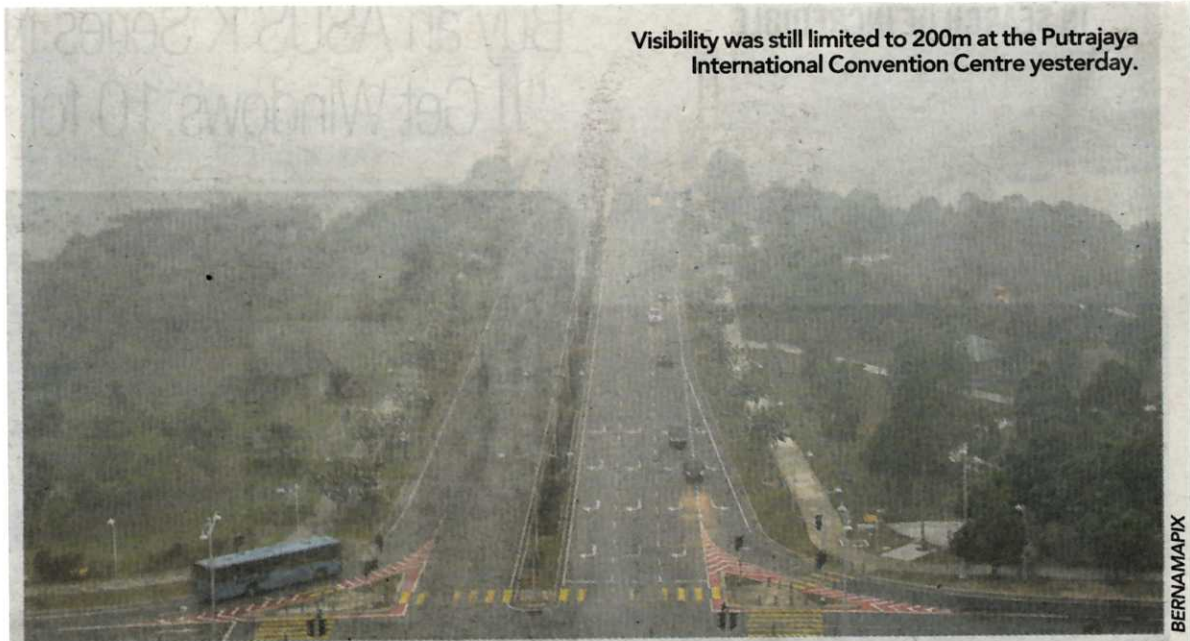


KERATAN AKHBAR-AKHBAR TEMPATAN
TARIKH: 18 SEPTEMBER 2015 (JUMAAT)

Bil	Tajuk	Akhbar
1	Cloud seeding successful only in peninsula	The Sun
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10	Satu lagi gempa bumi kuat melanda pantai kawasan tengah Chile	Bernama.com



Visibility was still limited to 200m at the Putrajaya International Convention Centre yesterday.

BERNAMAPIX

Cloud seeding successful only in peninsula

BY VATHANI PANIRCHELLVUM
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PETALING JAYA: Cloud seeding in northern Selangor, southern Perak and west Pahang have successfully generated rainfall in the respective areas, said Science, Technology and Innovation (Mosti) Minister Datuk Wilfred Madius Tangau.

Tangau said in a statement that it brought rainfall to several areas near the Selangor and Perak border, northern border of Selangor and Pahang and southern Perak and the Pahang border, but was unsuccessful in Sarawak.

"In Sarawak, cloud seeding was conducted around Tebekang in the Samarahan division and the areas of Balai Ringindan Pantu in Sri Aman but it was not successful due to the dry and stable atmospheric condition," he said.

Checks by *theSun* revealed that

at 5pm yesterday, Samarahan recorded an unhealthy level in the Air Pollutant Index at 196 while Kuching and Sri Aman were at 189 and 143 respectively.

