suggested that schools open only from 8am to noon, teach only four subjects a day and the movement of students in and out of school be made smoother," he told *theSun* yesterday.

Aminuddin said other lessons can be conducted off-school or online.

Parent Action Group for Education chairman Datin Noor Azimah Abdul Rahim said it is important to note that online

learning is crucial now and for the impending future.

"Equip every household with a laptop for education purposes. Ensure fast connectivity to every home. Learning can be supplemented with TV," she said.

Jelutong MP R.S.N. Rayer said screening students when school reopens partly on June 24 is a good way to reassure parents that safety and security precautions are in place.

He urged pharmaceutical firms to subsidise the screening cost for students as part of their corporate social responsibility initiatives.

Rayer also reminded parents to ensure their children attend school and not play truant.

## 'Speed up process for home-based learning'

students per class must also be reduced.

Mohamad Ali said there should also be a limit to the number of subjects each student is allowed to take under such conditions.

The proposal for home-based learning has been receiving a lot of attention lately in light of the need to close schools to prevent the spread of Covid-19. Schools will reopen on June 24 beginning with those in Forms Five and Six.

The Education Ministry has outlined a set of guidelines that schools have to abide by when their students return.

Mohamad Ali pointed out that to ensure there are no hitches in home-based learning, the government must invest in adequate digital infrastructure to widen and enhance internet coverage.

He said equal emphasis should be given to both rural and urban areas.

"We must not forget the suburban areas or the urban poor as well. Many of them may not be able to afford internet access," he told *theSun*.

He added that the ministry should also decide how students can be assessed on their performance at home.

Another important aspect is to ensure that education caters to the needs and interest of the students.

"There should not be a one-size-fits-all mentality any more," he said.

"This can be done by introducing a 'packaged curriculum' that caters to individual needs."

Aminuddin said there is a need to speed up the process towards making home-based learning effective.

"We should realise by now that IT plays a big role (in home-based learning) and it requires a big budget from the government."

From front page

He said NUTP had advocated the need for smaller classes for some time now but budget constraints have made it impossible for the government to implement it.

Chan said alongside the need for children to spend part of their school hours at home, there is also a need to have some lessons conducted in school.

"For that, we also need better internet access in schools. Teachers have complained that current networks are not good enough to enable them to download files or complete tasks," he said.

"As a result, teachers have to take some of their work home."

Chan added that while he advocates the move to have fewer students per class, Chinese vernacular schools have not been able to make that a reality because of a shortage of space.

"With fewer students per class, we are going to need more classrooms but there is no space for that," he said.

Malacca Action Group for Parents in Education chairman Mak Chee Kin expressed the same concerns about online learning.

He pointed out that if classes were too big, the internet connectivity may not be able to cope with so many users at a time.

"We have raised this issue many times before but no action has been taken."

He said a shortfall in good infrastructure and the lack of commitment from the government means that it will take a long time to get the issue addressed.

Another issue is to convince parents that online learning is the way to go, he added.

"Most parents and even students still prefer face-to-face lessons."



**DEVOTED TO SAFETY ...** Staff of the Sri Veeramakaliamman Temple at Lorong Ipoh in George Town, Penang using tape as social distancing markers yesterday to comply with the government's standard operating procedures, after it was given approval to reopen to the public starting today. — **BERNAMAPIX**

## Remote teaching a challenge for lecturers

BY KEVIN DAVASAGAYAM  
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**PETALING JAYA:** Imparting knowledge remotely remains a great challenge and educators have to constantly review their methods to ensure effectiveness.

Prof Omar Yaakob, who chairs the council of professors at Universiti Teknologi Malaysia, said institutions of higher learning should first understand that they are not delivering online teaching and learning in the traditional sense.

"It is more like emergency remote teaching (ERT)," Omar told *theSun*.

He was commenting on an announcement by the Higher Education Ministry that teaching and learning at the tertiary level will continue online until the end of the year.

Omar cautioned educators against underestimating the difficulties in transforming in-class face-to-face delivery into ERT teaching mode in the new normal.

He said lecturers should take into consideration the limitations and challenges faced by students and tailor the ERT process accordingly.

Infrastructure limitations could force institutions to cut down on

data usage, said Omar.

"For instance, instead of video files, they could change to audio files."

"However, if videos are mandatory, reduce the file size to its minimum."

In addition, Omar said educators could vary the way they impart knowledge by incorporating off-line or less data-driven activities.

He said it is also important to ensure that no one is left behind.

"Special attention should be given to more vulnerable students, those who are academically below average and those with special needs," he added.





**CLEAR EVIDENCE ...** Perak health enforcement officer Mohamad Noor Faez Hassan showing mosquito larvae obtained at a construction site kongsi in Meru, Ipoh yesterday during a spot check. — **BERNAMAPIX**

# 31 new cases, only 1 M'sian infected locally

► 16 of 19 foreigners who test positive are from a cluster in Negri Sembilan

■ BY **ALISHA NUR MOHD NOOR**  
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**PETALING JAYA:** The number of new Covid-19 cases in the country has risen but local transmission among Malaysians remains at a very low level.

Of the 31 new cases reported as of noon yesterday, only one is a Malaysian who has been infected locally.

At his daily media briefing on the pandemic yesterday, Health Director-General Datuk Seri Dr Noor Hisham Abdullah announced that 11 of the new cases were imported. Of the 20 who got it locally, 19 were foreigners.

The new Malaysian patient tested positive at a screening session at a tahfiz school in Ulu Klang, Selangor.

Of the 19 foreigners who also tested positive, 16 were from a cluster in Pedas, Negri Sembilan. The others are from a tahfiz cluster in Kampung Sungai Lui in Selangor, a cleaning company in Kuala Lumpur and a construction site, also in Kuala Lumpur.

Noor Hisham said the new cases brought the tally now to 1,186 active cases.

Another day passed without a fatality, keeping the death toll at 118.

Five patients remain in intensive care.

Yesterday, 51 patients were discharged from hospital, bringing the number of those who have recovered to 7,065.

Noor Hisham also highlighted the problem of a relentless posting of fake news on the pandemic.

"The viral fake news has spread within the community at a much faster rate than the Covid-19 itself," he said.

"Conventional media practitioners are not the only ones that are disseminating the news but these days, all the social media users have become citizen journalists," he said.

"The Health Ministry is grateful to those who spread accurate news with the correct facts and figures. However, many of these citizen journalists are irresponsible. Even worse, there are some who even encourage others to ignore the government's standard operating procedures (SOP) and advice," he said.

Noor Hisham said a total of 266 investigation papers have been opened in relation to the dissemination of fake news about Covid-19. Thirty people have been brought to court, 11 of whom have been warned and another 18 have admitted guilt.

## The going still tough for restaurants

■ BY **RAJVINDER SINGH**  
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**PETALING JAYA:** Restaurants are offering smaller menus and reducing their number of staff to stay afloat as their daily takings are low.

Indian Restaurant Owners Association (Primas) president T. Muthusamy said they are not drawing enough diners although their opening hours have been extended.

"We used to have customers who patron our restaurants after entertainment outlets had closed," he said yesterday.

"We have lost this customer base. Social distancing in restaurants has an impact on our business too. We used to have 100 chairs but now we can only place about 40 chairs in the restaurant."

Restaurants do not need so many waiters since patronage is low, Muthusamy said.

"Some owners rotate their employees based either on number of working hours or

days," he said.

He pointed out that the workers are still being paid despite working fewer hours.

Muthusamy said despite an increase in operating cost, restaurant owners dare not raise their prices as they cannot afford to lose their regular customers.

Malaysian Muslim Restaurant Owners Association (Presma) president Datuk Jawahar Ali said the standard operating procedures (SOP) for restaurants have an impact on their business.

He said restaurants have to keep their prices low although the operating cost has gone up.

"Based on feedback from our members we expect at least 10% of restaurants to close if they do not get the necessary help from the government," he said.

"Our members do not have a good working relationship with banks, the government needs to step in to help us overcome this problem."



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### POSTGRADUATE COURSE PREVIEWS

**12noon** Master of Communications and Media Studies  
KPT/JPT (R/321/7/0015) 03/21 - MQA/SWA0177

**12.20pm** Master of International Business  
KPT/JPT (R/2/340/7/0168) 04/22 - MQA/SWA0111

**12.40pm** Master of Professional Counselling  
KPT/JPT (R/762/7/0017) 05/25 - MQA/FA12898

**1pm** Master of Business Information Systems  
KPT/JPT (R/481/7/0743) 06/21 - MQA/SWA0163

**1.20pm** Master of Advanced Engineering  
(Energy and Sustainability)  
KPT/JPT (R/520/7/0075) 05/25 - MQA/SWA0796

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Crimes that shook the nation

# A most foul and chilling mystery

## ➤ Rape, murder of boutique owner 15 years ago stumps police

BY CHARLES RAMENDRAN  
newsdesk@thesundaily.com

“A girl should not be too beautiful but just regular-looking.” These were the poignant words of a distraught father after he lost his daughter under very cruel circumstances on Feb 17, 2005.

She was the only girl among four siblings and it proved too much to bear for Goh Eng

Seng, a general manager of an oil palm plantation, when it came to identifying her body at the University Malaya Medical Centre mortuary.

The victim, Goh Lee Fang, 26, was found raped and murdered in her barely three-month-old boutique on the first floor of the newly-opened Curve shopping mall at Mutiara Damansara in Petaling Jaya.

Lee Fang, described as a stunning beauty and who co-owned the boutique with her two friends, had opened her business for the day at 10am as usual.

About three hours later, the first floor where her boutique, which specialised in children's clothing, was located became a scene of chaos when her business partner arrived.

She found Lee Fang's body sprawled on the floor in a pool of blood at the back of the store.

The woman, who suffered multiple stab wounds, was dead and had been sexually assaulted.

Police arrived at the scene minutes later and swept the place for clues.

Except for her handphone, her valuables were found intact at the store, ruling out robbery.

Police were optimistic of solving the case as the place was installed with highly-sophisticated closed-circuit television (CCTV) cameras, but it soon turned to disappointment for the investigators.

As the mall was new and completion work was still in progress not all the CCTV cameras, including the ones closest to Lee Fang's boutique, were wired, denying police of the strongest lead they had in tracing the victim's attacker.

However, with the footage they had in hand and a witness account of a man who was last seen at Lee Fang's boutique, police investigators went to work.

Days after her death, a businessman in his 30's was arrested, but he was later released after he produced a strong alibi.

As months went by, police came to a dead end in tracing the attractive boutique owner's killer and the case went cold.

On her first death anniversary, her family had offered a RM10,000 reward for information that could lead to Lee Fang's killer.

Her family also shared fresh information with police, hoping it would lead to closure of the case. But everything led to a dead end. After more than 15 years, the cold-blooded killer who took Lee Fang's life remains at large.

## Penang relaxes rules for foreigners to buy property

BY IAN MCINTYRE  
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**GEORGE TOWN:** Penang has lowered the threshold for foreigners to buy property by reducing the ceiling prices for foreign purchases by up to 40%.

The decision is part of efforts to arrest the overhang in the market due to the Covid-19 pandemic.

State executive councillor Jagdeep Singh Deo said the lowered ceiling rate will be accorded to foreigners for one year.

For stratified properties on the island, the ceiling price of RM1 million will be reduced to RM800,000.

On the mainland, the (price) cap of RM500,000 will be reduced to RM400,000.

For landed properties on the island, it has been reduced from RM3 million to RM1.8 million, while on the mainland it has been

lowered from RM1 million to RM750,000.

“It is worth noting that lowering the ceiling price for real estate purchases for foreigners is justifiable, taking into account the minimum ceiling limits set by the federal government,” Jagdeep said.

He pointed out that land value in Penang was higher and that land plots suitable for development were also limited.

However, he stressed a balancing act between disposal of the overhang units and the interest of local buyers needed to be considered.

“Based on data by NAPIC (National Property Information Centre) from 2017 to the first quarter of 2020, Penang showed a significant and consistent decline in unsold units, at -22.3% compared with Johor (+24.9%), Perak (+116.1%) and Selangor (+30.5%).”

As global economies have been affected by the pandemic, so has the state's economy, including its real estate outlook.

Despite the pressure to raise prices for affordable units, Jagdeep said developers here have been told to keep with present market prices.

“Penang will continue to maintain low- and medium-cost property prices at RM42,000 and RM72,500, unlike other states which have raised their tags to RM60,000 and RM100,000, respectively.

“Affordable home prices will also be reduced by 10% over a period of one year,” he added, but assured that quality would not be affected.

“Despite the reduction in property prices, the quality of development will be maintained, in line with the Construction Industry Development Board's Quality Assessment System in Construction, or QLASSIC rating score, of not less than 70%.”

The current overhang value in residential units is valued at about RM2.6 billion in Penang.

## Ministry to stimulate retail activities

**KUALA LUMPUR:** The Ministry of Domestic Trade and Consumer Affairs is looking at initiatives to help stimulate retail activities, including franchise businesses affected by the Covid-19 pandemic.

Its deputy minister Datuk Rosol Wahid, said the ministry was working towards boosting domestic trade and distribution activities, as well as consumer confidence in spending.

“The aim of the government is to ensure companies are back to operating at optimum levels of production and manpower use before the crisis,” he said.

A survey revealed that franchise operations were badly hit during the movement control order (MCO).

“The outbreak not only affected franchise business activities in the country, but impeded efforts planned by the government to expand the local franchise business to foreign markets.

“In addition, the shortage of workers, scarcity of raw materials due to logistics and operational costs were among the challenges faced during the MCO and enforced movement control order,” he said in a statement. – Bernama



**READY FOR BUSINESS ...** A bowling centre employee in Shah Alam, Selangor carrying out disinfection work yesterday. – ASYRAF RASID/THE SUN

## Employers urged to prioritise locals over foreigners

**KUALA LUMPUR:** Human Resources Minister Datuk Seri M. Saravanan has urged employers to provide more employment opportunities to Malaysians, especially youth and single mothers, and those who have lost their jobs due to the Covid-19 pandemic.

“There are still business owners who preferred to hire foreign workers over locals.

“I agree there are sectors that still require foreign workers because we (locals) are not ready yet. For example, the plantation sector. But for a clerk's position in the plantation sector,

there is no need to hire a foreign worker.

“Likewise, at petrol stations, foreign workers are allowed to work as pump attendants, but we are also starting to see foreign workers manning the station counters. I urge owners of pump stations to reduce (hiring foreign workers),” he said.

With the economic crisis, he believes many locals, especially youths, will be willing to venture into the dirty, dangerous and difficult (3D) industries.

“Before this, there might have been some

locals and youths who did not want to work in the 3D industries, but in today's extraordinary situation, with many losing their jobs, we have to give them a chance,” he added.

Meanwhile, he said the government had allocated RM1.5 billion through the national economic recovery plan and introduced the employment incentive programme.

He said it was meant to encourage employers to hire locals and is expected to benefit more than 300,000 job seekers.

– Bernama

### BRIEFS

#### GOVT TO FINE-TUNE COVID-19 BILL

**KUALA LUMPUR:** A total of 31 ministries, departments and agencies have submitted proposals for inclusion towards a Bill on the Implementation of the Interim Measures to Reduce the Effects of Covid-19. Minister in the Prime Minister's Department (Parliament and Law) Datuk Takiyuddin Hassan said the recommendations will be analysed by a task force from the Legal Affairs Division, Prime Minister's Department and refined by relevant ministries. It would then be forwarded to the Attorney-General's Chambers for drafting before being raised in Parliament next July. – Bernama

#### 12 DURIAN TRADERS ISSUED COMPOUNDS

**IPOH:** Twelve durian traders in Perak were issued compound fines of RM100 each for cheating customers by rigging their weighing scales. Domestic Trade and Consumer Affairs Perak director Saifullizan Kamarul Zaman said the traders were caught fleecing their customers during checks conducted by his office on Wednesday. “The ministry does not regulate the price for durians, but traders are obliged to comply with the law on price tagging, as well as using a valid weighing machine or scales,” he said in a statement. – Bernama



## Team Trump wants retraction of poll that shows Biden ahead

**WASHINGTON:** The Trump campaign has demanded that CNN retract a poll showing Joe Biden, the presumptive Democratic nominee for the 2020 presidential election, is in the lead.

CNN's poll, conducted by survey and market research firm SSRS, showed President Donald Trump trailing Biden by 14% among registered voters.

In the poll, 55% of participants said they would vote for Biden if the election was held today, compared to 41% who said they would vote for Trump.

The poll also showed Trump's approval rating at 37%, which is the worst it has been since January 2019.

In a letter to CNN president Jeff Zucker, the Trump campaign claimed the poll was "designed to mislead American voters through a biased questionnaire and skewed sampling."

The letter, signed by the campaign's senior legal adviser Jenna Ellis, said the poll presented a misleading view of support for the president and demanded a "full, fair, and conspicuous retraction, apology, and clarification to correct its misleading conclusions."

"To the extent we have received legal threats from political leaders in the past, they have typically come from countries like Venezuela where there is little or no respect for a free and independent media," CNN's general counsel David Vigilante said. – The Independent

# Hundreds of suspected **child virus deaths** in Indonesia

➤ Health officials say malnutrition, anaemia and an ill-equipped healthcare system are underlying factors

**JAKARTA:** Hundreds of children in Indonesia are believed to have died from Covid-19, giving the country one of the world's highest rates of child deaths from the novel coronavirus that experts around the world say poses little danger to the young.

Paediatricians and health officials in the world's fourth most populous country said the high number of child deaths from a disease that mostly kills the elderly was due to underlying factors, in particular malnutrition, anaemia and inadequate child health facilities.

"Covid-19 proves that we have to fight against malnutrition," Achmad Yurianto, a senior health ministry official, told Reuters.

He said Indonesian children were caught in a "devil's circle," a cycle of malnutrition and anaemia that increased their vulnerability to the coronavirus.

He compared malnourished children to weak structures that "crumble after an earthquake."

Since Indonesia announced its first

coronavirus case in March it has recorded 2,000 deaths, the highest in East Asia outside China.

A total of 715 people under 18 had contracted the coronavirus, while 28 had died, according to a health ministry document dated May 22 and reviewed by Reuters.

It also recorded more than 380 deaths among 7,152 children classified as "patients under monitoring," meaning people with severe coronavirus symptoms for which there is no other explanation but whose tests have not confirmed the infection.

Even the official figure for children who have died, at 28 as of May 22, would give Indonesia a high rate of child death, at 2.1% of its total.

Different countries use different age brackets in statistics but deaths for those under 24 in the US are a little over 0.1% of its fatalities.

In Brazil, the number of suspected Covid-19 deaths under age 19 is 1.2%.

In the Philippines, deaths of those under 19 are 2.3% of its coronavirus toll.

Indonesia suffers from a "triple burden of

malnutrition," which includes stunting, and anaemia among mothers, and obesity, according to the UN Children's Fund.

Nearly one in three Indonesian children under five is stunted, it says.

