

**KERATAN AKHBAR-AKHBAR TEMPATAN
TARIKH: 15 APRIL 2014 (SELASA)**

Bil	Tajuk	Akhbar
1	Research project that benefits mankind	The Star
2	Vital to beef up cyber security	New Straits Times
3	'Dry winds are coming'	New Straits Times
4	Takungan air kritikal	Harian Metro
5	Naik taraf teknologi radar, satelit	Utusan Malaysia

**KERATAN AKHBAR TEMPATAN
THE STAR (COURSE FOCUS) : MUKA SURAT 7
TARIKH: 15 APRIL 2014 (SELASA)**

RESEARCH PROJECT THAT BENEFITS MANKIND

THERE is no current cure for movement-impaired or motor neuron disease (MND).

Some patients cannot even speak. So this project aims to improve the quality of their lives by providing better mobility," says Prof Ir Datuk Goh Sing Yau, lecturer at the Department of Mechanical and Material Engineering at Universiti Tunku Abdul Rahman (UTAR).

Prof Goh was speaking about UTAR's Brain Computer-Interface (BCI) wheelchair project, which was awarded RM2.79mil under the Ministry of Science Technology and Innovation Flagship Project.

The live demonstration of the clinically pre-commercialised prototype of the BCI wheelchair is a research project that reflects UTAR's commitment to excellence in education and research.

Achieving excellence

With UTAR's engineering discipline achieving a rating of Tier 5 Excellence in the Discipline-Based Rating System (D-SETARA), it is not surprising to see excellence in engineering research projects the university achieved.

Currently, the Faculty of Engineering and Science (FES) offers seven degree programmes in the field of science and nine programmes in the field of engineering.

The faculty's teaching and research

are complemented by a range of excellent facilities such as science laboratories, engineering laboratories and research centres, including the Centre for Computing Intelligent System (CCIS) and Centre for Information System and Software Technologies (CISST).

In addition to preparing engineering students to be academically qualified, the exemplary leadership of lecturers and the practical knowledge imparted to students are also spurring them to be proactively involved in industry competitions.

UTAR's team Ottobot exemplified this when it competed in the annual Shell Eco-marathon Asia 2014.

The team was made up of Vishant Selvarajah, an FES mechatronics engineering student and team Ottobot's manager; Lim Pok Sheen, an architecture student; and mechanical engineering students Poh Hou Wei and Lee Jia Qi.

Electronic and communications engineering student Loh Hong Khai also did the faculty proud when he won the prestigious Bayer Young Environmental Envoy Award 2013.

An elated Loh attributed his success to the support and encouragement of his lecturers and the faculty and hopes that his achievement will inspire more students to strive to do their best.

■ For more information, visit www.utar.edu.my





Vital to beef up cyber security

ACT NOW: Asean must lay an intellectual foundation and framework to preserve security in a borderless domain

LAST week, the world got a feel for what a Heartbleed on the World Wide Web is like. The encryption bug — referenced unromantically in actual fact as CVE-2014-0160 — compromises security and privacy of communication on the Internet so that sensitive information such as usernames and passwords are vulnerable to theft. Estimates of the damage so far run between 500,000 websites to two-thirds of the Web but unless you are a bit of a technology junkie, the significance of Heartbleed will most likely have escaped you.

Technology still confounds many people. The speed at which it evolves and the exclusive code-speak that accompanies it ensures three consequences. First, that discussions of security in cyberspace

are largely confined to the technical level. Second, that consideration of the strategic dimension of cyber security is lagging. And third, that a comprehensive approach to cyber security bridging the public/private and civilian/military divides that technology itself increasingly cuts across, remains wanting.

Nowhere in this region is this probably more apparent than in Southeast Asia. As Asean begins to coalesce into a community by 2015, the concept of physical, institutional, and people-to-people connectivity has taken on a greater urgency. Southeast Asia fares exceptionally well in the implementation of harmonised e-commerce laws with nine of the 10 Asean countries having laws related to electronic transactions and eight, to cyber crime. This is expected of a region that prioritises economic progress as the basis for political stability. However, as Asean looks to the future beyond 2015, it must begin to cast its eye — however uncomfortably — to the strategic dimensions of cyber security.

