

**KERATAN AKHBAR-AKHBAR TEMPATAN**  
**TARIKH: 25 APRIL 2016 (ISNIN)**

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## Operasi pembenihan awan membuahkan hasil

**KUALA LUMPUR** - Operasi pembenihan awan yang berpangkalan di Pangkalan Udara Subang dan Pulau Pinang diteruskan seperti biasa semalam dan berjaya menghasilkan hujan di beberapa kawasan.

Menteri Sains, Teknologi dan Inovasi, Datuk Seri Madius Tangau berkata, kawasan berkenaan ialah Empangan Timah Tasoh di Perlis, Empangan Ahn-ing, Pedu, Muda dan Beris di Kedah, Empangan Teluk Bahang di Pulau Pinang, Empangan Bukit Merah dan Air Kuning serta kawasan tadahan Bukit Larut di Perak, Empangan Sepri dan Gemencheh di Negeri Sembilan dan Empangan Durian Tunggal di Melaka.

"Bagi kawasan sasaran di Empangan Air Hitam, Pulau Pinang, perkembangan awan diperhatikan selepas pembenihan," katanya dalam satu kenyataan di sini.

Dalam pada itu, beliau berkata, setakat pukul 4 petang kelmarin, hanya Stesen Meteorologi Kuala Krai di Kelantan didapati mencatatkan bacaan suhu melebihi 37 darjah Celsius iaitu 37.1 darjah Celsius.

Sehingga semalam, sebanyak tiga kawasan mencatatkan bilangan hari tanpa hujan melebihi 10 hari iaitu Kota Bharu, Kelantan (20 hari), Machang, Kelantan (20 hari) dan Kudat, Sabah (12 hari). - Bernama

## Army and cops to guard water catchment areas in Johor

**ISKANDAR PUTERI:** Johor will rope in the army and police to prevent unscrupulous parties from drawing water illegally from water catchment areas.

The operations would also involve SAJ Holdings Sdn Bhd and District Land Offices, said state Public Works, Rural and Regional Development Committee chairman Datuk Hasni Mohammad.

Johor Water Regulatory Body (Bakaj) would also monitor and co-ordinate the anti-water theft operation.

"We will take stern action against those found drawing water illegally from the water catchment areas including charging them for trespassing on state-owned land," Hasni told reporters during the state assembly break.

He said the action was necessary as water levels at rivers in Kota Tinggi and Mersing – which supplied raw water to dams in the two districts – had reached critical levels because of El Nino.

Hasni said the state authorities had issued notices to large scale vegetable farmers with farms close to the water catchment areas to look at other water resources instead of using river water.

"We are also closely watching whether animal breeders and factories draw water illegally from the water catchment areas and rivers," he added.

Hasni said Johor had requested the Meteorological Department to conduct 40 cloud seeding operations in the Kota Tinggi and Mersing districts.

**KERATAN AKHBAR**  
**NEW STRAITS TIMES (PRIME NEWS) : MUKA SURAT 12**  
**TARIKH : 25 APRIL 2016 (ISNIN)**



*The water level in Air Itam Dam has fallen as there was no rainfall in that area recently. Pic by Mikail Ong*

## 'No rainfall in Penang catchment areas'

**GEORGE TOWN:** The water level of the Air Itam Dam here has dropped despite a few downpours the last few days.

Penang Water Supply Corporation (PBAPP) chief executive officer Datuk Jaseni Maidinsa said this was because there was no rainfall in the catchment areas.

"Today (yesterday), the Air Itam Dam is at 56.7 per cent capacity and the Teluk Bahang Dam is at 58.4 per cent.

"The water level has gone down but the supply can last until June provided the Beris and Muda Dams (in Kedah) can supply and sustain the Sungai Muda level at above

two metres.

"The Sungai Muda level is at 2.38m," he told the *New Straits Times* here yesterday.

Jaseni was commenting on Science, Technology and Innovation Minister Datuk Seri Wilfred Madius Tangau's statement that cloud-seeding operations based at the Subang

Airport and in Penang had succeeded in producing rain in several areas, including the Muda and Beris dams, and the Teluk Bahang Dam.