Two flights at the Kuching International Airport (LTAB Kuching) had been cancelled up to 10am yesterday due to the haze, *Bernama* reported.

Airport manager Mohd Nadzim Hashim said one was a flight arrival and the other, departure, involving the Kuching-Tanjung Manis and Tanjung Manis-Kuching sectors.

"The two airlines affected are AirAsia and Malindo Air, causing delays to 861 passengers," he added.

Meanwhile, *AFP* reports that Indonesian police have detained seven people whose companies are allegedly connected with illegal agricultural fires that have

cloaked Southeast Asia in haze.

They were arrested on Wednesday in Sumatra, where authorities have been battling smog-belching blazes started to clear land for palm oil and pulp and paper plantations, national police chief Badrodin Haiti said.

Police said some of those arrested were executives, but did not give details about all detained. Officials did not reveal their identities or say which firms they worked for.

They could face up to 15 years jail and heavy fines if found guilty of breaking Indonesian laws that ban starting forest fires.

In addition to the seven arrested, 133 people have been named suspects, Haiti said. This is a legal step in Indonesia that means investigators have enough evidence to consider filing charges against someone.



Kementerian Kesihatan Fokus Peningkat Rawatan Di Pusat Jagaan Harian

KOTA KINABALU, 17 Sept (Bernama) -- Kementerian Kesihatan akan memberi fokus meningkatkan kebolehpayaan dalam memberi perkhidmatan rawatan di Pusat Jagaan Harian di hospital dan klinik kerajaan.

Menterinya Datuk Seri Dr S. Subramaniam berkata ini merupakan proses evolusi yang mendorong kepada usaha membawa transformasi besar kepada keseluruhan sistem penyampaian perkhidmatan kesihatan di negara ini.

Merupakan dasar utama Kementerian Kesihatan dalam Rancangan Malaysia Ke-11, Subramaniam berkata ini bagi memperkukuh peringkat penjagaan kesihatan asas sebagai barisan hadapan dalam sistem penyampaian.

"Ini adalah transformasi utama yang akan berlaku di mana klinik boleh membuat lebih banyak tugas termasuk menjalankan pembedahan di Pusat Jagaan Harian.

"Pesakit boleh masuk (klinik atau hospital) pagi dan petang, mereka sudah boleh dibenarkan pulang ke rumah," katanya kepada pemberita selepas merasmikan Hospital Tuaran Fasa II di sini, Khamis.

Turut hadir Menteri Sains Teknologi dan Inovasi Datuk Madius Tangau, yang juga Anggota Parlimen Tuaran dan Pengarah Kesihatan Sabah Dr Christina Rundi.

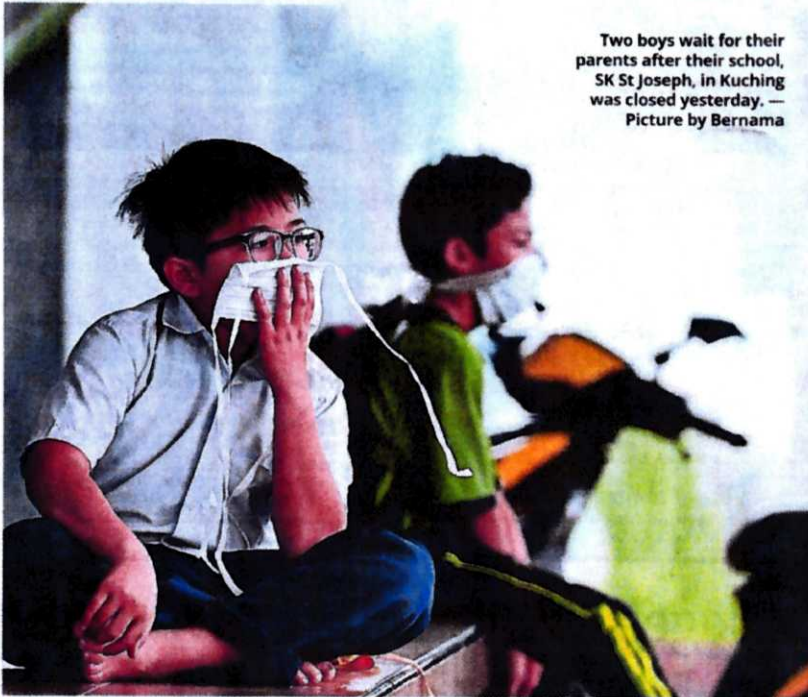
Hospital baharu daerah Tuaran itu dibina dengan kos RM128 juta yang menyediakan sebanyak 76 katil. Hospital ini juga boleh dijadikan sebagai hospital transit sebelum mendapatkan rawatan pakar di Hospital Queen Elizabeth.

