



**9 April 2009 (Thursday)**

### **RM114m in debt due to water crisis**

**KUALA LUMPUR: The Selangor government is incurring a RM38 million debt monthly due to a prolonged conflict over the restructuring of its water services.**

According to a source, its total debt with the concessionaire companies had accumulated to RM114 million. He said this was because under the concession agreement, the concessionaires had the right to increase the water tariff by 37 per cent beginning Jan 1 and if the new tariff was not implemented, the state government had to compensate the concessionaires. Four concessionaires -- Syarikat Bekalan Air Selangor (Syabas), Konsortium Abbas Sdn Bhd, Puncak Niaga Sdn Bhd and Syarikat Pengeluar Air Selangor Holdings Bhd (Splash) -- are handling the treatment and distribution of water in the state.

The Selangor government had intended to buy out these concessions and manage the treatment and distribution on its own by offering RM5.8 billion, but the companies refused. The Energy, Water and Communications Ministry gave the Selangor government until March 31 to conclude the takeover deal, but negotiations broke down over the quantum. Last week, the state government claimed that the necessary prerequisites for a tariff increase by Syabas under the agreement were unfulfilled, saying that material deficiencies were found in the last audit, the cumulative effect of which undermined the validity of the request by Syabas.

The source said the agreement would affect more than five million consumers in Selangor, Kuala Lumpur and Putrajaya. Consumers are paying an average of RM1.39 per cubic metre of water and this will rise to RM1.90 if the negotiations are not successful and restructuring does not take place, the source added.

**10 April 2009 (Friday)**

### **Website on stimulus packages launched**

**PUTRAJAYA: The Finance Ministry launched yesterday a website at which the public can have full access in knowing how the two economic stimulus packages amounting to RM67 billion are being used.**

Through the website at [www.rangsanganekonomi.treasury.gov.my](http://www.rangsanganekonomi.treasury.gov.my), the public would be able to closely monitor the development and implementation of the various initiatives and programmes that have been formulated to address the economic issues that stemmed from the

global financial meltdown. In his short message on the website, Prime Minister and Finance Minister Datuk Seri Najib Razak said the economic crisis required the government to put in place economic stimulus mechanisms that were comprehensive and those that reached the targeted groups, including the workforce, consumers, investors, small and medium sized businesses, exporters as well as graduates and the unemployed.

"The government's plans also cover initiatives to build up on the long-term economy. "This will prepare the country to better seize opportunities when the economic situation recovers." The website, manned by the Treasury's Project Management Unit, headed by its chief operating officer Datuk Mohamad Othman Zainal Azim, also provides the public with information on allocations, amount spent, the number of projects implemented as well as their progress. According to the website, a total of 14,255 projects costing RM1.584 billion are currently being implemented, including 6,621 projects under the Public Infrastructure Maintenance Programme and the Basic Infrastructure Project by the Implementation and Coordination Unit.

"The prime minister was very particular about enabling the people to see how the government spends the money. "He also gives prominence to transparency and wanted the details of the initiatives and how the funds are spent to be posted on the website immediately," Othman said at the website's launch. The website was completed in 10 days. The website, he added, was also the result of Najib wanting to ensure accountability and that the targets set out under the two stimulus packages reached the target groups.

**11 April 2009 (Saturday)**

**KPI system 'good for people'**



**MIC president Datuk Seri S. Samy Vellu says the new cabinet is a good one**

**KUALA LUMPUR:** Barisan Nasional leaders yesterday commended the cabinet named by Prime Minister Datuk Seri Najib Razak, saying that the key performance index (KPI) system instituted to evaluate ministers and deputy ministers' performance augured well for the people.

MIC president Datuk Seri S. Samy Vellu said that the cabinet was a good one, taking into account the current global economic challenge. "But what is more interesting is the introduction of the KPI system. There is now a check and balance system institutionalised. "With the move, ministers who slack in their duties will be replaced. "Ministers will be on their

toes all the time and the people will have more confidence. I am confident that the people would welcome and support this new approach."

In Malacca, Chief Minister Datuk Seri Mohd Ali Rustam said the ministers named had the commitment and ability to realise Malaysia's goal of becoming a developed nation. "There is a good mix of old and new faces and this reflects the PM's wish for a people-oriented administration that gives priority to performance."

