



**UNIT KOMUNIKASI KORPORAT
KEMENTERIAN PERUMAHAN DAN KERAJAAN TEMPATAN**

*Aras 2 Blok K, Pusat Bandar Damansara, 50782 Kuala Lumpur
Tel: 03-20944702; Fax: 03-20956523; Emel: pro@kpkt.gov.my.*

(75) KPKT/BPK/19/3/6 Klt. 44

1st March 2011

Editor,
New Straits Times

Sir,

Media : NST
Date : 24th February 2011
Page : 18
**Title : LOCAL AUTHORITIES, HAVE URBAN
GOVERNANCE INSTITUTE**

We respectfully refer to the article published in New Straits Times, February 24, 2011, page 18 entitled 'Local Authorities, Have Urban Governance Institute' by Tan Sri Lee Lam Thye.

As a start, in line with the government's commitment to enhance its delivery system at all Local Authorities, the Ministry of Housing and Local Government (MHLG) has established a Core Team in April 2008 to prepare the initial work of setting up of a Training Institute for Urban Governance. The role of the Core Team is to formulate an organization work structure; preparing initial curriculum for the main courses of 2009 dan 2010; and preparing and planning the design of the Training Institute which will be ready by July 2011 at Bukit Tinggi, Pahang.

In general, the Training Institute consists of six centres:

- i. Centre for Town Planning and Urbanisation;
- ii. Centre for Management of Housing;
- iii. Centre for Management of Local Government;
- iv. Centre for Management of Solid Waste and Public Cleansing;
- v. Centre for Management of Landscape; and
- vi. Centre for Legal Understanding and Enforcement.

The establishment of Training Institute plays a vital role as a platform and forum to train more than 60,000 public employees from 149 Local Authorities in the country, to equip the government agencies as the front liners and to achieve efficiency, accountability, transparent, good qualities and best customer oriented services. Therefore in order to improve the personnel in Local Authority, the functions of the Training Institute are as follows:

- i. Implementing training on human relocation, environment and quality of life, planning and management of towns as well as municipality services through studies on demography, migration, socio culture, economy, development, technology, management, technical changes and current developments in the country's administration;
- ii. Drafting a curriculum, planning and implementing courses as well as guidelines on the implementation of courses and related to Course Evaluation Report.
- iii. Implementing training programmes to all levels of personnel in the related sector in order to increase the level of knowledge, technical expertise and administration;

- iv. Organising conferences, seminars and workshops related to housing and local government at domestic and international level;
- v. Offering advisory and consultancy services in the drafting of policies, planning and strategic implementation of programmes and activities in the related sector;
- vi. Preparing informational papers to be presented at national level and international conferences on issues of local governance; and
- vii. Providing the latest information related to the changes in policy from time to time; and

Throughout 2009, the Core Team of the Training Institute has organized 14 courses and 5 series of Executive Talks which includes Control of Hill Slopes, Understanding of Laws Related to Land Matters, Introduction of Industrialized Building Systems, Financial Planning and Management of Local Authority, Understanding of Solid Waste Management, Regulation and Enforcement of Laws for Local Authority. On 15th October 2009, Y. Bhg. Tan Sri Lee Lam Thye (in his capacity as Vice President of Yayasan Pencegahan Jenayah Malaysia) gave a speech during the Executive Talk on “Crime Prevention: Strategic Approach” to all the senior officers of the ministry.

In 2010, the core team had organized 37 courses, 6 series of Executive Talks and 3 Seminars to some 2,437 staff of the Local Authority in Malaysia and in 2011, 49 courses, 6 series of Executive Talks and 3 Seminars will be conducted for more than 3,000 participants mostly from the Local Authority. Most of the speakers invited for the courses are the representatives from the local expert, academician, corporate figure and non-governmental organisation to share their views, expertise and experiences to all the participants from the Local Authorities. Urban issues

related to globalisation, environment problems, urban poverty, urban sustainability, urban governance, and ways to improve quality of urban life are the many issues have been addressed.

In the near future, the Training Institute will also facilitate research activities, provide support to academicians and individuals to undertake research and provide consultancy services to tackle urban issues. Through smart partnership, the institute will also work together with the expertise of institutions of higher learning, research organisations and government agencies to better manage the urbanisation of towns and cities.

**Prepared by,
Corporate Communications Unit,
Ministry of Housing and Local Government**