Dalam perkembangan berkaitan, Subramaniam berkata kementerian mempunyai perancangan untuk menaik taraf kemudahan klinik di Kota Marudu bagi membolehkan klinik berkenaan menjalankan rawatan lebih efisien kepada pesakit.

"Ini termasuk penyediaan kemudahan rawatan berteknologi supaya klinik boleh menjalankan rawatan seperti di hospital termasuk dialisis dan x-ray," katanya.

-- BERNAMA

Respite from haze to last only three days



Two boys wait for their parents after their school, SK St Joseph, in Kuching was closed yesterday. — Picture by Bernama

By Lavinia Louis
lavinia@mmail.com.my

PETALING JAYA — The Meteorological Department is expecting a break from the haze but the respite would only last about three days.

Its spokesman Dr Mohd Hisham Mohd Anip said winds blowing towards the peninsula from southern Sarawak — where schools would remain closed today due to the haze — would continue until tomorrow.

"We expect clear skies if there are no areas on fire in Indonesia," he said yesterday. "But by Tuesday, the haze could return to the peninsula as the winds were expected to change direction."

Some 463 schools in southern Sarawak were forced to close yesterday after air quality took a nosedive. The Air Pollutant Index (API) reading in Pontianak, in the neighbouring Indonesian province of Kalimantan, reached 1,000.

More than 184,000 schoolchildren in Samarahan

and Kuching were affected.

The Education Ministry had ordered schools to close when the API reading breaches 200. An API reading of zero to 50 is good, 51 to 100 moderate, 101 to 200 unhealthy, 201 to 300 very unhealthy and 301 and above is hazardous.

At 10am yesterday, the API reading in Samarahan and Kuching was 207 and 209 respectively. At 6pm, the API improved to 193 and 185.

The visibility in Kuching also improved from 300m at 10am to 400m at 6pm.

In the peninsula, nine areas recorded unhealthy readings, with Bukit Rambai in Malacca topping the list with an API of 124 at 10am, which improved to 116 at 6pm.

At 6pm, there were seven areas recording unhealthy readings. Among them were Banting, Selangor (108), Shah Alam, Selangor (107) and Nilai, Negri Sembilan (106).

Schools in Putrajaya, Malacca, Negri Sembilan, Selangor and Kuala Lumpur had closed on Tuesday because of the haze.

Cleaner air over weekend, but haze back on Tuesday

PETALING JAYA: Eastern winds are expected to blow the haze away this evening, giving Malaysians cleaner air over the weekend.

However, the Malaysian Meteorological Department (MetMalaysia) said this would be temporary, with winds ready to bring the haze back from Indonesia on Tuesday.

"By tomorrow evening, we expect the wind to change direction by coming from the east. However, this is only temporary.

"By Tuesday, the wind might come from (the) south (from Indonesia) again," said MetMalaysia spokesman Dr Hisham Mohd Anip yesterday.

He said Sarawak, which might also have clearer skies over the weekend, would see the haze coming back there on Monday evening, earlier than the peninsula.

As of 4pm yesterday, Samarahan recorded an Air Pollutant Index reading of 199 with Kuching at 192.

