SELANGOR DARUL EHSAN VOTER OPINION POLL

18 – 24 November 2007

Survey supported by
The New Straits Times Malaysia Friedrich Naumann Stiftung

MERDEKA CENTER FOR OPINION RESEARCH

Perspectives on the Economy, National Leadership, Public Safety and Other Issues
Contents

1 Methodology
2 Respondent Profile
3 Perspectives on the Economy
4 View on Government Action on Price Increases
5 Public Safety
6 Environmental Protection
7 Temple Demolition
8 Good Governance
9 Leadership Approval Ratings
Methodology

1. The survey was conducted utilizing Merdeka Center’s Household Telephone Database whereby interview calls are distributed throughout Peninsular Malaysia.

2. In total, 798 respondents provided completed feedback using a structured questionnaire instrument. Each respondent is defined as an adult aged 21 or older.

3. A structured random probability sampling was used to select the sample involving the following stages:
   • Selection of state-based telephone blocks from Merdeka’s National Household Telephone Database
   • Random selection of respondents from each state; and
   • Listing of all sampled households and contacting the respondents for interviews.
   • The poll was conducted between 18th to 24th November 2007.
Selangor Voter Opinion Poll
November 2007

Education Level:
- No formal education: 3%
- Primary school: 18%
- Secondary school: 50%
- Diploma/ Polytechnics/ Teacher’s college/ Vocational institutes: 15%
- Degree: 14%

Occupation:
- Employed - Private: 25%
- Employed - Govt: 8%
- Business owner: 4%
- Self employed: 11%
- Unemployed: 4%
- Student: 6%
- Homemaker: 28%
- Retired: 16%

Household Income:
- < RM 1500 per month: 13%
- RM 1501 - RM 3000 per month: 19%
- RM 3001 - RM 5000 per month: 27%
- > RM 5000 per month: 32%
- Don’t know: 5%
- No response: 4%
Survey Results
General Sentiment toward National & Local Issues
General Sentiment toward National & Local Issues

1. Selangor public were generally satisfied with things in the state at the point the poll was conducted
2. Despite concerns over rising prices, majority still report favorable personal income levels
3. The public had mixed views over the availability of jobs and business opportunities, with Malays and Indians being more positive while Chinese were pessimistic
4. Public also had mixed views over the performance of the economy, evenly split between positive and negative/no change
5. A majority were pessimistic over the prospects of the state’s economic conditions for the upcoming year
6. Likewise, only half of the public cited confidence in the government’s management of the economy
Q1. Generally speaking, how satisfied or dissatisfied are you with the way things are going in the country at present?

Satisfaction with the way things are going in the country at present

- Satisfied: 69%
- Dissatisfied: 44%
- Don't know/No response: 70%

Satisfaction with the way things are going in the country at present by ethnicity

- Malay: 69% Satisfied, 30% Dissatisfied, 1% Don't know/No response
- Chinese: 52% Satisfied, 44% Dissatisfied, 4% Don't know/No response
- Indian: 70% Satisfied, 28% Dissatisfied, 2% Don't know/No response
Q2A. Moving on to the subject of the economy, can you tell me how favourable or unfavorable things are the with respect to the following: Your personal income

**Favorability with personal income (as of Nov 07)**

- **Favorable**: 57%
- **Unfavorable**: 35%
- **Don't know/No response**: 8%

**Favorability with personal income (as of Nov 07) by Race**

- **Malay**:
  - Favorable: 66%
  - Unfavorable: 30%
  - Don't know/No response: 3%
- **Chinese**:
  - Favorable: 46%
  - Unfavorable: 37%
  - Don't know/No response: 17%
- **Indian**:
  - Favorable: 54%
  - Unfavorable: 46%
Q2B. Moving on to the subject of the economy, can you tell me how favourable or unfavorable things are the with respect to the following: Prices of consumer items and services

Favorability with prices of consumer items & services (as of Nov 07)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Favorable</th>
<th>Unfavorable</th>
<th>Don't know/ No response</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Malay</td>
<td>17%</td>
<td>82%</td>
<td>1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chinese</td>
<td>17%</td>
<td>80%</td>
<td>3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Indian</td>
<td>12%</td>
<td>87%</td>
<td>1%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Favorability with prices of consumer items & services (as of Nov 07)
Q2C. Moving on to the subject of the economy, can you tell me how favourable or unfavorable things are the with respect to the following: Job opportunities
Q2D. Moving on to the subject of the economy, can you tell me how favourable or unfavorable things are the with respect to the following: Business opportunities

