

KERATAN AKHBAR-AKHBAR TEMPATAN
TARIKH: 14 MAC 2016 (ISNIN)

Bil	Tajuk	Akhbar
1	MOSTI nafi terlibat iklan jimat bil elektrik	Sinar Harian
2	Nafi sokong iklan jimat bil elektrik	Utusan Malaysia
3	Dana RM30j bangun produk inovasi komuniti	Sinar Harian
4	MetMalaysia sedia laku pembenihan awan	Harian Metro
5	Tambahan cuti sekolah ekor panas melampau	Kosmo
6	Pilihan apabila suhu terlalu panas	Kosmo
7	Kemarau melampau di Perlis, Kedah	Kosmo
8	Water parks a welcome escape from the heat	The Star
9	Hot sea breeze spikes heat for Penangites	Malay Mail
10	Adapting to climate change	New Straits Times
11	March 20 expected to be extremely hot	The Sun
12	Teraju allocates RM20m for superb winners	New Straits Times

Mosti nafi terlibat iklan jimat bil elektrik

AUTA

TERSEBAR di media sosial iklan yang memaparkan mengenai pemasangan sebuah produk yang dikatakan mampu menjimatkan bil elektrik sehingga 35 peratus. Iklan tersebut turut memaparkan logo Kementerian Sains, Teknologi dan Inovasi (Mosti) dan agensi dibawahnya, Institut Piawaian dan Penyelidikan Perindustrian Malaysia (Sirim) serta beberapa logo lain.

FAKTA

MOSTI dalam satu kenyataan semalam memaklumkan iklan yang diviralkan di media sosial itu sebagai palsu.

Dalam kenyataan itu, Mosti dan Sirim turut menafikan memberi sokongan terhadap iklan itu dan orang ramai yang mempunyai maklumat lanjut boleh menghubungi Unit Komunikasi Korporat Mosti di talian 03-88858831/05-55446770 atau emel ukk.mosti@lgovuc.gov.my.

JIMATKAN BIL ELEKTRIK
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MONEY BACK GUARANTEE 100%
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MADE IN MALAYSIA
CIEMS KIFA SGS SIRIM
Suruhanjaya Tenaga
ENVIRONMENT FRIENDLY
Malaysia Singapore Philipines Cambodia Indonesia

Iklan ini disahkan palsu oleh Mosti.

KERATAN AKHBAR
UTUSAN MALAYSIA (DALAM NEGERI) : MUKA SURAT 13
TARIKH : 14 MAC 2016 (ISNIN)

Nafi sokong iklan jimat bil elektrik

PUTRAJAYA 13 Mac - Kementerian Sains, Teknologi dan Inovasi dan SIRIM Berhad (SIRIM) menafikan sokongan terhadap iklan 'Jimatkan Bil Elektrik Sehingga 35 peratus' yang diviralkan dalam media sosial ketika ini.

"Untuk mendapatkan seba-

rang maklumat lanjut, boleh hubungi Unit Komunikasi Korporat kementerian di talian 03-88858831/05-55446770 atau e-mel ukk.mosti@1govuc.gov.my," kata kementerian itu dalam satu kenyataan di sini hari ini.

Kenyataan tersebut merujuk kepa-

da sebuah iklan yang menggunakan logo kementerian dan SIRIM untuk mempromosikan produk penjimatan elektrik bagi kegunaan kilang, hotel, kilang, pejabat dan rumah.

Selain itu, iklan tersebut juga menggunakan logo Suruhanjaya Tenaga.

KERATAN AKHBAR
SINAR HARIAN (NASIONAL) : MUKA SURAT 13
TARIKH: 14 MAC 2016 (ISNIN)

Dana RM30j bangun produk inovasi komuniti

MELAKA - Kementerian Sains, Teknologi dan Inovasi (Mosti) memperuntukkan Dana Malaysia Social Innovation RM30 juta bagi membangunkan produk inovasi yang mempunyai elemen kreativiti yang dihasil masyarakat komuniti di sesuatu kawasan.

Timbalan Menteri, Datuk Dr Abu Bakar Mohamad Diah berkata, dana yang memperuntukkan maksimum RM500,000 bagi sesebuah produk inovasi berkenaan bertujuan

memberi manfaat dalam masyarakat komuniti atau persatuan setempat.

Beliau berkata, melalui dana berkenaan, pencipta atau penghasil produk perlu bekerjasama dengan salah satu agensi di bawah Mosti bagi penghasilan produk mereka.

