

**KERATAN AKHBAR-AKHBAR TEMPATAN**  
**TARIKH: 21 SEPTEMBER 2015 (ISNIN)**

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# Perubahan tiupan angin punca jerebu kembali

» Beberapa titik  
panas dikesan  
di Kelantan,  
Pahang, Johor

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► Kuala Lumpur

Jerebu dijangka kembali melanda negara mulai hari ini sehingga 26 September, berikutan perubahan tiupan angin yang turut menyebabkan taburan hujan berkurangan.

Ketua Pengarah Jabatan Meteorologi Malaysia (MetMalaysia), Datuk Che Gayah Ismail, berkata bahagian utara Semenanjung akan mengalami tiupan angin dari arah Barat Laut, manakala selatan Semenanjung, Sarawak dan Sabah akan mengalami tiupan angin dari arah Barat Daya.

"Keadaan ini berkemungkinan menyebabkan berlakunya peningkatan Indeks Pencemaran Udara (IPU) berikutan beberapa jumlah titik panas dikesan di Semenanjung.

"Dua titik panas dikesan di Kelantan, manakala dua lagi di Pahang dan Johor. Kes kebakaran terbuka di Indonesia masih lagi menunjukkan jumlah 125 titik pa-

nas dikesan di Sumatera dan 30 di Kalimantan," katanya dalam kenyataan, semalam.

Che Gayah berkata, semalam 15 daripada 43 stesen meteorologi di seluruh negara, mencatatkan bacaan taburan hujan, menyebabkan keadaan cuaca dalam keadaan baik, malah hujan tertinggi direkodkan di Labuan iaitu 20.6 milimeter (mm).

## Pertemuan dengan Indonesia ditangguh

Sementara itu, Menteri Sumber Asli dan Alam Sekitar, Datuk Seri Wan Junaidi Tuanku Jaafar, berkata pertemuannya dengan rakan sejawat dari Indonesia yang dijadualkan Jumaat depan, ditangguhkan buat kali kedua.

Katanya, pertemuan itu ditangguhkan berikutan Menteri Alam Sekitar dan Perhutanan Indonesia, Dr Siti Nurbaya Bakar, sedang sibuk menguruskan kes kebakaran hutan dan pembakaran terbuka di negara itu, yang kini memecah tahap serius.

"Mereka sedang berdepan kebakaran hutan yang semakin serius hingga menyebabkan IPU (Indeks Pencemaran Udara) di kawasan Kalimantan, Riau dan Jambi mencecah 1,000.

"Ia ditangguhkan pada tarikh yang belum ditetapkan, tapi saya yakin pertemuan tetap diadakan tahun ini bagi menandatangani memorandum persefahaman (MoU) berkaitan penyelesaian masalah jerebu," katanya.

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**Che Gayah Ismail,**  
Ketua Pengarah Jabatan  
Meteorologi Malaysia

# Haze might return tomorrow

By PATRICK LEE  
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Philippines cyclone build-up may blow smog back here

**PETALING JAYA:** A potential cyclone building up on the eastern side of the Philippines is likely to pull winds, bringing the haze back from Indonesia to Malaysia.

This is expected to happen from tomorrow and could last until early next month, based on how strong the cyclone turns out to be.

A low-pressure area, otherwise known as a potential cyclone, was currently forming in the east of the Philippines, said Meteorological Department spokesperson Dr Hisham Mohd Anip.

"The reason the wind will turn back from the south is because of the development of the tropical cyclone.

"The wind will carry the haze back to Malaysia," he told *The Star* via WhatsApp.

When asked how long this could last, he said it could be up to early October depending on the strength of the cyclone and the number of fires raging in Indonesia.

Dr Hisham said even without the formation of a cyclone, the low-pressure area would still result in a change of wind direction, bringing the haze back.

The number of areas with unhealthy air pollution index readings had dropped over the past two days, thanks to winds blowing the

smog westward from hotspots in Sumatra and Kalimantan.

Haze maps on the Asean Specialised Meteorological Centre website showed that winds blowing north-east towards Malaysia on Sept 14 changed to move south-west five days later.

Dense haze was recorded in Central Kalimantan on Sept 19, with moderate haze blowing over much of Sumatra, avoiding Malaysia and Singapore entirely.

Much of the country had clean air yesterday, especially in Sabah and Sarawak, with the highest pollution reading recorded in Seri Manjung in

Perak (93) at 1pm.

The air quality improved with 10 areas recording healthy levels from 7am.

According to the Department of Environment's portal, the three new areas with good air quality were Tanjung Malim in Perak with an API reading of (48), Kuching (50) and Sibu (50).

An API reading of 0 to 50 indicates good air quality; 51 to 100, moderate; 101 to 200, unhealthy; 201 to 300, very unhealthy and 300 and above, hazardous.

Dr Hisham said rain also helped to wash away the haze, adding that

there would also be less rainfall.

"It's difficult to say how much but less rain can definitely be expected until the end of next week," he said.

He said this was because moisture from nearby regions would be drawn out towards the low-pressure area in the east of the Philippines.

