

13/03/1998

Start collection of rubbish at night

W. Fauzi

DESPITE the Commonwealth Games being only a few months away, it appears that Kuala Lumpur will remain dirty with rubbish strewn by the roadsides and roads full of potholes.

Driving along busy Jalan Raja Chulan nowadays would require a four-wheel-drive as the road is littered with potholes. It is time Kuala Lumpur City Hall resurfaced the roads.

The call by Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad to clean up the city has had only a temporary effect as rubbish has reappeared all over the place.

One way to address the problem is to change the current practice in garbage collection.

Currently much of the rubbish is collected during the day. The garbage truck has to cope with traffic jams and this leads to fewer collections as more time is needed to get to the dumpsite outside the city.

Collecting rubbish in the daytime is unhygienic, especially if the truck passes by coffeeshops where food is being served.

To avoid such filthiness, rubbish should only be collected from 9pm to 6am. The collection should be made daily instead of on alternate days. This will prevent stray dogs and cats rummaging in rubbish bins left outside restaurants, houses and apartments.

The rat population can be reduced and eventually eradicated as their food source is removed. Collecting frequency will improve as the trucks do not have to face traffic jams.