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THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE SIRIM CODES OF PRACTICE FOR DISABLED PERSONS BY DBKL

This dissertation is prepared to fulfill part of the requirements for-honoring of Bachelor (Hons) of Building Surveying.

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ABSTRACT

Providing the accessibility for the people with disabilities (PWDs) must not be taken as just a charity contribution by the designer, service provider and the approval body. In fact, it is mandatory for all public buildings to provide facilities for the PWDs since the requirements to fulfill the SIRIM Codes of Practice for Disabled Persons are stated in the Uniform Building By-Laws (Federal Territory of Kuala Lumpur) 1992.

The three SIRIM Codes of Practice for Disabled Persons involved are:

- i. MS 1184:2002, Code of Practice on Access for Disabled Persons to Public Buildings (First Revision)
- ii. MS 1183:1990, Code of Practice for Means of Escape for Disabled Persons
- iii MS 1331:2003, Code of Practice for Access for Disabled Persons Outside Buildings (First Revision)

However, the implementations of the codes of practice are always questioned by the user who feels that the infrastructure, facilities and accessibility are not fulfilling the PWDs needs. Complaints and comments are often viewed, written and heard in mass media, highlighting the issue.

Therefore, a study was carried out to measure the awareness level of the technical personnel in Dewan Bandaraya Kuala Lumpur (DBKL) in providing or approving the built environment with a barrier-free design. The investigation also includes the understanding of the DBKL technical workforce in implementing the SIRIM Codes of Practice for Disabled Persons in their design / as the approval body / in the CF issuance.

Based on the findings, it can be concluded that the unsatisfied condition of the existing access and facilities for the PWDs in Kuala Lumpur is not because of the lack of awareness in providing it. The DBKL technical workforce needs the inputs of knowledge and exposure on the implementation of the SIRIM Codes of Practice for Disabled Persons in order to ensure the 'accessibility for all' in the future world class city; Kuala Lumpur.

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