He said the region's inter-monsoon period, which usually meant wetter weather, had already started but was "disturbed" by the potential cyclone phenomenon.

A Natural Resources and Environment Ministry statement said satellites had spotted 125 fire hotspots in Sumatra and only 30 in Kalimantan because of poor coverage.

Four hotspots were located in Malaysia - Kelantan (2), Pahang (1) and Johor (1).

# Haze blow back threat

After a few days of respite, the haze is set to be back and may last up to early October because of a potential cyclone building up east of the Philippines. The Meteorological Department has warned that low pressure in the area is expected to draw winds there and blow the haze in Indonesia back to Malaysia. > **See Page 4 for report by PATRICK LEE**





## Planetarium Ditutup Dua Hari Sempena Aidiladha

KUALA LUMPUR, 21 Sept (Bernama) -- [Planetarium Negara](#) akan ditutup pada Rabu (23 Sept) dan Khamis (24 Sept) ini bersempena sambutan Aidiladha.

Planetarium Negara akan dibuka seperti biasa pada Jumaat (25 Sept), dari pukul 9 pagi hingga 4.30 petang, menurut satu kenyataan yang dikeluarkan oleh [Agensi Angkasa Negara \(Angkasa\)](#), di sini, Isnin.

-- BERNAMA

# Mavcap and Gobi to assist ICT start-ups

RM212mil fund will help new companies in S-E Asia and China

By NADYA NGUI  
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**KUALA LUMPUR:** Malaysia Venture Capital Management Bhd (Mavcap) has tied up with China-based Gobi Partners in a US\$50mil (RM212mil) deal to launch a new fund to assist start-up companies in South-East Asia and China.

As Malaysia's largest venture capital (VC) company, Mavcap makes direct investments with a fund size ranging from RM1mil to RM20mil and participates actively in the management and operations of start-ups.

Mavcap also invests through its outsourced partners programmes, whereby it allocates capital to other VC fund-management companies to invest in high-growth businesses.

Targeting information and communications technology (ICT) companies, Mavcap chief executive officer Datuk Seri Jamaludin Ibrahim told *StarBiz* that it was a good opportunity for start-ups, as "the partnership with Gobi provides the exposure for businesses to capture local and China markets".

According to a report, this came as many Malaysian start-ups still hold a locally-focused mindset and lack a compelling regional vision to sell to investors or potential partners. This is likely because they've never been exposed to markets outside of Malaysia.

Nonetheless, this year to-date, Mavcap has invested RM66.22mil in up and coming ICT start-up companies, higher than its total investments of RM60.62mil in 2014.

The group, under the purview of the Finance Ministry, has allocated RM642.75mil to 170 start-up companies.

On average, Mavcap will invest in five to 10 companies annually, with up to a 40% equity stake for about three to eight years to provide advice and guidance to the companies. Once the company begins to thrive, it will plan an exit strategy.

"However, it is challenging to identify worthy companies, as they must have scalable products and economical business plans to be eligible for the fund.

"For example, you must search for 20 companies to find one. They must have all the boxes ticked and attractive valuations," explained Jamaludin.

Mavcap has partnered numerous local and international VCs to set up funds such as Elixir Capital Management, DTA Capital Partners Sdn Bhd and Intres Capital Partners.

Last year, Mavcap set up a US\$30mil fund with Axiata Group Bhd intended at promoting innovation and growth in Malaysia's digital ecosystem.

Jamaludin said Mavcap was also looking to



**Good opportunity:** Tsao (left) and Jamaludin at the interview. Jamaludin says companies must have scalable products and economical business plans to be eligible for the fund.

work with other corporations.

"We hope to partner with other corporates. We're working with one as we speak. We will also continue find companies to fund and work with," he added.

However, it has been reported that despite an increase in demand for capital, there are only a handful of VCs in the market.

Currently, about 60% of VC funds comes from government sources, with only nine private VC firms in the country.

It is said that VC firms should look at pushing out more Series-A funding.

Series-A is the first significant round of funding for start-ups that have progressed beyond the seed-funding stage and have started generating revenue of between RM200,000 and RM1mil.

Meanwhile, Gobi managing partner and co-founder Thomas Tsao said the group

recently established its Kuala Lumpur office and was focusing on expanding its business across South-East Asia.

Tsao is hoping to capture about 25 to 35 companies in Malaysia.

The venture capital firm, which is headquartered in Shanghai, recently announced a US\$94mil fund dedicated to providing start-ups in China with early-stage funding.

Established in 2002, Gobi is a leading investor in digital media, IT and Technology. Media and Telecommunications companies in China and Asean.

Gobi's current portfolio includes photo app Camera360, online travel agency Tuniu, and Madhouse, one of China's leading digital advertising agencies.

It has funded over 100 companies and invested in six funds with offices in China, Hong Kong and Singapore.



# LIVING THE DIGITAL LIFE

Digital Lifestyle Malaysia promotes and accelerates the development and adoption of applications and services. **Zafira Anwar** finds out more



**"It is about creating a mega lifestyle ecosystem to promote the use of digital applications to improve competitiveness and social life."**

John Tay, MCMC

**C**REATING a smart digital nation is the way forward for the country to meet the aspirations of becoming a high-income nation by the year 2020.