Favorability with business opportunities (as of Nov 07)

- Favorable: 56%
- Unfavorable: 34%
- Don't know/No response: 58%

By ethnic group:

- Malay: Favorable 37%, Unfavorable 48%, Don't know/No response 58%
- Chinese: Favorable 34%, Unfavorable 18%, Don't know/No response 7%
- Indian: Favorable 35%, Unfavorable 7%, Don't know/No response 7%
Q3. How do you see the current economic conditions in Selangor compared to 3 years ago?
Q4. How do you expect the economy to be one year from now?
Q5. How satisfied or dissatisfied are you with the way the government is managing the state economy at present?

Satisfaction with government in managing state economy at present
- Satisfied: 43%
- Dissatisfied: 7%
- Don't know/No response: 50%

Satisfaction with government in managing state economy at present for different ethnic groups:
- Malay: 63% Satisfied, 32% Dissatisfied, 6% Don't know/No response
- Chinese: 58% Satisfied, 32% Dissatisfied, 9% Don't know/No response
- Indian: 49% Satisfied, 44% Dissatisfied, 7% Don't know/No response
Issues

1. The economy, crime, social problems and illegal immigrants were the top most problems mentioned by respondents in November
2. The political nexus with corruption was also significant as mentioned by 7% of respondents
Q6. What in your view, is the most important problem/issue that needs solving in Selangor today?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Problem/Issue</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Inflation &amp; rising cost of living</td>
<td>16%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unemployment</td>
<td>3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other economic problems</td>
<td>4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Social problems</td>
<td>8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Drug abuse</td>
<td>2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mat rempit</td>
<td>2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Crime &amp; public safety</td>
<td>15%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Influx of illegal immigrants</td>
<td>9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ethnic affairs &amp; inequality</td>
<td>3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Corruption</td>
<td>2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Politics &amp; integrity</td>
<td>5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Education issues</td>
<td>2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Environmental problems</td>
<td>4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Public services delivery</td>
<td>5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Others</td>
<td>3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>None</td>
<td>6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Don’t know/No response</td>
<td>13%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Q7. What in your view, is the most important problem/issue that needs solving in your area today?

**Most important local problem (as of Nov 07)**

- Social problems among youth: 10%
- Crime & public safety: 18%
- Influx of illegal immigrants: 4%
- Price hike & rising cost of living: 3%
- Unemployment: 1%
- Environmental problems: 4%
- Public services delivery: 10%
- Ineffectiveness of local authorities: 4%
- Others: 6%
- None: 35%
- Don't know/No response: 4%
Survey Results

Inflation
Inflation

1. Despite significant concerns, a majority of respondents say they are still able to cope with rising costs
2. But a majority across all ethnic groups were dissatisfied with government’s efforts in addressing inflation
3. More specifically, a majority were also dissatisfied with the efforts of the Domestic Trade and Consumer Affairs Ministry in addressing price related issues
4. Only 42% of the Selangor public felt that the country’s leaders understood what they were going through
5. Two-thirds were not satisfied with what the government’s efforts to ease the burden of ordinary consumers leading up to likely increases in fuel prices next year
Q8. How well are you coping with rising cost of living?

- 55% Able
- 44% Unable
- 1% Don't know/No Response

Categorically:

- Malay: 55% Able, 44% Unable, 1% Don't know/No Response
- Chinese: 59% Able, 40% Unable, 1% Don't know/No Response
- Indian: 49% Able, 51% Unable

Overall:

- 44% Able
- 55% Unable
- 1% Don't know/No Response
Q9. How strongly do you agree that the government is doing enough in addressing inflation?
Q10. How satisfied or dissatisfied are you with the Ministry of Domestic Trade and Consumer Affair’s efforts in ensuring traders adhere to recommended prices?

Satisfaction with KPDN-HEP in ensuring traders adhere to recommended prices

- Satisfied: 55%
- Dissatisfied: 9%
- Don’t know/No response: 36%

Satisfaction with KPDN-HEP in ensuring traders adhere to recommended prices by race:

- Malay: 42% Satisfied, 52% Dissatisfied, 6% Don’t know/No response
- Chinese: 60% Satisfied, 14% Dissatisfied, 26% Don’t know/No response
- Indian: 40% Satisfied, 56% Dissatisfied, 4% Don’t know/No response
Q11. Do you think the country's leaders are aware of what ordinary citizens like you are going through?