In Johor Baru, Datuk Seri Mohamed Khaled Nordin said the new line-up would deliver the goods. Khaled, who was retained as Higher Education Minister, thanked Najib for the trust placed in him to continue leading the ministry. Umno Youth deputy chief Datuk Razali Ibrahim said he was surprised to be appointed Deputy Youth and Sports Minister. "I will work hard to carry out the responsibilities demanded of me," he said.

Member of Parliament for Batu Pahat Dr Mohd Puad Zarkashi said his appointment as the new Deputy Education Minister was unexpected, but pledged his commitment in carrying out his duties to the best of his ability. "I thank the prime minister for the trust placed in me. I know it is a big challenge but I will do my best to ensure the nation's education goals are met," he said.

In Kota Kinabalu, Sabah Chief Minister Datuk Seri Musa Aman said the appointment of many Sabah leaders in the cabinet line-up was proof that Najib truly cared about the welfare of the people of the state. Musa, who is also Sabah Umno chief, said it was also a recognition of the capability of Sabah leaders to serve with dedication at the national level. Newly-appointed Foreign Minister Datuk Anifah Aman is touched to be given such an important portfolio.

The Kimanis member of parliament thanked Najib for placing his confidence in him to lead the ministry. He promised to do his best not only to enhance the country's image but also to defend its rights. "I hope to learn the ropes from the former foreign ministers," he said after taking his oath of office at Istana Negara here yesterday. Anifah, who is the brother of the Sabah chief minister, had turned down the post of deputy minister in former prime minister Tun Abdullah Ahmad Badawi's cabinet last year.

Gua Musang member of parliament Tengku Razaleigh Hamzah has hailed the new cabinet, describing it as "neat" and capable of restoring the people's confidence in the Barisan Nasional. He said changes were inevitable if the BN was to win the hearts and minds of the people. "The previous cabinet was not that neat. We shall see how the new cabinet performs. "I truly hope that the new leadership will be able to change things for the better," he said.

Tengku Razaleigh said the new cabinet would be able to strengthen the country's economy despite the current global economic downturn. The new leadership should be given the opportunity to bring changes, said Tengku Razaleigh, who once offered to contest the Umno presidency but could only manage one nomination -- from the Gua Musang Umno division. -- Bernama

**12 April 2009 (Sunday)**

### **Ministry is no more, agencies are uncertain**

**PUTRAJAYA:** With the Entrepreneur and Cooperative Development Ministry disbanded, the fate of many agencies under it remains unknown.

The dissolution of the ministry was announced when Prime Minister Datuk Seri Najib Razak named his new cabinet on Thursday. Checks yesterday showed that many heads of agencies were in the dark as to which ministry they would now come under. Commercial Vehicle Licensing Board chairman Datuk Markiman Kobiran, for instance, was clueless. There is speculation that the board, which also deals with the issuance of taxi permits, would come under the Transport or Finance Ministry. There is also talk that the board may be placed under the proposed transport commission. The management of Bank Rakyat and SME Bank also did not know which ministry they would now come under.

Chief Secretary to the Government Tan Sri Mohd Sidek Hassan could not offer any insight into the matter either. The Entrepreneur and Cooperative Development Ministry was established in 2004 as the main agency responsible for the development of Bumiputera entrepreneurs. The Urban Development Authority, Perbadanan Nasional Berhad, Cooperative College of Malaysia, State Economic Development Authority and Malaysian Cooperatives Commission were also under it. The only two agencies whose fate is known are Tekun and Mara. They will be absorbed into the Rural and Regional Development Ministry, headed by Datuk Seri Mohd Shafie Apdal.

**13 April 2009 (Monday)**

### **Charge over fake govt invoice**

By : Sharifah Mahsinah Abdul



**Former Kelantan Fisheries director Jaafar Abdullah (right) and contractor Muhammad Fadzil Md Sulong pleaded not guilty to the corruption charge.**

**KOTA BARU:** Former state fisheries director Jaafar Abdullah was charged in the Session Court here yesterday in a case involving a false government invoice three years ago.

He is alleged to have abetted contractor Muhammad Fadzil Md Sulong, 53, in submitting a false government invoice for RM13,000.15 to administrative officer Marini Mohamed of the Kelantan Fisheries Department. The two are alleged to have committed the offence at the Fisheries Department's office in Kota Baru on Aug 14, 2006. The invoice was for cleaning work purportedly done by Syarikat Matlee Trading during a gotong-royong at the Machang Fisheries office. Jaafar, 57, who has been transferred to the department's headquarters in Putrajaya, pleaded not guilty to the charge under the Anti-Corruption Act.