For this, the Malaysian Communication and Multimedia Commission's Digital Lifestyle Malaysia initiative aims to offer a better quality of life through information and communication technology (ICT) applications.

MCMC digital lifestyle and society director John Tay says the initiative helps us compete internationally by increasing productivity and sustainability through the adoption of intelligent ICT services and the Internet of Things (IoT) applications.

"Basically, it is about creating a mega lifestyle ecosystem to promote the use of digital applications to improve competitiveness and social life," he says.

"Many industries can adopt Digital Lifestyle Malaysia, such as transportation, healthcare, retail and agriculture."

Tay explains that a "digital lifestyle" would improve the quality of life through Internet-based communication transactions which increase productivity and promote growth.

"For example, the MyJourney app — an MCMC-Spad (Land Public Transport Commission) collaborative — provides tourists with directions. We also have the U-Pustaka website, where the public can borrow books from public libraries via the web, and get it delivered and returned for a minimal fee," he says, adding that such applications will help save time and make the overall process more efficient.

According to Tay, digital lifestyle can also be applied to the retail and payment sector, transforming brick and mortar outlets to a "brick and click" ecosystem.

All these, he adds, is in line with the government's vision for the country to move towards a cashless society by 2020. Key sectors that will benefit from IoT are the car and transportation industries. Motorists can monitor real-time traffic and keep tabs on vehicle diagnostics.

"What comes out of it is improved

## Digital Lifestyle Ecosystems



### TRANSPORT

The Digital Lifestyle Transport would connect citizens, businesses, state and local governments, industries and investors like never before, hence creating a thriving marketplace for transportation ecosystem.



### AGRICULTURE

Consumers can now get a clear idea about how their meat and vegetable products arrive at their table, as part of the latest effort by the authorities to improve the country's food safety. Tracking starts from food production factories.



### DISTRICT

It is based on the concept of the delivery of an ICT ecosystem to the smallest whole geographic unit or level, i.e. the district (daerah) and the sub-district (mukim).



### ENTERTAINMENT

A platform may offer Malaysian audience a vast variety of content via intelligent infrastructures such as Internet, 3G and 4G to provide alternative platforms for Mobile Digital content.



### LEARNING

To help identify and contribute to a nationwide dissemination and education, training and awareness programme to explain the Internet of Things to business and academy; and to promote the Internet of Things, Mobile Payment, Smart Cities.



### WORK

Organisations are overwhelmed with data. On a smart digital nation, the most successful organisations can turn this data into valuable insights. With advanced analytics, this provide new opportunities for business optimisation.

Source: MCMC

experience, increased safety, additional revenue streams and, to a certain extent, reduced pollution," says Tay.

In healthcare, IoT enables remote monitoring of patients and staff, as well as to easily locate and identify the status of equipment.

This results in improved productivity, resource usage and outcomes which translates into efficiency gains and cost savings.

He says: "If there is anything which can be introduced to a village or rural community that the local population will accept, adapt and change their way of life for the better, it is most likely ICT-related."

"We want to move towards Smart Cities, a world of wearable technology applications, coupling functions with style."

Tay explains that due to climate change and other environmental pressures, cities are increasingly required to become "smart" and take substantial measures to meet stringent targets.

"These encompass things such as smart parking, smart traffic lights, and smart street lights. Cities will be cleaner, less polluted and use less electricity," Tay says.

Malaysia can emulate the success stories of Smart Cities across the globe such as Spain, South Korea and Singapore. MCMC's end game is to ultimately create a smart digital society.

However, Tay says that broadband penetration, in the country, while increasing, is still low, particularly, in remote and rural areas.

According to MCMC's 2014 Internet Users Survey, there are currently 20.1 million Internet users in the country, with 32.8 per cent rural users.

A majority of the users earn between RM1,000 and RM3,000. Most users here access the Internet through their smartphones.

"Industries are quite ready and the challenge now is on the demand side. However, in the last two years, more Malaysians have gone into IoT," he says, adding that potential stakeholders are groups that have knowledge and vested interest in IoT.

These groups, Tay adds, are also keen to lead and champion each of the digital lifestyle ecosystems to resolve problems, issues and supported by key agencies and private-public initiatives.

According to him, small and medium enterprises and big corporations play a major role in this, and act as catalysts for IoT digital lifestyle in Malaysia.

"IoT and digital lifestyle have brought about change and economic growth. Uber, a transportation network company, for example, owns no vehicles," he says.

"Facebook, the world's most popular media owner creates no content. AirBnB, the world's largest accommodation provider, owns no real estate."

To move forward, Tay says, the public must be exposed to hands-on workshops, symposiums on IoT and digital lifestyle, exhibitions and science fairs.

"This is a new area and a lot of initiative must be taken and shared by different agencies in the public and private sectors," he explains.

"It may take anytime between three and 10 years, but really, moving towards IoT and a digital lifestyle is as simple as having an app."

"We just need to raise awareness, create more local content and push the borders. MCMC is optimistic that we can achieve this," he added.