"Dana ini sama seperti *buy back policy* yang telah dilaksanakan Mosti dalam usaha memastikan produk pengkomersilan yang dihasilkan dapat dijual kepada masyarakat, Kementerian atau jabatan kerajaan da-

lam usaha menyokong penghasilan produk berkenaan.

"Mosti mempunyai banyak agensi dan syarikat milik kerajaan yang dapat membantu pencipta atau penyelidik menghasilkan produk mereka secara lebih inovasi dan berdaya saing untuk diketengah dan dikomersil," katanya.

Abu Bakar berkata, usaha berkenaan selaras pendekatan Mosti untuk mempertingkatkan penghasilan lebih banyak produk inovasi untuk dikomersial lebih meluas. - *Bernama*

KERATAN AKHBAR
HARIAN METRO (SETEMPAT) : MUKA SURAT 30
TARIKH: 14 MAC 2016 (ISNIN)

Kuala Lumpur

**MetMalaysia
sedia laku
pembenihan awan**

Jabatan Meteorologi Malaysia (MetMalaysia) bersedia melakukan pembenihan awan mengikut keperluan terutama kawasan terjejas teruk dengan cuaca panas melampau yang melanda negara ketika ini.

**Timbalan Ketua Pengarah
(Cuaca dan Iklim)**

MetMalaysia Alui Bahari berkata, pihaknya tiada masalah melakukan pembenihan awan, namun beberapa perkara perlu diambil kira terlebih dahulu.

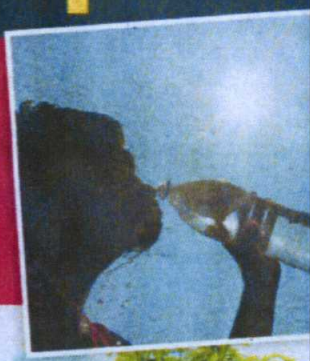
“Pembenihan awan hanya akan dilakukan sekiranya ada keperluan mendesak dan permintaan daripada pihak berkaitan seperti Lembaga Kemajuan Pertanian Muda (MADA) atau agensi pengendali kawasan tadahan lain.

“Bagaimanapun, kita juga akan membuat kajian dan penilaian daripada pelbagai aspek,” katanya.

KERATAN AKHBAR
KOSMO (FENOMENA CUACA PANAS MELAMPAU) :
MUKA SURAT 1
TARIKH: 14 MAC 2016 (ISNIN)

Tambahan cuti sekolah ekoran panas melampau

- Jawatankuasa khas dan JAS pantau suhu semasa
- Kedah, Perlis catat suhu tertinggi lebih 38 darjah Celsius
- JAS minta penduduk tidak melakukan pembakaran terbuka



KEMENTERIAN Pendidikan akan mengarahkan sekolah-sekolah ditutup buat sementara jika cuaca panas yang sedang melanda negara bertambah buruk setelah sekolah dibuka semula selepas cuti pertengahan penggal pertama pada 20 dan 21 Mac ini.

Timbalan Menteri Pendidikan, Datuk P. Kamalanathan berkata, sebuah jawatankuasa khas yang turut disertai Jabatan Alam Sekitar (JAS) ditugaskan untuk memantau suhu semasa di seluruh negara.

"Seperti kes jerebu, Indeks Pencemaran Udara (IPU) digunakan sebelum kita isytihar sekolah ditutup.

"Bagi kes suhu panas ini pula, kita akan berpandukan kepada bacaan suhu sama ada sekolah boleh ditutup atau sebaliknya," kata Kamalanathan.



MUSIM kemarau yang melanda seluruh negara sejak sebulan lalu membimbangkan para petani yang berdepan risiko kerosakan tanaman.

Dalam pada itu, **Jabatan Meteorologi (MetMalaysia)** semalam merekodkan suhu di Alor Setar, Kedah mencapai 38.5 darjah Celsius

manakala di Chuping, Perlis mencatatkan 38 darjah Celsius iaitu menunjukkan fenomena musim kemarau melampau sedang melanda negara.