"The nutrition status impacts children's immunity. That's important in mitigating Covid-19 infections," Jakarta-based paediatric pulmonologist Dr Nastiti Kaswandani said.

Paediatricians said the ill-equipped healthcare system was also a problem.

"The biggest discrepancy in Indonesia is the availability of paediatric intensive care units," paediatric doctor Shela Putri Sundawa said.

The health ministry declined to provide data on care units for children and a senior official said the system had not been overwhelmed.

Equipment shortages are more pronounced outside the capital.

Paediatrician Dominicus Husada said a hospital he worked at on Madura island, in East Java, did not have ventilators for children.

An 11-year-old died from the coronavirus there in March.

Iyansyah, whose nine-month-old son died from Covid-19 on Lombok island, told Reuters the hospital did not have care units for children.

"If the hospital I went to had complete facilities, he'd probably have survived."

## BRIEFS

### MAN BEQUEATHS LAND TO TWO ELEPHANTS

**NEW DELHI:** An Indian landowner has willed most of his land to two elephants. Akhtar Imam, 50, from a village in the eastern state of Bihar, said he changed his will to bequeath 2.5ha to Moti and Rani. Imam, who runs a wildlife trust, raised Moti, 20, and Rani, 15, from when they were born. He said they saved him from "gun-carrying criminals" who he said tried to kill him last year. "When I opened my door to see why the elephants were trumpeting, I saw they were chasing criminals nearby," he said. Imam said he would also bequeath a smaller amount of land and his house to his wife and children, but they weren't entirely happy. – AFP

### ONLY HK CAN SOLVE UNREST: UK MINISTER

**LONDON:** The British government has said any solution to the unrest in Hong Kong must come from the former colony itself and not from Beijing, and it urged China to reconsider a new security law that has sparked renewed protests. "The solution to this unrest and its underlying causes must come from Hong Kong, and cannot be imposed from mainland China," foreign minister Dominic Raab said. "Britain says the way through the current situation is clear. All sides must invest in dialogue and reconciliation, underpinned by a robust, independent inquiry." – Reuters

### CHINA HIT BY FLOODS AND RAINSTORMS

**BEIJING:** Floods and mudslides in south China have uprooted hundreds of thousands of people and left dozens dead or missing, state media reported yesterday. Torrential downpours unleashed floods and mudslides that caused nearly 230,000 people to be relocated and destroyed more than 1,300 houses, Xinhua news agency said. In southern Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region, six people were reported dead and one missing. Streets were waterlogged in popular tourist destination Yangshuo, forcing residents and visitors to evacuate on bamboo rafts. – AFP



Artists perform at Botero Square as part of an awareness campaign to stop the spread of the coronavirus in the Colombian city of Medellin on Wednesday. – AFPPIX

## No proof fake accounts are coordinated: Facebook

**MANILA:** Facebook has yet to find evidence that user-reported accounts that proliferated in the Philippines at the weekend had engaged in malicious and coordinated acts, the world's biggest social network said yesterday.

A deluge of imposter accounts using the identities of students, journalists and government officials alarmed social media users and prompted an investigation by government agencies.

"At this time, we have not seen evidence of the reported accounts engaging in coordinated or malicious activity focused on creating fake accounts," Facebook said in a statement.

It saw no evidence of a sudden surge in the creation of accounts, but said reports on

impersonation and fake accounts had spiked.

The University of the Philippines first identified the accounts over the weekend following a protest a week ago about a controversial anti-terror bill approved by the legislature.

Those spotted had carried names of students who were among eight people arrested at the protest.

The country's cybercrime department plans to dig deeper into the issue and conduct a joint investigation with law enforcement agencies, justice secretary Menardo Guevarra told Reuters.

"We will continue to validate the authenticity of these accounts and prioritise the removal of those that violate our

policies," the social media giant said.

Filipinos top the world in time spent on social media, according to a recent study.

Platforms like Facebook have become political battlegrounds and have helped strengthen President Rodrigo Duterte's support base, having been instrumental in his election victory in 2016 and a rout by his allies in mid-term polls last year.

The Duterte administration has repeatedly denied allegations that it has allowed the abuse and manipulation of social media by its supporters to harass and discredit opponents.

Facebook last month said it estimated the prevalence of fake accounts among its worldwide monthly active users at 5%. – Reuters



# If I were **transport** minister

**P**LEASE don't get me wrong. I shall never ever make it as a minister or as the heading says, transport minister.

It's just a way of saying what I would focus on if I were one.

For six months at the most I would devote, as regular readers of this column could by now sense, on bringing down the horrific death toll from motorcycle-related crashes in the country.

To begin with, I would initiate the process of enacting laws to create a new motorcycle riding culture by reducing the speed limit.

This will slowly but surely put an end to speeding, which is second nature to the vast majority of our motorcyclists and that is the main cause of why an average of over 4,000 people, mostly youths, are killed annually.

Studies by the Malaysian Institute of Road Safety Research (Miros) have shown that if the maximum speed for motorcycles is limited to 70-80km per hour, fatal crashes could be reduced by as much as 80%.

Just imagine how many lives could be saved by just this one piece of legislation and of course with strict enforcement and effective education.

Next would be to roll out the no-frills designated lanes for motorcyclists to ride without having to squeeze in and out of the fast lanes where the bigger vehicles are moving.

As the traffic police can vouch, many motorcyclists lost their lives in the fast lane.

Have you seen videos of motorcyclists getting thrown off their bikes and killed after being knocked down by cars just inches away?

The ones that I receive by WhatsApp are scarier than the video on how George Floyd died while being arrested. His death has led to street protests in the United States and other countries.

I say no-frills because I have the

feeling that these lanes have still not been laid out in most parts of the country because it's thought that they are expensive.

No, they are not. I would urge officials to visit some cities in China where motorcyclists don't come into direct contact with cars or other bigger vehicles.

Metal railings or barricades are put up to separate the two-wheelers so they can ride safely without their loved ones having to worry if they would arrive safely at their workplaces or homes. As a huge number of them don't in Malaysia.

Yes, it would take a couple of months to get such a legislation before it's passed in Parliament but work on it must begin.

There are people who doubt whether this law against motorcycle speeding could be effectively enforced given the huge number of motorcycles in the country, reportedly at around 15 million and growing rapidly by the day.

I would argue otherwise. Bring in the law first and we'll see what happens.

Taking the recently enforced law against smoking at restaurants as an example, I must say that you can hardly see people puffing away now after having their meals at these places as was common previously.

It will certainly take a lot of effort by schools, universities and parents to educate young motorcyclists to keep to safe speeds.

There are also many people who are sceptical about the effectiveness of special lanes if we have them one day as I daydream on the topic of "If I were transport minister".

On this, let me share with readers what Miros chairman Datuk Suret Singh posted on Twitter recently.

"Did you know that the Kuala Lumpur-Klang exclusive motorcycle lane is utilised by 80% of *kapcai* (small engine motorcycle) riders with the



*"Many more people have died on our roads during the past three months of the MCO than from the virus itself despite the fact that there has been much less traffic."*

highest death toll of two deaths a year and mostly zero deaths for the last 20 years.

"Conclusion - Segregating *kapcai* from mixed traffic reduces their deaths phenomenally," said Suret.

This road safety activist, who was formerly director-general of Miros, told me that right now he is pushing through a proposal for such lanes to be implemented under the 12th Malaysia Plan that kicks in next year.

As the nation and the entire world are engrossed in battling to contain the Covid-19 pandemic, we must spare no effort to curb our exponential death toll from road crashes or what we commonly term "accidents".

Many more people have died on our roads during the past three months of the movement control order (MCO) than from the virus itself despite the fact that there has been much less traffic due to restrictions.

And as usual over 70% of the deaths involved motorcyclists and pillion riders as they are always the most vulnerable victims.

This prompted Director-General of Health Datuk Seri Dr Noor Hisham Abdullah, the most prominent of our frontliners battling the pandemic, to depart from his daily press conference on Wednesday of routinely giving facts and figures on casualties from Covid-19, to express concern about the sharp rise in road deaths during the various phases of the MCO that started on March 18.

Under the first phase until March 31, the road death toll was 58 and this rose to 68 during the second phase from May 5 to May 12.

From May 13 to June 9, the death toll spiked to 231, bringing the total to 507 deaths from March 18 to the last day of the conditional MCO just two days ago.

The Health Ministry is obviously concerned over the welfare of workers

who have to travel to their workplace following the reopening of various economic sectors.

"With accidents, there will also be an increase in use of blood supply to treat these cases which normally see serious injuries that require blood transfusions," said Noor Hisham.

Here we have to also take into account the number of those seriously injured who succumbed to injuries during treatment at a time when staff of all hospitals are up to their necks trying to save the lives of those infected with Covid-19.

And with the interstate travel ban being lifted from Wednesday and the "balik kampung" exodus this weekend by those taking advantage of what remains of the Hari Raya season, road safety is of the utmost concern.

My biggest "nightmare" that triggered me to coin the headline for this week's column is over the safety of motorcyclists.

Chris Syer, the president of the Malaysian British Society and an Englishman who has been living in Malaysia as a permanent resident for 60 years, just cannot bear to see the unabated loss of lives among motorcyclists.

"These are meaningless, senseless and futile deaths. Most motorcyclists are speeding while riding. My advice is: Better late than dead on time," he told me.

A group of 14 medical specialists and consultants recently took a rare move to jointly write a letter to a newspaper describing motorcyclist deaths as "totally preventable".

If I were transport minister, my job would be done once the law on reduced speed limits for motorcycles and designated riding lanes are in place and I would happily quit the very next day.

**Comments:** [letters@thesundaily.com](mailto:letters@thesundaily.com)

## COMMENT by Leonard Yeoh and Nurul Qairah

### Has Penjana overshadowed Covid-19 Bill?

**AFTER** three months of being placed under MCO, CMCO and now RMC, a Covid-19 (Temporary Measures) Bill is pending. The bill is expected to be tabled at the next parliamentary sitting in July.

Although a full parliamentary sitting has yet to be convened under the new government (save for the limited sitting on May 18), the prime minister had recently announced the Penjana stimulus package, the latest of a series of stimulus packages.

Government had stated that most of the direct injection would be raised through domestic borrowings. This will ultimately contribute to Malaysian public debt, which stands at 52% of GDP.

The raising of the self-imposed public debt ceiling would first require approval from Parliament. Instead, if the source of the fiscal injections comes from the Consolidated Funds, any withdrawal must comply with the Federal Constitution.

These measures ought to be included as part of the bill. A number of jurisdictions across the world had enacted similar Covid-19 laws to address the significant economic impact brought by this pandemic. Several measures ought to be included in the bill:

#### Temporary relief against non-performance of contractual obligations

Businesses are inevitably exposed to legal repercussions for breach of contract due to non-performance

arising from the restrictions during the MCO.

Singapore, in its Covid-19 (Temporary Measures) Act 2020 had put in several measures to support businesses.

Parties are not allowed to commence or continue any legal action against the defaulting party, enforce any security or make any application for winding up or bankruptcy.

This temporary relief will apply for a period of six months from April 23 and may be extended further.

A similar measure, if included in the bill, would be most welcomed by Malaysian businesses.

It is important for this provision to apply retrospectively from March 18 when the MCO first commenced.

#### Covid-19 as a force majeure event

An alternative approach to the above would be for the bill to declare the pandemic as a force majeure event.

A similar approach had been adopted in France, Spain and China. A force majeure clause commonly covers various situations in which the performance of a contract is delayed, prevented or hindered.

However under the existing laws, if a force majeure clause is not wide enough to cover the outbreak as one of the triggering events, parties will not be able to rely on such a clause.

If the government were to designate Covid-19 as a force majeure event, more parties may be able to excuse themselves from their

contractual obligations, which would prevent impending litigations.

#### Rental waiver for business tenants

Under the recently passed amendments to its Covid-19 regulations, Singapore had extended rental waivers for business tenants for two more months.

Qualifying commercial properties will now be entitled to a total of four months of rental waiver, while other industrial/office properties will be given a three-month waiver.

Two months of this waiver will be funded by government support, while the rest are required to be borne by landlords. It is advisable for the government to include a similar provision in the bill to provide more support for companies in rebuilding their businesses.

Although we are in desperate times, it is essential for Parliament to scrutinise the measures against Covid-19. The government has not been clear on the sources of funding for these stimulus packages.

Therefore, it becomes especially important for the bill to not only provide for measures to mitigate the impact of Covid-19, but to also legalise measures that have been announced but have yet to be tabled, debated and gazetted.

**Leonard Yeoh** is a partner and Nurul Qairah is a legal associate with the legal firm, Tay & Partners.  
**Comments:** [letters@thesundaily.com](mailto:letters@thesundaily.com)

## LETTERS [letters@thesundaily.com](mailto:letters@thesundaily.com)

### Getting a grip on infection figures

**KUDOS** to the Ministry of Health for the single-digit new infection figures over the last few days.

Carrying out tests to determine the number of confirmed cases is important to understand the spread of the pandemic and then responding appropriately. This will ensure that the risk of spread remains under control.

The number of confirmed cases per day depends on how many tests are carried out. The more tests conducted the higher the probability of detecting more cases. So the crux of the matter is the number of tests carried out daily.

On June 4, the number of confirmed cases shot up to 277 but on June 10, only two cases were detected and seven the day before. My key concern is the number of tests carried out on the respective days? If the same number of tests was carried out in each of these days, then the public would feel more relieved as the situation has improved remarkably.

The point I am making is that the ministry, in addition to informing the public of new cases each day, has also to indicate the number of tests conducted. To be meaningful, the number of new cases daily needs to be matched with the corresponding number of tests conducted each day.

As at May 19, Singapore reported that it had conducted over 281,000 tests for Covid-19 on 191,000 unique individuals. This

works out to about 49,000 tests per million people. How does Malaysia compare? It would be good if Malaysians are informed of similar comparative figures for our country.

To date what is the total number of tests conducted in the country?

In addition, it would be good for the ministry to throw light on the following:

- ➡ The average number of tests conducted per day;
  - ➡ What is the country's testing capacity per day? Are we reaching our maximum lab capacity?
  - ➡ Who are chosen to undergo tests on a particular day? What are the criteria in choosing the particular person?
  - ➡ Are the tests conducted at private hospitals included in the total number of tests carried out in a day?
- The University Malaya Medical Centre in Petaling Jaya, a dedicated Covid-19 centre, is stringent in terms of who qualifies to be tested? My friend was turned down even though he had high fever and sore throat. It would be good for the ministry to state clearly who qualifies to be tested at such hospitals.

One way to reduce the government's burden is for the ministry and private hospitals to come up with a competitive rate for the tests. This will make it possible for more Malaysians to be tested at their own expense.

**Pola Singh**



<div> <div> <div>INTER-PACIFIC</div> <div>SECURITIES SDN. BHD.</div> <div>197201001092 (1273843)</div> <div>A Participating Organisation of Bursa Malaysia Securities Berhad</div> <div>A Trading Participant of Bursa Malaysia Derivatives Berhad</div> </div> <div> <div>BURSA MALAYSIA TRADE STATISTICS - 11/06/2020</div> </div> </div>				
Participation %		Bought RM m	Sold RM m	Net RM m
47.9	Institutions	2892.0	2767.3	124.7
38.6	Retail	2360.4	2210.5	149.9
13.5	Foreign	657.3	931.9	-274.6
100.0		5909.7	5909.7	0.0
<small>Preliminary stats (excluding trade amendments). For final data, please refer to <a href="http://www.bursamalaysia.com">www.bursamalaysia.com</a> Source: Burs Malaysia</small>				

KL MARKET SUMMARY		
June 11, 2020		
INDICES	CHANGE	
FBMEMAS	10,961.70	-141.00
FBMKLCI	1,557.25	-18.02
CONSUMER PRODUCTS	576.52	-6.86
INDUSTRIAL PRODUCTS	138.11	-3.78
CONSTRUCTION	181.45	-3.45
FINANCIAL SERVICES	13,647.30	-200.00
ENERGY	820.10	-28.20
TELECOMMUNICATIONS	638.11	-12.70
HEALTH CARE	2,421.29	-46.20
TRANSPORTATION	709.48	-16.00
PROPERTY	655.24	-14.70
PLANTATION	6,812.54	-24.10
FBMSHA	12,374.00	-138.00
FBMACE	5,836.51	-159.00
TECHNOLOGY	40.79	-0.51
TURNOVER	VALUE	
9.157 BIL	RM5.909 BIL	

5 MOST ACTIVES			
June 11, 2020			
STOCK	VOL	CLSG (sen)	+/- (sen)
AT	745,158,100	16	+3.5
LUSTER	281,746,600	11.5	+1.5
PHB	216,625,100	1	UNCH
MINETEC	189,794,100	25	+1.5
CONNECT	186,800,900	30	+9

5 TOP GAINERS			
June 11, 2020			
STOCK	VOL	CLSG (RM)	RM
TOPGLOV-C78	61,731,200	0.70	0.55
TASEK-PA	10,800	6.71	0.33
SUPERMX-C93	43,881,100	0.425	0.275
FANG-2XL	30,000	5.58	0.23
HARTA-C45	16,561,600	0.37	0.22

5 TOP LOSERS			
June 11, 2020			
STOCK	VOL	CLSG (RM)	RM
SUPERMX-C80	22,500	4.70	0.59
ALLIANZ	70,400	14.48	0.52
CARLSBG	329,100	24.58	0.42
NESTLE	97,600	139.60	0.40
PETDAG	241,300	22.00	0.40

EXCHANGE RATES			
JUNE 11, 2020			
Foreign currency	Bank sell	Bank buy	Bank buy
	TT/OD	TT	OD
1 US DOLLAR	4.3080	4.1830	4.1730
1 AUSTRALIAN DOLLAR	3.0230	2.9040	2.8880
1 BRUNEI DOLLAR	3.1120	3.0220	3.0140
1 CANADIAN DOLLAR	3.2090	3.1230	3.1110
1 EURO	4.9110	4.7530	4.7330
1 NEW ZEALAND DOLLAR	2.8210	2.7170	2.7010
1 SINGAPORE DOLLAR	3.1120	3.0220	3.0140
1 STERLING POUND	5.4940	5.3200	5.3000
1 SWISS FRANC	4.5550	4.4470	4.4320
100 UAE DIRHAM	118.6900	112.5600	112.3600
100 BANGLADESH TAKA	5.1700	4.8370	4.6370
100 CHINESE RENMINBI	61.0000	58.6000	N/A
100 HONGKONG DOLLAR	56.1900	53.4100	53.2100
100 INDIAN RUPEE	57900	5.4400	5.2400
100 INDONESIAN RUPIAH	0.0320	0.0288	0.0238
100 JAPANESE YEN	4.0310	3.9050	3.8950
100 NEW TAIWAN DOLLAR	15.6000	N/A	N/A
100 PAKISTAN RUPEE	2.6700	2.4900	2.2900
100 PHILIPPINE PESO	8.7500	8.2400	8.0400
100 QATAR RIYAL	118.5900	112.5800	112.3800
100 SAUDI RIYAL	116.1200	110.2400	110.0400
100 THAI BAHT	14.4800	12.8600	12.4600

Source: Malayan Banking Berhad/Bernama

SunBIZ

18.02	96.36	569.58	22.86	652.04	184.39	18.91	187.79
KLCI	STI	HANG SENG	SCI	NIKKEI	TSEC	KOSPI	S&P/ASX200
1,557.25	2,704.21	24,480.15	2,920.90	22,472.91	11,535.77	2,176.78	5,960.64

# Top Glove achieves record performance in Q3

➤ Earnings surge fourfold amid Covid-19 pandemic, and the best is yet to come

BY **EE ANN NEE**  
[sunbiz@thesundaily.com](mailto:sunbiz@thesundaily.com)

**PETALING JAYA:** Top Glove Corp Bhd saw its net profit rise more than four times to a record RM347.9 million for its third quarter ended May 31, from RM74.67 million a year ago on growth in sales volume, driven by high demand during the Covid-19 pandemic.

