



UNIT KORPORAT DAN PERHUBUNGAN AWAM

**MAKLUMAT MPJBT MELALUI AKHBAR UNTUK BULAN
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Urban farming to generate income

Foundation initiates chilli planting in several housing areas

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GELANG PATAH: The Johor Baru Central Municipal Council's (MPJBT) Penyayang Foundation has introduced an urban farming initiative for residents to generate income by planting chilli in their housing areas.

Foundation chairman Mohammad Khairi A. Malik said the harvested chillies could be sold at a cheaper price of RM16 per kilo compared to the market price of RM23 per kilo.

"However, the chillies will only be sold at selected residential areas where the farming activities are conducted," he told reporters after officiating the programme at Taman Nusantara here on Sunday.

Mohammad Khairi said that for the early stages, the foundation selected five housing areas in Lima Kedai and Taman Nusantara in Gelang Patah as well as Taman Impian Emas, Taman Desa Permai and Kangkar Pulai flat in Skudai.

"This initiative was introduced following the rising cost of living and the five housing areas chosen were those with middle-income families," he said.

He added that the chilli plant would be planted on a 40m x 40m of land, which can



Mohammad Khairi (centre) with the residents committee after initiating the chilli planting programme at Taman Nusantara in Gelang Patah.

produce some two kilogrammes of chillies and that the harvesting time would take about three months.

"The foundation has already distributed 200 chilli plants to the five residential areas and each area will be monitored by seven members of the residents committee (JKP)," he said.

He added that the foundation also

provided automatic sprinklers along with water tanker and fertiliser, all costing about RM5,000.

"The programme will be under the guidance of the Johor Agriculture Department and the foundation is expecting to introduce it to other housing areas under MPJBT's jurisdiction soon," he said.

Taman Nusantara JKP Ab Razak Khalid,

49, said that he hoped those who want to participate in the programme would give full cooperation and be committed to make the farming activities a success.

"This is a good opportunity for those who come from middle-income families to become a modern farmer," he said, adding that he would monitor the programme till harvest time.

