

'Have community childcare centres instead'

THE government should encourage more community-based childcare centres to be set up, says Malaysian Employers Federation executive director Shamsuddin Bardan.

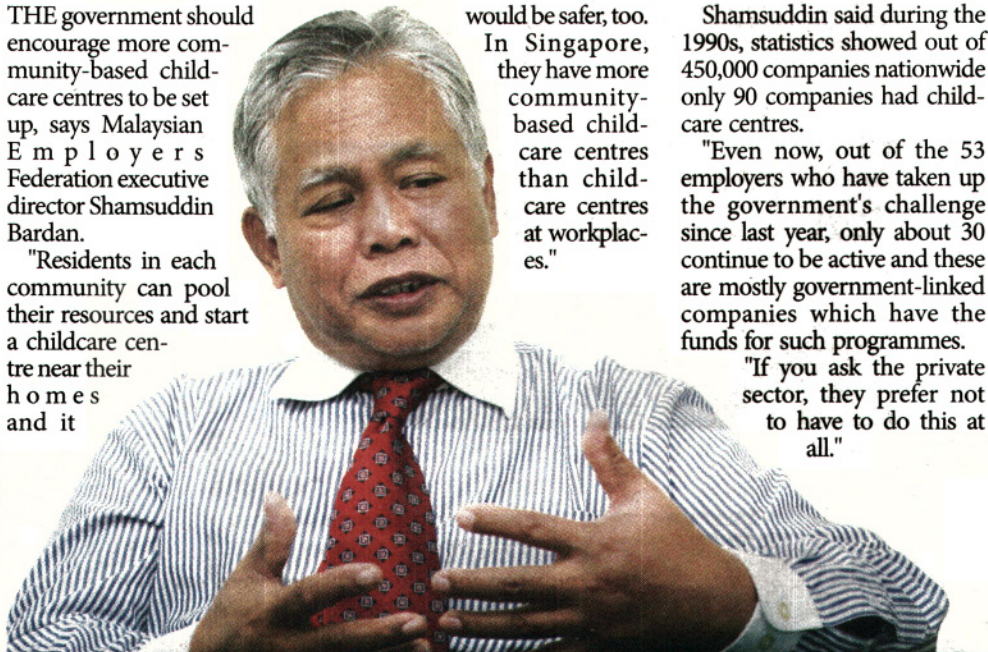
"Residents in each community can pool their resources and start a childcare centre near their homes and it

would be safer, too. In Singapore, they have more community-based childcare centres than childcare centres at workplaces."

Shamsuddin said during the 1990s, statistics showed out of 450,000 companies nationwide only 90 companies had childcare centres.

"Even now, out of the 53 employers who have taken up the government's challenge since last year, only about 30 continue to be active and these are mostly government-linked companies which have the funds for such programmes.

"If you ask the private sector, they prefer not to have to do this at all."



GO COMMUNITY: Shamsuddin says community childcare centres better than those at work places