

**KERATAN AKHBAR-AKHBAR TEMPATAN
TARIKH: 7 APRIL 2016 (KHAMIS)**

Bil	Tajuk	Akhbar
1.	Planes ready to seed but no clouds in sight so far	The Star
2.	Farmers urged to venture into beekeeping	BERNAMA
3.	Perlis Government requests for immediate cloud seeding	BERNAMA
4.	Lebih ramai usahawan digesa ceburi bidang penghasilan madu lebah	BERNAMA
5.	Pimpinan tertinggi Cybersecurity kini adalah C CISO bertauliah	BERNAMA
6.	'Hot and dry spell to ease'	New Straits Times
7.	More rain expected in Sabah, says Met Official	New Straits Times
8.	Komitmen Malaysia terhadap nuklear	Utusan Malaysia
9.	Designing attainable beauty, The Proton Way	Malay Mail

Planes ready to seed but no clouds in sight so far

KOTA KINABALU: Royal Malaysian Air Force aircraft are on standby in Labuan to carry cloud-seeding in Sabah, but the weather is not being cooperative.

Chief Minister Datuk Seri Musa Aman said the absence of cumulus clouds over the state has prevented any such operation.

"We can only wait and hope for such clouds," he said, while urging religious bodies to hold special prayer sessions for divine intervention to alleviate Sabah's prolonged dry spell.

Cumulus clouds are suitable for cloud-seeding operations.

In the tropics, cloud-seeding is an attempt to induce rain by dispersing substances into the air that serve as points where condensation can occur.

In a related development, Science, Technology and Innovation Minister Datuk Wilfred Madius Tangau said the Meteorological Department had provided the salt solution needed for cloud-seeding.

"However, satellite imagery over the past several days has shown the absence of cumulus clouds over Sabah's west coast districts," he said in a statement.

Meanwhile, Musa said firemen, with the aid of other authorities including Forest Department rangers, had been working round the clock to put out bush and forest fires.



Farmers Urged To Venture Into Beekeeping

By Rashidah Abdul Rahim

ALOR GAJAH, April 6 (Bernama) -- More farmers should venture into beekeeping to help meet rising local and overseas demand, said Flora Bee Hive Enterprise Sdn Bhd executive advisor Yan Hashim.

"Our plant in Kamunting, Perak can process about 5,000 metric tonnes of honey a year, but we have so far been able to produce only about 200 metric tonnes of honey supplied by local contract beekeepers, just enough to meet domestic demand, so we have to import honey from Chiang Mai, Thailand.

"But it's difficult for us to export processed honey if we use imported honey as its quality is lower than local honey," he told Bernama here.

Honey is in high demand in the food, healthcare and beauty care sectors for its health benefits and long shelf life, besides being a substitute for sugar to combat diabetes, he said.

Yan said his company, one of the country's largest honey producers, is collaborating with Malaysian Biotechnology Corporation Sdn Bhd (BiotechCorp) to help train Malaysians keen on commercial honey production nationwide.

They will need to have a 0.4 hectare (one acre) piece of land planted with acacia and 'gelam' (Melaleuca or tea tree), he said, pointing out that this area can accommodate 3,000 honey bee boxes, each of which can produce 10 to 35 kg of honey in 45 days.

If things go as planned, the company may open a new factory in Sabah, he said.

Meanwhile, BiotechCorp Chief Executive Officer Datuk Dr Mohd Nazlee Kamal said its collaboration with the company in its Bioeconomy Community Development Programme (BCDP) via the **Ministry of Science, Technology & Innovation's (Mosti) Social Innovation Fund** aims to raise local honey production for the local and overseas markets.

He said last year, 23 BCDP projects were implemented, including in herb and mushroom cultivation, oyster culture and honey bee farming, involving some 300 farmers who earned an average of RM4,300 a month.

He said BiotechCorp aims to implement 56 BCDP projects involving 3,500 farmers over the next five years.

-- BERNAMA



Perlis Government Requests For Immediate Cloud Seeding

KANGAR, April 6 (Bernama) -- The Perlis government has requested for the federal government to immediately conduct cloud seeding in the state, as the water in the Timah Tasoh Dam reached critical level.

Menteri Besar Datuk Seri Azlan Man said the water level in the dam had declined from 26.42m yesterday to 26.40m today, which is below the critical level of 26.50m.

He said the few hours of rainfall three days ago was not enough to raise the water level of the dam.

"Cloud seeding is the best way to raise the water level due to the current extreme hot weather," Azlan said when contacted here today.

Meanwhile, Perlis Department of Irrigation and Drainage director Abdul Najib Abdullah when contacted by Bernama said cloud seeding was the best option at the moment.

"If the condition persists, the water supply in the Timah Tasoh Dam is expected to last only for another month. Before that, the water may have to be rationed," he said, adding that continuous rainfall was the only way for the water level to rise.

Yesterday, Energy, Green Technology and Water Minister Datuk Seri Dr Maximus Ongkili said six dams in four states including Timah Tasoh saw their water-levels dropped below 30 per cent.

In SABAH, the **Minister of Science, Technology and Innovation (Mosti) Datuk Seri Madius Tangau** has directed the Malaysian Meteorological Department (MetMalaysia) to conduct cloud seeding operations (CSO) immediately to curb the haze situation in the state.

He said the directive was a proactive response to address the haze issue which had been plaguing Sabah for the last few days.

"However, the success of the CSO depends on ideal natural factors. CSO cannot produce rain without the existence of appropriate clouds, and its formation is determined by the absolute natural process, which is beyond human control or even technology," he said in a statement.

-- BERNAMA