The group also posted its highest ever quarterly revenue of RM1.7 billion, from RM1.2 billion previously.

The upward trend was also evident in the group's nine month (9M'20) performance, as net profit jumped 97.9% to RM575 million from RM290.51 million a year ago. Its profit after tax exceeded the net profit for FY2019 by 57%, while revenue surged 14.3% to RM4.13 billion from RM3.61 billion in 9M'19.

Sales volume grew 25% versus the corresponding period in the previous financial year, as well as the preceding quarter.

Executive director Lim Cheong Guan said third-quarter 2020 (Q3'20) has proven to be a record-breaking quarter which has seen the glove maker achieving all-time highs in almost every aspect, and expects a more spectacular performance in coming quarters.

In addition, good cash generation from the strong performance has put the group back into a net cash position of RM279 million as at May 31, 2020, after two years in a net borrowing position (net borrowings of RM936.8 million as at Feb 29, 2020) to fund the Aspion acquisition.

The group announced an interim dividend of 10 sen per share amounting to RM262 million, which is a 186% increase from the interim dividend for FY2019, payable on July 9, 2020.

"While this may be our most outstanding results to date, prepare to watch us break our own record in the upcoming quarters, because our best days are still ahead," Cheong Guan said during Top Glove's Q3'20



A worker carries out a test on a glove at a Top Glove factory in Meru. – REUTERSPIX

results briefing webinar yesterday.

Top Glove envisions robust quarters ahead, driven by strong demand growth, high utilisation (consistently above 95%) and additional capacity coming onstream (36% growth from Q3'20 to Q4'21), coupled with a continued focus on innovation, technology, quality and cost efficiency.

It also effected average selling prices (ASPs) revision on a monthly basis in line with prevailing market prices, and expects high percentage of spot sales with spot market price and minimal interest expense due to repayment of loan and conversion of convertible bonds.

Executive chairman Tan Sri Dr Lim Wee Chai said its ASP will increase 15% a month or average 30% a quarter from June onwards. In Q3'20, ASPs increased 5% quarter on quarter and 9% year on year.

"Even with the increase in raw material prices (estimated at 10-30%), we're still okay because the ASP increase is much more than raw material price increase."

With a year's worth of orders in the pipeline, Top Glove is confident of delivering solid results not only for the full FY2020, but for FY2021 as well.

Top Glove has earmarked RM3 billion for capital expenditure to build 450 new lines, creating new capacity of 60 billion pieces of gloves from 2020 to 2026. The group plans to

expand to 41 glove factories by December 2022, from 34 currently.

Following aggressive organic expansion in its nitrile glove capacity, the group has secured its position as the world's largest manufacturer of nitrile gloves, in addition to being the world's largest manufacturer of natural rubber gloves and surgical gloves.

Top Glove has emerged the best performing stock on both the FBM KLCI and the Straits Times Index, having seen its share price increase by 263% and 268%, year to date, respectively.

As at June 10, 2020, it is ranked the sixth largest company on Bursa Malaysia and the 12th largest company on SGX in terms of market capitalisation, placing it among the top 15 companies on both bourses.

Top Glove's monthly sales orders went up by some 180%, resulting in long lead times, which went up from 40 days to around 400 days, whereby orders placed now would only be delivered over a year later.

It said it will continue to expand its capacity following exponential increase in sales order from various countries in the past month like Germany (+572%), Spain (+469%), Taiwan (+416%).

In addition, the glove maker has earmarked RM5 million for corporate social responsibility initiatives.

## MAHB posts 97.8% decline in May passenger traffic

**PETALING JAYA:** Malaysia Airports Holdings Bhd's (MAHB) network of airports registered about 237,000 passengers in May 2020, a decline of 97.8% from May 2019.

International and domestic passenger movements recorded 33,000 and 204,000 passengers respectively. Overall aircraft movements contracted by 88.5% with international and domestic aircraft movements declined by 92.8% and 85.5% respectively over May 2019.

Meanwhile, May passenger movements for KLIA Main Terminal and klia2 recorded 62,000 and 26,000 passenger movements respectively, while overall aircraft movements at KLIA declined by 91.7% over

May 2019.

For airports operated by Malaysia Airports Sdn Bhd, passenger movements declined 95.4% year-on-year. Istanbul SGIA was temporarily closed for operations in May 2020. However, there were several flights in May with marginal passenger volume due to repatriation of Turkish citizens.

"Traffic performance in Malaysia and Turkey continued to be affected by the CMCO and temporary suspension of Istanbul ISGA's operations in May 2020. Nevertheless, the restriction of movements at both countries have effectively contained the further spread of pandemic

with a fall in Covid-19 new cases towards the end of May," MAHB said in a statement yesterday.

Both the Turkish and Malaysian governments had announced relaxation of restrictions that permitted intercity and interstate travel on May 28 and June 6 respectively. International border control restrictions are still in place for Malaysia.

The Malaysian government recently announced an additional RM35 billion Short-Term Economic Recovery Plan, of which several of the tax incentives introduced are expected to support and boost the domestic tourism sector until December 2021.



# Getting to Know The Prorated Electricity Bill

- 01** Meter reading activities and issuance of physical bill were suspended during MCO from 18th March 2020.

## Why must the meter reading be suspended?

- Due to the safety of our customers and staff and as agreed by the Energy Commission (Suruhanjaya Tenaga).



- 02** Estimated bills generated for each month (March-May) are based on previous month's usage. The copy of the bills are available online on **myTNB app** or **myTNB portal** ([www.mytnb.com.my](http://www.mytnb.com.my))

- 03** From 15th May 2020 onwards, meter reading activities were resumed.

Actual bills are rendered based on the actual electricity consumption for the past months (March – May), which could have been higher than your estimated bills, since we were all at home throughout the MCO period.

Even if estimated bills were paid, adjustments would need to be made for the difference between the actual and estimated amount.

## Principle of Calculating Prorated Electricity Bill

You have probably heard that your bill is based on a prorated bill.

### What Is A Prorated Bill?

It is a calculation process approved by the Energy Commission and used by other utility companies across the world.

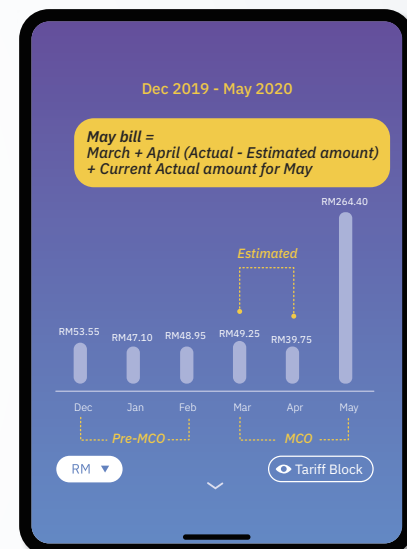
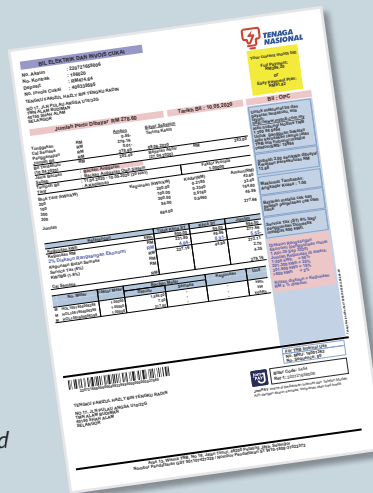
### Let's take an example.

You receive your electricity bill on 21st May 2020 showing an actual consumption of 950 kWh. Let's assume that your March and April bills were estimated bills and the total duration of the bills for March, April and May is 91 days.

To ensure customers are not overcharged, the prorated method is used.

### In the above case,

- The 91 day billing period is divided by 30 days giving a prorated factor of 3.0333 ( $91/30 = 3.03$ )
- There are 5 tariff blocks depending on electricity consumption



\*Sample screenshot of the myTNB app showing the monthly electricity usage chart

## Comparison of Prorated method vs Non-Prorated method

### Prorated (3 Months Usage)

This prorated factor is then multiplied to the respective tariff blocks as below:

Tariff Block	Prorated Factor	Usage (kWh)	Rate (RM)	Amount (RM)
200	3.03	607	0.218	132.33
100	3.03	303	0.334	101.20
300	3.03	40	0.516	20.64
300	3.03	0	0.546	0
>900	3.03	0	0.571	0
<b>Total</b>		<b>950</b>		<b>254.17</b>

### Non-Prorated (3 Months Usage)

The total consumption amount of 950 kWh is directly allocated into the respective blocks as below:

Tariff Block	Usage (kWh)	Rate (RM)	Amount (RM)
200	200	0.218	43.60
100	100	0.334	33.40
300	300	0.516	154.80
300	300	0.546	163.80
>900	50	0.571	28.55
<b>Total</b>	<b>950</b>		<b>424.15</b>

The prorated method used by TNB and approved by the Energy Commission gives a **much lower and fairer amount** compared to the non-prorated method.

- In both cases, if customers had **paid their estimated bills**, the amount paid **will be deducted from the total amount above**.
- The other items like Economic Stimulus Package (ESP) discount, Service Tax and *Kumpulan Wang Tenaga Boleh Baharu (KWTBB)* surcharge will also be added/subtracted from the above amount.
- You will be receiving a prorated calculation leaflet together with your physical bill.

If you still have any questions or clarifications regarding your electricity bill:

Please contact **TNB CareLine** at 1-300-88-5454 | Email to [tnbcareline@tnb.com.my](mailto:tnbcareline@tnb.com.my) | Log on to **myTNB app** or **myTNB portal** at [www.mytnb.com.my](http://www.mytnb.com.my)  
Visit your nearest **Kedai Tenaga** | Visit [www.tnb.com.my/prihatin](http://www.tnb.com.my/prihatin) to check out our **Bill Calculator**

**TNB is here for you**



# BUZZ

chill • live • inspire

## Father's Day

### SPECIAL

BY SARAH MAY LOW

**F**ATHER'S DAY is around the corner and so begins the annual quest for the perfect gift for the perfect Dad. This Father's Day, BUZZ reached out to Sarah May Low, Malaysia's premier tarot practitioner to divine dad's personality based on his horoscope, and find the best gift for him according to the stars.

**Aries (March 21st - April 19th)**  
Aries fathers are usually energetic and enjoy being involved with their children. They will encourage their offspring to take charge of their own lives and develop their own unique personalities.  
**Best Gifts:** Smartwatch, sports bag, tickets to a sporting event.



**Taurus (April 20th - May 20th)**  
Taurus dads are known to be food lovers, are nurturing and quite fond of having many children as they love being around family. They have high expectations and would only fulfil promises when their conditions are met by their children.  
**Best Gifts:** Their favourite bottle of wine, dining at their favourite restaurant, a gift certificate for a therapeutic massage or spa.



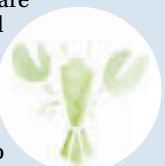
**Gemini (May 21st - June 20th)**  
Gemini fathers are analytical and have a wide array of interests. They are the type of dad who enriches his children's life experience with knowledge but because they tend to live in their own minds, they tend to be overthinkers and worriers.  
**Best Gifts:** The newest gadget, board game, ticket to a comedy show.



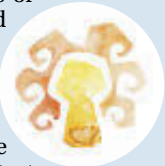
## A gift for Dad

► Here are some ideas for the perfect Father's Day gift, based on his star sign

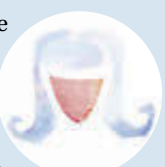
**Cancer (June 21st - July 22nd)**  
Cancer fathers are imaginative and encourage their children to connect with their emotions. They are known to be the most caring and affectionate fathers, but can sometimes be overprotective. Cancer dads need to learn to let go so that their children can find their own identity.  
**Best Gifts:** Handmade photo album, DNA/ancestry test kit, cooking equipment.



**Leo (July 23rd - August 22nd)**  
Leos are the kings of the jungle, and these fathers are natural-born performers. To them, their pride (children) are often their greatest accomplishments. Though they usually have busy schedules, they enjoy showing off their children to friends.  
**Best Gifts:** Golf set/equipment, video games, tickets to a theatre show.



**Virgo (August 23rd - September 22nd)**  
Virgo fathers are health conscious and value a structured household that is under control, which includes obedience from their children. Their language of love is 'Acts of Service', usually not overly affectionate. You know they love you by their actions such as filling up your petrol, fixing your laptop, or cooking you a meal.

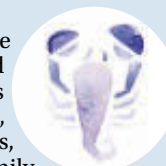


**Best Gifts:** Air purifier, herb plant, supplement gift basket.

**Libra (September 23rd - October 22nd)**  
Libra fathers love justice and fairness, and would listen to everyone's opinion before making a decision. They are usually enthusiastic about planning their children's career; hence, they usually spend a lot of money on their child's education and co-curricular pursuits. They always make sure that their children present their best selves, and associate themselves with the 'right' crowd.  
**Best Gifts:** Cologne, electric razor/shaver, decorative art piece/painting.



**Scorpio (October 23rd - November 21st)**  
Scorpio fathers are very direct and have strict rules about homework, household chores, and family obligations. It's difficult to lie to



them, as they have a strong sixth sense and can typically read their children very well as they usually do not take explanations at face value, they will dig deeper till they get to the core of the truth.  
**Best Gifts:** Detective investigative novel, Himalayan salt lamp, obsidian/black onyx/tiger eye bracelet.

**Sagittarius (November 22nd - December 21st)**  
Sagittarius fathers are optimistic and giving. They would usually encourage their children to adopt household pets and also explore nature through adventurous activities such as hiking and kayaking, or by going on a roller coaster ride.  
**Best Gifts:** An extraordinary dinner experience (such as Dinner in the Dark, Dining in the Sky or a projection mapping dinner), travel/flight tickets, portable speakers.



**Capricorn (December 22nd - January 19th)**  
Capricorn fathers are serious, practical and business-minded. They often instil traditional values and discipline, and encourage their children to be ambitious and responsible from a young age.  
**Best Gifts:** Business or

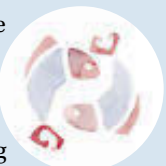


Finance e-books/course, leather executive chair, organiser/planner.

**Aquarius (January 20th - February 18th)**  
Aquarius fathers are free-spirited humanitarians. They inspire their children independently pursue activities outside of academics such as sports, social events, friendships and creative projects.  
**Best Gifts:** Telescope, drone, humanitarian contributions (such as a donation in his name).



**Pisces (February 18th - March 20th)**  
Pisces fathers are adaptable, flexible and sensitive, which is useful when it comes to teaching their children to think creatively and to love music. At times, their sensitivity can cause them to be paranoid and fearful.  
**Best Gifts:** Soundproof headphones, tickets to the orchestra, how-to-play piano online course.



Interested in getting your own tarot reading? Visit [www.saramaylow.com](http://www.saramaylow.com) to find out how!





# A fun Father's Day

► Families can celebrate dad's special day together with these fun activities that everyone can enjoy

BY ADELINE LEONG

**A**N ANNUAL celebration is usually fun because everyone knows the routine but there's no harm in changing it up once in a while. This Father's Day, why not start the celebration with some fun family activities? Here are some ideas to try together.

## 1. Who Knows Dad Better?

Write down a few questions regarding dad's life, such as 'what are his favourite activities' or 'favourite sports team', and place them all in a container. Since it's Father's Day, dad will be the judge and he will pick out one question to read aloud. The other family members must write their answers on the whiteboard or a piece of paper, and the one with the most correct answers wins.

## 2. Oh, bartender!

No celebration starts without drinks. On this special day, have everyone try to make dad a tasty drink or mocktail.

To make it into the game, have everyone attempt making the same recipe within a time limit. The other alternative is to get a few different whiskeys or beers, and arrange a family tasting session.

## 3. Puzzle race

Print out a few copies of the same picture of dad and have the images cut up into jigsaw pieces. Make sure each jigsaw piece is in its own envelope. Pass out the envelopes to everyone, and have a race to see who completes the puzzle first. Let's see if dad recognises his own picture!

## 4. Be dad for a day

If dad is someone who enjoys a good laugh, this game will be a blast. The game is easy because it just requires everyone to mimic dad's mannerisms and quips. To up the stakes, everyone should dress up as dad too. Of course, dad is the judge again, and he will choose who mimics him best.

## 5. Write a song

A musical dad will definitely enjoy this surprise performance. Have family members help

compose a Father's Day song especially for dad. It can have hilarious lyrics, or have a tune based on a popular song.

## 6. Group scavenger hunt

Another fun game is to organise a scavenger hunt which leads dad to his Father's Day present. While the conditional MCO may limit the places everyone can travel to, the game can be easily adapted to take place within the house or the neighbourhood.

One person in the family will have to hide dad's gift at the last station and not let anyone know. In each stop or station, dad and a few family members as part of a team have to solve a

simple riddle or puzzle before uncovering a clue to lead him to the next clue.

## 7. Board or card games

If planning any of these is too much

for the family, the usual board or card game nights are fun too. What's important is for the family to spend time and have fun together before everyone is off to their daily routines the next day.



## Happenings



### The 67th Sydney Film Festival: Virtual Edition

**WHERE?**  
Sydney Film Festival website ([sff.org.au](http://sff.org.au))

**WHEN?**  
Ends June 21 @ Anytime

At this special online event, viewers get to watch world premieres of compelling films by some of Australia's most exciting and up-and-coming documentary filmmakers, programmes from the rising stars of the Australian film industry, and films from Europe's most cutting-edge female directors.



### Father's Day Treasure Hunt

**WHERE?**  
Zoom (for briefing) & Whatsapp

**WHEN?**  
June 20th @ 9am

For some Father's Day fun, join the virtual Father's Day Treasure Hunt from the comfort of your own home. All you need is a good WiFi connection, a working laptop, tablet or smartphone, and Whatsapp installed on the gadget. Participants will be briefed about the rules of the game via a Zoom call before hunting for clues in Google Street View. Registration closes tomorrow, so sign up now to not miss the fun!



