

STAR METRO INFO BASE

GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENT

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BANK NEGARA	03-2698 8044
CUSTOMS	03-7806 7200
FIRE & RESCUE	03-8892 7600
IMMIGRATION	03-8880 1000
INCOME TAX	1-800-88-5436
JABATAN ALAM SEKITAR	03-8889 1972
JAKIM	03-8886 4000
JPA	03-8000 8000
JPN (KL)	03-6201 1106
JPN (PJ)	03-7956 2634
JPJ (KL)	03-4145 0800
JPJ (SELANGOR)	03-5566 9595
JKR (PETALING)	03-78392400
JKR (FT)	03-92875436
KLSE - BURSA M'SIA	03-2026 5099
MANPOWER DEPT - JTR	03-8886 5555
METEOROLOGY	03-7967 8000
MIDA	03-2267 3633
MIMOS	03-8995 5000
POS MALAYSIA	1-300-300-300
REG OF BUSINESS	03-4043 0811
REG OF COMPANIES	03-2299 4400
ROYAL CUSTOMS	03-8776 6575
SIRIM	03-5544 6000
SOCSCO	03-4264 5000

EPP

HEAD OFFICE	03-2694 6566
CALL CENTRE	03-8922 6000
CHERAS	03-9200 3304
GOMBAK	03-6185 0780
KAJANG	03-8737 5223
KEPONG	03-6258 9521
KLANG	03-3325 1626
PETALING JAYA	03-8922 6000
PUDU	03-2078 6788
WANGSA MAJU	03-4149 9499
SHAH ALAM	03-8922 6000

HOSPITALS

TUN HUSSEIN ONN NATIONAL EYE HOSPITAL	03-7718 1488
UM MEDICAL CENTRE	03-7949 4422
SERDANG HOSPITAL	03-8947 5555
PUTRAJAYA HOSPITAL	03-8312 4200
TENGGU AMPUAN RAHIMAH HOSPITAL	03-3375 7000
INSTITUT JANTUNG	03-2617 8200
SHAH ALAM HOSPITAL	03-5526 3000
GHKL	03-2615 6391
SELAYANG HOSPITAL	03-6126 3333

RADIO/TAXI SERVICE

PUBLIC CAB	03-6259 2020
COMFORT	03-8024 0507
KITEKSI	017-2733372
RADIO TAXI	03-9221 7600
SAUJANA	03-2162 8888
SUPERCAB	1-300-888-294
SUNLIGHT	03-9057 5757
CITYLINE	03-9222 2828
TELETAXI	03-9131 0800
WIRA CAB	03 2144 3630

POLICE STATIONS

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BUKIT AMAN HQ	03-2266 2222
DAMANSARA UTAMA	03-7722 2222
SEA PARK	03-7874 2222
SELANGOR POLICE HQ	03-5514 5222
SHAH ALAM	03-5520 2222
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KOTA DAMANSARA	03-6142 2222
TAMAN TUN DR ISMAIL	03-7728 6222
SG WAY	03-7875 2222
AMPANG	03-4289 7419
BRICKFIELDS	03-9051 6222
CHERAS	03-9284 2222
DANG WANGI	03-2070 2222



The Medan Pasar area is a hive of activity during WUF9. — Photos: CHAN TAK KONG/The Star

By **BAVANI M**
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A PAIR of basic micro-housing units with a couple of garden swings, wooden benches, man-made ponds with plants and enhanced with miniature fountains, exuded a feeling of tranquillity. The whole set-up is the centre of attraction currently in downtown Kuala Lumpur.

Some of the motorists passing through the busy Jalan Lebuhraya Pasar Besar even slowed down to take a look at the new addition to the Medan Pasar area, which seemed to have been built overnight.

People who were working in the vicinity paused their daily routines to take a closer look at the scene coming to life before them, and before long the benches and swings were occupied by the visitors!

An elderly man found an empty wooden bench to seek respite and started reading the newspapers he was holding, oblivious to the goings-on around him.

More people started milling about the area and the place soon transformed into a hive of activity, with people touching the plants, playing with water and chattering happily.

Urban regeneration with a twist

Modern villages may be part of Kuala Lumpur's future cityscape

"This is incredibly refreshing," said Jane March, an American tourist who was among the crowd intrigued by the unusual sight.

"I like the sound of water, it is very soothing," said T. Thevan.

"It is nice to have a place right in the heart of downtown where we can relax," the bank employee added.

Friends, Sharifah Ahmad and Siti Zubaidah could not help but try out the swings.

"It reminds me of my kampung in Kuala Selangor," said Zubaidah.

"It is so rare to find swings like this in the heart of Kuala Lumpur," Sharifah chimed in.

Welcome to a prototype of communal living of the future.

The two micro-houses on display,

built on a space of two parking bays, are equipped with kitchen and toilets to reflect a future urban village.

This model communal living is the collaborative effort of Urbanise Malaysia, Think City and Kuala Lumpur City Hall (DBKL).

It is part of the programme in conjunction with the 9th World Urban Forum (WUF9) that is happening in Kuala Lumpur from Feb 7 to 13. Urbanise Malaysia is the organiser for the WUF9.

Dubbed the World Urban Forum Village, the idea behind the concept is the possibility of rejuvenating old areas in the city to look like this one as a potential spot brimming with life.

Kuala Lumpur mayor Tan Sri

Mohd Amin Nordin Abd Aziz, who launched the WUF9 Village, said WUF9 village was a good example of how old areas in the city could be regenerated and made vibrant.

He said re-purposing older commercial buildings for temporary residential use and the introduction of communal living was the way of the future.

"In Kuala Lumpur there are so many areas which have become dilapidated and turned into a slum. But as shown with this experiment model here, we can rejuvenate such areas to make them vibrant again by adding plants, water features and even sculptures," he pointed out.

"There are many potential areas in this city that can be upgraded



Inside a prototype of the micro house.



The elevated micro housing unit has been drawing the crowd in the Medan Pasar area.