Judge Asmadi Hussin allowed him bail of RM8,000. In another Sessions Court, Fadzil was charged with submitting the false invoice. He also pleaded not guilty to the charge and was released on RM8,000 bail by the judge, Mohd Dasuki Ali. Jaafar and Fadzil will be tried jointly on July 13 and 14 and Aug 18 and 20. Both were represented by Datuk Sukri Mohamed. Deputy public prosecutor Mohd Sophian Zakaria appeared for the prosecution

**14 April 2009 (Tuesday)**

### **Keeping track of stimulus packages**



**Datuk Ahmad Husni Mohd Hanadzlah will ensure Ninth Malaysia Plan projects are on schedule**

**PUTRAJAYA: Yesterday was his first day on the job, and the new Finance Minister II had already rolled up his sleeves to oversee the two stimulus packages unveiled recently.**

Datuk Ahmad Husni Mohd Hanadzlah said all the money for the first stimulus package would be disbursed by June while the funds in the second package would be given out by September. He revealed that up to yesterday, RM5.9 billion of the RM7 billion allocated for the first package and half of the RM10 billion in the second package had been disbursed. "Apart from the stimulus packages, I will be focusing and working together with the Economic Planning Unit and Coordination and Implementation Unit in the Prime Minister's Department to ensure that all projects under the Ninth Malaysia Plan are on schedule," he said.

He was speaking at a ceremony marking his takeover of the finance portfolio from Tan Sri Nor Mohamed Yakcop who becomes Minister in the Prime Minister's Department in charge of the Economic Planning Unit. "The global economy is still uncertain and has yet to show any sign of recovery, giving a negative impact to the domestic economy," he said.

Local exports for February fell by -15.9 per cent, while it was lower by -27.8 per cent the month before. The Industrial Production Index also fell by -14.7 per cent in February. "I will also be continuing the efforts and initiatives put in place by outgoing minister Tan Sri Nor Mohamed Yakcop."

Nor Mohamed said there had to be a change in the developmental model that was more appropriate in today's context. "We have been using the same model since Independence, which was fine as a developing nation where most people still had little income." "But it is hard to make that leap to a developed nation if we are still using this model." Nor Mohamed's former deputy Datuk Kong Cho Ha was also present to hand over his duties to the new deputy minister Datuk Chor Chee Heung.

**15 April 2009 (Wednesday)**

### **Appointment of contract doctors to be speeded up**



**Health Minister Datuk Seri Liow Tiong Lai says applicants have to wait two to three months at present**

**PUTRAJAYA: Approval of applications from doctors wishing to work on contract in government hospitals will be speeded up.**

Health Minister Datuk Seri Liow Tiong Lai said a committee would deal with the process from application to recruitment and placement. At present, an applicant has to wait two to three months for approval. "Sometimes it's even longer. We want to shorten the process to, hopefully, a month," Liow said after his ministry's monthly gathering yesterday.

The committee will be jointly headed by the ministry's secretary-general Datuk Seri Dr Mohd Nasir Mohd Ashraf and Health director-general Tan Sri Dr Mohd Ismail Merican. Liow said the move was aimed at overcoming the shortage of medical officers in the country, especially in rural areas. "We want to make it easier for them to serve our people, especially doctors who are returning from overseas and those from the private sector who want to work with us part-time," he said. Liow said work would soon start to repair the wards in Putrajaya Hospital, which were damaged by a fire following a lightning strike on Saturday evening. The government clinic in Precinct 9, which was closed when several ceiling boards fell during a thunderstorm on Monday, has been reopened. At the function, Liow launched an online intake system to hire junior staff through the Internet.

**16 April 2009 (Thursday)**

## **`Black gold of the forest' makes a solid investment**

By Sulaiman Jaafar

**KOTA BARU: At RM10,000 or more a kilogramme, agarwood certainly lives up to its name of "the black gold of the forest".**

It is, therefore, not surprising that more local investors are planting aquilaria trees, better known as karas or depu, which yield the valuable heartwood. Agarwood, or gaharu in Malay, is extracted from these large evergreen trees, which are native to Southeast Asia. They produce a valuable aromatic oil used extensively in the Middle East and Asia in religious ceremonies, personal fragrance, incense and other scented products besides being used as a medicinal herb by the Chinese. Agarwood Plantations Sdn Bhd marketing director Wan Ab Malik Wan Mamat said indiscriminate harvesting had resulted in the trees being listed as endangered. He said trees grown in plantations provided a renewable source of agarwood. He said the depletion of trees was because of illegal harvesting and low production in Malaysia, Thailand and Vietnam had led to spiralling prices in the global market. The region meets about 20 per cent of global demand.

