

What's my future, Malaysia?

Written by straits-mongrel
Sunday, 11 April 2010 00:44



What's my future, Malaysia?

Written by straits-mongrel
Sunday, 11 April 2010 00:44

She's twelve years old. Bronzed skin, hair bleached from the salted sun. We didn't manage to get her name; she was with her girl friends - carefree and full of cheer - at the Kota Kinabalu waterfront just beside the Handicraft Market that afternoon. They came and willingly jumped in front of the camera, making hip-hop poses like teens from the 'hood. She was chatty, just like any other healthy girl except for one big difference.

She's never been to school. There isn't one where she lives. She cannot read nor write. She knows rudimentary arithmetic - simple addition and subtraction. Ditto her group of friends. Each morning the girls leave their homes in the settlements at Pulau Gaya and come ashore to the city's waterfront seeking menial work - dishwashing, food prep and packaging. Promises of the dreams of a [high-income economy and the NEM](#) would be pretty meaningless for people like them. In most likelihood, a frustration will build up as the world passes them by. And then what?

Could this be the timebomb that [Project IC](#) planted?

What's my future, Malaysia?

Written by straits-mongrel
Sunday, 11 April 2010 00:44



[Lest We Forget \(Sabah and Singapore\) by Sabah](#) [SAFE](#)

What's my future, Malaysia?

Written by straits-mongrel
Sunday, 11 April 2010 00:44



What's my future, Malaysia?

Written by straits-mongrel
Sunday, 11 April 2010 00:44



Copyright © 2010 by straits-mongrel. All rights reserved. This content may not be reproduced without the written permission of straits-mongrel.

What's my future, Malaysia?

Written by straits-mongrel
Sunday, 11 April 2010 00:44



What's my future, Malaysia?

Written by straits-mongrel
Sunday, 11 April 2010 00:44



Why? Only the people who are not in the world can see the world. Only the people who are not in the world can see the world. Only the people who are not in the world can see the world.

What's my future, Malaysia?

Written by straits-mongrel
Sunday, 11 April 2010 00:44



© 2010 The Straits Times. All rights reserved. No part of this publication may be reproduced, stored in a retrieval system, or transmitted, in any form or by any means, electronic, mechanical, photocopying, recording, or by any information storage or retrieval system, without prior written permission from The Straits Times.

What's my future, Malaysia?

Written by straits-mongrel
Sunday, 11 April 2010 00:44



What's my future, Malaysia?

Written by straits-mongrel
Sunday, 11 April 2010 00:44



Published by straits-mongrel on Sunday, 11 April 2010 00:44. URL: <http://www.straits-mongrel.com/2010/04/11/whats-my-future-malaysia/>

What's my future, Malaysia?

Written by straits-mongrel
Sunday, 11 April 2010 00:44



there's a lack of public water supply in Malaysia, especially in the rural areas. There is no waterway in the area; the residents have to go to the river to get water.

What's my future, Malaysia?

Written by straits-mongrel
Sunday, 11 April 2010 00:44

[illegible]

What's my future, Malaysia?

Written by straits-mongrel
Sunday, 11 April 2010 00:44



Revised by straits-mongrel on 11 April 2010 00:44

What's my future, Malaysia?

Written by straits-mongrel
Sunday, 11 April 2010 00:44



Teach them to fish the right ways, teach them to fish so they know they belong. It is only proper that we