KERATAN AKHBAR
KOSMO (FENOMENA CUACA PANAS MELAMPAU) :
MUKA SURAT 2
TARIKH: 14 MAC 2016 (ISNIN)

Kementerian Pendidikan pantau cuaca sebelum buat keputusan tutup sementara sekolah

Pilihan apabila suhu terlalu panas

Oleh AQMAR ALLADAD

KLANG – Kementerian Pendidikan akan mengarahkan sekolah-sekolah ditutup sementara jika cuaca panas melampau yang sedang melanda negara ketika ini bertambah buruk apabila sesi persekolahan dibuka semula pada minggu depan.

Timbalan Menteri Pendidikan, Datuk P. Kamalanathan (*gambar kecil*) berkata, sebuah jawatankuasa khas yang turut dianggotai oleh pegawai Jabatan Alam Sekitar (JAS) ditugaskan untuk memantau suhu semasa di seluruh negara.

"Seperti kes jerebu, Indeks Pencemaran Udara (IPU) digunakan sebelum kita isytihar sekolah ditutup.

"Bagi kes suhu panas ini pula, kita akan berpandukan kepada bacaan suhu sama ada sekolah boleh ditutup atau sebaliknya," kata beliau selepas menghadiri majlis tarian belia Boomi Poojai di sini semalam.

Menurut beliau, para pelajar yang sedang bercuti sempena cuti pertengahan penggal pertama sekolah sepanjang minggu ini diingatkan supaya tinggal di dalam rumah dan mengurangkan aktiviti luar bagi mengelakkan mengalami masalah kesihatan.

Sekolah-sekolah di Kedah, Johor, Kelantan dan Terengganu akan dibuka semula pada 20 Mac ini manakala sekolah-sekolah di Perlis, Pulau Pinang, Perak, Kuala Lumpur, Selangor, Melaka, Negeri Sembilan, Pahang, Johor dan Sarawak bakal dibuka semula pada 21 Mac.

Kamalanathan mengulas



PELAJAR yang sedang bercuti pertengahan penggal pertama selama seminggu mungkin mendapat cuti tambahan jika cuaca panas semakin buruk pada minggu depan. – Gambar hiasan



isu suhu panas yang diramalkan bertambah serius selepas 20 Mac ini kesan fenomena El Nino.

Berikutan itu, beliau memberi jaminan, Kementerian akan memastikan segala maklumat berkaitan penutupan sekolah akan dikemas kini kepada semua pengarah di Jabatan Pelajaran Negeri dalam tempoh dua hari dari sekarang.

"Berdasarkan pekeling yang sedia ada di semua sekolah, pengetua dan guru besar boleh memutuskan sama ada aktiviti luar bilik darjah dibatalkan berikutan cuaca terlalu panas," jelasnya.

Musim panas panjang yang sedang melanda Malaysia semakin buruk apabila Jabatan Meteorologi (MetMalaysia) semalam meletakkan beberapa buah negeri dan lokasi di negara ini di bawah kod kemarau melampau.

Menerusi laman webnya,

INFO

Kes-kes sekolah ditutup sementara ekoran fenomena cuaca

Jumlah sekolah di Malaysia ialah 10,159

- Sekolah Kebangsaan 5,943
- Sekolah Menengah Kebangsaan 1,977
- Sekolah Kebangsaan Jenis Cina 1,296
- Sekolah Kebangsaan Jenis Tamil 523
- Sekolah Berasrama Penuh 69

Sekolah diarah tutup sementara

- 1 Januari 2013 - Sebanyak 31 buah sekolah di Terengganu ditutup seminggu ekoran banjir gelombang kedua yang melanda negeri itu
- 13 Januari 2014 - Sebanyak 15 buah sekolah di Pasir Mas, Kelantan diarah ditutup empat hari ekoran banjir yang melanda
- 28 September 2015 - Semua sekolah di lima buah negeri (Kuala Lumpur, Putrajaya, Negeri Sembilan dan beberapa kawasan di Sarawak (Sri Aman, Kuching dan Kota Samarahan) diarahkan tutup sehari akibat jerebu
- 23 Februari 2016 - Sebanyak 11 buah sekolah di Sarawak diarah tutup dua hari ekoran beberapa kawasannya dilanda banjir

MetMalaysia mengklasifikasi bacaan kategori kemarau melampau sedang melanda seluruh Perlis, bahagian utara Kedah termasuk Pulau Lang-

kawi dan beberapa kawasan di Pahang, Negeri Sembilan, Johor dan Sabah dengan suhu di semua lokasi dicatatkan melebihi 35 darjah Celsius.