### Online Painting Workshop

**WHERE?**  
Zoom

**WHEN?**  
June 14 (every Sunday) @ 2pm- 4.30pm

It's never too late to pick up a new hobby, such as learning how to paint. The painting materials will be delivered to your home free of charge, so you don't need to worry about anything else. In this class, you will learn art techniques from experienced teachers from the comfort of your own home. The class is open to ages 16 and above, and is suitable for beginners too.



### Online Japanese Beginner Course (June 2020 intake)

**WHERE?**  
Zoom or Cisco Webex

**WHEN?**  
June 17 @ 10.30am - 12pm (check event page)

Interested to pick up a new language? In 12 lessons held once a week, beginners get to learn from a native Japanese speaker and earn a certification of completion at the end of the course once they complete an exam in the last class. Check the registration fee and promo details on the FB event page.

Click the **ICON**  
for more info



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**A**S OUR parents grow older, the more we worry about their health. They may also experience frequent body aches due to ageing, and a sedentary lifestyle

## The best gift for dad

► Care for his health with the revolutionary uChair, featuring Whole Body Vertical Vibration technology



stemming from retirement. These aches can discourage them from

actively moving or working out as they used to. After all, it is understandable that they would want to relax after working hard for their family for so long.

But ... sitting on a comfortable sofa is not enough to maintain their bodies in a fit and healthy condition.

Fortunately, bgreen has created the revolutionary uChair to address the problem.

Using the principles

of Whole Body Vertical Vibration, the uChair emits the right vibration frequencies to help maintain their health.

The vibrations from the comfortable uChair can help reinvigorate the body. The low impact vibrations help relieve common aches and pains, such as lower backaches and neck aches.

Our parents will feel so much relief while resting on the uChair at home!

Other than providing a soothing respite, these vibrations can help to maintain the body's fitness levels.

Studies in physiotherapy have shown that the Whole Body Vertical Vibration can help promote cardiovascular circulation, relieve arteriosclerosis and reduce arterial stiffness, as well as lower and control hypertension, high blood sugar, hyperlipemia, and most

importantly for the elderly, improve sleep quality.

By getting your elderly parents a uChair, they can look after their health while they relax at home, without the risk of injuries.

While the uChair does its part, it's still important to make sure your parents also get a good night's sleep. Proper rest helps improve physical and mental wellness.

If your parent has back issues which are preventing them from sleeping well, bgreen's AirFit Gravity Breathable Padding\* can be placed over a saggy mattress to provide good back support.

Its cooling features also help tremendously in getting a night of restful and comfortable sleep.

And this Father's Day, you can get the bgreen uChair for RM18,500, along with two additional health-boosting products worth over RM8,000, for free!

As a special deal from theSun, you will get a uFit vibrating platform (worth RM5,500) and the AirFit Gravity Breathable Padding (worth RM1,599)!

Hurry up and snatch up this amazing Father's Day gift before it's too late!

*\*The free AirFit Gravity Breathable Padding is for super-single sized beds*

## Buy1 Free2

Super Deal Exclusive for 1st 100 theSun Readers ONLY

(FREE a unit of uFit & AIRFIT when you purchase a unit of Stress Release Exercise Chair)



**FREE**  
AIRFIT worth  
RM 1,599

**FREE**  
uFIT worth  
RM 5,000

**CLICK HERE**

to 'secure  
your voucher'



## Father knows best

**MOVIES** often depict a perfect family unit which has two parents and their children. Often, the dad turns out to be the one who leaves the family when things get tough for a dramatic plot. In celebration of Father's Day, we list down some movies which celebrate all types of dads in different and loving families.

### 1. Taken

*Taken* tells the story of retired CIA agent Bryan Mills (played by Liam Neeson) who is separated from his wife and daughter due to the nature of his work. This is, until he is forced to save his daughter and her friend from kidnappers while they are on holiday in France. The action-packed movie is gripping and shows how far a father will go to save his daughter. The movie has since spawned two more sequels, so if you love the first film, you can have a Liam Neeson binge-fest.



### 2. Cheaper by the Dozen

*Cheaper by the Dozen* starred a host of familiar names such as Steve Martin, Piper Perabo, Tom Welling, Hilary Duff and Ashton Kutcher. The movies centre around the Baker family with a

household of 12 children. The story usually starts with Tom Baker (played by Martin) constantly trying to come up with ideas to bring the whole family together, and it usually doesn't end well.

In the first film, Tom uprooted his whole family to a new home in a new city, which caused animosity within the family unit. Children who have to move

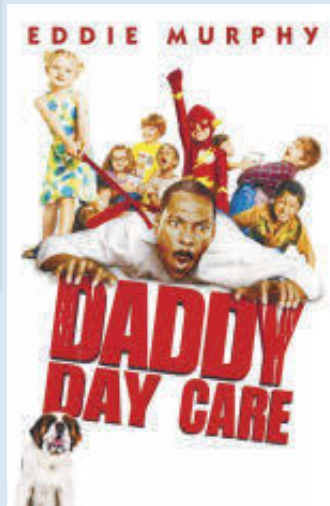
homes or come from large families may identify with this film and come to appreciate their parents' efforts to maintain a happy home.



### 3. Daddy Day Care

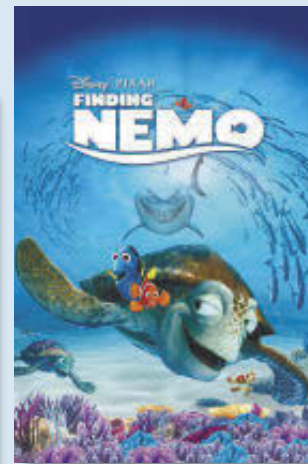
*Daddy Day Care* is a comedy film about two fathers who start a childcare centre out of their home after they are laid off from their jobs. Of course, things don't turn out the way they plan, when the children prove to be more cheeky and naughty than they expect. This causes them to hire another person to help out, and come up with new plans to manage the children in their care.

The dads watching this film might recognise themselves in the film and have a good laugh with the family.



### 4. Finding Nemo

Everyone is familiar with this story.



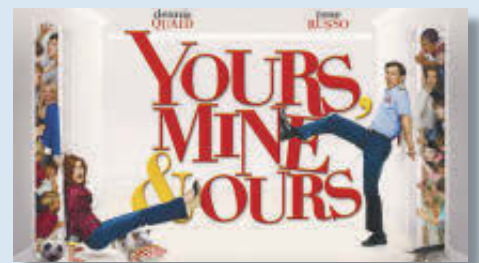
Single clownfish dad Marlin faces his fears and ventures into the vast unknown in

order to save his son Nemo. Along the way, Marlin has to shed his own judgemental side and limiting beliefs as he acquires more help from strangers such as Dory to aid him in his journey. While it's mainly a children's movie, it manages to capture the love between a single father and his son really well, and how a community is needed to raise children.

### 5. Yours, Mine & Ours

*Yours, Mine & Ours* is a rare story of a blended family with 18 children. Frank Beardsley (played by Dennis Quaid) is widowed US Coast Guard admiral who has eight children from his previous marriage. When he moves the family back to his hometown, he met Helen North (played by Rene Russo)

who is also widowed and has 10 kids of her own. After falling in love with other, they get married, much to the shock of the Beardsley and North children. When they are forced to move in together, the children plot to drive their parents apart so life will return to normal.



# Honouring your late dad

➤ Even when he is no longer around, you can still pay tribute to your father's memory

BY ADELINE LEONG

**FATHER'S DAY** can be a challenging day for those who have lost their dads. No matter how long he has been gone, it still hurts the people who loved him. If you feel this way and want to do something in his memory, here are a few things you can do to honour him.

### 1. Spend time with family

While it's tempting to grieve alone, spending time with the family actually helps a lot with the heavy emotions. Get the family together for a meal and share good memories of dad. It can be a something funny he said or did, or a retelling of his favourite stories. It's also good to talk to your little nephews and nieces, or his grandchildren, about him, so that

they can know who he was. Families who can't meet up can do so over video call to bring everyone together.

### 2. Honour the other father figures in your life

We might feel alone when we lose our dads, but don't forget those who have stepped in to provide support during the trying times. Give a call to your grandpa, uncles, brothers and cousins, and invite them out for drinks or a meal.

### 3. Write a tribute

Penning emotions down has always helped to give clarity to how we feel and can help in the process of healing. Let out pent up feelings in the form of a song, poem, blog post or an artwork. These works can be shared with family members or kept

for your own personal reading.

If words aren't your strong suit, creating a beautiful memorial video or making a scrapbook highlighting the family's favourite moments with dad works too.

### 4. Pass the torch

Another lovely way to honour your dad is to continue championing the good causes that were close to his heart. Even if your dad wasn't a full-time activist, you can still perform random acts of kindness, especially for those who need them. Volunteer to help out in any way that you can, such as helping out at hospices, helping to raise funds to support single parents or helping to spread awareness about men's health issues.

### 5. Visit his favourite place

For those who want to feel closer to their dad, they can visit spend some time at dad's favourite place. It could be his favourite park,

museum, the beach or even the house balcony where he lovingly watered the plants. Spend time to take in what fascinated him about the place, or think about what he has told you about the place which made it significant to him. Spending time at his favourite place also gives you a space for contemplation, and away from the fuss of well-meaning relatives.

### 6. Creating new traditions

The usual celebrations will feel different for some when dad's presence is no longer felt. If carrying on the same traditions without dad feels too much, the family can try creating new traditions in his honour. Perhaps, the family could meet up and visit his grave on Father's Day and enjoy a family lunch or dinner afterwards.





# Malaysia's April IPI takes a tumble

► Industrial Production Index weakens 32% from a year ago on implementation of MCO to curb Covid-19

**PETALING JAYA:** Malaysia's Industrial Production Index (IPI) tumbled 32% in April 2020, compared to the same month of the previous year due to the implementation of the movement control order (MCO) to curb the spread of the Covid-19 pandemic.

Deterioration of the indices was due to the significant decline in the index of manufacturing (-37.2%), index of mining (-19.6%) and index of electricity (-19.2%), said Malaysia's chief statistician Datuk Seri Mohd

Uzir Mahidin in a statement.

Mohd Uzir commented that the sharp decrease of the manufacturing index reported for the month was contributed by a significant decline in the non-essential services industry and the low capacity utilisation of below 50%.

Meanwhile, Malaysia's manufacturing sales slid 33% to RM75.8 billion in April 2020 compared to RM113.1 billion a year ago, driven by the decline in transport equipment and other manufactured products (-69.5%), non-metallic mineral products, basic metal and fabricated metal products (-67.5%) and electrical & electronics products (-39.6%).

"The sharp decrease of manufacturing sales value in April 2020 was a result of the closure of business operations under the MCO," said Mohd Uzir.

He stated that the salaries and wages paid amounted to RM6.82 billion, a decrease of 6.2% or RM448.7 million in April 2020 as

against the same month of the preceding year.

In April, total employees engaged by the manufacturing sector stood at 2.17 million, a 3.2% decrease compared to 2.24 million reported in the same month of the previous year.

BIMB Securities Research said the drop in IPI was the steepest fall in a decade, and was a negative surprise following the decline in April trade figures which saw a trade deficit of RM3.5 billion being recorded.

"The plunge in production was very much expected due to the disruption in the overall supply and demand chain domestically and globally due to Covid-19. In particular, Malaysia began its MCO in March," it said.

Moving forward, the research house pointed out that things will get worse before they get better. Under the recovery MCO it expects there will be significant recovery as the reopening of plants will increase production

from the incredibly low April bottom.

"Looking ahead, we expect IPI and trade performance in 2Q20 to contract, owing to the extension of MCO and fluctuating commodity prices. However, there seems to be a slight improvement in business sentiments during May.

"The IHS Markit manufacturing PMI rose sharply to 45.6 in May, from April's survey-record low of 31.3. While the PMI index still lies within the contractionary region, the gradual improvement implies that the manufacturers may have commenced their production activities. Over time, this would translate into more demand for labour and capital goods should more orders would come in," it said.

Still, BIMB Research expects IPI performance to remain weak in upcoming months albeit at improving rate, with a pick up in pace from the third quarter onwards.

## BAuto posts RM2.5 million net profit for Q4

**PETALING JAYA:** Bermaz Auto Bhd (BAuto) reported a lower net profit of RM2.5 million for its fourth quarter ended April 30, from RM60.06 million in the previous corresponding quarter mainly due to exceptionally low profit contributions from both the domestic and Philippine operations, and a lower share of profit contribution from one of its associated companies, Mazda Malaysia Sdn Bhd.

Concurrently, the group also incurred expense relating to its employees' share scheme amounting to RM800,000 in the quarter under review as compared to RM1.2 million in the preceding year's corresponding quarter.

Revenue was also lower at RM299.4 million, compared with RM538.3 million previously mainly due to a drop in sales volume from both the domestic and Philippine operations arising from the mandatory closure of businesses by the respective governments to curb the outbreak of the Covid-19 pandemic.

For the full year, BAuto recorded a lower net profit of RM100.51 million and revenue of RM1.76 billion, from RM264.04 million and

RM2.52 billion respectively the year before.

The lower revenue was attributed to lower sales volume from the domestic and Philippine operations, as there was a delay in the delivery of the new facelift CX-5 and all new CX-8 models caused by the resolution of certain pricing issues as well as the closure of businesses for about one and half months.

The previous financial year recorded significantly higher unit sales mainly due to the three-month sales tax holiday period and was also boosted by the group's promotional campaign in absorbing the sales tax.

The group did not recommend any dividend in respect of Q4'20. The total dividend declared for FY20 amounted to 7.45 sen per share.

Looking ahead, BAuto said while the Malaysian automotive sector is expected to remain challenging in the near future, the economic stimulus packages introduced by the government will help soften the impact of the

Covid-19 pandemic on the economy and support gradual normalisation of local economic activities.

"The group took cognisance of the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic on the overall economy in the country as well as overseas. Hence, any launch of new and/or facelift Mazda models will depend on market sentiments and economic conditions. Premised on the foregoing, the performance of the group for the financial year ending April 30, 2021 will remain very challenging," it said.

The group also said appropriate austerity measures are being implemented to mitigate the current conditions, while new marketing strategies via e-platforms have been introduced to cater for the "new normal", such as leveraging on digital media to communicate marketing and promotional activities to existing and new customers.



## Mlabs to invest in production house to revive film industry

**PETALING JAYA:** Mlabs Systems Bhd will progressively invest up to RM3 million into Kuching-based film production company Longhouse Films Sdn Bhd within the next two years to revive the flailing film production industry in Malaysia.

Under the subscription agreement, Mlabs will take up 52,000 new ordinary shares in Longhouse for RM52,000, as well as up to three million redeemable convertible preference shares for a total of RM3 million.

The proposed subscription will be funded entirely from internally generated funds.

Upon completion of the subscription of ordinary shares, Longhouse will become a 51%-owned subsidiary company of Mlabs.

Mlabs said the objectives behind the partnership include bringing back Malaysian talents from the international entertainment industry to enhance the Malaysian movie industry for Asia.

It also wants to bring in bigger movie productions from China and Korea to Malaysia, bring Chinese and Asian content for distribution in South East Asia; as well as exporting and highlighting Malaysian talent to the international level.

"The proposed subscription will allow Mlabs to diversify into a business that potentially has connectivity to its core video conferencing business for example, the use of real time video conferencing as a marketing medium to interact with actors and actresses to coincide with film premier launches," it said in its Bursa Malaysia filing.

The exercise is also expected to increase Mlabs revenue base and reduce its dependence on its existing products for revenue and earnings growth, as well as allow it to earn a coupon rate of 5% which is higher than deposit and financial products that are currently on offer especially during this pandemic.

## StanChart, Mida collaborate to attract investments into Malaysia

**PETALING JAYA:** Standard Chartered Malaysia has signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) with the Malaysian Investment Development Authority (Mida) to attract targeted global investments into Malaysia.

The MoU enables potential foreign investors to gain access to banking services and foreign direct investment advisory, and targeted at high-value, high-technology and high-impact sectors such as electrical and electronics, machinery and equipment, medical devices, aerospace, renewable energy and consumer technology.

Mida CEO Datuk Azman Mahmud said the sectors' ability in attracting quality investment augurs well for the country's economy as the market looks to get back in shape post the Covid-19 pandemic.

"Public and private sector collaborations are more important now than ever to achieve our objectives and bring ourselves forward in this new normal. Despite the multiple challenges faced, Malaysia remains resilient. Our diversified economic structure and the sound track record of macroeconomic management continues to be conducive in supporting the country's economic fundamentals going forward," he said.

Malaysia's electrical and electronics industry today accounts for 10% of the global back-end semiconductor output. Mida currently has a



Abrar (left) and Azman at the MoU signing ceremony yesterday.

pipeline of investment projects worth about RM37.8 billion with many foreign electrical and electronics firms looking to relocate their businesses to the country to diversify production.

To encourage foreign investors to set up their businesses in the country, the government is also offering a zero tax rate for up to 15 years

under its recently-announced Short-Term Economic Recovery Plan.

Standard Chartered managing director and CEO Abrar A. Anwar said the bank is able to leverage its extensive network, strong product capability, service innovation, as well as access to capital markets and funding, to help clients succeed in establishing businesses in Malaysia.

## Widad's Q1 earnings hit by lower revenue

**PETALING JAYA:** Widad Group Bhd's net profit fell 65.5% to RM2.15 million in its first quarter ended March 31, against RM6.21 million reported in the same quarter of the previous year, attributed to a drop in revenue.

Revenue for the period declined 45.7% to RM24.62 million against RM45.36 million reported previously, from the completion of the

Makmal Sains project during the first quarter of 2019, and the completion of the JB Sentral contract on March 31.

The group also reported slower progress work due to the rescheduling of all projects which resulted in an extension of time, partly due to movement control order.

According to the group's Bursa filing, the

outlook for the year remains challenging and uncertain, as the full impact of the Covid-19 pandemic has not been ascertained.

However, despite the uncertainties, Widad is cautiously optimistic for its performance in 2020. In regards to its construction business, the group stated the sector is expected to rebound in 2H'20 with the introduction of the

government's stimulus package.

Widad stated the segment has a remaining contract value of RM506 million and it is confident in enhancing its order book further given its track record. For the group's integrated facilities management business, it has a remaining order book of RM238 million until June 2022.



## Oil prices hit by record US crude stocks, bearish Fed

**LONDON:** Oil prices fell yesterday, hit by another record build-up in US crude inventories and the US Federal Reserve's projections that the world's biggest economy would shrink 6.5% this year.

Brent crude futures erased Wednesday's gains, falling 4%, or US\$1.65, to US\$40.08 (RM170.34) a barrel by 1156 GMT. US West Texas Intermediate crude dropped 4.7%, or US\$1.87, to US\$37.73 (RM160.35) a barrel.