Jaseni had called on the Federal Government to put a stop to agricultural irrigation and instead intensify its cloud-seeding operations.

## Jerebu tidak pengaruhi proses pembenihan awan

**SHAH ALAM** – Jerebu yang melanda beberapa kawasan tidak mempengaruhi proses pembenihan awan, kata **Timbalan Ketua Setiausaha (Sains) Kementerian Sains, Teknologi dan Inovasi, Prof Madya Dr Ramzah Dambul**.

Namun, beliau menjelaskan keadaan cuaca panas dan kering yang dialami kini, menyukarkan lagi proses pembenihan awan.

“Jerebu tidak ada pengaruh kepada pembenihan awan sama ada boleh dibuat atau tidak. Pembenihan awan akan berjaya sekiranya mempunyai awan yang se-

suai untuk dibenihkan, iaitu awan kumulonimbus.

“Cuma pada musim kering, proses pembentukan awan kumulonimbus ini agak sukar berlaku,” katanya kepada *Sinar Harian* semalam.

Bagaimanapun, Ramzah berkata, dalam cuaca kering, pembentukan awan kumulonimbus boleh berlaku daripada pengeluapan wap air yang datang daripada air laut, pokok dan tanah.

“Ini membolehkan awan terbentuk dan proses pembenihan awan boleh dilakukan,” katanya.

# 600 kit hapus aedes diedar

» Produk antinyamuk berasaskan sekam padi mampu hapus jentik-jentik

Oleh Siti Nurazlinee Azmi  
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► Kajang

**B**agi memupuk kesedaran mengenai bahaya denggi, sebuah syarikat mengambil inisiatif mengedar 600 kit antinyamuk yang dikenali Mousticide RH kepada penduduk Taman Tenaga, di sini semalam.

Inovasi itu dibangunkan Entogenex Industries Sdn Bhd

(Entogenex) bersama Kementerian Sains, Teknologi dan Inovasi (MOSTI), berasaskan sekam padi yang mampu melawan denggi dengan menghapuskan dari peringkat awal jentik-jentik.

## Basmi wabak denggi

Pensyarah Fakulti Sains Kesihatan Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia (UKM), Prof Madya Dr Hidayatulfathi Othman, berkata produk itu menawarkan penyelesaian jangka panjang serta mesra alam sekitar dalam membasmi wabak denggi.



Dr Hidayatulfathi dan Pengerusi Persatuan Penduduk Taman Tenaga Kajang, Ibrahim Mohamed **menunjukkan kit perlindungan lengkap denggi** di Kajang, semalam.

[FOTO ABDULLAH YUSOF/BH]

“Setiap paket boleh digunakan selama sebulan atau diganti dengan paket baharu jika bekas perangkap penuh dengan jentik-jentik atau kekotoran.

“Menariknya, produk ini tidak menggunakan bahan kimia, hanya pasang dan letak saja di mana-mana kawasan, sama ada di dalam mahupun luar rumah,” katanya.

Bercakap demikian selepas

program Komuniti Bebas Denggi di Taman Tenaga semalam, beliau berkata, UKM menggerakkan program berkenaan Jun lalu dengan tumpuan ke kawasan yang mempunyai kes demam denggi tinggi.

“Taman Tenaga dipilih kerana pernah disenarai hitam dengan kira-kira 40 kes denggi pada November dan Disember 2014,” katanya.

**KERATAN AKHBAR**  
**THE STAR (NATION) : MUKA SURAT 10**  
**TARIKH: 25 APRIL 2016 (ISNIN)**

## Current wet spell may be result of El Nino losing steam

**PETALING JAYA:** Frequent rains in the past few days are signs that the effects of El Nino, which is responsible for the protracted dry spell, especially in the northern region of the peninsula, may finally be abating.

Malaysian Meteorological Department (MetMalaysia) director-general Datuk Che Gayah Ismail said El Nino was weakening and the rain was also doing its part in lowering the temperature.

"We are now in the inter-monsoon season where afternoon rains and thunderstorms are the norm," she said, adding that the season was expected to last until May.

"Things are expected to be back to normal by June."