PENGUNAAN payung kembali popular di ibu negara ekoran cuaca panas yang sedang melanda negara sejak sebulan lalu. – Gambar hiasan

“Bagi kes suhu panas ini pula, kita akan berpandukan kepada bacaan suhu sama ada sekolah boleh ditutup atau sebaliknya

P. KAMALANATHAN

Beras
JUARA®

KERATAN AKHBAR
KOSMO (FENOMENA CUACA PANAS MELAMPAU) :
MUKA SURAT 3
TARIKH: 14 MAC 2016 (ISNIN)

Panas melampau cetus gelombang haba, jerebu, kebakaran belukar di tanah gambut

Kemarau melampau di Perlis, Kedah

Oleh AZHAR AHMAD

KUALA LUMPUR — Musim panas panjang yang melanda Malaysia semakin membimbangkan apabila Jabatan Meteorologi (MetMalaysia) menetapkan beberapa buah negeri dan kawasan di negara ini di bawah kod kemarau melampau.

MetMalaysia menerusi laman webnya mengklasifikasi bacaan kod kemarau melampau di seluruh negeri Perlis, bahagian utara Kedah termasuk Pulau Langkawi dan beberapa kawasan di Pahang, Negeri Sembilan, Johor dan Sabah yang dicatatkan kelmarin.

Berdasarkan bacaan suhu semalam yang hampir sama dengan bacaan kelmarin, Alor Setar di Kedah dan Chuping di Perlis mencatatkan suhu tertinggi iaitu pada bacaan 38.5 darjah Celsius dan 38 darjah Celsius.

Selain itu, Temerloh, Pahang mencatatkan bacaan suhu 36.9 darjah Celsius; Keningau, Sabah (35.4), Kuala Pilah, Negeri Sembilan (35.2) dan Langkawi, Kedah (35) yang turut diletakkan di bawah kod kemarau melampau.

Antara kawasan yang diletakkan di bawah kod kemarau tinggi pula ialah Sandakan, Sabah (31); Labuan (32.5); Miri, Sarawak (33.6), Kota Kinabalu, Sabah (33) dan Grik, Perak (31.2).

Menurut Ketua Pengarah MetMalaysia, Datuk Che Gayah Ismail, kod kemarau digunakan sebagai petunjuk kepada keupayaan api untuk membara di tanah gambut

yang boleh menjadi penyebab utama kepada udara yang berasap dan berjerebu.

"Terdapat empat peringkat kod kemarau iaitu rendah sederhana, tinggi dan melampau.

"Kod kemarau melampau merujuk kepada keadaan musim kemarau peringkat bahaya yang memerlukan kurang daripada lima hari yang kering bagi mencapai ambang jerebu teruk.

"Pada peringkat

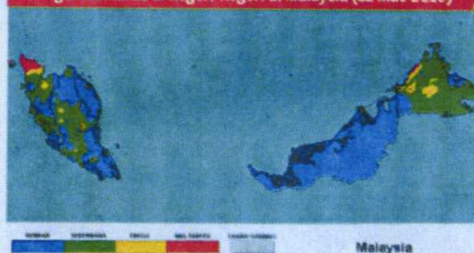


CHE GAYAH



BEBERAPA ekor angsa berkeliaran di kawasan saliran air yang kering kontang di Kuala Nerang, Kedah ekoran musim panas yang melanda negara ini sejak awal tahun.

Kategori kemarau di negeri-negeri di Malaysia (12 Mac 2016)



INFO

Kategori kemarau dan suhu negeri di Malaysia

KEMARAU MELAMPAU

- Alor Setar, Kedah (38.5 darjah Celsius)
- Chuping, Perlis (38 darjah Celsius)
- Temerloh, Pahang (36.9 darjah Celsius)
- Keningau, Sabah (35.4 darjah Celsius)
- Kuala Pilah, Negeri Sembilan (35.2 darjah Celsius)
- Langkawi, Kedah (35 darjah Celsius)

KEMARAU TINGGI

- Sandakan, Sabah (31 darjah Celsius)
- Wilayah Persekutuan Labuan (32.5 darjah Celsius)
- Cameron Highlands (25.7 darjah Celsius)
- Miri, Sarawak (33.6 darjah Celsius)
- Kota Kinabalu, Sabah (33 darjah Celsius)
- Grik, Perak (31.2 darjah Celsius)

* Bacaan suhu pada 13 Mac 2016

ini larangan kepada sebarang pembakaran perlulah dikuatkuasakan," katanya kepada *Kosmo!* semalam.