To be sure, Asean member states remain hampered by the digital divide, and limited human and fi-

ancial capacity. But the lack of physical infrastructure now should not constitute an inherent restriction or excuse to lay an intellectual foundation and framework for the future, especially concerning strategic issues of cyber security. With commercial and military operations increasingly converging through shared skills and software in cyber space, there are critical questions that should be but have not yet been explored in depth in this region.

What happens in the event of a cyber attack against a nuclear power plant in, say, 2030 when Vietnam's generators are supposed to be operational? Or, if Malaysia's emergency services are disabled by malicious code simultaneously as a kinetic attack on a military installation? What recourse to action would be available? What level of attack would qualify as a use of force under international law? How would attribution be decided?

These questions sit uneasily with non-confrontational Asean member-states not only because we eschew the slightest connotation of conflict but also simply because we do not consider these priority. However, if connectivity



*Elina Noor is
ISIS Malaysia
assistant
director, foreign
policy and
security studies*

holds the key to Asean integration and community-building then the physical infrastructure that binds must be underpinned by the security of a governing framework which will lead to clarity of action in crises.

Moreover, if Asean is to be a credible convener of discourse among our dialogue partners, many of which are major power players, then we will need to step up our intellectual game. It will no longer do for Asean to continue sitting back as neighbours in the Asia-Pacific proactively craft policies and approaches that will determine how the precepts, doctrines, and rules of strategic cyber security apply. Instead, Asean — whether through the Asean Regional Forum or the Asean Defence Ministers Meeting Plus — will need to start grappling with evolving challenges in cyber space that impact upon fundamental precepts like state sovereignty and international law.

Cyber security is not simply about software bugs or code. Nor it is about monitoring or censoring Internet content. At the strategic level, it is about preserving security in a borderless domain where traditional divides between civilian and military, state and non-state, public and private, physical and virtual, and national and regional/international are increasingly being blurred.

This week, one of the top defence and security shows in the region — Defence Services Asia 2014 — opens in Kuala Lumpur. Its official programme of events includes a full-day conference on comprehensive cyber security, bringing together industry, policy, and the defence sector. Hopefully, this will be the conversation starter this region needs.

'Dry winds are coming'

DAMS TO BE HIT: Five months of vastly reduced rainfall likely from May

**MASTURA YUSOFF
AND NIKITA NAWAWI**
KUALA LUMPUR
news@nst.com.my

MALAYSIANS may have to brace for another round of dry spell for a five-month period beginning from the middle of next month due to the southwest monsoon season.

Even though temperatures are forecast to reach a comfortable 32 to 33° Celsius during this period, a lack of rain and higher evaporation rate will see drier weather affecting west coast states in the peninsula.

Meteorological Department (MMD) central forecast office director, Muhammad Helmi Abdullah said the weather change was due to dry winds coming from Indonesia.

This would create a high evaporation rate, which makes it easier

for bodies of water to be absorbed into the atmosphere.

"The west coast states in the peninsula including Perak, Selangor, Negri Sembilan, Malacca and Johor will be most affected by this dry season.

"There will be an average rainfall of 100 to 200 millimetres throughout the country during this five-month period. This is lower as compared with the 200 to 300 millimetres of rain the country has been experiencing since March 29," Helmi told the *New Straits Times*.

The previous dry spell had caused water levels at 20 dams and 21 rivers nationwide to dip between 0.3m and 1m since Feb 14 this year. This led to water rationing in Selangor and the Klang Valley that started on Feb 27.

Rationing had initially affected 71 areas in Hulu Langat, Kuala Langat and Sepang, and was triggered by the closure of the Cheras Batu 11 and Bukit Tampoi water treatment plants due to ammonia pollution in Sungai Langat.

A total of 5.9 million people have

been affected by the fourth phase of rationing that began recently, after water levels continued to decrease at seven dams that supply raw water to treatment plants in Kuala Lumpur, Selangor and Putrajaya

The dry spell had also affected water supply in certain areas in Johor and Negri Sembilan.

Malaysian Nature Society's Johor chairman Vincent Chow said uncertain global weather patterns would likely have an effect on local weather patterns and this may be evident

during the five-month dry season.

"The global climate change is quite cuckoo. This can have an effect on the weather in Malaysia, and with the southwest monsoon, the high evaporation could affect water levels at dams. This is something that needs to be looked at seriously."

Chow said temperatures during the southwest monsoon would depend on the level of pollution and other environmental factors. He said the evaporation rate would depend mostly on the movement

of air and wind during the southwest monsoon.