Are leaders aware of what ordinary citizens are going through?

- Yes: 48%
- Neutral: 34%
- No: 53%
- Don't know/No response: 56%

Are leaders aware of what ordinary citizens are going through by ethnicity?

- Malay: 40% Yes, 11% Neutral, 6% No, 10% Don't know/No response
- Chinese: 33% Yes, 11% Neutral, 26% No, 10% Don't know/No response
- Indian: 33% Yes, 4% Neutral, 7% No, 10% Don't know/No response
The government is thinking of revising the price of fuel due to increases in world oil prices. In your view, has the government done enough to ease the burden on consumers like you?

How adequate has the government been doing to ease the burden on consumers?

- Adequate: 66%
- Inadequate: 6%
- Don't know/No response: 28%

How adequate has the government been doing to ease the burden on consumers, by ethnicity?

- Malay:
  - Adequate: 31%
  - Inadequate: 65%
  - Don't know/No response: 4%

- Chinese:
  - Adequate: 22%
  - Inadequate: 68%
  - Don't know/No response: 10%

- Indian:
  - Adequate: 32%
  - Inadequate: 63%
  - Don't know/No response: 5%
Survey Results
Public safety
Public safety

1. About 14% of Selangor public reported being a victim of some crime over the past one year
2. Crime appeared to affect all ethnic groups in nearly equal proportions
3. Break-ins were the highest crime reported at 30%, snatch thefts 26% and fraud by con-men 12% and robberies 11%
4. Nearly one-third report their neighborhoods to be unsafe to walk alone even during daytime, among Indian respondents, 46% report being unsafe in daytime
5. 58% reported being unsafe at night time, figures amount Indian respondents were higher at 66%
6. 48% said public safety would be an issue that would influence their vote in the coming elections
Q13. Have you been a victim of crime in the past 12 months?

Are you a victim of crime in the past 12 months?

- Yes
- No

- Malay: 13% Yes, 87% No
- Chinese: 15% Yes, 85% No
- Indian: 12% Yes, 88% No
Q13A. What kind of crime?

Type of crime experienced (n = 109)

- House break-in: 30%
- Snatch theft: 26%
- Trickery by salesman etc.: 12%
- Robbery: 11%
- Vehicle theft: 10%
- Others: 10%
- No response: 1%
Q14A. How safe would you say it is if you were to walk alone in your neighborhood during...? Day time

Perceived level of safety in the neighborhood during day time

- Safe: 66%
- Unsafe: 32%
- Don't know/No response: 1%

Perceived level of safety in the neighborhood during day time by ethnicity

- Malay: Safe 73%, Unsafe 27%, Don't know 1%
- Chinese: Safe 63%, Unsafe 35%, Don't know 2%
- Indian: Safe 54%, Unsafe 46%, Don't know 0%
Q14B. How safe would you say it is if you were to walk alone in your neighborhood during...? Night time

Perceived level of safety in the neighborhood during night time

- Safe
- Unsafe
- Don't know/ No response

- Malay: 44% Safe, 1% Unsafe, 33% Don't know
- Chinese: 40% Safe, 3% Unsafe, 3% Don't know
- Indian: 33% Safe, 1% Unsafe, 66% Don't know
Q15. Does the problem of public safety influence the way you vote in the coming elections?

Will public safety issues affect your vote in the coming elections?

- Yes: 40%
- No: 12%
- Don’t know/No response: 48%

Do public safety issues affect your vote in the coming elections?

- Yes: 48% (Malay 48%, Chinese 43%, Indian 58%)
- No: 39% (Malay 13%, Chinese 11%, Indian 29%)
- Don’t know/No response: 13% (Malay 13%, Chinese 11%, Indian 13%)
Survey Results
Environmental issues
Environmental issues

1. Only 51% were satisfied with what the state government was doing to safeguard green areas in Selangor.

2. Public was also split in their views on the state government’s enforcement efforts on environmental polluters, 50% were dissatisfied while 42% were satisfied and 8% not certain.
Q16. How satisfied or dissatisfied are you with what the state government is doing to preserve green lungs?
Q17. How satisfied or dissatisfied are you with the government efforts in punishing those who pollute or infringe upon environmental regulations?