Che Gayah memberitahu, keadaan kemarau yang melanda negara ini juga boleh menyebabkan berlakunya gelombang haba apabila suhu mencecah sehingga 35 darjah Celsius selama lima hari berturut-turut atau 37 darjah Celsius selama tiga hari berturut-turut.

Jelas beliau, musim kemarau yang melanda negara dijangka berlarutan sehingga bulan Jun ini dan turut diburukkan lagi dengan fenomena El-Nino.

Bagaimanapun, katanya, taburan hujan yang turun pada sebelah petang di se-setengah lokasi dapat mengurangkan bahang gelombang haba.

"MetMalaysia turut meramalkan negara bakal dilanda jerebu semula apabila angin barat daya dari arah Sumatera kembali bertiup mulai bulan Mei hingga September," jelasnya.

Berdasarkan rekod MetMalaysia, Stesen Meteorologi Chuping, Perlis pernah mencatatkan suhu tertinggi di negara ini pada 9 April 1998 iaitu 40.1 darjah Celsius.

KERATAN AKHBAR
THE STAR (NATION) : MUKA SURAT 6
TARIKH: 14 MAC 2016 (ISNIN)

Water parks a welcome escape from the heat

PETALING JAYA: The school holidays have come at the right time for many seeking to escape the heat-wave.

Instead of running air-conditioners full blast at home and facing higher electricity bills, many headed to water parks to get drenched.

At 3pm yesterday, the Meteorological Department recorded the temperature in Petaling Jaya at 36°C; 34°C in Prai, Penang; 36°C in Ipoh, Perak; 36°C in Alor Setar, Kedah; 34°C in Malacca; and 37°C in Chuping, Perlis.

Businessman Yusri Saad, 36, brought his wife, three children and sister to Sunway Lagoon to enjoy the water rides and other facilities there.

"It's really hot these days. I feel that these parks are the best place to head to. It is still blazing under the sun but the water cools us down," he said.

Young couple Lee Charng Yong, 28, and Daphne Ng, 23, also decided to have a wet date at Sunway Lagoon.

"Even at night, it is very uncomfortable without the air-conditioner switched on," said Ng, a roadshow executive.

Over at the adjacent Sunway Pyramid, a huge crowd took refuge from the heat. The ice skating rink there especially, was a big hit.

Technician Rais Aziz, 28, who came from Kelantan for his sister's convocation, said that visiting shopping malls was his way of escaping the scorching weather.

Sunway Shopping Mall and Theme Park chief executive officer H.C. Chan said there was a 20% to



Too hot to handle: Visitors having a fun time at Sunway Lagoon to seek comfort from the scorching heat.

25% increase in visitors recently.

"Many are going for the water-based activities in Sunway Lagoon while others are in the mall enjoying the cool ambience," he added.

Bukit Gambang Resort City marketing and communications manager Karen Tan said the number of

visitors to the facility in Pahang was usually about 3,000 on weekends, which has doubled during the school holidays.

"With the extreme weather now, we are expecting even more to flock to the water park.

"It is surrounded by greenery

and our facilities, such as the slides, are shaded by trees," she added.

In Penang, many people were in the pool at the Penang City Park (formerly the Penang Youth Park).

Children and adults immersed themselves in the cool water as the afternoon sun beat down.

KERATAN AKHBAR
MALAY MAIL (TOP NEWS) : MUKA SURAT 5
TARIKH: 14 MAC 2016 (ISNIN)

Hot sea breeze spikes heat for Penangites

By Aishah Afandi

aishah@mmail.com.my

GEORGE TOWN — High humidity levels are causing people in Penang to feel hotter than usual.

Penang recorded a high of 34 degrees Celsius on March 5, with a humidity level of 88 per cent.

The temperature yesterday was 33 degrees Celsius and the humidity level was 85 per cent.

Kumpulan Sahabat Alam environmentalist Mohamad Afandi Ahmad said the higher the humidity, the hotter it would feel.

This is because humidity is the amount of water vapour in the air and it is easily heated up.

"However, the humidity does not affect the temperature recorded," he said.

"That is why when the temperature recorded is, for example, 30 degrees, it feels much hotter."

He cited Perlis as an example where the temperature there was constantly high but grapes could still grow.

"In Perlis, the temperature is always high but the humidity is low," he said.

