

An artist's impression of how Masdar City will look like. Intelligent design will reduce the need for artificial lighting and air-conditioning.



RIGHT NOW, DEVELOPERS WHO WANT TO BUILD THEIR BUILDINGS IN PUTRAJAYA AND CYBERJAYA NEED TO BE CERTIFIED BY THE GREEN BUILDING INDEX.

— *Datuk Seri Peter Chin Energy, Green Technology and Water Minister*

'We must change our habits to make difference'

OLD habits die hard but for a greener environment, Malaysians have to learn to reduce their carbon footprint.

Centre for Environment, Technology and Development Malaysia (Cetdem) chairman Gurmit Singh says it is very important for Malaysians to change their habits and lifestyles.

"Instead of choosing to be accustomed to our habits and lifestyles, we should change so that a difference could be made to the planet."

He says transportation and energy consumption in households and office buildings were the main contributors to carbon emission.

"Car-pooling and taking public transport are the alternative options to reduce carbon emission.

"Even turning down the thermostat in air-conditioners would help."

Accountant Lawrence Gabriel, 29, believes that it is time for Malaysians to take the first step in efforts to help the na-

tion reduce carbon emissions.

He believes that the public should take the initiative to start practising direct energy-saving methods.

"Like the old saying — *sikit-sikit, lama-lama menjadi bukit*, all individuals should start slowly and in the long run, carbon emission can be minimised."

As for Amir Farhan, he feels that reducing the use of motor vehicles is one of the most effective ways of minimising carbon footprints in the ecosystem.

"The government can promote the usage of hybrid vehicles as they use less fuel."

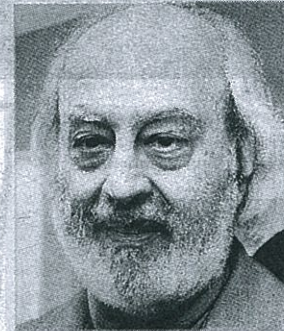
The automotive engineering student also called for the implementation of stricter laws on emission.

"Rules can be regulated and enforced on vehicle emission as most of the old cars on the road are not equipped with catalytic convertors which are necessary to clean up the really harmful gases from the engine."



IT IS OUR INTENTION TO EXPLORE BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES RELATING TO THE DEVELOPMENT OF AN ENVIRONMENT-FRIENDLY CARBON-NEUTRAL CITY IN MALAYSIA.

— *Shahrol Halmi chief executive, 1MDB*



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— *Gurmit Singh chairman, Centre for Environment, Technology and Development Malaysia*