Both benchmarks are set for their worst daily drop in two weeks.

"Prices are once again under pressure as concerns over the pace of the demand recovery intensified," said Rystad Energy's oil markets analyst Paola Rodriguez Masiu.

US crude inventories rose unexpectedly by 5.7 million barrels in the week to June 5 to 538.1 million barrels – a record – as imports were boosted by the arrival of supplies bought by refiners when Saudi Arabia flooded the market in March and April, Energy Information Administration data showed.

It also showed petrol stockpiles grew more than expected to 258.7 million barrels. Distillate stockpiles, which include diesel and heating oil, rose by 1.6 million barrels, although the increase was smaller than in previous weeks.

The effect of the Saudi import surge on pricing should be "transitory," said Jeffrey Halley, market analyst at OANDA. "Nevertheless, in the short term, oil looks vulnerable to a downside correction to thin out weak longs."

Adding to the pressure on prices, the Fed said US unemployment was set to reach 9.3% at the end of 2020 and it would take years to fall back, while interest rates were expected to stay near zero at least through next year.

"No significant price relief is anticipated in 2020 but next year promises to become tighter due to improving consumption," said PVM oil analyst Tmas Varga.

"For this forecast to prove accurate, however, assistance is required from the world's swing producers. Opec+ needs to stick to the April deal and keep its agreed 5.8 mbpd output restraints below the October 2018 baseline all through next year." – Reuters

# Thailand to **consider** joining trans-Pacific free trade pact

## ► Committee set up to look into CPTPP membership

**BANGKOK:** Thailand has set up a committee to consider by mid-July whether the country should join a trans-Pacific free trade agreement, as opposition parties and some business groups say membership could harm the farm and healthcare sectors.

Thailand's commerce ministry has said joining the 11-member Comprehensive and Progressive Agreement for Trans-Pacific Partnership (CPTPP) would boost the country's economy, helping to offset the impact of the coronavirus outbreak and make sectors



Thailand's commerce ministry has said joining the Comprehensive and Progressive Agreement for Trans-Pacific Partnership will boost the economy. – **REUTERSPIX**

including electronics and agriculture more competitive against rivals such as Vietnam and Malaysia, both CPTPP members.

The CPTPP was originally known as the Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP), which fell apart when the United States withdrew in early 2017. Member countries, including Japan and Canada, signed the CPTPP deal in 2018 without the United States.

Thailand's lower house panel will look into membership of the trade pact within 30 days before presenting its study to the government, committee chairman Werakorn Khumprakob told Reuters yesterday.

"The government wants to hear opinions from the lower house," Werakorn said. "So we will thoroughly look at advantages and disadvantages of membership before making a conclusion."

Membership will need parliamentary approval. Opposition parties and some business groups say tariff-free access to other CPTPP member countries could lead to a flood of agricultural and pharmaceutical imports from some of those countries and harm those industries in Thailand.

The committee will be open to opinions for or against membership of CPTPP – which also counts Australia, Chile and Singapore as members – including from non-government organisations and a joint standing committee on commerce, industry and banking, Werakorn said. – AFP

## Unilever to merge arms into one UK company

**THE HAGUE:** Consumer giant Unilever said yesterday it will combine its Dutch and British arms in a single London-based company, two years after a failed bid to move the firm's headquarters to the Netherlands.

The maker of Ben and Jerry's ice cream, Dove soap and the yeasty spread Marmite said ending its 90-year-old double-headed structure would make it more responsive to challenges including the coronavirus pandemic.

But it insisted that its presence and operations in both the Netherlands and Britain would "remain unchanged", and it would keep its listings on both the London and Amsterdam stock exchanges.

Unilever said in a statement that after an 18-month review it believed that "moving from the current dual-headed legal structure to a single parent company will bring significant benefits".

It said a major review of its important tea

business showed that the current Anglo-Dutch structure "can create disadvantages for the group", for example when it came to selling parts of the firm.

"It is also clear that the Covid-19 pandemic will create a business environment in which having as much flexibility and responsiveness as possible will be critically important," it said.

The Dutch entity would therefore be merged into one single parent company based in London, Unilever PLC, "creating a simpler company with greater strategic flexibility".

In 2018 Unilever tried to move the firm's corporate base from London to the Dutch port of Rotterdam. But it had to back down after a revolt by shareholders in Britain.

Unilever said under the new plan there would be no change to the operations, locations, activities or staffing levels in either the UK or the Netherlands. – AFP

## Lufthansa to cut 22,000 jobs

**BERLIN:** German airline Lufthansa said yesterday that it would have to slash 22,000 full-time jobs as it predicts a muted recovery in demand for travel following the coronavirus pandemic.

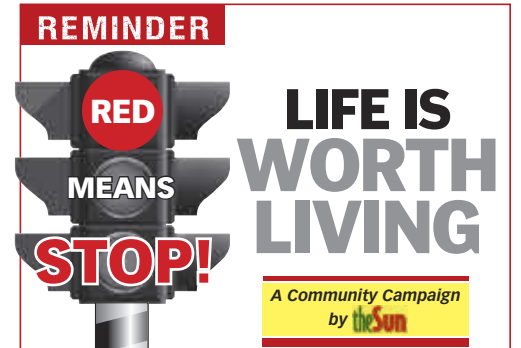
"The recovery in demand in the air transport sector will be slow in the foreseeable future," the airline said.

About 100 aircraft will remain grounded after the crisis, leading to "a total of 22,000 fewer full-time positions in the Lufthansa Group, half of them in Germany".

The posts make up 16% of the Lufthansa Group's total workforce of 135,000.

The airline said however that it would look at how it could use schemes for shorter work hours and other crisis arrangements to avoid outright redundancies. – AFP





# Volvo FMX: Celebrating 10 years of driving in harsh conditions

**I**N 2010 Volvo Trucks introduced the Volvo FMX – a lorry specifically developed for the demanding construction industry.

Its ability to cope with tough conditions has evolved over the years as a result of the introduction of many innovative features.

After a decade in the mud, it has a solid reputation as one of the toughest construction trucks on the market.

Before the FMX's launch, different variants of the Volvo FM and FH were used in the construction industry.

In 2010, years of feedback from customers led to the successful launch of a Volvo lorry developed specifically for construction work; the FMX entered the Malaysian market in 2014.

Since then, it has been the top-selling model not just in the construction segment, but also widely used in logging, mining and agriculture (crude palm oil tanker) sectors, to handle the tough operating conditions and demanding transport assignments.

"The Volvo FMX 6X4 is the most sought-after model after the Volvo FM series. The FMX was a game changer and it soon became very popular among both haulage operators and drivers for its powerful performance and versatility in handling rough road conditions," says Mitch Peden, managing director of Volvo Trucks Malaysia.

## Designed for rough road conditions

The robust modern exterior of the first FMX, which clearly showed the lorry's relationship with Volvo Construction Equipment machines, was an attractive feature.

The FMX's functionality included a strong towing eye, headlamp protection, new anti-slip steps and a handy ladder.

With a three-piece steel bumper, corners made from 3-mm-thick steel, solid crankcase protection plate and protective bullbar, it is a sturdy construction lorry.

## Tough got tougher after only 3 years

Just three years after the FMX's introduction, Volvo Trucks released a new version.

The cab was modified and all the components in the front structure were redesigned. New air suspension gave an increased ground clearance of 300mm.

The towing eye could now tow up to 32 tonnes.

With the immediate success of the FMX, Volvo Trucks launched a new version as early as 2013. It was an even more robust solution for challenging construction environments. This is also the version that was introduced to the Malaysian market.

## I-Shift gearbox for heavy loads

Volvo I-Shift gearbox maximises performance and efficiency by monitoring and responding to vehicle mass, road inclination, speed and acceleration. It allows the FMX to handle tough and hilly terrain with high levels of productivity and driver comfort.

Coupled to a Volvo diesel engine, it reduces fuel consumption by up to 5%, compared to a manual gearbox.

## Hub reduction

The FMX with Hub reduction can support the maximum axle load of 33 tonnes and a combined weight of 120 tonnes. The lorry is fitted with reduction gears in each

hub. The hub reduction gears reduce loads on the driveline, so that tractive effort can be transferred to the ground without wheel slip, giving excellent grip and very low tyre wear.

"The hub reduction is perfect for construction work. It provides good grip when the surface is slippery, which results in higher truck productivity" says Peden.

## Tandem axle lift

Tandem Axle Lift is designed for operations where the driver drives heavily-loaded in one direction and empty in the other.

With the push of a button on the dashboard, the driver can disengage and raise the drive axle to improve fuel efficiency by up to 4% on average.

As soon as the lorry is loaded, the drive axle automatically lowers and engages to ensure maximum traction and driveability.

"The Tandem Axle Lift is a perfect fit for customers who travel regularly on rough terrain. This is especially true for customers based in East Malaysia where roads are riddled with potholes and sometimes not tarred, uneven and hilly. It provides better traction, and helps to reduce tyre wear and tear and more importantly, saves cost," says Peden.



## Civic duty for police force

**HONDA** Malaysia recently presented 425 units of the new Honda Civic 1.8S to the Royal Malaysia Police (PDRM) to be used as new mobile patrol and enforcement vehicles.

The dynamic performance, refined design, excellent handling and drivability of the new Civic makes it an ideal vehicle to support the responsibilities of the PDRM at the frontlines.

Company managing director and CEO Toichi Ishiyama said: "We are grateful to the Royal Malaysia Police for their services and sacrifices in ensuring the safety of Malaysians over the past months.

"We stand 'Together As One' with the nation and we want to play our role as an auto marque to contribute to the country in any way we can. The Royal Malaysia Police are at the frontlines

in securing the safety of citizens, more so during the on-going Covid-19 pandemic.

"Due to the movement control order (MCO), we had to postpone the delivery of the new Civic in March to the Royal Malaysia Police. We are delighted that we are now able to resume the plan to deliver these new mobile patrol and enforcement vehicles, which are expected to assist in the tasks and responsibilities of the police force in effectively responding to emergencies, maintaining law and order.

"We are pleased that the Royal Malaysia Police have chosen the best-selling model in C-segment, the new Civic, to assist them in their daily tasks, enforcements and administrative duties for the country."







# Zero Contact at all Goodyear shops

IN order to ensure a safe environment for its consumers and staff, as businesses resume amidst the Covid-19 pandemic, Goodyear Malaysia announces its Zero Contact Initiative (Zero Contact).

The initiative enables Goodyear customers to have new tyres fitted at any participating Goodyear Autocare centre without any direct person-to-person contact, throughout the entire process.

Goodyear Malaysia managing director Alex Ng said: "As we resume our operations nationwide, we also embark into a 'new normal' era that calls for more vigilance and mindfulness when handling each and every one of our customer's needs.

"The assurance of Goodyear's Zero Contact process, from the moment you drop-off your vehicle, and up until you collect it, is that there will be zero direct physical contact between staff and customers to minimise risk of any potential spread.

"We decided to extend this programme in Malaysia, off the back of the success it had in the United States, Australia and other Asean countries.

"We hope that through this programme, we continue to assure Goodyear's loyal customers that we have taken all the necessary precautions for their personal safety and at the same time, remain committed to ensuring the safety of their tyres."

Through this initiative, customers will have to first arrange for an appointment with their preferred Goodyear Autocare centre for services.

This can be done via phone call or WhatsApp, through Goodyear Malaysia's website.

To make an appointment, visit [www.goodyear.com.my/store](http://www.goodyear.com.my/store) on mobile and

use the map to select the closest desired location.

Once located, simply click on the WhatsApp icon to make an appointment with your selected Goodyear Autocare centre.

At the stores, there will be specially-designated Zero Contact parking areas for customers to park their cars, as well as a drop box for them to place their car keys.

The Goodyear Autocare centre staff will then proceed to collect the car and fit new tyres.

Before returning the car to the owner, a 12-point vehicle safety check will be done for each car, followed by the disinfection of 12 major touch points.

These are complimentary services provided by Goodyear Malaysia for their customers, to ensure that their cars are safe to be driven once again, especially for those who have left their cars untouched for a long time due to the movement control order (MCO).

When the customer collects his or her car at the Zero Contact parking area, they will receive a checklist which is placed in their car.

This is proof of the thorough clean-up done by the staff, as well as to notify them of any possible issue that the staff might have found whilst checking their car, making it easy for them to rectify as quickly as possible.

Other precautionary measures will also be enforced at all Goodyear Autocare centres.

For instance, staff are required to sanitise and disinfect all public areas, facilities, as well as any tools and equipment three times daily.

The seats will be marked down for alternative seating, while standing markers will also be placed on the floor to ensure customers are standing one metre away from others when in queue.

Customers are advised to pay their service fees via contactless payment options such as e-

wallet, online banking or paywave.

"By rolling out this initiative, we hope that we are not only able to continue to provide better services for our customers as we all resume our everyday routines, but also provide an extra hand in helping to check on their vehicles' conditions after this brief hiatus," said Ng.

"Of course, the safety and health of our customers and staff are pertinent during this period.

"Therefore, we hope to see the support and cooperation from our customers and Goodyear Autocare partners to practise good hygiene and preventative measures throughout this period."

As Goodyear Malaysia kick starts this brand-new initiative, freebies (subject to stock and availability) will be up for grabs at any Goodyear Autocare centre, during the Zero Contact service period.

From June 1 until July 31, customers who purchase any four or more tyres of the following will be entitled to a Goodyear umbrella:

- ➔ All Eagle F1 Asymmetric tyre series\*.
- ➔ All Eagle F1 tyres\*.
- ➔ All EfficientGrip tyre series\*.
- ➔ All Run on Flat tyre series\*.
- ➔ Wrangler DuraTrac.
- ➔ Wrangler AT SilentTrac.

Alternatively, customers who purchase any four or more tyres of the following will be entitled to a Goodyear non-slip mat:

- ➔ Assurance Duraplus 2.
- ➔ Assurance TripleMax\*.
- ➔ Assurance TripleMax 2\*.
- ➔ Wrangler TripleMax\*.
- ➔ Optilife\*.

\* Eligible for Goodyear Worry Free Assurance.

## Perodua lowers car prices 3% to 6%

PERODUA on Wednesday reduced its model prices (on-the-road excluding insurance) by between 3% and 6% via cash rebates until June 14, incorporating the new prices throughout the tax reduction period, as recently announced by the Prime Minister.

"Despite the tax reduction only becoming effective on June 15, Perodua is offering cash rebates between 3% and 6% for the purchase of our vehicles beginning today," Perodua president and CEO Datuk Zainal Abidin Ahmad said.

"We want everyone to take this opportunity to own a Perodua without worrying about being left out. Please visit any Perodua sales outlet and speak to our authorised sales advisors for the total cash rebate amounts and the full price list that will be effective 15 June."

In his Economic Recovery Plan address on June 5, Prime Minister Tan Sri Muhyiddin Yassin announced various measures and incentives to stimulate the economy, amidst the ongoing Covid-19 crisis that has gripped the nation.

Among the incentives to assist the automotive industry are a 100% sales tax exemption on new completely-knocked-down (CKD) vehicles and a 50% exemption for completely-built-up (CBU) vehicles until the end of 2020.

Zainal said Perodua is in full support of the government's move to fully exempt sales tax for the purchase of CKD cars until the end of the year to shore up the domestic economy. Perodua's current model range comprises the Myvi, Axia, Bezza, Aruz and Alza.

"The Malaysian public are understandably spending more cautiously, due to Covid-19 and the movement control order, although personal vehicles are still very much needed in these trying times. The move to fully exempt CKD cars from sales tax is a confidence boost for the automotive industry – not just for car buyers but the entire ecosystem of manufacturers, suppliers and dealers. Along with low financing rates at this difficult time, we are cautiously optimistic that this will spur new car sales."

Perodua has sold 52,920 vehicles as of the first five months of 2020, giving it a 41% market share against an estimated year-to-date total industry volume of 129,401 units. All current Perodua models have over 90% local content, and last year, the carmaker purchased RM5.4 billion worth of components from Malaysian suppliers.

"As Malaysia's biggest carmaker by volume, we reiterate our commitment to the government to contribute wherever and whenever we can to ensure the industry can get through this difficult time," said Zainal.

## Attractive deals during 'Renault Passion Week'

MEMBERS of the public and Renault customers alike can look forward to more savings on subscription plans, selected vehicle parts and branded merchandise during the upcoming 15-day "Renault Passion Week" from June 5 to June 19.

Available through the Renault Store on Shopee Malaysia, Renault Passion Week offers frequent "Shocking Sales" on featured categories, including discounts of up to 50% on subscription booking fees, up to 40% on sanitisation packages, up to 50% on Renault collectibles and up to 50% on Renault merchandise.

Additionally, across the campaign duration, Renault Store vouchers worth RM20 for a minimum purchase of RM50, as well as 10% discounts on merchandise and parts are up for grabs, while stocks last.

The vouchers are applicable for all items available in the Renault Store on Shopee including those on promotion.

Those considering a Renault Subscription 1-Month Trial or Fixed Plan should take advantage of Renault Passion Week on Shopee and secure a booking to enjoy further reductions on their subscription fees.

With strong interest in the 1-Month Trial and Pre-Owned Captur Subscription offers in the last two months, TC Euro Cars (TCEC) is expanding these great offers to the Fixed New Subscription plans in order to benefit a wider audience.

For the Renault Captur line-up, customers are able to enjoy 38% off their first six months' subscription fee for a brand-new Captur.

Meanwhile, subscribers of the Pre-Owned Captur Fixed Plan will save 54% on their first to sixth-month fees.

For a brand-new Renault Koleos, subscription customers can enjoy up to 17% fee reduction in the first six months.

Those who select a plan for a brand-new Megane RS will save 25% on their first six months' subscription fees.

In addition to the Renault Store on Shopee, these offers are also available via the Renault E-Store at [www.renault.com.my](http://www.renault.com.my).

Customers who book any of these subscription deals via Shopee during Renault Passion Week can save up to 50% on the booking fees and have up to Aug 15 to redeem their booking.

Normal booking fee prices for the various

plans are as follows:

- ➔ Pre-Owned Captur 1-Month Trial Plan: RM50.
- ➔ Pre-Owned Captur Fixed and New Fixed Plans: RM200.
- ➔ Koleos Fixed Plans: RM300.
- ➔ Megane RS Fixed Plans: RM500.

The booking fee will be fully deducted from the subscription fee for those who complete their application process and fully refunded for those who decide not to proceed with their subscription.

Meanwhile, customers of the Renault Subscription Switch Plans will receive a free one-month subscription as part of the June offers in conjunction with Passion Week.

Customers are encouraged to visit the Renault website for the latest updates on Renault Passion Week as there are daily specials available and "Shocking Sale" announcements.

### New Koleos Signature Plus variant

TCEC has also recently added on a new variant, the Koleos Signature Plus (*pix*), which is a step



up from the Signature variant that offers a four-piece aerokit (front, rear and sides) and digital video recorder (DVR).

