

■ WELFARE DEPT CHECKS REVEAL ...

Nursery has no permit

By NAJMUDDIN NAJIB

KUALA LUMPUR: It's confirmed. The Petaling Jaya nursery, in which 2½-month-old Brandon Teh died last month, is operating without a permit.

This was the finding of the Selangor Welfare Department whose officers visited the nursery earlier this week.

A department spokesman said yesterday that their officers conducted a check on the premises on Monday, a day after *Sunday Mail* front-paged Brandon's death while in the nursery's care.

"We interviewed the owner and she admitted that she did not have the department's certificate of registration," said the spokesman.

He said further investigations showed that the owner had previously run another nursery which was operating legally until it closed down.

"In 2003, she then opened the present nursery, which is a smaller home-based establishment, but neglected to apply for a permit," he said.

The spokesman said the nursery owner has been advised to apply for a permit as soon as possible.

Sunday Mail reported that Brandon died while in the care of a nursery in Petaling Jaya.

His parents, Vincent Teh and Rowena Yong, questioned why he was not given medical attention when he fell ill.

The first-time parents had alleged that the nursery owner assured them that she has a nursing background.

The couple also claimed that the woman said she had a car in case of emergencies.

On the day of the incident, the nursery owner had to borrow a neighbour's car to rush the baby to the hospital where he was later pronounced dead.



FLASHBACK of the *Sunday Mail*'s front page