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TARIKH: 9 JANUARI 2016 (SABTU)

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KERATAN AKHBAR
UTUSAN MALAYSIA (DALAM NEGERI) : MUKA SURAT 9
TARIKH : 9 JANUARI 2016 (SABTU)

Cuaca panas dijangka sehingga Mac

KUALA LUMPUR 8 Jan. - Cuaca panas dan kering yang melanda Perlis serta Kedah dijangka turut dirasai di seluruh Semenanjung bermula penghujung Januari hingga Mac ini.

Menteri Sains, Teknologi dan Inovasi, Datuk Seri Madius Tangau berkata, keadaan yang sama juga dijangka berlaku di Sabah, bahagian Limbang dan Miri di Sarawak.

"Fenomena ini dijangka boleh menyebabkan pengurangan jumlah hujan antara 20 dan 60 per-

tus manakala kenaikan suhu sekitar 0.5 hingga 2.0 darjah Celsius berbanding biasa.

"Keadaan ini disebabkan oleh kejadian El Nino kuat yang sedang berlaku dan dijangka akan berterusan sehingga suku pertama tahun ini," katanya dalam satu kenyataan di sini hari ini.

Sehubungan itu, Madius berkata, orang ramai dinasihatkan supaya berjimat cermat dalam penggunaan air dan mengurangkan aktiviti luar semasa cuaca panas berlaku.

El Nino to peak in first quarter of the year

HEAT WAVE:

Country to be
hotter by up to
2°C, says Met Dept

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MALAYSIA will be hotter by up to 2°C in the first quarter of the year as the El Nino effect reaches its peak, meteorologists concluded after evaluating several global weather forecast models.

The El Nino effect hit the country last year, causing unusually high temperature and lower-than-expected rainfall during the monsoon season.

Meteorological Department director-general Datuk Che Gayah Ismail said the sea surface temperature (SST) in the Pacific Ocean was rising, with the SST at the Nino 3.4 region at 2.7°C above average in the last week of last month.

"The hot and dry weather we are experiencing in Kedah, Perlis and Penang will spread throughout the

peninsula by the end of the month and drag on until the end of March as the El Nino is gaining momentum. The same will happen in Sabah, and in Limbang and Miri divisions in Sarawak.

"We are experiencing a stronger El Nino than in 1997/1998. On average, we will see temperature of between 0.5°C and 2°C higher than the average throughout the country in the first quarter of the year."

Rainfall in Perlis, Penang, Kedah, Kelantan, Terengganu, northern Perak and northern Pahang are expected to be lower than the average level this month.

Selangor, central and southern Perak, Negri Sembilan and Malacca will receive rainfall slightly lower than the average level, while southern Pahang and Johor will receive an average level of rainfall.

In Sarawak, Sibul, Bintulu, Miri, Limbang and Kapit are expected to receive rainfall slightly lower than the average level while other divisions will receive an average level of rainfall.

Sabah will receive rainfall below the average level except in the interior.

Che Gayah said Perlis, Kedah and Penang will be drier than other states.



Penduduk Kuantan Dinasihati Elak Guna Sumber Air Dari Sungai Tercemar - KKM

KUALA LUMPUR, 8 Jan (Bernama) -- Kementerian Kesihatan (KKM) hari ini menasihatkan penduduk Kuantan supaya tidak menggunakan sumber air mentah dari mana-mana sungai yang tercemar bagi mengelakkan kemudaratan kepada kesihatan.

Dalam satu kenyataan hari ini, Ketua Pengarahnya Datuk Dr Noor Hisham Abdullah berkata orang ramai perlu sentiasa prihatin terhadap kesihatan mereka supaya sebarang perkara tidak diingini dapat dielakkan.

"Sekiranya tidak sihat hendaklah segera berkunjung ke klinik-klinik yang terdekat bagi rawatan awal.

"Selain itu, elakkan daripada memakan ikan atau mana-mana hasil tangkapan dari sungai yang disahkan tercemar oleh pihak Jabatan Alam Sekitar sebagai langkah pencegahan awal," katanya di sini.

Dalam pada itu, KKM melalui Jabatan Kesihatan Negeri Pahang (JKN) telah dan sedang mengambil langkah-langkah yang perlu bagi memantau kesan perlombongan bauksit kepada kesihatan masyarakat.

Antara langkah-langkah yang telah diambil termasuklah memantau kualiti air minum secara berkala serta memantau trend kehadiran pesakit di klinik-klinik yang terpilih.

"Sehingga Dis lepas, semua sampel air terawat yang dibekalkan dari LRA (Loji rawatan Air) Semambu, Bukit Sagu dan Bukit Goh telah diambil oleh KKM dan sampel-sampel air yang dianalisa oleh [Jabatan Kimia Malaysia](#) menunjukkan bahawa semua sampel parameter logam berat mematuhi Piawaian Kualiti Air Minum Kebangsaan.