This is on top of the existing features that are already available on the Koleos Signature variant.

The Koleos Signature Plus is available for retail from RM194,888 (on-the-road inclusive of SST, without insurance, for private registration in Peninsular Malaysia).

Subscription fees are priced at RM2,899 monthly for a fixed three-year plan but with the June offer, customers only need to pay RM2,499 for the first six months.



BY BISSME S

**S**TEVEN TAN, better known as Steven Bones, has been a voice over talent for advertisements and animation for more than ten years. He was looking for something out of his comfort zone and searching for something new that would challenge him.

Two years ago, he went up onstage and started cracking jokes. He began his second career as a stand-up comedian. He even started his own YouTube channel and Facebook page called Steven Bones Everything where he displays his funny works.

His well-known signature style is making parodies of famous songs. The first parody song he uploaded on his Youtube Channel was *The Mamak King*, based on the famous song *The Circle of Life* from the hit Disney animated feature *The Lion King*.

It was an instant hit.

His other well-known piece is *Aku Minum Arak* which is a parody of the popular song, *Hakuna Matata*, also from *The Lion King*.

His latest work that got attention is *Si Milan*, a parody of the trailer for the Hollywood live-action film *Mulan*, which boldly talks about discrimination and unfairness. *theSun* spoke to the 35-year-old father of two about his career.

# Out of his comfort zone

» Stand-up comedian Steven Bones wants to make Malaysians laugh at him and at themselves

I believe you should be able to express yourself freely without worrying about other people's opinions.

- Steven Bones

Bones' favourite stand-up comedian is Bill Burr.

- COURTESY OF STEVEN BONES

## What was your childhood ambition?

"I was born in Singapore but grew up in Johor Baru. My parents ran a restaurant that sold Chinese mixed rice. They were very busy with their work. I have an older brother who was studying in Singapore. I was left to my own devices. I always jokingly tell people that I was raised by television.

"My childhood ambition was to be a rock star, or to be in a cartoon. When I was young, I did join several music bands but my dream to be a rock star did not come true. At least I got into the cartoon business (he did voice over work for animated shows such as *Rimba Racer*, *Bola Kampung* and *Chuck Chicken*)."

## How did you become a voice over talent?

"I was taking a degree in audio engineering. A friend in college was looking for a Chinese guy who could rap for an advertisement, and I got the job. I learnt about the

voice talent business [there]. I started singing jingles. Then I became a voice over talent for advertisements."

## How did your stand-up career begin?

"I was doing voice talent for more than 10 years. I felt I was stuck. I wanted to do something new. I had always wanted to try out stand-up comedy. So one night I went to an open mic session at Crackhouse and started telling jokes. The first night I got some laughs. The second and third night I did not get any laughs. But I did not want to give up my dream. I wanted to make people laugh."

## Who are some of your favourite comedians?

"Robin Williams and Jim Carrey. They are animated and very expressive. My favourite stand-up comedian is Bill Burr. He has an angry tone when he tells his jokes, which can be funny."

## What are some changes you would have made to your career?

"I should have started a social media channel in my 20s. Sometimes I feel like I am an old man in a young man's game. But at the same time, I am grateful that I started my social media channel two years ago.

"When you are on social media, you will be bombarded with positive and negative comments. When you are older, you are mature enough to deal with whatever comments that come your way."

## What advice would you give young talents who want to follow your footsteps?

"You need to get started as soon as possible. The idea to be a stand-up comedian and starting my social media channel had been on my mind for the longest time. But I kept delaying it. I was searching for the perfect time to launch the channel. I kept giving excuses. There will never really be a 'perfect' time."

## What kind of father are you?

"I want to give them the room to be whoever they are. I believe you should be able to express yourself freely without worrying about other people's opinions about you."

# Snoop Dogg to adapt Joe Ide's *IQ* series for television

**THE** American rapper will executive produce the TV adaptation for Ide's award-winning series of crime novels through his Snoopadelic Films production company.

*House of Lies* duo Matthew Carnahan and Theo Travers will serve as creators and executive producers on the series, while American filmmaker and Hidden Empire Film Group founder Deon Taylor is rumoured to be set to direct the yet-untitled project.

Alcon Television Group CEOs Broderick Johnson and Andrew Kosove as well as Atlas Entertainment's Charles Roven and Alex Gartner will also act as executive producers on the forthcoming series.

While casting for the TV adaptation of *IQ* has yet to be revealed, Robert Amidon of Atlas Entertainment and Ted Chung of Snoopadelic Films have been announced as producers for the show.

"Snoop once said, 'I'm looking for a deal from one of your TV networks to give Snoop Dogg his own hood TV show where I can find America's hottest hood artists.' I'm thrilled he got his wish," Los Angeles-based author Joe Ide said in a statement to The Bookseller.

The *IQ* series finds Ide putting a spin on Arthur Conan Doyle's Sherlock Holmes novels through his eponymous hero, African-American private detective Isaiah Quintabe, better known as IQ, who operates out of the same part of Long Beach, California, that produced Snoop Dogg.

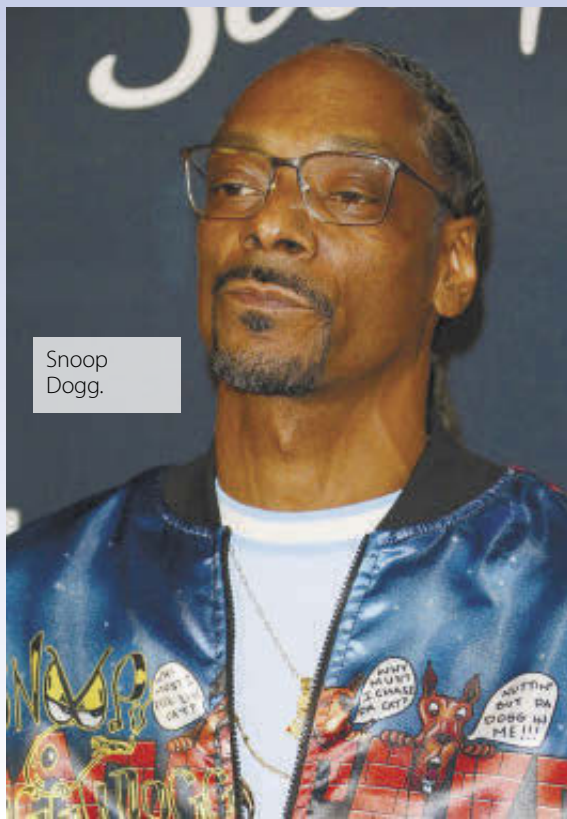
The first instalment of the *IQ* series, entitled *IQ*, was published in 2016, and received the Shamus Award, the Anthony Award and the Macavity Award.

The series of crime novels also includes *Righteous*, *Wrecked* and, most recently, *Hi Five*, which was published on Jan 28 via Mulholland Books.

The latest instalment of the series follows IQ as he is asked by loathsome arms dealer Angus Byrne to prove the innocence of his only daughter, Christiana, before she is arrested for the murder of his right-hand man.

The case becomes complicated when it is revealed that Christiana suffers from multiple personality disorder, meaning that IQ has to find a way to interview all of her five personalities to point to a definitive killer. - AFP-Relaxnews

Snoop Dogg.





## What is 'eco-anxiety' and 'solastalgia'?

**HOW** can you remain committed to the environmental cause without winding up depressed? While this question may seem humorous on the surface, it actually raises a real concern for many. Eco-anxiety and solastalgia are increasingly common phenomena.

A direct reference to ecology and psychological state of anxiety, the term "eco-anxiety" refers to the fear of seeing the world collapse and the resulting feeling of powerlessness.

Meanwhile, the term "solastalgia," coined by Australian philosopher Glenn Albrecht, is a contraction of the English words "solace" (comfort) and "nostalgia" (longing). It evokes deep distress at the destruction of the environment.

Melting glaciers, fires in the Amazon and in Australia, air pollution, the extinction of animal species ... It is indeed difficult, when one lives on a planet whose resources are running out, to find a daily allotment of good news. Even more so if we take a close look at the climate crisis.

One person who is more than familiar with this feeling is famous environmental activist Greta Thunberg. The adolescent has spoken of how she fell into a depression for several months after having seen a documentary on polar bears and marine species poisoned by plastic waste.

"I began thinking about it all the time and I became very sad.

Those pictures were stuck in my head," the Swede told the *New York Times* in early 2019.

And Thunberg is far from being alone in this regard: in recent years, the ecological awareness of citizens has grown steadily. Especially among the younger generations, who in 2019, inspired by Thunberg, organised demonstrations around the world, skipping school to gather and demand greater action from world leaders on a wide range of environmental issues affecting the planet.

An anxiety of this nature can lead to a profound questioning of numerous aspects of one's lifestyle. So what can a person do to overcome this eco-anxiety? According to French author Laure Noualhat, who recently published a book (in French) on the matter *Comment rester écolo sans finir dépressif* meaning 'How to stay green without ending up depressed', "everyone must go through the phases of mourning, mourning for our planet: shock, denial, depression, acceptance, before being able to overcome this ordeal and hopefully 'come back to life.'"

And there again, Thunberg serves as an example: "I'm happier now. I have meaning. I have something I have to do," she explained in the *New York Times* feature on her, suggesting that she feels less alone because of her activism than in her previous existence. – AFP-Relaxnews



Environmental consciousness can cause psychological pain.



Even during the Covid-19 crisis, many caring Malaysians still ventured out to donate blood. – COURTESY OF SJAM'S FACEBOOK

## The donor's hero

► We salute those good people who not only donate blood regularly, but also those who did it recently as the world struggled with a pandemic

■ BY S. INDRA SATHIABALAN

**E**VERY once in a while you hear that the local blood bank is running low (especially during the fasting month) and there will be a plea asking members of the public to donate their blood to help those in need.

However as the world reels from the Covid-19 pandemic and with social distancing strongly encouraged, our blood bank still ran low and blood donation drives were organised across the country.

If you go to the official website of Pusat Darah Negara (PDN) Kementerian Kesihatan Negara, they have posted that: "Individuals are not at risk of contracting Covid-19 through the blood donation process or via a blood transfusion. There has been no documented evidence of transmission by donation."

June 14 is World Blood Donor Day and we pay tribute to those who ventured out to give blood and save others not only on a regular basis, but also during the global pandemic. As we try to adjust to a new normal, blood donations are still needed and each donor is a hero in their own way.

On the World Health Organisation website, it is stated, "An adequate supply of safe blood can only be assured through regular donations by voluntary unpaid blood donors. That is why the World Health Assembly in 2005 designated a special day to thank blood donors and encourage more people to give blood freely."

St John Ambulance Malaysia (SJAM) carried out blood donation



drives throughout the country at the end of March. In total, they had 7,727 donors.

During the month of Ramadan each year, blood donation drives are often held to help replenish supplies as the number of donors tend to be less during this time. This year is different because of the Covid-19 crisis, however those who could came out to donate.

Kevin Peter, SJAM's National Staff Officer said the amount of donors from May 29 to 31 in each state are: Johor (369), Kedah (175), Kuala Lumpur (514), Malacca (305), Negeri Sembilan (299), Pahang (91), Perak (63), Pulau Pinang (117), Sabah (106) and Selangor (1683). The total number of donors amounted to 3,722.

When asked if the number of donors are enough, Kevin said they

targeted a minimum of 50 donors a day at 19 locations and therefore were aiming for 1,900 donors. On May 29 SJAM was only operating at three locations (Kedah, Johor and KL). "In the end, it was above our expectation," he said.

Their targets are based on the needs of local hospitals. Steps were taken such as social distancing, temperature checks, getting donors to fill out forms and sanitising equipment after use. As for the blood collected, Kevin said it will be tested by the blood banks before transfusion.

"During this trying time, While the frontliners are fighting the Covid-19 battle, those who are eligible to donate blood should come forward to do their part in saving lives. Heroes come in all shapes and sizes, anybody can save a life and make a difference."

## Spreading festive cheer to needy children

**PUBLIC BANK** recently contributed a total of RM25,850 in cash and electrical items to two children's homes to bring happiness and joy to the less fortunate children during the holy month of Ramadan and also to spread festive cheer for the Hari Raya celebration.

However in adapting to the 'new normal' of the conditional movement control order (CMCO) which was implemented by the government to curb the spread of Covid-19, the bank's staff did not visit the two homes to hand over the contribution as done on previous occasions.

Instead, representatives of the homes were invited to Menara Public Bank on June 3, where a mock cheque presentation ceremony was held.

The two children's homes are Rumah Kanak-Kanak Tengku Budriah and Pusat Jagaan Nuri. Both homes are based in Kuala Lumpur with a total number of 160 children. The electrical items donated by the bank will be sent to the respective homes separately.

This recent corporate social responsibility initiative is a part of the bank's ongoing commitment as a caring corporate citizen.



Public Bank's Public Affairs Division senior general manager Datuk Razak Dali (centre) with Pusat Jagaan Nuri's senior assistant, Isnianti Osman (third from left) and Rumah Kanak-Kanak Tengku Budriah Cheras' principal, Mohd Hafizul Abd Ghani (third from right) and representatives from the homes and bank staff during the mock cheque and gifts presentation at Menara Public Bank.



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**322 Notices**

**Hua Joo Seng Holdings Sdn. Bhd. (193907-V) (In Members' Voluntary Liquidation)**

**NOTICE OF FINAL MEETING**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT pursuant to Section 459 of the Companies Act 2016, the Final Meeting of the Company shall be held at 26A Jalan Serampang, Taman Pelangi, 80050 Johor Bahru on 15 July 2020 at 11:45 for the purpose of :

Having an account laid before the meeting showing the manner in which the Winding Up has been conducted and the property of the Company disposed of and of hearing any explanation by the Liquidator

Dated this 12 June 2020

Teoh Lye Huat, Liquidator

**IN THE MATTER OF THE COMPANIES ACT, 2016 AND IN THE MATTER OF AB HARVEST SDN BHD Company No. 201601030879 (1201820-W) (IN MEMBERS' VOLUNTARY WINDING UP)**

The following Special Resolution was duly passed by the members of AB HARVEST SDN BHD on the 12th June 2020 in accordance with Section 439 of the Companies Act, 2016.

"That the Company be wound up voluntarily pursuant to Section 439 of the Companies Act, 2016 and that Mr. Hor Yuen Foong of No. 2-29, PV 128, Jalan Genting Kelang, 53300 Kuala Lumpur, Wilayah Persekutuan be and is hereby appointed Liquidator for the purpose of such winding-up"

Dated this: 12th June 2020

Signed ..... (Hor Yuen Foong) DIRECTOR

**IN THE MATTER OF THE COMPANIES ACT, 2016 AND IN THE MATTER OF AB HARVEST SDN BHD Company No. 201601030879 (1201820-W) (IN MEMBERS' VOLUNTARY WINDING UP)**

Notice is hereby given that the creditors of the above named Company, which is being voluntarily wound up, are required on or before 12th July 2020 (30 days from advertised date) to send in their names and addresses with particulars of their debts and claims and of any security held by them, and the names, addresses of their solicitors (if any) to the undersigned Liquidator at No. 2-29, PV 128, Jalan Genting Kelang, 53300 Kuala Lumpur, Wilayah Persekutuan and if so required by notice in writing from the said Liquidator, are by their Solicitors or personally to come in and prove their debts and claims at such time and place as shall be specified in such notice or in default thereof they shall be excluded from the benefit of any distribution made before such debts or claims are proven.

Dated this: 12th June 2020

Signed ..... Hor Yuen Foong Liquidator

**322 Notices**

**IN THE MATTER OF THE COMPANIES ACT, 2016 AND IN THE MATTER OF MEDIQAS SDN. BHD. (Company No: 97177-D) (IN MEMBERS' VOLUNTARY WINDING UP)**

**NOTICE OF FINAL MEETING**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT pursuant to Section 459(2) of the Companies Act, 2016, a Final Meeting of the members of the Company will be held at 55-A, Jalan Perang, Taman Pelangi, 80400 Johor Bahru, Johor on Monday, 13 July 2020 at 10.00 a.m. for the following purposes :-

1. To receive the Liquidator's account of receipts and payments and statements of distribution among the contributories and to hear any explanations that maybe given by the liquidator;
2. To resolve that under Section 518(3)(b) of the Companies Act 2016, the books, accounts and documents of the Company be destroyed after the expiration of three (3) months from the date of the final meeting.

**KAM CHAI HONG Liquidator**

Dated this 12 June 2020

A member entitled to attend and vote at the Meeting is entitled to appoint a proxy to attend and vote in his stead. A proxy need not be a member of the Company. The instrument appointing a proxy has to be deposited at the office of the Liquidator not less than forty-eight hours before the time for holding the Meeting.

**DALAM MAHKAMAH TINGGI MALAYA DI KUALA LUMPUR. GUAMAN NO. WA-A72NCvC-255-02/2020**

Dalam perkara di bawah Akta Syarikat, 2016

Dan

Dalam perkara di bawah Seksyen 465 (1) (e) dan Seksyen 466 (1) (a) Akta Syarikat, 2016

Dan

ANTARA

CREDIT GUARANTEE CORPORATION MALAYSIA BERHAD (No. Syarikat: 197201000831(12441-M) ...Pempetisyen

DAN

GREEN LEAF TECHNOLOGIES SDN BHD (No. Syarikat: 200001012949 (515555-K) (dahulunya dikenali sebagai FLYING SURPLUS SDN. BHD. ... Responden

NOTIS ADALAH DENGAN INI DIBERI bahawa suatu Petyisen untuk pengumuman Syarikat oleh Mahkamah Tinggi, telah pada 24/02/2020 dikemukakan oleh Credit Guarantee Corporation Malaysia Berhad (No Syarikat. 12441-M) beralamat di Level 14, Bangunan CGC, Kelana Business Centre, 97, Jalan SS 7/2, 47301 Petaling Jaya, Selangor Darul Ehsan sebuah syarikat yang diperbandarkan di dalam Malaysia.

DAN bahawa Petyisen tersebut diarahkan supaya dibicarakan di Mahkamah Tinggi di Kuala Lumpur, pada 19/08/2020 jam 9.00 pagi.

DAN mana pihak pemuitang atau penyumbang Syarikat tersebut yang berniat untuk menyokong atau menentang sesuatu perintah mengikut Petyisen tersebut boleh hadir dengan tujuan itu secara peribadi atau melalui peguambela pada masa bincangan dan sesalinan Petyisen tersebut akan dibekalkan oleh pihak yang bertanggungjawab di bawah ini kepada mana-mana pemuitang atau penyumbang Syarikat tersebut yang memintanya dengan membuat bayaran yang ditetapkan.

Alamat Pempetisyen adalah di Level 14, Bangunan CGC, Kelana Business Centre, 97, Jalan SS 7/2, 47301 Petaling Jaya, Selangor Darul Ehsan.

