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## Pest control firms still unable to register with MPSJ

**PETALING JAYA:** Three months ago, pest control companies were told they could apply to be on the Subang Jaya Municipal Council's (MPSJ) pest control panel, as long as they were members of the Pesticides Board under the Agriculture and Agro-based Industry Ministry.

Members of the board are licensed pesticide operators and applicators, who also have proper pesticide storage licence, as required under the Pesticides Act 1974 (amended 2004).

To date, only two companies, which were part of a controversial consortium, are registered with the panel. Other companies that also have the qualifications have been having problems registering with the panel.

At the council's full-board meeting yesterday, Subang Jaya state assemblyman and MPSJ councillor Datuk Lee Hwa Beng said: "It should be made clear that companies that want to join the panel, which is meant to service food and beverage outlets in the municipality, need not register with the Ministry of Finance. They only need to register with the Ministry of Finance if they are servicing MPSJ directly."

Met later, Lee said some pest control companies had vented their frustration on him because they were not enlisted on the panel even though they had the necessary qualifications.

When they sought to be enlisted on the panel, they were told they need to register with the Ministry of Finance, he said.

"It is not up to MPSJ to appoint them," Lee said, adding that if they have the qualifications, they automatically qualify to be enlisted on the panel.

MPSJ president Adnan Md Ikshan, in agreeing with Lee, told the relevant department to take note and comply with the state government's directive.