

**KERATAN AKHBAR-AKHBAR TEMPATAN
TARIKH: 9 OGOS 2015 (AHAD)**

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Angin Kencang Dijangka Berterusan Sehingga Rabu

KUALA LUMPUR, 9 Ogos (Bernama) -- Angin kencang barat daya yang berlaku di perairan Labuan serta di Pantai Barat dan Kudat, Sabah dijangka berterusan sehingga Rabu ini.

Jabatan Meteorologi Malaysia dalam satu kenyataan berkata angin kencang itu dijangka melanda dengan kelajuan antara 40 dan 50 kilometer sejam (kmsj) dengan ombak mencapai ketinggian sehingga 3.5 meter.

Menurut kenyataan itu lagi situasi sama dijangka berlaku di perairan Sulu dan keadaan itu berbahaya kepada bot kecil, aktiviti rekreasi serta sukan laut.

Sementara itu, ribut petir yang berlaku di perairan Kudat dijangka berterusan sehingga pagi ini yang menyebabkan angin kencang sehingga 50 kmsj dengan ombak setinggi 3.5 meter.

Selain itu, angin kencang barat daya dengan kelajuan 50 dan 60 kmsj serta ombak mencapai ketinggian sehingga 4.5 meter dijangka berlaku di kawasan Phuket, Condore, Reef North, Layang-Layang dan Palawan, sehingga Rabu.

Keadaan angin kencang dan laut bergelora itu berbahaya kepada semua aktiviti perkapalan dan pantai termasuk menangkap ikan dan perkhidmatan feri.

-- BERNAMA



Kadamaian assemblyman **Jeremy Malajad** pointing to the main road of **Kampung Melangkap**, which was damaged in floods, in Kota Belud yesterday. Bernama pic

Floodwaters in Sabah subside

ASSURANCE: Najib pledges to repair damaged public property, assist displaced victims

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THE floods that affected several areas in Sabah have subsided, with the situation returning to normal.

The Sabah Security Council and Works Department are repairing bridges and roads at Kampung Melangkap here after they were cut off by flash floods on Friday.

The bridges, which were newly repaired after mudslides hit the village last month, were swept away during the floods. A homestay was damaged.

The increased water level of Sungai Panataran following downpour since Monday flooded the village's main road. About 800 people were stranded and SK Melangkap, which has some 200 students, was closed. However, there were no evacuations as the floods only inundated bridges and roads.

Fire and Rescue Department spokesman Mohd Affendy K. Ramin said as of 2pm yesterday, the situation here had improved and the water level of the river had receded.

"All villagers are safe and accounted for and the road is passable for vehicles. But we will take precautions to face the possibility that it might rain again."

Sabah Meteorology Department had forecast that the heavy rain, caused by Typhoon Soudelar, would end yesterday.

Meanwhile, Prime Minister Datuk Seri Najib Razak yesterday said the Federal Government and state agencies were monitoring the affected areas in Sabah, such as Kota Belud and Beaufort.

"In Kota Belud and other areas affected, all public property, including schools and roads, will be repaired by the ministry responsible if damaged, while people who have to be relocated would be assisted immediately," he said in a Facebook post yesterday.

Sabah has been hit by mudslides, floods and heavy rainfall since a 6.0-magnitude earthquake hit Ranau. The damage to public assets and infrastructure has been estimated at RM94.8 million in Ranau and Kota Belud.

Twenty-two roads (three federal and 19 state roads), one bridge, 22 slopes (three federal and 19 state slopes) and some utilities were cut off in several areas.

INJECTING 'SOUL' INTO STEM

AKADEMI Sains Malaysia co-organised the recent Global Research and Development (R&D) Leaders and CEOs Forum themed Injecting Soul into R&D with the Ministry of Science, Technology and Innovation and Higher Education Ministry. It was a timely event as the promotion of Science and Technology (S&T) as envisaged in the country's education policy has taken on new dimensions. Innovation has come into the picture, and S&T has become STI.

More recently, Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) is being popularised. While it was initially known as SMET — a different permutation of the same disciplines — it did not gain popularity because it has negative connotations in some cultures. Notwithstanding this, the expanded cluster of disciplines as defined by STEM is reportedly more relevant to workforce development and for improving competitiveness over a broader spread as demanded by the market. But to some, given the emerging demands of lifelong learning, and lately, life-wide learning, STEM is still not broad enough as a meaningful knowledge base. It is said to be metaphorically

devoid of its roots, for example, without being well-grounded in the philosophy and history of science. The tendency is to interpret STEM merely as a utilitarian tool governed by the laws of economics, mainly for wealth creation. The intellectual and academic ramifications, especially in the realm of ethics, are virtually neglected, therefore the need for a "soul" so that the study of STEM is not narrowly conceived and goes beyond the



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mechanistic aspects of science alone. There is a need to break down the wall between the sciences and non-sciences (especially management, arts, humanities and social sciences).

In this regard, it is imperative that STEM be enlarged to STEAM as the former is said to not only mirror more of the previous century's disciplinary cluster with a bias towards the mathematical-physics construct but it is also devoid of biological-based contributions. Oxford University, for example, prefers STEMM to STEM, where the additional M is for Medical sciences — opening a small window to the biological world of 21st century learning.

On the other hand, STEAM takes into consideration not only the disciplinarity of Science and Technology (covering the

various sub-disciplines), but also that of Environment, Ethics and Economics vital to the learning and practices of S&T today. It also takes Aesthetics (including art, culture and nature, i.e. biologically-based) and Management (including policy and governance) into consideration. Such an interdisciplinary approach will further enrich the study of science and its role in nation-building.

It is clear that STEM is too narrow and compartmentalised to match what STEAM has to offer. Viewed in a different way, STEAM is a more balanced and knowledge-based in meeting the complex demands of the 21st century.

It is still not considered sufficiently diverse and interdisciplinary in the context of injecting the "soul". The cry of "education without a soul" has reached a crescendo lately so much so that it has even captured the interest of the Ministry of Science, Technology and Innovation as evident in the forum which highlighted that R&D should not be motivated by economic and commercial gains, without paying adequate attention to seeking sustainable solutions to the issues faced by the "bottom billion".

The urgency to find a "soul" in R&D cannot be underestimated as it is high time to create a platform for enlightened change-makers and stakeholders to pave the way forward. This raises the stakes in rethinking STEM for reasons argued above.

Indeed, even STEAM may not be

enough to build a case in search of a "soul", without taking into account a space for it to be embraced, namely of religio-ethical dimension. This can be represented by inserting "R" to create the acronym — STREAM — where religio-ethical features prominently in line with the notion of ethics and spirituality spelt out as one of six student aspirations in the Malaysia Education Blueprint. This will give the big picture where S&T denotes aspirations that focus on knowledge in general; R&E stands for ethics and spirituality; and A&M for leadership and bilingualism as well as national identity with Higher Order Thinking Skills cutting across the board. With this interdisciplinary approach, a more wholesome education could be designed that could be translated into R&D as an ethos for more impactful actions towards achieving socio-economic transformation and sustainable development goals with a clear "conscience". After all, the human conscience is generally regarded as the voice of a soul with humility. Lao Tzu said: "All streams flow to the ocean because it is lower than they are. Humility gives ocean its power." That ocean could be the well-integrated STREAM powered by humility.

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