The company has been involved in the industry since 1999, starting work with a local company near Bangkok, on 400ha. Since starting in Kelantan about two years, it has planted about 1,000 trees and set up demonstration farms in Kadok and Mulong near here and Selising in Pasir Puteh. Wan Ab Malik said the company would be going into large-scale planting of trees at a 400ha site in Nenggiri, Gua Musang, this year, where it would be offering a unique investment opportunity to the public. Under the scheme, the public can buy a tree for RM100 each and redeem it after the trees mature in seven years at nine-fold the original price. "All participants will receive a certificate stating the number of the plots of land planted with trees. "We also guarantee that any plant which dies will be replaced". Wan Ab Malik explained that the company used the latest nanotechnology to induce the formation of agarwood in trees unlike in earlier days where karas trees were hacked with axes to get to the oil. He said the new process not only assured the formation of substantial agarwood but also a quality end-product.

**16 April 2009 (Thursday)**

## **Housing industry 'resilient'**



## **Datuk Kong Cho Ha says he will look into problem of abandoned housing projects**

**KUALA LUMPUR:** The housing and real estate industry in Malaysia is mature enough to ride out the economic turmoil, Housing and Local Government Minister Datuk Kong Cho Ha said yesterday.

Although records from his ministry show that 156 projects have been delayed or abandoned, the number was decreasing, he said. "The figure comprises projects that are up to 20 years old. The number is decreasing because of better regulation and enforcement. "The industry is also mature enough to handle the economic situation. So, we do not expect this problem to persist." He said local developers were big enough to understand the economic situation, conduct market research and forecast the needs of the industry and its demands. Kong announced the first phase of the 24-storey Desa Permai apartments in Ampang, delayed for three years, had been completed.

"The developer will apply for the certificate of fitness and we hope the Ampang Jaya Municipal Council will issue it by April 30." The second block comprising 481 units will be completed by July. The project, which commenced in 2002, was to have been completed in 2005. On the cabinet meeting, Kong said Prime Minister Datuk Seri Najib Razak was sincere in wanting to create the right path for the nation. "He told everyone the cabinet should be a people's cabinet, where we must be able to relate to the people and fulfil their needs. He also advised us to fulfil targets we set."

**18 April 2009 (Saturday)**

## **Looking for toll hike solution**

**KLANG:** Prime Minister Datuk Seri Najib Razak has asked the Economic Planning Unit (EPU) to seek a comprehensive solution to the prickly toll rates increase issue.

Highway concessionaires are allowed under concession agreements to raise toll rates every three years. However, road users have begun to strongly object to the periodical toll increases. "I have directed the EPU to suggest to the government a comprehensive solution to tackle the toll hike issue," he said, adding that a broad solution had to be found as the toll issue was "the issue people most disliked". On whether the option of taking over highway concessionaire PLUS Expressways Bhd was being considered, he said: "We are looking at all options but it is premature for me to say now what the government is going to do."

Najib was speaking to reporters after opening the Associated Chinese Chambers of Commerce and Industry of Malaysia's (Acccim) 63rd annual general meeting here yesterday. He said the government would review policies and guidelines that were unattractive to foreign and domestic investors, including a Foreign Investment Committee guideline limiting non-Bumiputera participation. Acccim president Tan Sri William Cheng had said that Malaysia could



only compete with foreign countries if the costs of doing business here were low. He hoped that the costs of energy and transport would be maintained at low levels. Najib acknowledged the pressure of competition from lower cost countries and suggested innovation in design as the way forward.

