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MPPJ out to improve cleanliness

THE Petaling Jaya Municipal Council will intensify its public awareness programme and enforcement activities in a move to achieve a higher level of cleanliness in areas under its jurisdiction.

Council president Datuk Mohamad Nor Bador said although the cleanliness awareness programme was an on-going activity carried out by the council, it would be intensified in line with Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad's call to raise the level of cleanliness in the country.

He said the council was currently carrying out cleanliness awareness programmes in schools in the municipality by holding school and canteen cleanliness and landscaping contests.

"The programmes carried out in schools are very important for us in tackling the cleanliness problem. It will instill in the young the importance of keeping the premises clean," he said.

Mohamad Nor was speaking to reporters after chairing a Heads of Department meeting at MPPJ yesterday. It was reported last Sunday that Dr Mahathir wanted the level of cleanliness in public places such as toilets, stalls and flats to be improved.

Mohamad Nor said the council might also review the building plans for flats to incorporate facilities for drying clothes.

He said the council would also be intensifying education programmes for hawkers and might resort to not giving out licences if they fail to undergo courses to upgrade their cleanliness awareness.

Mohamad Nor said the council's efforts to improve cleanliness in the municipality would, however, be futile if the public failed to give its co-operation.

"We hope that the public will give its full co-operation and that there will not be any objections from the public or local leaders when we carry out activities which in the end will benefit the public," he said, citing the demolition of stalls to make way for hawker centres and demolition of squatter houses for the construction of low-cost homes.

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