

14 AUG 1997

Litter

CITY HALL ANTI-LITTER CAMPAIGN TAKING EFFECT

KUALA LUMPUR, Aug 14 (Bernama) -- City Hall's anti-littering campaign, codenamed "Operasi Anti Kotor" launched three days ago, appears to have brought positive effects on city-dwellers with dirty habits.

Its assistant enforcement director Yazid Samsudin told Bernama today that there had been no more littering at public places since Aug 12, when the campaign was launched.

"Our campaign target covers 14 areas with 37 major locations, particularly bus stations, shopping complexes especially those in Jalan Chow Kit and Jalan Tuanku Abdul Rahman," he said.

Until now action had been taken against 367 people, 129 of whom were ordered to pay fines on the spot.

Fines collected so far totalled RM12,900.

He said those given two weeks to settle the fines, would be taken to court if they failed to do so.

Among the offences were littering of cigarette ends, empty cans, bus tickets and food wrappers. The compound fine for the offence had increased from RM30 to RM100.

According to Yazid, individuals caught for littering came from the various groups -- the middle-aged, youths and even foreigners without valid documents.

The foreigners were later handed over to Immigrations officers also involved in the campaign.

About nine to 12 uniformed and plain-clothes officers are stationed in busy public places for one to two hours before moving on to other areas to nab the litter-bugs.

Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad had recently criticised the attitude of certain Malaysians fond of littering in the city.-- BERNAMA

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