Satisfaction with the government in punishing those who pollute or infringe upon environmental regulations:

- Malay: 45% Satisfied, 3% Dissatisfied, 52% Don't know/No response
- Chinese: 32% Satisfied, 15% Dissatisfied, 53% Don't know/No response
- Indian: 42% Satisfied, 2% Dissatisfied, 56% Don't know/No response
Temple demolitions

1. This poll was conducted prior to the HINDRAF demonstration of November 25 yet the findings are reflective of the very emotive nature of issues surrounding race and religious

2. Three fourths of respondents report having access to places of worship for their professed faiths, this figure was 88% for Muslims, 60% and 66% for ethnic Chinese and Indians

3. On the matter of temple demolitions (alluding to the Rimba Jaya temple demolition), only Malay respondents felt that the action was fair but a majority (54%) of Chinese and a large majority (77%) of Indians saw it as unfair
Q18. Do you think the people of your religious community have ample access to places of worship?

Does your religious community have ample access to places of worship?

- Yes: 88%
- No: 6%
- Don't know/No response: 6%

Does your religious community have ample access to places of worship?

- Malay: Yes 88%, No 12%, Don't know/No response 1%
- Chinese: Yes 60%, No 24%, Don't know/No response 16%
- Indian: Yes 66%, No 32%, Don't know/No response 2%
Q19. Recently several Hindu temples were demolished because the temples were built without proper permit. In your view, were the action of the authorities on such cases considered fair or unfair?

Perceptions toward the action of authorities on temple demolition:

- Fair: 37%
- Unfair: 13%
- Don't know/No response: 50%

Perceptions by Ethnicity:

- Malay: 77% Fair, 8% Unfair, 15% Don't know/No response
- Chinese: 54% Fair, 26% Unfair, 20% Don't know/No response
- Indian: 70% Fair, 20% Unfair, 19% Don't know/No response
Survey Results
Good Governance
Good governance

1. Only 1% felt that no one was corrupt in government
2. Very significant 57% perceived that most of government officials were corrupt, only 30% felt that “only a few government officials” were corrupt
3. 54% felt that the level of corruption at local government to be serious
4. 55% felt that the corruption in state government was serious
5. 53% perceived that corruption in the federal to be serious
Q20. How widespread do you think corruption is in the government? Would you say…

Perceived level of corruption in the government:
- Hardly anyone is involved
- Only a few are corrupt
- Most are corrupt
- Almost everyone is corrupt
- Don't know/No response

Malay:
- Hardly anyone is involved: 1%
- Only a few are corrupt: 8%
- Most are corrupt: 43%
- Almost everyone is corrupt: 14%
- Don't know/No response: 1%

Chinese:
- Hardly anyone is involved: 1%
- Only a few are corrupt: 9%
- Most are corrupt: 53%
- Almost everyone is corrupt: 28%
- Don't know/No response: 10%

Indian:
- Hardly anyone is involved: 1%
- Only a few are corrupt: 10%
- Most are corrupt: 43%
- Almost everyone is corrupt: 10%
- Don't know/No response: 10%
Q21A. How widespread do you think corruption is in...?

Perceived level of corruption in various levels of government

- Local government:
  - Serious: 54%
  - Not serious: 26%
  - Don't know/No response: 19%

- State government:
  - Serious: 55%
  - Not serious: 26%
  - Don't know/No response: 19%

- Federal government:
  - Serious: 53%
  - Not serious: 20%
  - Don't know/No response: 27%
Q21A. How widespread do you think corruption is in...Local government

Perceived level of corruption in local government
- Serious
- Not serious
- Don't know/No response

54% Serious, 26% Not serious, 19% Don't know/No response

Malay: 51% Serious, 30% Not serious, 19% Don't know/No response
Chinese: 63% Serious, 15% Not serious, 22% Don't know/No response
Indian: 44% Serious, 41% Not serious, 15% Don't know/No response
Q21B. How widespread do you think corruption is in...State government

**Perceived level of corruption in state government**

- **Serious**: 55%
- **Not serious**: 25%
- **Don't know/No response**: 20%

**Perceived level of corruption in state government by ethnicity**

- **Malay**:
  - Serious: 52%
  - Not serious: 26%
  - Don't know/No response: 22%

- **Chinese**:
  - Serious: 63%
  - Not serious: 5%
  - Don't know/No response: 32%

- **Indian**:
  - Serious: 47%
  - Not serious: 35%
  - Don't know/No response: 18%
Q21C. How widespread do you think corruption is in Federal government