Meanwhile, Meteorological Department's commercial and corporate services director Dr Mohd Hisham Mohd Anip said cloud seeding operation continued yesterday at several locations in Selangor in an effort to increase water levels at dams.

"We are still in the inter-monsoon season and it is expected to last until early May in the west coast of Peninsular Malaysia."

Selangor Water Management Authority information officer (corporate unit) Ishak Kamaruzaman said the water level at the Sungai Selangor dam stood at 37.73 per cent (190.45m) yesterday.

"The dam supplies water to 60 per cent of Selangor residents and needs to reach 55 per cent of its capacity before we can end the water rationing exercise.

"However, the low quantity of rain at water catchment areas has not raised water levels at dams across the state."

Yesterday, water levels at the Klang Gates dam stood at 89.92m, Langat dam (211.70m), Sungai Tinggi dam (52.97m), Batu dam (99.18m), Sungai Labu dam (38.90m) and Semenyih dam (106.11m).



**WATER
CRISIS**

Takungan air **kritikal**

■ Kapasiti air di Empangan Padang Saga dan enam empangan lain di empat negeri membimbangkan

Oleh Fazurawati Che Lah
 fazurawati@mediapri-
 ma.com.my
Kuala Lumpur

Sejak minggu lalu, Empangan Padang Saga, Kedah berada pada tahap kritikal apabila kapasiti baki takungan air semasa hanya pada berjumlah 0.18 meter.

Berdasarkan rekod di laman Jabatan Pengairan dan Saliran (JPS) jumlah baki takungan itu bersamaan 0.06 juta liter padu yang mana ia berada di tahap membimbangkan.

Selain empangan itu, enam empangan di empat negeri menunjukkan kapasiti takungan air di bawah paras 40 peratus.

Empangan berkenaan iai-

“Walaupun operasi pembenihan awan sudah dilaksanakan sejak bulan lalu, kapasiti takungan di empangan terbabit tidak menunjukkan peningkatan baik”

Jurucakap JPS

tu Empangan Machap, Johor; Empangan Bukit Kwong, Kelantan; Empangan Muda, Kedah; Empangan Timah Tasoh, Perlis dan Empangan Sungai Selangor, Selangor berada

pada tahap minimum.

Penyusutan kapasiti takungan air di empangan terbabit dipercayai kerana cuaca panas dan kering selain kurangnya kadar hujan yang diterima oleh kawasan tadahan sejak Januari lalu.

Jurucakap JPS Selangor berkata, kapasiti takungan air di setiap empangan terbabit berupaya mencecah tahap 55 peratus sekiranya faktor cuaca serta kadar taburan hujan yang diterima di kawasan tadahan itu berterusan sehingga tempoh tiga bulan.

“Walaupun operasi pembenihan awan sudah dilaksanakan sejak bulan lalu, kapasiti takungan di empangan terbabit tidak menunjukkan peningkatan baik,” katanya di sini, semalam.

Pengarah Bahagian Sains Atmosfera dan Pembenihan Awan Jabatan Meteorologi Malaysia (JMM) Azhar Ishak berkata, pihaknya sudah memulakan tumpuan proses pembenihan awan ber-

mula Ahad lalu.

“Kita sudah menjalankan pembenihan awan untuk empangan utama di Perak pada Ahad lalu dan akan fokus selama seminggu di empat empangan utama di Selangor bermula esok (hari ini).

“Lembaga Urus Air Selangor (LUAS) meminta supaya pembenihan awan dilakukan di empat empangan utama berkenaan iaitu Empangan Sungai Selangor, Empangan Sungai Tinggi, Empangan Langat dan Empangan Klang Gates,” katanya.

Berdasarkan hasil semakan dalam laman web rasmi LUAS, kapasiti takungan air di empat daripada tujuh empangan di Selangor masih kekal pada paras kritikal iaitu kurang 70 peratus.

