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TARIKH: 12 JANUARI 2016 (SELASA)**

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Cuaca Panas: Bekalan Air Masih Terkawal - SPAN

KUALA LUMPUR, 11 Jan (Bernama) -- Bekalan air di Semenanjung dan Labuan masih terkawal, meskipun negara kini sedang mengalami cuaca panas disebabkan fenomena El Nino yang dijangka berterusan sehingga Mac.

Pengerusi Suruhanjaya Perkhidmatan Air Negara (SPAN) Datuk Ismail Kasim berkata sehingga kini pihaknya masih belum menerima sebarang aduan mengenai kekurangan sumber air disebabkan cuaca panas.

Bagaimanapun beliau meminta operator air di semua negeri memantau rapi kedudukan sumber air di empangan dan sungai yang membekalkan sumber air mentah ke loji-loji rawatan air di negeri masing-masing.

"Ini adalah kerana kerajaan Negeri bertanggungjawab untuk memastikan sumber air di negeri masing-masing mencukupi untuk memenuhi keperluan bekalan air," katanya dalam satu kenyataan di sini hari ini.

Beliau turut meminta kerajaan negeri mengkaji sumber alternatif lain seperti air di bawah tanah dan kolam takungan bagi menambah sumber air, selain empangan dan sungai.

Dalam pada itu, pengguna dinasihat berhemah dan tidak membazir dalam menggunakan bekalan air supaya sumber air dapat bertahan lebih lama.

Pada 8 Jan lepas, [Menteri Sains, Teknologi dan Inovasi Datuk Seri Panglima Madius Tangau](#) memaklumkan cuaca panas dan kering ketika ini disebabkan oleh kejadian fenomena El Nino kuat yang sedang berlaku dan dijangka berterusan dalam suku pertama 2016.

Fenomena El Nino boleh menyebabkan pengurangan jumlah hujan antara 20 peratus hingga 60 peratus dan kenaikan suhu sekitar 0.5C hingga 2.0C dari biasa.

-- BERNAMA

Hot spell spells Aedes danger

PETALING JAYA: The current hot spell can bring dehydration and heatstroke. And it can also bring the Aedes mosquito into your home.

So, it is important that breeding grounds are eliminated, says Health director-general Datuk Dr Noor Hisham Abdullah.

He said the dry spell can cause a spike in vector and water-borne diseases.

Extreme hot weather can cause people to feel fatigued, besides causing dehydration and heatstroke.

Dr Noor Hisham said there could also be related problems such as food contamination, and Upper Respiratory Tract Infection (URTI), asthma and conjunctivitis.

He said senior citizens and children were at high risk of contracting such illnesses.

He advised the public to drink enough water, limit outdoor activities and wear hats or carry an umbrella to be protected from the sun.

Energy, Green Technology and Water Minister Datuk Seri Dr Maximus Ongkili called on all water concessionaires to closely monitor water levels at dams.

As of now, he said there was no report of a water supply shortage anywhere in the peninsula and Labuan.

Dr Ongkili said the water rationing in some areas in Johor Baru was due to a lack of rain at the Sungai Lebam and Sungai Layang catchment areas last year, and failure to manage the water resources.

Last week, Science, Technology and Innovation Minister Datuk Seri Wilfred Madius Tangau said peninsular Malaysia, Limbang and Miri in Sarawak, and Sabah would experience hot and dry weather until March.

The weather condition is a result of the El Nino phenomenon, which is expected to reduce rainfall by between 20% and 60% and cause temperatures to rise between 0.5°C and 2°C.