A downpour over parts of the peninsula cleared skies in some states, though certain areas such as Petaling Jaya and Kuala Lumpur hovered at the 101 unhealthy mark.

Dr Hisham said rains in the peninsula were natural.

Science, Technology and Innovation Minister Datuk Madius Tangau said cloud-seeding was carried out in Malacca, north Johor and Negri Sembilan yesterday.

However, cloud-seeding in Sarawak yesterday could not be carried out since the weather was not good enough for rain clouds to form and the haze made flying too dangerous.

KERATAN AKHBAR
NEW STRAITS TIMES (PRIME NEWS) : MUKA SURAT 10
TARIKH: 18 SEPTEMBER 2015 (JUMAAT)

35 hotspots detected in Indonesia, none in Malaysia

PUTRAJAYA: The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) 18 satellite image showed seven fire hotspots in Sumatra and 28 hotspots in Kalimantan as of Wednesday.

Natural Resources and Environment Minister Datuk Seri Wan Junaidi Tuanku Jaafar said based on the report by the Asean Specialised Meteorological Centre (ASMC) in Singapore; NOAA 18 did not detect fire hotspots in the country.

However, Wan Junaidi said, they were unable to obtain the total number of hotspots in Sumatra and Kalimantan on Wednesday

as it was cloudy.

"The transboundary haze in western Sarawak is caused by forest and land fires in central and southern Sumatra, as well as from the western, central and eastern Kalimantan, carried by the southwest monsoon winds.

"The polluted air caused the Air Pollutant Index (API) to reach unhealthy levels (above 200) in Sarawak, particularly in Kuching and Samarahan.

"The Department of Environment will monitor the API readings via our 52 air quality monitoring stations nationwide."

Response mechanisms during haze are carried out according to the National Haze Action Plan involving several agencies, such as the National Security Council (NSC), Meteorological Department (MET), Education Ministry and Royal Malaysian Air Force (RMAF).

Among the mechanisms include NSC deploying the Committee for Addressing Haze on Tuesday, announcement of school closures by



**Datuk Seri
Wan Junaidi
Tuanku Jaafar**

Education Ministry in Federal Territories, Selangor, Negri Sembilan and Malacca on Tuesday after the API reached 200, as well as MET and RMAF's cloud-seeding (OPA) from Tuesday to yesterday in the peninsula, which resulted in rains in Selangor, Perak and Pahang, Wan Junaidi said.

He said for Sarawak, the OPAs were carried out in Tebekang near Samarahan and around Balai Ringin and Pantu in Sri Aman.

But, no rain was detected as the atmosphere was dry and stable during the operation, he added.

"MET will continue to work with RMAF for OPA in areas that are terribly affected by the haze.

"We expect the haze situation to improve at the end of the southwest monsoon in mid-Sept, which is then followed by the transition of monsoon season until early November.

"During the transition, the country will be wet, especially in the west coast states of the peninsula and west of Sabah, when there is a change in the wind direction," he said.

Haze worsens in Sarawak

VERY UNHEALTHY:

Air Pollutant Index readings exceed 200 in Kuching, Samarahan

GOM PEI PEI

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THE haze in Sarawak worsened yesterday with two divisions registering Air Pollutant Index (API) readings that exceeded 200, the highest in the past two weeks.

The state capital recorded the highest API with 203 at 1pm while Samarahan continued to worsen to 206 at 2pm, which is categorised as very unhealthy level.

Although at 4pm the air quality had improved with the state capital registering 192 and Samarahan (199), visibility was low and the sky remained hazy. As at 7pm the API for Samarahan dipped to 189 and Kuching (180).

In **Kota Kinabalu**, Education Minister Datuk Seri Mahdzir Khalid said 463 primary and secondary schools, mostly here and Samarahan divisions, have been closed for two days from yesterday (Thursday and Friday).

The order has affected more than 180,000 students.

"Schools have been closed pending the haze situation at the affected areas. They will open when the API drops to 150. We are monitoring the situation," he said.