Perceived level of corruption in federal government

- Serious
- Not serious
- Don’t know/No response

Malay
- Serious: 50%
- Not serious: 25%
- Don’t know/No response: 26%

Chinese
- Serious: 63%
- Not serious: 6%
- Don’t know/No response: 31%

Indian
- Serious: 44%
- Not serious: 34%
- Don’t know/No response: 21%
Survey Results
Leadership & Representative Approval Ratings
Leadership & representative approval ratings

1. Two-thirds claim that they knew their member of parliament, highest among Malays (59%) and Indians (60%)
2. 53% were satisfied with the performance of their MPs
3. 63% approved Abdullah Badawi as PM
4. 32% felt that Abdullah had fulfilled many of his promises
5. 48% approved Dr Khir Toyo as chief minister, a marginal drop from 49% in February.
Q22. Do you know the Member of Parliament (MP) for your area?

- Yes: 34%
- No/Don't know: 66%

Breakdown by ethnicity:
- Malay: Yes 77%, No/Don't know 23%
- Chinese: Yes 52%, No/Don't know 48%
- Indian: Yes 61%, No/Don't know 39%
Q23. How satisfied or dissatisfied are you with the performance of the Member of Parliament in your area?

- Satisfied: 59%
- Dissatisfied: 32%
- Don't know/No response: 9%

By Ethnic Group:
- Malay: Satisfied 57%, Dissatisfied 33%, Don't know/No response 9%
- Chinese: Satisfied 42%, Dissatisfied 23%, Don't know/No response 35%
- Indian: Satisfied 60%, Dissatisfied 33%, Don't know/No response 7%
Q24. How strongly do you approve or disapprove of the way Abdullah Ahmad Badawi is performing his job as the prime minister?

Approval rating of Abdullah Ahmad Badawi

- Approve: 77%
- Disapprove: 18%
- Don't know/No response: 5%

Approval rating of Abdullah Ahmad Badawi by ethnicity:

- Malay: 18% Approve, 5% Disapprove, 27% Don't know/No response
- Chinese: 41% Approve, 18% Disapprove, 3% Don't know/No response
- Indian: 70% Approve, 3% Disapprove, 27% Don't know/No response
Q25. When Abdullah Ahmad Badawi became Prime Minister, he pledged to fight corruption, improve public service delivery and transparency, how far you think he has kept to his promises?

All of it: 28%
Most of it: 37%
Some of it: 13%
Neutral: 9%
None: 4%
Don't know/No response: 10%
Q25. When Abdullah Ahmad Badawi became Prime Minister, he pledged to fight corruption, improve public service delivery and transparency, how far you think he has kept to his promises?

- **Malay**
  - All of it: 6%
  - Most of it: 39%
  - Some of it: 15%
  - Neutral: 30%
  - None: 4%
  - Don't know/No response: 7%

- **Chinese**
  - All of it: 5%
  - Most of it: 31%
  - Some of it: 17%
  - Neutral: 27%
  - None: 7%
  - Don't know/No response: 13%

- **Indian**
  - All of it: 11%
  - Most of it: 7%
  - Some of it: 51%
  - Neutral: 20%
  - None: 11%
  - Don't know/No response: 13%
Q26. How strongly do you approve or disapprove of the way Dr. Mohd Khir Toyo is performing his job as the Chief Minister?
Survey Results

BERSIH rally
BERSIH rally

1. More people in Selangor were aware of the rally held by BERSIH at 76% as compared to 45% nationwide
2. 66% supported any demand for free and fair elections
3. 40% supported another rally be held by BERSIH. 42% opposed and 18% declined to respond
Q32. Were you aware or not aware of the rally conducted by the group called BERSIH at Kuala Lumpur on November 10 last week?

Awareness of BERSIH rally

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Yes</th>
<th>No/Don't know</th>
<th>No response</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Malay</td>
<td>82%</td>
<td>14%</td>
<td>4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chinese</td>
<td>71%</td>
<td>26%</td>
<td>3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Indian</td>
<td>67%</td>
<td>30%</td>
<td>2%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Q33. How far do you support or do not support any demand for a clean and fair election process?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Do you support demand for clean &amp; fair election process?</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Support</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>---------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>66%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>69%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>61%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Malay | Chinese | Indian
Q34. On November 10 a group called BERSIH organized a public gathering at Kuala Lumpur demanding a clean and fair election. Do you accept or do not accept if the same gathering is to be held again in the future?