

**KERATAN AKHBAR-AKHBAR TEMPATAN
TARIKH: 23 SEPTEMBER 2015 (RABU)**

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Tackling haze at source the answer

WE refer to the letter "Cloud seeding is not the answer" (*The Star*, Sept 17).

The Science, Technology and Innovation Ministry (Mosti) agrees with the writer, Capt (R) Oo Kwan Huat, that rain from successful cloud seeding operations will only provide temporary relief and the haze problem needs to be tackled at the source.

However, tackling the haze at source is easier said than done and indeed we are lucky as the haze problem will be over by October when the inter monsoon starts.

Wetter weather and light and variable wind will ensure that our country will be free from the trans-boundary haze during this period.

Meanwhile, be rest assured as the cloud seeding operation will only be carried out after careful analysis of the safety and success factor of the operation, such as visibility, favourable clouds and the stability of the atmosphere.

**MALAYSIA METEOROLOGICAL
DEPARTMENT
Petaling Jaya**

KERATAN AKHBAR
THE STAR (NATION) : MUKA SURAT 04
TARIKH: 23 SEPTEMBER 2015 (RABU)

Bright minds:
The winning team from SMK Convent Butterworth with Komala (right) and MNA research officer Salahbiah Abdul Majid (third from right).



Teacher: Science camp an eye-opener

KAJANG: Chemistry teacher Komala Devi Thanimalai described the **Malaysian Nuclear Agency's science camp** for teachers and students as an eye-opening programme that stimulates the interest of the participants.

"This camp is an eye-opener for all of us because there is always fear about nuclear technology.

"And for the students, it takes them away from the books to do field work in places like greenhouses and radiation labs, where they carry out experiments for themselves," said Komala, 51, from SMK Convent Butterworth.

She said the students learned a lot about the nuclear field and how science was applied in their daily life.

"This creates more interest and excitement," she added.

Komala's student Norshaza Abdul

Halim, 17, who initially wanted to be a graphic designer, now wants to become a scientist or researcher.

"I always had a negative idea about scientists and that it was tough, but after this I realised it is fun, interesting, challenging and a unique job," said Norshaza, who helped her school win the RM1,000 grand prize for their tissue culture experiment on how to propagate the seed of a dragon fruit.

"In the future, I want to contribute to society and help find a way to prevent cancer," she added.

Wong Tai Howe, 16, from SMK Lutong Miri, said: "I will return to Sarawak with many new experiences. I enjoyed it because I learned how to use the dosimeter and measure radiation with it.

"We were asked a lot of questions about the experiment but we were encouraged by our instructor to

keep trying to answer them. We learned not to give up."

Nuclear Malaysia senior director of management Dr Dahlan Haji Mohd said the camp aimed to have a positive impact by educating teachers and students on the importance of nuclear science and technology.

"By exposing students to the real-life situations that scientists go through, we want them to gain an interest in science and maybe make it their choice in education and also their careers," said Dr Dahlan.

He said 76 participants from 19 schools from different parts of the country took part in the three-day camp at the Nuclear Malaysia grounds in Bangi.

The **Science, Technology and Innovation Ministry-funded** camp was started in 2013.

KERATAN AKHBAR
UTUSAN MALAYSIA (DALAM NEGERI) : MUKA SURAT 26
TARIKH: 23 SEPTEMBER 2015 (RABU)



JEREBU kembali melanda bandar raya Kuching dengan Indeks Pencemaran Udara (IPU) di Jalan Diplomatik mencatatkan bacaan 84 tengah hari semalam. - BERNAMA

Jerebu kembali landa Sarawak

KUALA LUMPUR 22 Sept. - Keadaan jerebu yang kembali melanda Sarawak hingga mencatatkan bacaan Indeks Pencemaran Udara (IPU) tidak sihat di Sri Aman, Kuching dan Samarahan turut menjejaskan operasi di Lapangan Terbang Antarabangsa Kuching (LTAK) hari ini.

Paras IPU di ketiga-tiga bahagian itu menunjukkan peningkatan setiap jam dengan bacaan di Sri Aman (118), Kuching (114) dan Samarahan (112) setakat pukul 5 petang.

Pengurus Kanan Lapangan LTAK Malaysia Airports Sdn. Bhd., Mohd. Nadzim Hashim berkata, sehingga tempoh itu, sebanyak 13 penerbangan mengalami kelewatan, manakala dua penerbangan dibatal-

kan melibatkan sektor penerbangan Mukah-Kuching-Mukah.

Semalam, Pegawai Meteorologi Kanan Jabatan Meteorologi, Pusat Cuaca Nasional, Dr. Mohd. Kamal Mohd. Anip menyatakan bacaan IPU di seluruh negeri akan meningkat berikutan perubahan arah tiupan angin.

Mohd. Kamal berkata, tiupan angin wilayah Kalimantan Tengah, Indonesia akan kembali dalam masa terdekat malah boleh berlarutan dalam tempoh 10 hari lagi.

Sementara itu di Putrajaya, Cyberjaya dan Sepang dilaporkan semakin pulih apabila bacaan IPU kini berada pada tahap sederhana.

Bagaimanapun lain-lain kawasan di seluruh negara berada

dalam keadaan sederhana dan baik terutama di dua daerah di Sabah iaitu Sandakan dan Kota Kinabalu apabila masing-masing hanya mencatatkan bacaan IPU 29 dan 31.

Jerebu mulai reda sejak 17 September lalu berikutan hujan lebat, namun keadaan itu tidak kekal lama apabila hari ini ruang udara terutama di tiga kawasan di Sarawak dilaporkan kembali membimbangkan.

IPU antara 0 dan 50 adalah baik, 51 hingga 100 (sederhana), 101 hingga 200 (tidak sihat), 201 hingga 300 (sangat tidak sihat) dan 300 ke atas (berbahaya).

Orang ramai boleh merujuk portal <http://apims.doe.gov.my> untuk mengetahui bacaan IPU semasa.