It was reported Penangites would have to bear with the searing heat until the middle of the year.

The Meteorological Department said the state would experience several days of rain at the end of the month but it would be minimal.

Penang Water Supply Corporation Sdn Bhd chief executive officer Datuk Jaseni Maidinsa cautioned Penangites not to waste water as the current heatwave was expected to continue until June.

Afandi said another reason it felt hotter than the temperature recorded was because Penang was surrounded by sea.

"When the sea water is hot, the water particles that evaporate and the wind that blows will be hot, too, increasing the heat felt by those by the sea," he said.

The environmentalist also stressed that even with the high temperature and the heat from the sea breeze, the impact on people can be reduced if there were more trees.

"Trees play an important role in absorbing heat from the surroundings," he said.

Adapting to climate change

COMMITMENT: As the world bickers over mitigation measures, adaptation may be the only option left

CLIMATE change has consumed much international debate for years. Even after the Paris meeting last December, the world is still divided on how best to tackle the issue, which will threaten global sustainability.

According to predictions by climate scientists, the warming of the earth will create havoc for the global economy. The signs are already there. At the current rate of greenhouse gas emissions, the earlier target to limit global warming to 2°C is no longer tenable. Scientists are now talking about 3°C to 5°C rise. Extreme weather has already exacted a heavy toll on the economies of many countries. But, why is the world still dragging its feet to implement mitigation measures?

Mitigation is promoted as the best option. It involves bringing down the atmospheric levels of greenhouse gases (GHGs) through emission reduction and capture. A major GHG is carbon dioxide. This is mostly emitted in the burning of fuels for energy. Fossil fuels, including coal, petroleum and natural gas, have been widely seen as a major culprit.

Unlike fossil energy, renewable biomass is considered neutral in GHG emission. This is because, in the case of biomass, though its burning also releases GHG, the released gases are absorbed back by the plants.

A good example is oil palm. After processing, the palm, as by-product, has significant quantities of biomass in the form of mainly empty fruit bunches and fibres. The burning of such biomass does release GHGs. But, the oil palm trees will eventually absorb the GHGs through



A dried-up irrigation canal in Chachoengsao province, Thailand. Many countries need to adapt to the climatic effects on agriculture and food production. EPA pic

photosynthesis. This is also the reason why as part of mitigation, the other mechanism to reduce the build-up of GHGs is by planting more trees to absorb them.

Forests and trees are also referred to as carbon sinks. The ocean is, however, the biggest sink for GHGs. Unlike forests, oceans can turn acidic when absorbing carbon. In which case, the environmental repercussions for marine life can be devastating.

Scientists speak of two principal mechanisms to manage climate change. Mitigation is one. The other is adaptation. Mitigation would have been a better option. But, the world could not agree on two major issues on mitigation. One is emission targets. The other concerns technology sharing, which involves funding.

On emission, some developed economies hesitate to make emission targets binding. They argue that targets should not be limited only to developed economies. Instead, big developing economies, es-

pecially China and India, which have been witnessing rising emission levels, should also have legally-binding commitments. That has stalemated the negotiation process.

At the same time, smaller developing countries which lack the capacity to initiate mitigation measures are deprived of technologies which come mainly from the West. The promise to provide funding for such initiatives has also been nothing but rhetoric. In the meantime, GHG levels continue to rise. Many now believe that since the world has failed to reach a viable agreement on mitigation measures, adaptation looks like the only option left.

Talking about adaptation, many things need to be considered. We need to adapt to the changing climatic effects on agriculture and food production. Some countries will need to adapt to rising sea levels. Even the disease profile of countries may change. Indeed it has been projected that if average global temperature rise exceeds 2°C, some vul-

nerable low-lying countries may be wiped off the world map. There is concern that many small islands in the Pacific and the Indian Oceans may be totally overwhelmed by sea level rise.

Closer to home, states, including Kelantan, Terengganu and Pahang, may have to build new capitals. Kota Baru, Kuala Terengganu and Kuantan may be obliterated, unless new underwater residence can be designed by architects and engineers.

On crops, we may have to design new varieties that are more tolerant of high temperatures and even water stress. We may want to resort to biotechnology. Whatever it is, there is a long list of adaptation measures that we need to develop. One thing is for sure. All will require the right investment in research and development.