Peguamcara Pempetisyen ialah **Tetuan Wong-Chooi & Mohd. Nor** yang beralamat di No. 27, Tingkat 1, Lorong Maju Jaya, Pusat Perniagaan Maju Jaya, 14000 Bukit Mertajam, Pulau Pinang.

**t. Peguamcara Pempetisyen**

**PERINGATAN -** Sesiapa yang ingin hadir pada perbicaraan Petyisen tersebut hendaklah menyampaikan, atau menghantar dengan pos, kepada Tetuan Wong-Chooi & Mohd. Nor yang dinamakan di atas suatu notis bertulis tentang niatnya sebagai. Notis tersebut mestilah menyatakan nama dan alamat pihak berkenaan, atau jika ia sebuah firma, nama dan alamat firma, dan mestilah ditandatangani oleh pihak atau firma berkenaan atau peguamcaranya, jika ada. Notis hendaklah disampaikan, atau jika dihantar dengan pos, hendaklah dihantar dalam jangka masa mencukupi, supaya sampai kepada pihak yang dinamakan di atas sebelum jam 12.00 tengah hari pada 18/08/2020. [NO. RUJUKAN: WCMN (BM)/CGCMB/2019-689/GLT5B (YK/dv)]

## IN THE MATTER OF COMPANIES ACT, 2016 AND IN THE MATTER OF BENGJAYA SDN. BHD. (48750-X) (IN MEMBERS' VOLUNTARY LIQUIDATION)

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that pursuant to Section 459 of the Companies Act, 2016 a Final Meeting of the Members of the abovenamed Company will be held at 1A-3, Plaza Mayang, Jalan SS26/9, 47301 Petaling Jaya, Selangor Darul Ehsan on 13 July 2020 at 10.00 a.m. for the purpose of:

1. Having an account laid before the members, showing the manner in which the winding up has been conducted and of hearing any explanation that may be given by the Liquidator.
2. To resolve under Section 518(3)(b) of the Companies Act 2016, that the books, accounts and documents of the Company and of the Liquidator be destroyed after the expiration of three (3) months from the date of the final meeting.

Dated this 12 June 2020

**CHAI YAH KANG Liquidator**

## IN THE MATTER OF COMPANIES ACT 2016 AND IN THE MATTER OF NATURAL RENEWABLE ENERGY SDN. BHD. (In Members' Voluntary Winding Up) (Registration No. 197901002340 (46591-H))

**NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN** that the Final Meeting of the member of the abovenamed Company will be held at Level 6, Wisma Penang Garden, 42, Jalan Sultan Ahmad Shah, 10050 George Town, Penang on the 15th day of July, 2020 at 10.00 a.m. to consider, and if thought fit, to pass the following resolutions:-

**ORDINARY RESOLUTION -** To receive the accounts of the Liquidator showing the manner in which the winding up has been conducted to date and to dissolve the Company.

**SPECIAL RESOLUTION -** "RESOLVED that the books, accounts and documents of the Company and of the Liquidator, shall be kept for a period of three months from the 15th day of July, 2020 to the 15th day of October, 2020 and thereafter such books, accounts and documents be destroyed."

Dated this 12th day of June, 2020

**Eddy Chan Wai Hun Liquidator**

## IN THE MATTER OF THE COMPANIES ACT 2016 AND IN THE MATTER OF AA CEMPAKA SDN. BHD 19990101848 (493748-W) (IN MEMBERS' VOLUNTARY WINDING UP)

**NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN** pursuant to Section 439 of the Companies Act 2016 that the Special Resolution set out below was duly passed by the members of the Company at the Extraordinary General Meeting duly convened at 2nd Floor, Sym Guan Building, 2-B Jalan Greentown 3, Greentown Nova, 30450 Ipoh, Perak on 9 June 2020:-

"MEMBERS' VOLUNTARY WINDING UP: That the Company be wound up voluntarily pursuant to Section 439 of the Companies Act 2016 ("the Act") and that Mr. Francis Tan of No. 13, Jalan Chua Cheng Bok, 30250 Ipoh, Perak be and is hereby appointed Liquidator for the purpose of such winding up."

That the Liquidator be authorized to distribute either in cash, specie or in kind any surplus assets of the Company as he thinks fit to the contributory of the Company in accordance with his respective rights and interests therein."

Dated this 10th day of June, 2020

**DATO GOH WAN SING DIMP, PMP DIRECTOR**

## IN THE MATTER OF THE COMPANIES ACT 2016 AND IN THE MATTER OF AA CEMPAKA SDN. BHD 19990101848 (493748-W) (IN MEMBERS' VOLUNTARY WINDING UP)

**NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN** that the creditors of the abovenamed Company which is being wound up voluntarily are required on or before 12 July 2020 to send their names and addresses with particulars of their debts or claims (if any) to the undersigned, the Liquidator of the said Company; and if so required in writing from the said, are by their solicitors or personally to come in and prove their debts or claims at such time and place as shall be specified in such notice or in default thereof they will be excluded from the benefits of any distribution made before such debts are proven.

Dated this 10th day of June, 2020

**FRANCIS TAN, (LIQUIDATOR)** 13, JALAN CHUA CHENG BOK, 30250 IPOH, PERAK

**322 Notices**

**DALAM MAHKAMAH MAJISTRET DI KUALA LUMPUR. GUAMAN NO. WA-A72NCvC-341-01/2020**

ANTARA

**BAM VILLA MANAGEMENT CORPORATION (No. Daftar: PTG/WP20/911/96) ...PLAINTIF**

DAN

**ZURIANNA BINTI HUSLI (No. K/P: 740716-13-5212) ... DEFENDAN**

**NOTIS**

Kepada: - ZURIANNA BINTI HUSLI (No. K/P: 740716-13-5212)

**SILA AMBIL PERHATIAN** bahawa suatu tindakan telah dimulakan terhadap kamu di Mahkamah Majistret Kuala Lumpur, dalam Guaman No. WA-A72NCvC-341-01/2020 oleh Bam Villa Management Corporation ("Plaintiff") yang beralamat di Management Office, Bam Villa Condominium, Jalan Pria, Taman Maluri, 55100 Kuala Lumpur di mana Plaintiff menuntut terhadap kamu antara lain untuk membayar caj penyelenggaraan dan 'sinking fund' atas hartanah di alamat, Unit C-13-4, Bam Villa Condominium, Jalan Pria, Taman Maluri, 55100 Kuala Lumpur, faedah dan kos.

**DAN TELAH DIPERINTAHKAN** bahawa Writ Saman dan Pernyataan Tuntutan bertarikh 15.01.2020 dilaksanakan secara penyampaian ganti terhadap kamu dengan menghantar melalui pos berdaftar ke alamat terakhir kamu, menampalkan pada alamat terakhir kamu, menampalkan pada Papan Notis Mahkamah Majistret Kuala Lumpur dan mengiklankan sekali di suatu penerbitan akhbar 'The Sun' dan penyampaian Writ Saman dan Pernyataan Tuntutan sedemikian akan disifatkan sebagai penyerahan lengkap dan sempurna terhadap kamu dalam masa tujuh (7) hari selepas tarikh penampalan atau pengiklanan yang terakhir tersebut.

Jika kamu berhasrat untuk membela tindakan tersebut, kamu mestilah memasukkan kehadiran sama ada secara sendiri atau melalui peguamcara kamu. Jika kamu ingkar hadir sedemikian, penghakiman boleh diberikan terhadap kamu.

Bertarikh pada 11 haribulan Jun, 2020

.....t.t.....  
TETUAN A. BASKARAN & CO Peguamcara Plaintiff

**NOTIS** ini telah diisukan oleh Tetuan A. Baskaran & Co, peguamcara pihak Plaintiff yang beralamat di Unit 2-1, The Cube, Jalan 6/18A, Taman Mastiara, Jalan Ipoh, 51200 Kuala Lumpur. Ruj:ABC.1421/B.16.21/BAS/L/PMT/2019  
Tel: +603-6179 4711  
Fax: +603-6179 5711  
Email: abaskaranco@gmail.com

**DALAM MAHKAMAH MAJISTRET DI KUALA LUMPUR. GUAMAN NO. WA-A72NCvC-271-01/2020**

ANTARA

**BAM VILLA MANAGEMENT CORPORATION (No. Daftar: PTG/WP20/911/96) ...PLAINTIF**

DAN

**SAIFUL ANWAR BIN MORTAR (No. K/P: 561025-10-5897) ... DEFENDAN**

**NOTIS**

Kepada: - SAIFUL ANWAR BIN MORTAR (No. K/P: 561025-10-5897)

**SILA AMBIL PERHATIAN** bahawa suatu tindakan telah dimulakan terhadap kamu di Mahkamah Majistret Kuala Lumpur, dalam Guaman No. WA-A72NCvC-271-01/2020 oleh Bam Villa Management Corporation ("Plaintiff") yang beralamat di Management Office, Bam Villa Condominium, Jalan Pria, Taman Maluri, 55100 Kuala Lumpur di mana Plaintiff menuntut terhadap kamu antara lain untuk membayar caj penyelenggaraan dan 'sinking fund' atas hartanah di alamat, Unit A-06-6, Bam Villa Condominium, Jalan Pria, Taman Maluri, 55100 Kuala Lumpur, faedah dan kos.

**DAN TELAH DIPERINTAHKAN** bahawa Writ Saman dan Pernyataan Tuntutan bertarikh 15.01.2020 dilaksanakan secara penyampaian ganti terhadap kamu dengan menghantar melalui pos berdaftar ke alamat terakhir kamu, menampalkan pada alamat terakhir kamu, menampalkan pada Papan Notis Mahkamah Majistret Kuala Lumpur dan mengiklankan sekali di suatu penerbitan akhbar 'The Sun' dan penyampaian Writ Saman dan Pernyataan Tuntutan sedemikian akan disifatkan sebagai penyerahan lengkap dan sempurna terhadap kamu dalam masa tujuh (7) hari selepas tarikh penampalan atau pengiklanan yang terakhir tersebut.

Jika kamu berhasrat untuk membela tindakan tersebut, kamu mestilah memasukkan kehadiran sama ada secara sendiri atau melalui peguamcara kamu. Jika kamu ingkar hadir sedemikian, penghakiman boleh diberikan terhadap kamu.

Bertarikh pada 11 haribulan Jun, 2020

.....t.t.....  
TETUAN A. BASKARAN & CO Peguamcara Plaintiff

**NOTIS** ini telah diisukan oleh Tetuan A. Baskaran & Co, peguamcara pihak Plaintiff yang beralamat di Unit 2-1, The Cube, Jalan 6/18A, Taman Mastiara, Jalan Ipoh, 51200 Kuala Lumpur. Ruj:ABC.1402/B.16.2/BAS/L/PMT/2019  
Tel: +603-6179 4711  
Fax: +603-6179 5711  
Email: abaskaranco@gmail.com

**DALAM MAHKAMAH MAJISTRET DI KUALA LUMPUR. GUAMAN NO. WA-A72NCvC-273-01/2020**

ANTARA

**BAM VILLA MANAGEMENT CORPORATION (No. Daftar: PTG/WP20/911/96) ...PLAINTIF**

DAN

**PRIJATNA TJENDRA SENTONO (No. Pasport: B961154) ... DEFENDAN**

**NOTIS**

Kepada: - PRIJATNA TJENDRA SENTONO (No. Pasport: B961154)

**SILA AMBIL PERHATIAN** bahawa suatu tindakan telah dimulakan terhadap kamu di Mahkamah Majistret Kuala Lumpur, dalam Guaman No. WA-A72NCvC-273-01/2020 oleh Bam Villa Management Corporation ("Plaintiff") yang beralamat di Management Office, Bam Villa Condominium, Jalan Pria, Taman Maluri, 55100 Kuala Lumpur di mana Plaintiff menuntut terhadap kamu antara lain untuk membayar caj penyelenggaraan dan 'sinking fund' atas hartanah di alamat, Unit A-19-2, Bam Villa Condominium, Jalan Pria, Taman Maluri, 55100 Kuala Lumpur, faedah dan kos.

**DAN TELAH DIPERINTAHKAN** bahawa Writ Saman dan Pernyataan Tuntutan bertarikh 15.01.2020 dilaksanakan secara penyampaian ganti terhadap kamu dengan menghantar melalui pos berdaftar ke alamat terakhir kamu, menampalkan pada alamat terakhir kamu, menampalkan pada Papan Notis Mahkamah Majistret Kuala Lumpur dan mengiklankan sekali di suatu penerbitan akhbar 'The Sun' dan penyampaian Writ Saman dan Pernyataan Tuntutan sedemikian akan disifatkan sebagai penyerahan lengkap dan sempurna terhadap kamu dalam masa tujuh (7) hari selepas tarikh penampalan atau pengiklanan yang terakhir tersebut.

Jika kamu berhasrat untuk membela tindakan tersebut, kamu mestilah memasukkan kehadiran sama ada secara sendiri atau melalui peguamcara kamu. Jika kamu ingkar hadir sedemikian, penghakiman boleh diberikan terhadap kamu.

Bertarikh pada 11 haribulan Jun, 2020

.....t.t.....  
TETUAN A. BASKARAN & CO Peguamcara Plaintiff

**NOTIS** ini telah diisukan oleh Tetuan A. Baskaran & Co, peguamcara pihak Plaintiff yang beralamat di Unit 2-1, The Cube, Jalan 6/18A, Taman Mastiara, Jalan Ipoh, 51200 Kuala Lumpur. Ruj:ABC.1407/B.16.7/BAS/L/PMT/2019  
Tel: +603-61794711  
Fax: +603-6179 5711  
Email: abaskaranco@gmail.com

**DALAM MAHKAMAH MAJISTRET DI KUALA LUMPUR. GUAMAN NO. WA-A72NCvC-323-01/2020**

ANTARA

**BAM VILLA MANAGEMENT CORPORATION (No. Daftar: PTG/WP20/911/96) ...PLAINTIF**

DAN

**WAN TAM HONG (No. K/P: 540515-71-5126) ...DEFENDAN**

**NOTIS**

Kepada: - WAN TAM HONG (No. K/P: 540515-71-5126)

**SILA AMBIL PERHATIAN** bahawa suatu tindakan telah dimulakan terhadap kamu di Mahkamah Majistret Kuala Lumpur, dalam Guaman No. WA-A72NCvC-323-01/2020 oleh Bam Villa Management Corporation ("Plaintiff") yang beralamat di Management Office, Bam Villa Condominium, Jalan Pria, Taman Maluri, 55100 Kuala Lumpur di mana Plaintiff menuntut terhadap kamu antara lain untuk membayar caj penyelenggaraan dan 'sinking fund' atas hartanah di alamat, Unit C-06-3, Bam Villa Condominium, Jalan Pria, Taman Maluri, 55100 Kuala Lumpur, faedah dan kos.

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Bertarikh pada 11 haribulan Jun, 2020

.....t.t.....  
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**322 Notices**

**DALAM MAHKAMAH TINGGI MALAYA DI KUALA LUMPUR. GUAMAN NO. WA-A72NCvC-273-01/2020**

ANTARA

**BAM VILLA MANAGEMENT CORPORATION (No. Daftar: PTG/WP20/911/96) ...PLAINTIF**

DAN

**WAN TAM HONG (No. K/P: 540515-71-5126) ...DEFENDAN**

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# Let the show begin

*Italian football emerges from virus crisis with cup semis in balance*

**T**HIS week's Italian Cup semifinal, second leg matches were set to bring football back to a nation emerging from the coronavirus crisis, but with just a day until the scheduled kickoff, the two matches are still awaiting government approval.

Juventus' home clash with AC Milan tomorrow (3am Malaysian time) was supposed to be the first competitive match played in Italy since the country became Europe's Covid-19 epicentre, and the start of what the football authorities hope will be a return to normality.

Although the virus still persists, Italy began to gradually emerge from a stringent lockdown last month and has been slowly moving back towards regular life since, with the return of football pitched as the latest sign that the worst should be over.

Public broadcaster RAI has already announced its coverage of the two last four encounters, with Napoli vs Inter Milan scheduled for Sunday (3am).

However, while Health Minister Roberto Speranza on Wednesday confirmed the dates for the semis and the June 17 final in Rome, he only said that the government was "leaning towards

authorising" the last three matches of the competition.

Speranza's comments come just as it appeared that weeks of squabbling between Italy's football authorities and the government had been left behind, with what will likely be a large, sport-starved TV audience ready for the two matches behind closed doors.

Should, as expected, tomorrow's match take place fans will see a tie delicately poised at 1-1 following February's entertaining first leg at the San Siro, which saw the Rossoneri leading until Cristiano Ronaldo scored a stoppage time penalty to take a draw and an away goal back to Turin.

Milan will be helped by Wednesday's ruling which eliminates extra-time in the event of deadlock after 90 minutes for both last-four second legs and next week's final.

The cup is more of a priority for fallen giants Milan, whose last major honour came nine years ago, than for Juventus, who later this month resume a tight Serie A title tussle with Lazio.

However Juve coach Maurizio Sarri told Sky yesterday that Juve were "lucky" to have the cup, Serie A and Champions League seasons played at

separate intervals as they chase European glory to go with their domestic dominance.

"We can focus on our targets one at a time, and this could be an advantage for us," he said.

"But we'll only know once we're out on the pitch because this is a very odd situation. After such a long break we've not even been able to play proper matches in training."

Sarri is reportedly wary of risking players who are not 100% fit, and will leave out Gonzalo Higuain for his starting line-up.

However with Ronaldo, Paulo Dybala and Douglas Costa likely to start, goals should not be a problem.

Whoever comes out on top will face either Antonio Conte's Inter Milan or Napoli, who hold a 1-0 lead ahead of Sunday's second leg in Naples.

The cup is Napoli's best chance of European football next season following a tumultuous campaign that has featured dressing room disputes and the sacking of Carlo Ancelotti.

Inter are off the pace in the title race and in search of their first trophy since winning the cup in 2011. – AFP

## Title in sight for fatigued Bayern

**BAYERN MUNICH** can clinch an eighth straight Bundesliga title this week with victory against Borussia Moenchengladbach (Sunday 12.30am Malaysian time), as long as they get some help from Fortuna Dusseldorf.

Bayern are seven points clear at the top and would be assured of the trophy with three games to spare if they win and third-last Dusseldorf beat second-ranked Borussia Dortmund.

The match in Dusseldorf will end an hour before Munich start theirs, and a Dortmund defeat could make them forget some fatigue they showed in mid-week and motivate

them even more in their empty stadium.

However, Bayern will be without top marksman Robert Lewandowski and Thomas Muller who are both suspended after picking up a fifth yellow card in last week's 4-2 at Bayer Leverkusen.

"It is a little annoying but we have to accept it," Munich coach Hansi Flick said.

"We will see two other players against Moenchengladbach and that is also good."

Both showed their importance in yesterday's 2-1 over Eintracht Frankfurt for a place in the cup final, with Muller setting up Ivan Perisic's first and

Lewandowski scoring the winner.