Empangan Klang Gate berada pada kapasiti 53.68 peratus bersamaan 13.6 juta liter padu, Empangan Langat (50.49 peratus/17.21 juta liter padu), Empangan Sungai Selangor (37.73 per-

Paras Air Empangan (sehingga 5 petang 14 April 2014)				
Empangan	Paras Normal (m)	Paras Minimum (m)	Paras Semasa (m)	Baki (m)
Machap (Johor)	16.50	13.10	14.37	1.27
Semborong (Johor)	10.00	6.00	8.47	2.47
Bekok (Johor)	15.50	8.70	13.01	4.31
Padang Saga (Kedah)	19.50	18.50	18.32	0.18
Bukit Kwong (Kelantan)	16.76	12.20	14.26	2.06
Alning (MADA)	105.70	101.90	102.19	0.29
Muda (MADA)	94.50	82.20	91.85	9.65
Timah Tasoh (Perlis)	29.10	25.30	27.21	1.91
Bukit Merah (Perak)	8.70	6.40	6.93	0.53
Langat (Selangor)	220.96	204.21	211.70	7.49
Sungai Selangor (Selangor)	220	184.63	190.45	5.82
Tasik Subang (Selangor)	38.56	34.75	37.66	2.91
Sungai Tinggi (Selangor)	59.50	45.03	52.97	7.94
Batu (Wilayah)	102.00	79.00	99.16	20.16
Genting Kelang (Wilayah)	94.00	84.00	89.98	5.98

Sumber: Jabatan Pengairan dan Saliran

tus/86.79 juta liter padu) dan Empangan Sungai Tinggi (60.92 peratus/69.75 juta liter padu).

Kapasiti tiga empangan lain termasuk Empangan Batu, Semenyih dan Tasik Subang pula kekal pada tahap mele-

bihi 70 peratus.

Krisis bekalan air sejak Februari lalu menyebabkan lebih 6.7 juta penduduk di sekitar Selangor, Kuala Lumpur dan Putrajaya terjejas dan mereka juga bakal berdepan dengan catuan bekalan air tiga bulan lagi.

KERATAN AKHBAR
UTUSAN MALAYSIA (MH370) : MUKA SURAT 4
TARIKH : 15 APRIL 2014 (SELASA)

Bagi tangani ancaman baru terhadap keselamatan negara, insiden MH370 - Hishammuddin

Naik taraf teknologi radar, satelit

Oleh HUSSAINI AMRAN
dan SOFIAN BAHAROM
pengarang@utusan.com.my

KUALA LUMPUR 14 April - Malaysia akan menaik taraf teknologi radar dan satelit bagi menangani ancaman-ancaman baharu terhadap keselamatan negara.

Menteri Pertahanan, Datuk Seri Hishammuddin Tun Hussein berkata, langkah itu wajar berikutan insiden kehilangan pesawat Malaysia Airlines (MAS) MH370 pada 8 Mac lalu.

Menurut beliau, keperluan menaik taraf teknologi radar dan satelit itu bukan sahaja melibatkan Malaysia, malah di seluruh dunia.

"Teknologi radar mungkin perlu dilihat bersama dengan data yang datang dari satelit.

"Aset-aset di lautan mesti dikoordinasi dengan pesawat di ruang udara," katanya dalam sidang akhbar selepas melawat pameran Perkhidmatan Pertahanan Asia (DSA) 2014 di Pusat Dagangan Dunia Putra (PWTC)

di sini hari ini.

Yang turut hadir Panglima Angkatan Tentera, Jeneral Tan Sri Zulkifeli Mohd. Zin dan Panglima Tentera Udara, Jeneral Tan Sri Rodzali Daud.

Hishammuddin menambah, kerajaan juga akan mengkaji aspek perkongsian data komunikasi satelit antara Jabatan Penerbangan Awam (DCA) dan pihak tentera.

Dalam pada itu, beliau memberitahu, penganjuran DSA 2014 membuka ruang kepada kerjasama lebih erat dalam kalangan negara-negara ASEAN.

"Kita perlu melihat rantau ASEAN sebagai sebuah kumpulan. Setiap negara ASEAN secara individu tidak berupaya menangani ancaman-ancaman baharu," jelasnya.

Hishammuddin berkata, DSA 2014 turut menghimpunkan pakar-pakar penerbangan antarabangsa dan pandangan mereka boleh digunakan untuk membantu misi mencari pesawat MH370.



HISHAMMUDDIN Tun Hussien merasmikan pembukaan pameran Perkhidmatan Pertahanan Asia (DSA) 2014 di Pusat Dagangan Dunia Putra (PWTC), semalam. Turut kelihatan, Zulkifeli Mohd. Zin (lima dari kiri). - UTUSAN/MOHD. FARIZWAN HASBULLAH