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The writer is a fellow at Academy of Sciences Malaysia

Whatever it is, there is a long list of adaptation measures that we need to develop. One thing is for sure. All will require the right investment in research and development.



DR AHMAD IBRAHIM

KERATAN AKHBAR
THE SUN (NEWS WITHOUT BORDERS) : MUKA SURAT 1 & 4
TARIKH: 14 MAC 2016 (ISNIN)

**> Education
Ministry
may CLOSE
SCHOOLS if
temperatures
rise further**

BY **VATHANI PANIRCHELVUM**
newsdesk@thesundaily.com

PETALING JAYA: The Education Ministry is mulling closing schools if the current heatwave worsens.

Deputy Education Minister Datuk P. Kamalanathan said the ministry will consult the Department of Environment (DOE) on the hot weather and decide if there is a need to close schools temporarily.

"A temporary closure is something we have not thought of for the time being but it is something we could consider if the need arises. For haze, there is an Air Pollutant Index standard set by the NRE (Natural Resources and Environment Ministry) and we are guided by that. But let us look at the procedures. We will take the experts' opinion and based on DOE's policies and information, we will decide on the next course of action," he said.

Kamalanathan added that a circular will be issued to schools advising principals and headmasters that should the weather get too hot, they can take necessary action like stopping outdoor activities.

"We will send out the circular

TURN TO PAGE 04 ►

March 20 expected to be extremely hot

► FROM FRONT PAGE

now during the school holidays, so that when school resumes in about a week, principals and headmasters can heed the circular and do the needful," he added.

Meanwhile, the Science, Technology and Innovation

Ministry said the weather would be extremely hot on March 20 due to the Equinox.

"Outdoor activities should cease and, if absolutely necessary, be carried out with caution especially for the elderly, children and those who are sensitive to hot weather. The heat is felt in certain areas

currently due to the hot and dry weather with no rain for long durations due to the strong El Nino phenomenon," it said in a statement.

Until March 10, the highest temperature was recorded in Alor Star, Kedah and Chuping, Perlis at 38.5°C.

"If there is still no rainfall, the

temperature in northern Peninsular Malaysia like Kedah, Penang and Perlis could rise higher, while the temperature in Klang Valley would be higher than usual during the evenings," it further added.

Yesterday, the temperature at Ipoh was 35°C, Chuping 37°C, and Alor Star 37°C.

Teraju allocates RM20m for Superb winners

TARGETS 40 RECIPIENTS:

Bumiputera start-ups with innovative ideas stand to receive up to RM500,000 grant each

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UNIT Peneraju Agenda Bumiputera (Teraju) has allocated RM20 million this year for its Skim Usahawan Permulaaan Bumiputera (Superb) programme to assist promising Bumiputera start-ups that have been in business for less than three years.

Chief executive officer Datuk Husni Salleh said each selected Bumiputera individual or start-up with an innovative business idea would receive a grant of up to RM500,000.

"Teraju targets 40 winners this year and will hold three to four series of selections to look for entrepreneurs aged 40 years and below with viable business ideas," he said at the Final BizPitch of Superb season 1, here, on Saturday.

He added that this year, Teraju was also looking at getting more applications that not only had the elements of creativity and in-

novation, but also the potential to penetrate overseas market.

At the Final BizPitch, the finalists pitched their business ideas through elevator pitching in front of Superb Selection Committee (SSC) comprising experienced and successful Bumiputera entrepreneurs.

The judges included Husni, KRU Capital Sdn Bhd executive chairman Datuk Norman Abdul Halim, Zikay Sdn Bhd managing director Datuk Mohd Kay Ibrahim and Touch 'n Go Sdn Bhd chief executive officer Syahrulizam Samsudin.

Husni said the government had allocated a RM100 million fund under Superb for three years to help creative and innovative Bumiputera entrepreneurs find their footing.

"Superb, which was launched on January 27 2014, has received positive response from Bumiputera entrepreneurs with more than 4,500 applications received.

"Ninety entrepreneurs have been selected so far as SUPERB winners since 2014, with a total of RM45 million worth of grants having been allocated," he said.

Husni said the Superb programme was set to continue next year with more funds to be added and announced soon.

"Teraju has teamed up with Malaysia Debt Venture Bhd to provide a RM40 million financing scheme that will be launched soon.

"Teraju is also partnering with the Technology Park Malaysia to provide incubators for companies under the Superb programme," he said.



Teraju chief executive officer
Datuk Husni Salleh