Meanwhile, cloud seeding exercise scheduled yesterday by the

Meteorological Department and Royal Malaysian Air Force was called off due to thick haze, said Deputy Chief Minister Tan Sri Alfred Jabu, who is the State Natural Disaster Management Committee chairman.

"The haze is thick and visibility is very low. Cloud seeding was called off for the safety of our officers and pilots. We will be on standby until then," he said at Wisma Bapa here.

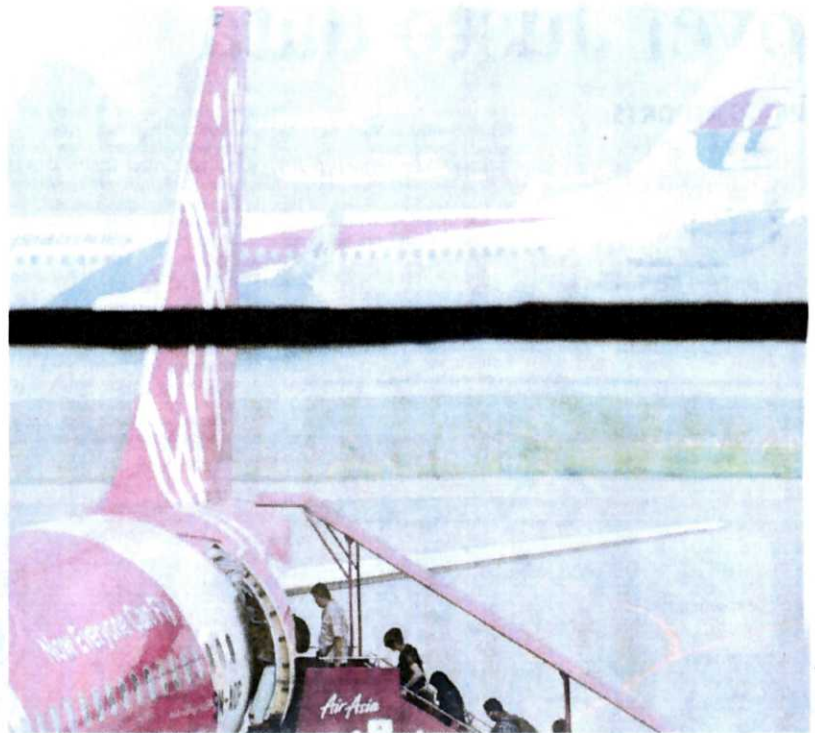
He said the worsening haze was due to the wind direction from Kalimantan heading towards the southern part of Sarawak, causing poor air quality in areas such as here, Samarahan and Sri Aman.

"The wind direction doesn't change drastically so we are expecting the situation to remain (the same) for the next two days.

"This is out of our control as there are no hotspots in Sarawak and the haze is from the forest fire in Indonesia," he said.

Meanwhile, 27 inbound and outbound flights at Kuching International Airport (KIA) were affected due to low visibility as at 3pm, affecting 2,478 passengers.

KIA senior manager Nadzim Hashim said visibility was limited to about 1,000m in the morning



The hazy condition at Kuching International Airport yesterday. Pic by Nadim Bokhari

and improved to 1,300m in the afternoon.

In **Malacca**, as of 7pm, Malacca city registered an API reading of 104, while Bukit Rambai was 114.

Drizzle and intermittent rain in areas around the city at noon had

reduced the haziness and helped lower the API reading.

In **Port Dickson**, Negri Sembilan, the API reading dropped to 96, which is categorised as moderate, while Nilai and Seremban maintained their unhealthy level of 106

and 101 as of 7pm.

In **Banting**, Selangor, the API was at an unhealthy level of 106, Shah Alam (107) and Petaling Jaya (101). Port Klang and Kuala Selangor recorded moderate readings of 94 and 81, respectively.