"Bagi pemantauan di klinik pula sebanyak 11 klinik kesihatan di kawasan Kuantan telah dipilih untuk memantau kehadiran pesakit jangkitan trakus pernafasan atas (URTI), Asma dan Konjunktivitis bermula dari 2014...pemantauan ini adalah secara berterusan dan analisis akan dibuat dalam tempoh yang tertentu bagi melihat trend penyakit," katanya.

Sementara itu, Bahagian Keselamatan & Kualiti Makanan JKN Pahang pula secara berterusan melakukan pensampelan pemantauan terhadap kualiti makanan di kawasan terlibat secara berkala dengan kekerapan dua bulan sekali.

KKM juga dalam pada itu, membuat analisa terhadap lima jenis ikan dan hasil laut iaitu ikan mengkerung, ikan kekek, ikan gelama dan ikan anding serta lokan bagi parameter plumbum, kadmium dan arsenik tak organik.



Kementerian Kesihatan Pantau Kualiti Air, Makanan Dan Trend Pesakit

PUTRAJAYA, 8 Jan (Bernama) -- Parameter logam berat pada sampel air terawat dari tiga loji rawatan air (LRA), yang terletak berhampiran perlombongan bauksit di Kuantan, didapati mematuhi Piawaian Kualiti Air Minum Kebangsaan sehingga Disember lepas (2015).

Ketua Pengarah Kesihatan Datuk Dr Noor Hisham Abdullah berkata sampel air terawat yang diambil Kementerian Kesihatan Malaysia (KKM) itu ialah dari LRA Semambu, Bukit Sagu dan Bukit Goh dan ia turut dianalisa oleh Jabatan Kimia.

"Berdasarkan hasil pemantauan, penduduk Kuantan tidak perlu khuatir mengenai kualiti air minuman yang dirawat di loji-loji berkenaan," katanya dalam kenyataan hari ini berkaitan langkah Kementerian Kesihatan dalam memantau kesan perlombongan bauksit terhadap kesihatan masyarakat.

Terdapat 10 LRA yang terlibat dalam pembekalan air di Kuantan termasuk LRA Semambu, Bukit Sagu dan Bukit Goh, yang terletak berhampiran kawasan perlombongan bauksit.

Dr Noor Hisham berkata Kementerian Kesihatan akan meningkatkan kekerapan pemantauan parameter logam berat kepada setiap dua minggu manakala logam lain akan dilakukan setiap minggu di Saluran Kilang Rawatan (TPO) dan Saluran Reservoir Perkhidmatan (SRO).

Kebiasaannya kekerapan persampelan bagi parameter logam berat di TPO ialah pada setiap tiga bulan manakala di SRO dan kawasan agihan, setiap enam bulan.

Dr Noor Hisham berkata sebanyak 11 Klinik Kesihatan (KK) di Kuantan dipilih untuk memantau kehadiran pesakit jangkitan saluran penafasan atas (URTI), asma dan konjunktivitis mulai 2014.

Klinik Kesihatan itu termasuklah Bukit Goh, Balok, Beserah, Bandar Kuantan, Paya Besar, Kurnia, Indera Mahkota, Gambang, Sungai Lembing, Jaya Gading dan Permatang Badak, katanya.

Dr Noor Hisham berkata Bahagian Keselamatan dan Kualiti Makanan Jabatan Kesihatan Negeri Pahang secara berterusan melakukan pensampelan pemantauan terhadap kualiti makanan di kawasan terlibat dalam perlombongan bauksit itu.

"Pensampelan pemantauan ini dilakukan secara berkala dengan kekerapan dua bulan sekali," katanya.

Sampel yang dianalisa bagi parameter logam berat (plumbum dan kadmium) termasuklah bawang besar New Zealand, bawang putih china dan ubi kentang china, sampel buah-buahan iaitu rambutan, limau bali, durian dan manggis dan makanan sedia dimakan iaitu karipap ayam, air cincau dan jambu batu.

Kementerian juga membuat analisa terhadap lima jenis ikan dan hasil laut iaitu ikan mengkerong, ikan kekek, ikan gelama dan ikan andeng dan lokan bagi parameter Plumbum, Kadmium dan Arsenik tak organik serta didapati mematuhi Peraturan-Peraturan Makanan 1985, katanya.

Dr Noor Hisham menasihatkan orang ramai supaya tidak menggunakan sumber air mentah dari mana-mana sungai yang tercemar bagi mengelakkan kemudaratan kepada kesihatan.