A MetMalaysia officer had recently said that the inter-monsoon season had set in early this month, with east coast states beginning to experience heavy rainfall.

The impact of El Nino on the temperature in the country is also expected to reduce when the strength of the El Nino winds down while the increase in the frequency

of rain during the inter-monsoon season reaches its height at the end of April or early May.

The public was told to expect more frequent rain with thunderstorms during the afternoon and evening, especially in the west coast states as well as west Sabah and Sarawak as the inter-monsoon progressed.

During the months of the inter-monsoon season, mornings will typically be fair with blue skies and strong convective clouds could develop in late mornings, followed by afternoon rains.

According to weather forecasts by the department, folks in Kuala Lumpur, Petaling Jaya and Putrajaya can expect thunderstorms in the afternoon in the coming week.

In George Town, an hour-long downpour brought much relief to Penangites who had been enduring a dry spell in the past months.

Exactly a week ago, it had rained in almost every corner of the state and yesterday, Penangites in several parts of the state also enjoyed a

cool and breezy respite.

"It's really nice to get wet for once after travelling every day under the hot sun," said driver A. Salim, who was riding a motorcycle without a raincoat.

"For once, getting drenched was fun," he added after stopping near a coffee shop to dry himself.

Saleswoman R. Keerthi, who was walking along Jalan Datuk Keramat to her workplace, said this was the first time after a long while that she had to use an umbrella on a rainy day.

"The scorching heat was unbearable. I would sweat by the time I reached the office, which is just 500m away from my house," she said.

A MetMalaysia spokesman said heavy rain was recorded in Balik Pulau in the morning and also in Paya Terubong while there was intermittent rain in some parts of the island.

Isolated rain was also reported in Sungai Bakap, Bukit Mertajam and Butterworth on the Penang mainland.

## Buyers: Hello, they're cheaper

Despite the dangers, users still buy unauthorised mobile chargers to save cost

By **TEOH XIU JONG**

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**PETALING JAYA:** Despite knowing the danger of using unauthorised mobile device chargers, users continue to do so to save cost, putting their lives at risk.

Student Wan Ameerul Taufiq lamented that the phone chargers that he owned, certified or otherwise, would break down within a few months.

"Why should I buy an expensive one if I need to keep replacing it?" asked the 19-year-old.

Nick Cheong, 33, who has been selling mobile device accessories for seven years, revealed that most of his customers preferred "quantity over quality".

"Some of my customers would get more than one unit of a RM10 charger at one go rather than an authentic one, which costs a lot more," he said, adding that his bestsellers were the ones sold between RM10 and RM30.

Original chargers are priced from RM150 to

RM200, depending on the brand.

Online merchandiser Siti Noorhafiza Badrul, 27, said she could not stop her clients from purchasing what they wanted.

"I'm not responsible for any defects or mishaps that my customers experience. They use the gadgets at their own risk," she said, adding that most of her products were imported from China.

Well aware of the danger of using an unauthorised phone charger, an employee of a mobile device accessories shop advises consumers to buy only the authentic ones.

"But many just get the cheap ones," said 23-year-old Victor Khoo.

"Occasionally, though, I've come across customers who would want only the originals for safety reasons."

Concern over the use of uncertified accessories have intensified following two mishaps this month.

On April 15, Suhana Mohamad, 30, was electrocuted while using her phone at her

home in Cheras, Kuala Lumpur.

Last Saturday, fisherman Muhammad Syawal Md Isa, 28, of Kampung Titi Serong in Yan, Kedah, suffered serious injuries when the handphone he was charging exploded as he was about to take a call.

"The phone was quite hot when I tried to answer the call. It then exploded and I was knocked unconscious," he was reported as saying from his hospital bed.

For safety precautions, the Energy Commission has urged all mobile device users to purchase only certified chargers, either with Sirim (Standards and Industrial Research Institute of Malaysia) or Malaysian Communications and Multimedia Commission labels, from manufacturers, suppliers, importers or sellers.

Users are also advised to refrain from using mobile devices when these are being charged as such action may create harm, especially when the charger gets an unexpected electric current leakage.