KERATAN AKHBAR
UTUSAN MALAYSIA (DALAM NEGERI) : MUKA SURAT 14
TARIKH: 18 SEPTEMBER 2015 (JUMAAT)

Dua kawasan di Sarawak cecah IPU sangat tidak sihat

KUALA LUMPUR 17 Sept. - Dua kawasan di Sarawak mencatatkan Indeks Pencemaran Udara (IPU) mencecah tahap sangat tidak sihat dengan bacaan lebih 200 hari ini.

Menurut laman web Jabatan Alam Sekitar, Samarahan dan Kuching mencatatkan IPU paling tinggi dengan bacaan masing-masing 204 dan 203 pada pukul 1 petang tetapi beransur ke bacaan 199 dan 192 pada pukul 4 petang.

Sehingga pukul 4 petang ini, tiada perubahan ketara bacaan IPU dicatatkan di kebanyakan kawasan lain di seluruh negara.

Selain dua kawasan itu, sebanyak 11 kawasan mencatatkan bacaan IPU pada tahap tidak sihat, 29 kawasan mencatatkan bacaan sederhana dan 10 kawasan berada pada tahap baik.

Antara kawasan yang masih mencatatkan IPU tidak sihat adalah Bandaraya Melaka, Melaka (109); Bukit Rambai, Melaka (118); Nilai, Selangor (105); Shah Alam, Selangor

13 kawasan catat IPU tidak sihat

(Sehingga jam 4 petang)

Samarahan, Sarawak	199
Kuching, Sarawak	192
Sri Aman, Sarawak	142
Kapit, Sarawak	131
Bukit Rambai, Melaka	118
Bandaraya Melaka, Melaka	109
Banting, Selangor	111
Sarikei, Sarawak	110
Shah Alam, Selangor	106
Nilai, Negeri Sembilan	105
Seremban, N. Sembilan	105
Port Dickson, N. Sembilan	102
Petaling Jaya, Selangor	101

(106) dan Kapit, Sarawak (131).

Masalah jerebu yang dilanda negara baru-baru ini dikatakan berpunca daripada asap jerebu sederhana

dan tebal dari Wilayah Kalimantan Tengah, Indonesia yang dibawa angin ke Malaysia menyebabkan keadaan menjadi buruk di beberapa negeri terutama Sarawak.

Dalam pada itu, Menteri Sumber Asli dan Alam Sekitar, Datuk Wan Junaidi Tuanku Jaafar dalam satu kenyataan berkata, operasi pembenihan awan telah dijalankan di Sarawak sekitar kawasan Tebekang di Bahagian Samarahan, Balai Ringin dan Pantu di Bahagian Sri Aman.

Katanya, pemerhatian selepas operasi mendapati tiada hujan dikesan disebabkan keadaan atmosfera yang kering dan stabil yang tidak menggalakkan pembenihan awan.

"Jabatan Meteorologi dengan kerjasama Tentera Udara Diraja Malaysia (TUDM) akan meneruskan operasi ini di kawasan-kawasan yang masih dilanda jerebu," katanya.



Jerebu Buruk Halang Operasi Pembenihan Awan Di Sarawak

KUCHING, 17 Sept (Bernama) -- Operasi hari kedua pembenihan awam bagi mengurangkan kesan jerebu di beberapa kawasan di negeri ini tidak dapat dilaksanakan hari ini berikutan keadaan jerebu yang buruk.

Timbalan Ketua Menteri Tan Sri Alfred Jabu Numpang berkata operasi Jabatan Alam Sekitar (JAS) dengan kerjasama Jabatan Meteorologi Malaysia dan dibantu Tentera Udara Diraja Malaysia (TUDM), Lembaga Air Kuching dan Jabatan Kerja Raya (JKR) tidak dapat dilakukan atas faktor keselamatan kerana jerebu buruk sejak pagi Khamis.