"Orang ramai juga dinasihatkan supaya mengelakkan daripada memakan ikan atau mana-mana hasil tangkapan dari sungai yang disahkan tercemar oleh pihak Jabatan Alam Sekitar sebagai langkah pencegahan awal," katanya.

Beliau berkata sekiranya tidak sihat, orang ramai hendaklah segera berkunjung ke klinik terdekat bagi rawatan awal.

"Kementerian akan terus memantau kualiti air minum, kualiti makanan dan trend kehadiran pesakit," katanya.

-- BERNAMA

More food tests in bauxite area

Heavy metal levels to be closely watched, says Hisham

By LOH FOON FONG
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PETALING JAYA: While water and food samples taken at the bauxite mining area in Kuantan are found to be still safe for consumption, the Health Ministry will increase the frequency of its monitoring for heavy metal parameters.

Health director-general Datuk Dr Noor Hisham Abdullah said its state department had been monitoring the health effects from bauxite mining on the community.

As in December, Dr Noor Hisham said all samples from the water treatment plants in the area taken by the ministry and analysed by the **Chemistry Department** were found to be within the heavy metal parameters of the National Drinking Water Quality Standards.

There were 10 water treatment plants supplying water to the Kuantan district, including the Semambu, Bukit Sagu and Bukit Goh facilities located near the mining area, he said.

The frequency of sampling for heavy metal parameters, he added, was carried out once every three months while that for the service reservoir outlets and distribution areas was once every six months.

"For the aluminium parameters, the frequency of sampling was once every month in treatment plant and service reservoir outlets and once every six months at the distribution areas," he said.

The ministry, he said, would now increase the frequency of monitoring for heavy metal parameters to every fortnight and other metals every week.

Eleven clinics in Kuantan had

also been selected to monitor patients with upper respiratory tract infection, asthma and conjunctivitis since last year, said Dr Noor Hisham.

These are the Bukit Goh, Balok, Beserah, Bandar Kuantan, Paya Besar, Kurnia, Indera Mahkota, Gambang, Sungai Lembing, Jaya Gading and Permatang Badak health clinics.

On Thursday, Health Minister Datuk Seri Dr S. Subramaniam had said there were definite health risks due to bauxite-related pollution but the hazards were long term and would take time to manifest.

On food quality, Dr Hisham said all raw materials analysed had met requirements under the Food Regulations 1985.

Samples taken for heavy metal parameters (plumbum and cadmium) included New Zealand big onions, Chinese garlic and Chinese sweet potatoes.

Fruit samples were rambutans, *limau bali*, *durians*, mangosteen as well as ready-to-eat food such as chicken curry puffs, cincau and guava drinks, he said.

Analysis of five types of fish and seafood such as the *mengkerong*, *kekek*, *gelama*, *andeng* dan *lokan* fish for plumbum, cadmium and inorganic arsenic also met the Food Regulations, he said.

The Kuantan community, he added, need not worry about the quality of treated water from the treatment plants but advised people to avoid using raw water sources from any polluted river.

They were also advised to avoid eating fish or any river produce from those certified as polluted by the Department of Environment (DOE) and to get early treatment if they did not feel well, said Dr Noor Hisham.

Probe into baby mix-up at hospital

FIRST CASE: Medical centre returns babies to rightful parents, apologises over incident

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THE father of a baby girl who was mistakenly switched at a private medical centre in Bandar Darulaman here, has asked the National Registration Department (NRD) to give them a month to register their daughter's name.

Religious teacher Nik Ahmad Sabri Mohamad Yusoff, 37, said blood samples were taken from his baby and his wife, Mahani Zakaria, 36, on Thursday morning and sent to the Chemistry Department in Penang. Nik Ahmad said the doctor had informed them that the DNA test

results would be known in 10 days.

"I hope the DNA test can resolve the problem. At the same time, I am asking the NRD for a month-long leeway for us and the other couple to register our respective baby's births."

Mahsuri Medical Centre director Dr Khairul Faizi Khalid said its management had acted quickly by immediately informing the two couples after realising their error.

He said the problem was remedied in two hours.

"The babies have been returned to the rightful families, and one couple has already gone home. Nik Ahmad and his wife are still in the hospital ward."

We are bearing all the expenses as part of our commitment to resolve this case.

Dr Khairul Faizi Khalid
Mahsuri Medical Centre director

"We are bearing all the expenses as part of our commitment to resolve this case."

State Health Committee chair-

Dr Khairul said it was the first time such a mistake had taken place at the medical centre, which had been operating for five years.

"We have reported the matter to the Health Ministry, and tried our best to resolve this issue."