**20 April 2009 (Monday)**

## **DBKL tops but no council gets 5 stars**

By : Audrey Dermawan



• Kuala Lumpur City Hall	- 84.5
• Subang Jaya Municipal Council	- 84.4
• Petaling Jaya City Council	- 80.5
• Kuantan Municipal Council	- 80.25
• Shah Alam City Council	- 80.10
• Johor Baru City Council	- 79.40
• Alor Gajah Municipal Council	- 77.45
• Malacca City Council	- 77.40
• Klang Municipal Council	- 76.20
• Manjung Municipal Council	- 76.10

**GEORGE TOWN: None of the country's 98 local authorities managed to obtain the maximum five stars in last year's local government star rating.**

The results are now available on the Housing and Local Government Ministry website. Topping the list with a four-star rating is Kuala Lumpur City Hall (DBKL) with 84.5 points, while the bottom-ranked, with a one-star rating, is the Bandar Baharu District Council in Kedah with 29 points. Ten local authorities obtained four-star rating. They will receive a certificate and a RM200,000 allocation to implement development projects of their choice planned by them, a statement on the website said.

The 98 local authorities were subjected to the system throughout last year. Twenty-four obtained the three-star rating -- polling between 60.25 to 74.95 points). What is interesting is that three district councils obtained the three-star rating. They are Kuala Langat, Pekan and Kerian district councils. A total of 46 local authorities got the two-star rating, polling between 46 and 58.85 points. Among them is the Kuala Terengganu City Council. Eighteen local authorities (all district councils) obtained the one-star rating, polling between 29 and 45.8 points. The system is aimed at grading the performance of all local authorities to ensure they perform up to the people's expectations. The grading has four criteria - management (30 per cent), core service (35 per cent), customer management (15 per cent) and community participation (20 per cent).

**20 April 2009 (Monday)**

## **RM800m boost for marine police**

**By : Alang Bendahara**



**The elite Ungerin squad with its newly acquired Water Cat M14 and Interceptor 16M boats.**

**KUALA LUMPUR: Some RM800 million will be spent on upgrading the marine police.**

Their commander, Senior Assistant Commissioner II Isa Munir, said the allocation was part of a rebranding and upgrading exercise for the Marine Operations Force to face new challenges in crime prevention. Formed on Sept 1, 1947, the 62-year-old unit under the Federal Internal Security and Public Order Department, was formerly called the Marine Police Force. They became the MOF in February.

Isa said the allocation would be used to double their manpower, upgrade and build new bases, acquire new boats, improve enforcement, implement community policing, as well as increase intelligence and information gathering. The 41 bases will be upgraded or rebuilt to police stations or beat bases. This will cost RM450 million in the next 10 years.

"All our five territories -- with headquarters in Glugor, Penang; Tampoi, Johor; Kemaman, Terengganu; Kota Kinabalu, Sabah; and Bin-tawa, Sarawak -- will have the latest equipment to serve as operation bases. "Our coastal police stations and beat bases will serve the local communities, such as fishermen or villages along the coastline," Isa said at Bukit Aman here recently. He said the MOF would also acquire 250 boats costing RM300 million over the next decade.

"The boats would be 8.5m long, for use on lakes and rivers, 11.5m for harbour patrols and 13.5m for patrols up to 10 nautical miles from shore." Their manpower will be doubled from the current 2,400 personnel with the recruitment of an additional 3,000 over the next three years. The new personnel will mostly become investigating officers and assistant investigating officers. Others will also beef up its 52-strong Marine Combat Unit or Unit Gempur Marin (Ungerin).

Ungerin is an elite squad trained by the United States Navy's SEAL commandos and the police force's own VAT 69 commandos. "They are deployed for special operations such as to counter

robberies on the open seas or to fight piracy. We plan to have them on duty at all five territory headquarters." He said MOF also planed to increase the number of women personnel. "We have taken in 16 women for harbour duty and will hire more soon. We are also considering duty for women on boats if we get bigger vessels equipped with separate living quarters for them."

## **21 April 2009 (Tuesday)**

### **Pahang MB ordered to pay logging firm RM63 million**

By : M. Hamzah Jamaludin

**KUANTAN: The High Court yesterday allowed an application by logging company Seruan Gemilang Makmur Sdn Bhd to compel Menteri Besar Datuk Seri Adnan Yaakob to pay it RM63 million for breach of contract.**

Judge Datuk Abd Halim Aman ordered the menteri besar to settle the payment within 14 days from yesterday. On Dec 9, 2002, Seruan Gemilang sued the state government and state forestry director, seeking RM31 million in damages for breach of a contract relating to the extraction of logs in Bebar, Pekan. Halim on May 25, 2007, ordered the respondents to pay RM37 million with interest to Seruan Gemilang. However, the state government and state forestry director applied for leave to appeal against the decision but was rejected by the Court of Appeal. On Sept 17 last year, the Federal Court affirmed the Court of Appeal's decision.

