

KDEB takes over waste disposal in Shah Alam

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THE handover of 56 rubbish compactors and one "arm roll truck" to a sub-contractor in Shah Alam marks a new beginning for waste solution in Selangor.

State-owned Kumpulan Darul Ehsan Bhd (KDEB) established Waste Management Sdn Bhd to streamline solid waste collection and public cleansing services at all municipalities in Selangor. Shah Alam is the last to be included in its jurisdiction.

State local government, public transport and new village development committee chairman Ng Sze Han, who witnessed the handover, said solid waste management was no easy job but he was confident that KDEB and its sub-contractors were up to the task.

"KDEB will be managing more solid waste from now on. Currently, KDEB manages 5,200 tonnes of solid waste daily on average.

"With the addition of Shah Alam, it may reach 6,000 tonnes per day.

"We anticipate the amount to go up to about 7,000 tonnes a day in the near future.

"But KDEB's smart waste solution has proven to be most effective for Selangor," he said.

KDEB's compactor garbage trucks are fully equipped with



Ng (third from left), Rashidi (second from left) and KDEB board members launching the garbage compactors in Shah Alam. — MUHAMAD SHAHRIL ROSLI

GPS trackers, rear cameras and closed-circuit television cameras for easy tracking of truck movement, safety and for better waste collection planning.

Arm roll trucks are meant for public cleansing activities and bulk waste collection. These trucks are also equipped with GPS trackers and rear cameras. Automatic Grease Lubricant

System is installed in both types of trucks for auto maintenance of the vehicles.

"The existing trucks are old, they constantly break down and can barely pass through narrow roads.

"I hope these new trucks that are equipped with modern technologies, will address the problems.

"I also believe KDEB and Shah Alam City Council (MBSA) will be able to resolve and reduce complaints regarding rubbish as well as maintain cleanliness in the city," said Ng.

He said the issue of illegal dumping presented a challenge for effective waste management efforts.

"I would like to urge all parties

“ We anticipate the amount of rubbish to go up to about 7,000 tonnes a day in the near future.

Ng Sze Han

to work collectively to curb such irresponsible act.

"Frequent monitoring and enforcement by all relevant agencies are extremely important in this regard," he added.

KDEB will officially take over solid waste management from MBSA starting tomorrow while the takeover of public cleansing services is slated for July 1.

KDEB managing director Ramli Mohd Tahir said the company currently owned 500 refuse compactor garbage trucks and 500 arm roll trucks being used throughout Selangor.

Also present were Shah Alam deputy mayor Mohd Rashidi Ruslan and KDEB chairman Raja Shahreen Raja Othman.

KDEB is a wholly-owned subsidiary of Selangor Menteri Besar Incorporated (MBI), under the Selangor government. It started its pilot project for waste collection in Klang in July 2016.



Council workers cleaning up thousands of dead fish caught in a rubbish trap downstream of Sungai Kayu Ara.



Section 14 residents are sad to see their neighbourhood supermarket, Cold Storage, closing down.



Children from Petaling Jaya being trained to become the voice for their peers in the city when they are appointed as child councillors.

In the following weeks, large rocks that were blocking the flow of Sungai Kayu Ara were broken up to reduce the risk of flood recurring in Kampung Cempaka.

Bandar Utama assemblyman Jamaliah Jamaluddin said the river clean-up was still ongoing, adding that the work was expected to finish this month.

Jamaliah said the soil composition of the river was sand based, so the river could not be dug deeper for fear of triggering the collapse of its retention walls.

POLLUTION

Residents in Ara Damansara are at their wits' end over the dumping of waste in Sungai Kayu Ara, a problem that has plagued them for more than a decade without any lasting solution to-date.

They said they were puzzled by the lack of action from the authorities to stop the illegal activity, which was exacerbated by the open burning of rubbish in recent years.

They are appealing to the authorities to come up with a permanent solution to the long-standing environmental problems.

Weeks later, wastewater dis-



The site where culprits carry out open burning near Ara Damansara, Petaling Jaya.

charged from sewage treatment plants was believed to be the reason thousands of fish found dead in Sungai Kayu Ara, Petaling Jaya.

Residents from Kampung Cempaka noticed a school of fish jumping out of the river and knew something was amiss.

They saw thousands of dead fish swept downstream and the situation worsened.

In a statement, state environ-

ment, green technology, science and consumer affairs committee chairman Hee Loy Sian said the pollution could be due to sewage water.

However, Indah Water Konsortium in a statement to the media denied Hee's claim.

Media's efforts to gain findings by the relevant authorities who conducted the water inspection, were in vain.



Kampung Cempaka villagers wading through floodwaters to get to higher ground.