Mahani Zakaria with her newborn baby at Mahsuri Medical Centre in Jitra, Kedah, on Thursday. Her husband, **Nik Ahmad Sabri Mohamad Yusoff** (inset), says they are awaiting for DNA test results. Pic by Rahmat Othman

man Datuk Dr Leong Yong Kong said even though the babies were returned to their rightful parents, the mix-up was still considered a serious issue.

"We are concerned it will create doubts among the public who wish

to seek treatment or go for delivery at the medical centre.

"Even though they (the management) have apologised, some form of action still has to be taken," he said.

He added that the state govern-

ment would study the matter to figure out jurisdictional powers before taking any action.

Meanwhile, Bernama reported that the medical centre was conducting an internal investigation into the mix-up.



Prof Dr Aini Ideris Dilantik Naib Canselor UPM Yang Baharu

KUALA LUMPUR, 9 Jan (Bernama) -- Prof Datin Dr Aini Ideris dilantik sebagai Naib Canselor Universiti Putra Malaysia (UPM) yang baharu untuk tempoh dua tahun berkuatkuasa 1 Jan lepas.

Menurut Kementerian Pendidikan Tinggi, bekas pengarah Pejabat Strategi Korporat dan Komunikasi UPM itu menggantikan Prof Datuk Dr Mohd Fauzi Ramlan yang tamat tempoh perkhidmatannya pada 31 Dis lepas.

"Pihak kementerian ingin mengucapkan setinggi-tinggi penghargaan dan terima kasih kepada Mohd Fauzi atas sumbangannya sepanjang menjawat jawatan naib canselor sejak 1 Jan 2013," kata kementerian dalam satu kenyataan.

Aini, anak kelahiran Kelantan, mempunyai kelulusan Ijazah Doktor Perubatan Veterinar, UPM; Ijazah Sarjana dalam Sains Veterinar (Perubatan Avian) dari Liverpool University, England serta Ijazah Doktor Falsafah dalam Perubatan Avian dari UPM.

Antara jawatan utama yang pernah disandang beliau di UPM ialah Timbalan Naib Canselor (Akademik dan Antarabangsa), Pengerusi Hospital Pengajaran Veterinar, Timbalan Dekan Fakulti Perubatan Veterinar, Dekan Sekolah Pengajian Siswazah dan Pengerusi Lembaga Pengarah UPM Holdings.

Kepakaran beliau dalam bidang veterinar diiktiraf di peringkat kebangsaan dan antarabangsa apabila diberi kepercayaan untuk menganggotai pelbagai jawatankuasa antaranya di Kementerian Pendidikan Tinggi serta [Kementerian Sains, Teknologi dan Inovasi](#).

Selain itu, beliau juga pernah dilantik sebagai Felo Akademi Sains Malaysia, Felo Pengasas Malaysian College of Veterinary Specialists (FMCVS) dan Felo Malaysian Scientific Association (FMSA).

Aini turut dianugerahkan Asian Development Bank Fellowship untuk melanjutkan pengajian pasca kedoktoran di Cornell University, Amerika Syarikat.

-- BERNAMA



UPKO Harap BN Sabah Bincang Cadangan Pengeluaran Semula MyKad

PENAMPANG, 9 Jan (Bernama) -- Pertubuhan Pasokmomogun Kadazandusun Murut Bersatu (UPKO) berharap kerajaan Barisan Nasional (BN) Sabah akan membincangkan cadangan parti berkenaan mengenai pengeluaran semula semua MyKad di negeri itu.

Pemangku Presiden UPKO Datuk Wilfred Madius Tangau berkata pengeluaran semula MyKad yang dicadangkan parti berkenaan bertujuan untuk menentukan rakyat Malaysia yang tulen dari Sabah.

"Kini tahun baharu dan UPKO berharap perkara ini dapat dibincangkan pada peringkat Badan Perhubungan BN Sabah," katanya kepada pemberita selepas ditemui semasa melawat tapak pembinaan Pusat Teknologi dan Komersial Antarabangsa (ITCC) Penampang di sini, hari ini.

Madius, yang juga Menteri Sains, Teknologi dan Inovasi berkata langkah untuk menyelesaikan isu-isu tertunggak mengenai pendatang haram di Sabah bergantung kepada keputusan BN negeri.

"Kita gembira apabila Perdana Menteri Datuk Seri Najib Tun Razak berkata keputusan (penyelesaian) bergantung kepada Sabah," tambah beliau.

Mengenai ITCC, yang dijangka disiapkan menjelang hujung tahun ini, Madius berharap pusat berkenaan akan menyediakan kemudahan untuk rakyat Malaysia mengkomersialkan inovasi mereka.

"Pusat ini menjadi tarikan kepada kementerian saya kerana kami diberikan kepercayaan untuk mengkomersialkan produk-produk inovatif atau teknologi alternatif," katanya.

-- BERNAMA