Seruan Gemilang later applied for a writ of mandamus on Oct 15 last year, naming the menteri besar as respondent, after the state government failed or refused to pay the sum despite the Federal Court's order. Halim when reading his written decision yesterday said that Seruan Gemilang had made the right decision to apply for the mandamus order after it did not get any answer from the state government.

"The absence of response from the state government cannot be used as a shield to protect it from any action." He also said that the company had resorted to such an action after it had exhausted all legal avenues. On the naming of menteri besar as respondent, Halim said it was the right move as the person who held the post also handled the financial portfolio.

"Except Sabah and Sarawak, Pahang and the other states do not have a state finance minister's post. "Therefore, the menteri besar is the person who has the power to give order on payments," he said, adding that failure to settle the payment would burden taxpayers due to the daily interest. Adnan, when met at the state assembly sitting, declined to comment on the decision and asked reporters to get the response from state legal adviser Datuk Mat Zara'ai Alias. Zara'ai said an application for a stay of execution against the mandamus order would be filed today. He said the state government had also filed for a judicial review against the Federal Court's order.

**22 April 2009 (Wednesday)**

## **RM1.57 bil cost of giving maternity leave**



**A. Ramadass says employers must bear maternity costs for up to five children**

**KUALA LUMPUR:** Malaysian employers spent about RM1.57 billion annually in providing 60-day maternity leave for its female employees, a seminar on gender equality was told yesterday.

A study undertaken by the Malaysian Employers Federation (MEF) showed that each confinement cost RM7,500. This comprised RM3,000 in wages and RM4,500 in overtime allowances. In his paper on maternity protection, reconciling work and family responsibilities, MEF vice-president A. Ramadass said that under existing laws, employers bore this cost for up to five surviving children. He said the cost would escalate to RM2 billion, if the leave entitlement was to be increased to 84 days, as was the case in Singapore.

However, he pointed out that in Singapore, for the first two confinements, the employers paid for the first eight weeks and the additional four weeks were funded by the government. The two-day seminar, which began yesterday, was organised by the Human Resources Ministry, in alliance with the International Labour Organisation. It was attended by 50 participants from various government agencies, trade unions and non-governmental organisations.

Lactation consultant Nor Kamariah Mohamad Alwi told the seminar that mother's milk was a unique source of nutrition, immunity protection and a natural way of nurturing the future generation. Nor Kamariah said the World Health Organisation recommended exclusive breastfeeding for the first six months and that it be continued for up to two years with complementary foods. -- Bernama

**22 April 2009 (Wednesday)**

## **Works only ministry to get 5-star rating**

**By : June Ramli**

**PUTRAJAYA: The Works Ministry is the only one of 27 ministries that received a five-star rating set by the Malaysian Administrative Modernisation and Management Planning Unit (Mampu).**

The ministry was the only one that scored more than 90 per cent overall points, the percentage needed to make it into the five-star category. It even beat the Prime Minister's Department, which got a three-star rating. However, five of 11 government agencies were given five-star ratings: the armed forces, Mampu, the Public Service Department (PSD), the office of the director-general of health and the Implementation and Coordination Unit in the Prime Minister's Department.

"The goal of rating government agencies is to make sure the delivery system in the public sector is at a satisfactory level, " said Chief Secretary to the Government Tan Sri Mohd Sidek Hassan here. His speech was read by PSD director-general Tan Sri Ismail Adam. This is the first time the government has rated its ministries and agencies, although the system was introduced in 2007. The ratings were based on three criteria: management, core business and customer service (see chart).

Agencies which were recognised for online performance included the Companies Commission of Malaysia, which received the award for zero visits. This means clients who wanted to deal with the agency did not have to be present at the office as all transactions were done on the Internet.

The Human Resources Ministry won the award for efficiency in integrating inter-agency services under the Jobs Malaysia project. The project helps the unemployed find jobs. The National Service Training Department under the Defence Ministry was recognised for providing prompt replies under its "My SMS 15888" service to those seeking to know if they had been selected for NS training. The PSD's "my gov" website was selected the most active information provider, while the National Higher Education Fund Corp won for its online payment scheme