"Operasi pembenihan awam tidak dapat dilakukan hari ini atas faktor keselamatan pesawat. Kita dimaklumkan bahawa operasi pembenihan awam hari ini tidak dapat dilakukan kerana jarak penglihatan tidak membolehkan pesawat melakukan operasi berkenaan.

"Selain itu, tiadanya awan yang sesuai untuk melakukan operasi itu hari ini," katanya pada sidang media hari ini.

Terdahulu, Jabu yang juga Pengerusi Jawatankuasa Pengurusan Bencana Sarawak mengadakan mesyuarat hampir sejam bersama-sama Pengawal Lembaga Sumber Asli dan Alam Sekitar (NREB) Sarawak Peter Sawal dan wakil Majlis Keselamatan Negara Sarawak di Wisma Bapa Malaysia.

Semalam, pihak berkuasa berkenaan dapat melaksanakan operasi pembenihan awam.

Mengulas mengenai penutupan 463 sekolah rendah dan menengah di tujuh daerah hari ini, Jabu berkata ia merupakan proses biasa sekiranya jerebu menghampiri Indeks Pencemaran Udara (IPU) pada tahap sangat tidak sihat.

"Arahan tutup sekolah dikeluarkan bagi memastikan kesihatan murid-murid tidak terjejas. Kita akan terus pantau IPU dan tentukan sama ada esok, sekolah akan terus ditutup atau tidak," katanya.

Sementara itu, Jabu berkata tidak ada kegiatan pembakaran terbuka dikesan di Sarawak, sebaliknya menegaskan jerebu yang dialami di negeri ini berpunca dari Kalimantan, Indonesia.

"Petang ini, IPU menurun kepada paras bawah 200. Kita pantau keadaan kerana angin dari Kalimantan membawa jerebu terus kepada kita di Kuching, Samarahan dan Serian.

"Kita jangka corak angin tidak berubah dengan ketara, jadi kita akan terus pantau IPU kerana masih banyak hotspot di Kalimantan," katanya.

-- BERNAMA



Gempa Gumi Kuat Melanda Chile

KUALA LUMPUR, 17 Sept (Bernama) -- Satu gempa bumi kuat berukuran 6.4 pada skala Richter, melanda berhampiran pantai di kawasan tengah Chile pagi ini, menurut [Jabatan Meteorologi](#).

Pusat gempa itu, yang berlaku pada 7.18 pagi, adalah di 156km barat laut Vina Del Mar, Chile dan 16,596km tenggara Lubok Antu, Sarawak, menurut jabatan itu dalam satu kenyataan.

Jabatan itu sebelum ini telah melaporkan bahawa gempa berukuran 7.9 juga telah melanda kawasan itu pada 6.55 pagi hari ini.

Kejadian itu tidak membawa ancaman tsunami kepada Malaysia, menurut kenyataan itu lagi.

-- BERNAMA



Satu Lagi Gempa Bumi Kuat Melanda Pantai Kawasan Tengah Chile

KUALA LUMPUR, 17 Sept (Bernama) -- Satu lagi gempa bumi kuat berukuran 6.3 pada skala Richter melanda berhampiran pantai di kawasan tengah Chile pagi ini, menurut [Jabatan Meteorologi](#).

Pusat gempa itu, yang berlaku pada 11.55 pagi, terletak di 156km barat laut Vina Del Mar, Chile dan 16,596km tenggara Lubok Antu, Sarawak, menurut jabatan itu dalam satu kenyataan.

Jabatan itu turut melaporkan bahawa gempa berukuran 7.9 skala Richter juga telah melanda kawasan itu pada 6.55 pagi hari ini, diikuti gempa susulan bermagnitud 6.4 skala Richter pada 7.18 pagi dan 5.6 skala Richter pada 9.41 pagi.

Menurut kenyataan itu, jabatan berkenaan sedang memantau keadaan dan akan menyediakan maklumat terkini mengenainya.

Kejadian itu tidak membawa ancaman tsunami kepada Malaysia.

-- BERNAMA