But the game also revealed that fatigue is a factor in the hectic schedule after the coronavirus-related two-month break, with Muller naming the second half "unusually sloppy" after they wasted a host of chances before the break.

Flick however remained upbeat as Bayern got a 12th straight victory in all competitions and stretched their unbeaten run to 21 games, still on course towards a title treble.

"We're on a great run, the players are doing

a very, very good job, so we can accept

the second half," he said.

Gladbach are the last team to beat Bayern this season, 2-1 on Dec 7, before Munich won 20 of the next 21 games and drew the other. Gladbach also won their last match in Munich 3-0 in the past season.

"These results should give us courage. We have shown that we can annoy Bayern," Gladbach vice-president Rainer Bonhof told *Kicker* sports magazine.

"But in order to get a result in Munich we will need to be at 100%, and a little more."

– dpa



### GERMAN CUP SEMIFINALS

**Bayern Munich 2** (Perisic 14, Lewandowski 74) **Eintracht Frankfurt 1** (de Costa 69)  
**Bayern to face Leverkusen in the final on July 4.**

Eintracht Frankfurt's Martin Hinteregger (2nd left) scuffles with Bayern Munich's Lucas Hernandez during the German DFB Cup semifinal in Munich. – EPAPIX

## Hamilton happy with form after Silverstone drive

**SIX-TIMES** world champion Lewis Hamilton said it was good to know he could still drive after returning to the track in a Formula One car for the first time in more than 100 days at Silverstone yesterday.

A day after his teammate Valtteri Bottas returned to action in dry conditions, Hamilton put his title-winning 2018 Mercedes W09 car through its paces on a greasy track after early showers.

The team is practising protocols for the Austrian Grand Prix on July 5, which will serve as the season opener.

"I didn't feel like I've ever left the water, so

that's a positive," Hamilton said in a video posted on Mercedes' social media channels.

"I think every time you take a big break – I think it's been 103 days or something – you always wonder whether you can still drive."

"So it's a good feeling to know of course I can, I'm ready, I feel fit. I hope you guys are all well and excited for what's coming up."

Formula One has released an initial calendar of eight races in 10 weeks, all of which will be held without fans present and in controlled conditions due to the coronavirus outbreak.

Hamilton said he was happy to be behind the

wheel again.

"When you leave the garage the first time you get this buzz, and it doesn't matter how many years you do it, it always feels new and fresh," Hamilton said.

"Obviously this is an older car but it still felt fantastic. In general we got through a solid programme today."

"Valtteri's day was dry, my day started off wet, so quite a greasy Silverstone track. But obviously I grew up in this kind of weather, so I'm used to it. I was still able to get a good feel of the car." – Reuters

### SIDENETTING

#### Collins slams Joker's US Open concerns

**AMERICAN** tennis player Danielle Collins has hit out at men's world No. 1 Novak Djokovic for his opposition to the Covid-19 protocols proposed by the US Open organisers, saying players need to start earning money again. The hardcourt major is scheduled to begin on Aug 31 and Djokovic has said that it would be "impossible" to play under the protocols, which would restrict players to their hotels with only one support staff. "This is a serious contradiction," Collins, who made the semifinals of the 2019 Australian Open, wrote on Instagram. "No one has been able to play since February. This is a massive opportunity for players to start making money again, and here we have the top player saying only being able to bring one person with (him) will be too difficult. It's easy when someone's made US\$150m (RM645m) to turn down playing in the US Open," she said.

#### ... as Kyrgios takes swipe at ATP

**NICK KYRGIOS** slammed the ATP as "selfish" yesterday for pressing ahead with plans for the US Open despite the country dealing with a coronavirus pandemic and widespread anti-racism protests. The temperamental Australian suggested it was too early for the Flushing Meadow Grand Slam, joining other players in expressing reservations, including world No. 1 Novak Djokovic. "The ATP is trying to make the US Open go ahead. Selfish with everything going on at the moment," Kyrgios said on *Twitter*. "Obviously Covid, but also with the riots. Together we need to overcome these challenges before tennis returns in my opinion."

#### Koepka gunning for No. 1 spot

**BROOKS KOEPA** said he feels "like a new person" after using the PGA Tour's three-month break to get his left knee healthy and he now has his sights set on taking the world No. 1 spot back from Rory McIlroy. The 30-year-old American struggled in the first five events he played this year before the coronavirus pandemic forced the tour to suspend its season. "I got lucky. It was definitely beneficial for me," Koepka told reporters on the eve of the first round of the Charles Schwab Challenge at Colonial Country Club. "I was able to kind of reassess where I was at and get the knee stronger," he said of the injury, which forced him to withdraw from last year's Presidents Cup. "The knee is back. It's a lot better... I'm excited to see what happens here... I've got eyes on Rory," Koepka said. "The goal is to get back to No. 1 in the world. The whole point of playing is to be the best," said the four-times major champion.

#### Bottas shrugs off Vettel Mercedes link

**VALTTERI BOTTAS** said yesterday he thinks it is "funny" that four-time world champion Sebastian Vettel has been rumoured to take his seat at Mercedes in 2021. The Finnish driver, who like six-time world champion Lewis Hamilton is out of contract with Mercedes at the end of this year, has got used to seeing his seat in peril. "It's the same as every year for me," Bottas told *Sky Sports*. "I find it quite funny that with not even a single race done, there's been people getting my seat. It made me laugh! Things will then sort themselves one way or another, whatever's going to happen. I've no stress about that at all. We've been very honest about what the situation is all the time about contracts, and I got a pretty straight message that no, they're not considering Seb. So I said fine, no worries then."



# Magpies will not splash the cash

■ TONY EVANS

*Confidence grows over Newcastle takeover but club not planning spending spree*

**N**EWCASTLE UNITED fans eagerly awaiting Premier League ratification of the £300 million (RM1.6b) proposed takeover by the Amanda Staveley-led and Saudi-backed consortium have been cautioned not to expect a spending spree if and when the deal is eventually given the green light.

Staveley and her partners are waiting for the result of the Premier League's owners and directors' test.

They are confident that the ruling body will not block the takeover and believe the holdup is down to timing more than questions about the suitability of Saudi Arabia's Public

Investment Fund (PIF) buying into the top flight of the English game.

Project Restart has taken most of the Premier League's energy and attention during the Coronavirus crisis and, although frustrated by the holdup, Staveley's group – which also includes the Reuben brothers, the London-based billionaires – believes they will receive approval to take the reins from Mike Ashley in the next few weeks.

The Saudi involvement has generated excitement among supporters because of the desert kingdom's immense wealth. However, a person close to the consortium yesterday downplayed

the idea that St James' Park could soon be awash with oil money.

"Newcastle is not about to become the richest club in the world," the source said.

"Newcastle will have very rich owners but that does not mean massive spending."

Those involved are keen to play down the expectations of fans. Comparisons with Chelsea and Manchester City – two clubs who were transformed by massively wealthy owners – are misleading.

"Even if the environment was the same as when Roman Abramovich bought Chelsea in 2003 or Abu Dhabi went into City five years later, things

would still be done differently.

"This takeover is based on strict investment criteria. Even if there were no financial fair play (FFP) rules in place spending would be sensible."

Opponents to Saudi involvement in Newcastle include Amnesty International, which claims the Premier League will be "a willing dupe of those trying to sportswash their abysmal human rights record" if the owners and directors' test is positive.

It is unlikely the PIF's participation will be blocked on moral grounds.

There are also serious questions about the role of the Saudi government in the hijacking of *beIn*

*Sports'* transmissions in the Middle East. *BeIn*, a Premier League rights holder, alleges that *beoutQ*, which pirates the Qatari-based broadcaster's content, is facilitated by Riyadh.

Newcastle and the Premier League have unwittingly been sucked into politics with PIF involvement.

The majority of Newcastle supporters just want Ashley out but the Saudis may not be the big-spending saviours that some imagine.

The era of cautious spending is likely to continue on Tyneside, whoever controls the boardroom. – The Independent

## UEFA in talks to complete CL

UEFA are set to hold crunch talks in an attempt to finalise how this season's Champions League and Europa League competitions will be completed.

Both European tournaments have been suspended since March due to the coronavirus crisis but it is hoped they can resume once domestic campaigns have been concluded.

Chelsea are on the verge of exiting at the last-16 stage, having been beaten 3-0 by Bayern Munich in the first leg of their tie.

However, Frank Lampard will not have given up hope of overturning the deficit – particularly in light of Liverpool's miraculous comeback against Barcelona last year.

The Blues have it all to do in order to get back on terms with the Bundesliga giants, but still have a keen interest in UEFA's impending decision on how to complete this year's competition.

UEFA confirmed yesterday that its executive committee will hold a video conference on June 17 to discuss how best to proceed.

Items on the agenda include "round-of-16 onwards and related determinations" for both the Champions League and the Europa League.

Chelsea's tie with Bayern Munich is not the only clash that was interrupted half-way through, with Manchester City holding a 2-1 lead over Real Madrid from their clash at the Bernabeu.

Barcelona and Napoli are currently tied at 1-1 and Lyon hold a 1-0 advantage over Juventus while RB Leipzig, Atalanta, Paris Saint-Germain and Atletico Madrid have already booked their spots in the quarterfinals. – Express Newspapers

### TOUCHLINES

**BORUSSIA DORTMUND** will demand £115m (RM615m) for 20-year-old England winger Jadon Sancho.

**CRYSTAL PALACE'S Ivory Coast forward Wilfried Zaha, 27 is attracting interest from Paris St-Germain.**

**CHELSEA** face competition from Real Madrid to sign Bayer Leverkusen and Germany midfielder Kai Havertz, 21.

**MEANWHILE, the Blues are preparing a bid for Flamengo's Brazilian midfielder Gerson, 23, in a deal that would also benefit his former club Roma.**

**BARCELONA** and Brazil midfielder Philippe Coutinho – currently on loan at Bayern Munich – is likely to move to the Premier League. Tottenham and Everton are interested in the 27-year-old while his representatives have also been in touch with Newcastle.

## Kop boss Klopp tipped to leave Reds for Bayern

**JURGEN KLOPP** could have his head turned by Bayern Munich, says former Reds star Steve McManaman.

Liverpool are a staggering 25 points clear of Manchester City in the Premier League table and with football resuming next week, the Reds look set to bag their first title since 1990.

Klopp has been

in the Anfield hot seat since 2015 and is a hugely popular figure on Merseyside. Nevertheless, McManaman has warned that the German chief might eventually be tempted to return to his homeland.

McManaman believes that could see fresh challenges explored at some stage, although a switch to Spain on either side of a fierce *Clasico* divide is not expected to tempt Klopp

away from his current post.

"I think he really adores Liverpool and the Premier League," he exclusively told *Daily Star Sport*.

"But you could see him going back to Germany and managing Bayern Munich.

"The way that club is run – and the way German managers are treated there – you wouldn't rule it out.

"A few years ago it looked like Bayern were on their last legs but now, along with the more experienced players, they've got a plethora of youngsters who are hungry.

"I'm not sure Klopp has any desire to manage Real Madrid or Barcelona and I don't see why he'd go to La Liga though.

"They don't have the aura that they did when Lionel Messi and Cristiano Ronaldo were doing battle every week.

"There is also all the politics behind the scenes at Barca with the board and players.

"Real is a different scenario. They need to refresh their squad and they are bringing

in young players like Vinicius Junior – but they aren't ready yet."

Klopp has offered no indication that he will cut short the long-term contract extension he agreed in Dec 2019, but managers of his ilk will forever be in demand and high standards will need to be maintained at Liverpool in order for him to stay put. – Daily Star

## Messi, Suarez pressuring Barca to seal Neymar deal

**LIONEL MESSI** and Luis Suarez have been putting pressure on Barcelona chiefs to make another run at signing Neymar in the upcoming summer transfer window.

That's according to transfer expert Duncan Castles, who believes Barca's top stars want the Paris Saint-Germain megastar to return once the window opens.

Neymar has reportedly told his PSG teammates that he wants a return to Barcelona. And now, his old strike partners from the Nou Camp have played their part in the Brazilian's future.

According to Castles, Messi and Suarez have both been pushing Barca chiefs to pull the trigger on a bid.

PSG have told Barca it will take a bid of at least £155 million (RM829m) in cash in order for them to part ways with their record signing.

The La Liga leaders were desperate to sign him last summer, but failed to agree terms with PSG.

Barca wanted to exchange players for Neymar in order to keep the price tag down, but the Parisiens had no interest and wanted the cash up front.

Ahead of the upcoming window, Barca will again want to spend less on transfers and will offer up players in return.

But according to Castles, there is pressure on Barca chiefs from inside the dressing room to stump up the money to bring back the 27-year-old.

Speaking on the *Transfer Window Podcast*, Castles explained that both Messi and Suarez want him back, as they did last summer.

"There's pressure on them to sign Neymar internally," he said.

In the camp, Lionel Messi and Luis Suarez would like to see him come back. They pushed for that move last summer."

According to Spanish football journalist Guillem Balague, Neymar had a deal with Barcelona last summer which ensured his return to the Nou Camp, and he will push for a move again this summer.

Balague said: "PSG are not opening the doors to Neymar.

"Neymar had a deal with Barcelona last season because Barcelona didn't do enough to get him but they said we will try this summer, 2020.

"Neymar would like Barcelona to do that, to actually go for him.

"Very, very – I'm not saying impossible because in football there are many surprises – but very unlikely." – Express Newspapers



Suarez (left), Neymar, and Messi





**We can focus on our targets one at a time, and this could be an advantage for us. But we'll only know once we're out on the pitch because this is a very odd situation. After such a long break we've not even been able to play proper matches in training."**

*Juventus manager Maurizio Sarri*

A lady wearing a protective face mask walks past Juventus shirts in a shop window ahead of the Coppa Italia semifinal 2nd leg match tomorrow between Juventus v AC Milan at the Allianz Stadium in Turin, Italy. – REUTERSPIX

➡ **More on page 22**



## EPL kickoff hamstrung by injury fears

**THE** Premier League will return after a 100-day stoppage on June 17, cramming the remaining 92 games of the season into just five-and-a-half weeks.

A deluge of football may be welcomed by fans starved of live action for three months.

But it is expected to take a heavy toll on players hit by the combination of a long layoff, little contact training, fixture congestion and less hands-on treatment.

"We are expecting more injuries at this time," Newcastle club doctor Paul Catterton told the BBC.

"We have had players asking if they can have ice baths after training and they can't at the moment – all we can do is give them ice to take home. It's like going back 15 years."

The injury risk is of particular concern for those players who are out of contract at the end of the season and fearing for their future.

Championship side Charlton will be without top scorer Lyle Taylor for their battle against relegation as the 30-year-old has decided not to play and put a lucrative move at risk.

"It makes me think what would happen if I had an injury now that threatened the rest of my career," Taylor told Sky. "I'll be honest with you, it scared the life out of me."

Olivier Giroud was also out of contract at the end of the campaign when coronavirus hit, but has been handed an extra year on his deal at Chelsea.

But at 33, the French World Cup winner is feeling the effects of pre-season-style training without the help of physios to aid his recovery.

"I'll admit that if I could have more care and treatment to look after my body, it would be better," he said.

To help lighten the load on players, the Premier League has not only adopted a temporary change to allow five substitutes per side, but also increased the size of a matchday squad from 18 to 20.

However, the lesson from Germany's Bundesliga, which returned on May 16, is that an increase in injuries is almost inevitable.

Conditioning expert Raymond Verheijen, who served as part of Guus Hiddink's coaching staff and has worked with Barcelona, Chelsea and Manchester City in the past, described the return as

"Russian roulette with the health of players at stake."

"I am convinced the players sense the danger, but they are in a difficult and dependent position," Verheijen told the *Mirror*. – AFP



Verheijen

# What if?

■ MARK CRITCHLEY

**I**T IS only a few days now until the Premier League returns, with Aston Villa hosting Sheffield United at Villa Park before Manchester City play Arsenal at the Etihad.

A three-month wait for the return of top-flight English football will have ended and the game's most lucrative domestic League will be settling into its new normal.

But with just five days to go, one of the biggest questions that has faced Project Restart from the outset remains unanswered.

What if the season has to stop again? What if it still cannot be completed? What will happen with promotion, relegation and European qualification then?

At present, that is unclear. And though the subject will be discussed when Premier League stakeholders meet again tomorrow, given the divergent interests involved, do not expect any definitive answer soon.

It appears more and more likely that next week's restart will go ahead without an agreed plan on curtailment in place.

Instead, clubs appear happy to address the issue in full at a later stage and even then, only if a second lengthy stoppage appears inevitable.

On face value, this would appear to run contrary to the very guidelines that have allowed top-flight football to return.

The Department for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport last month gave elite sport a green light to be played behind closed doors, subject to a

number of minimum requirements.

One of those is an "agreed procedure" on how to "to modify, restrict, postpone or cancel" the competition if necessary.

The DCMS, however, is understood to be relaxed about the Premier League's stance and satisfied with their plan to hold an emergency meeting on the prospect of curtailment if the season stops again.

The Premier League's position is a gamble but it is also a testament to the success of Project Restart thus far.

The project is yet to hit one of its many potential roadblocks. The 6,000-odd individual Covid-19 tests on players and staff members that have been carried out to date have only returned 14 positive results after the Premier League confirmed that one person recorded a positive result for Covid-19 in the latest round of testing.

Doubters are now believers. N'Golo Kante had previously stayed away from Chelsea's training ground due to concerns about becoming infected but returned to Cobham on Tuesday.

Troy Deeney, the Watford captain and one of the most public sceptics of Project Restart, has had his fears allayed after talks with deputy chief medical officer Jonathan Van Tam.

The Premier League's reward for that success is an ability to restart with confidence of finishing, put all hypotheticals to one side and avoid any unnecessary arguments.

But the obvious risk is that the R number rises, lockdown is tightened and the top flight once again finds itself on indefinite hiatus, with even

*Project Restart's biggest question, the prospect of curtailment, remains unanswered*

less time on their hands to settle the standings.

Even in that scenario, they could get lucky. If a second postponement only came late in July, it may be that European qualification and the particularly thorny issue of relegation have already been settled.

The Championship's automatic promotion places may be decided too. Liverpool, surely, will have at least won their first League title in 30 years by then.

Yet when nine points separate 4th and 11th and only four between 15th and 19th, it is hard to imagine everything will soon be neatly wrapped up.

The margins are close enough for any method of deciding the final standings to be contentious. Meanwhile, which clubs favour which methods will change with the League table over the coming weeks.

And even if 2019-20 can be completed and clubs avoid agreeing on curtailment, a time will come to discuss next season. That too is at risk, especially if there is a second wave of the virus in the autumn or winter.

Postponing 2019-20 and the European Championships has already left precious little room for manoeuvre in 2020-21's calendar.

For now, the Premier League, its clubs and its stakeholders can only hope that Project Restart continues to go to plan between now and the end of July.

The alternative remains almost too messy, too complicated and too acrimonious to consider. – The Independent