

**KERATAN AKHBAR-AKHBAR TEMPATAN
TARIKH: 29 MEI 2016 (AHAD)**

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KERATAN AKHBAR
MINGGUAN MALAYSIA (DALAM NEGERI) MUKA SURAT 19
TARIKH: 29 MEI 2016 (AHAD)

Gen Y boleh jana kemajuan negara

MELAKA 28 Mei - Generasi Y (Gen Y) pada masa kini tidak boleh diketepikan sebaliknya perlu terus didekati dalam usaha memastikan agenda dan kemajuan negara dalam pelbagai bidang dapat dicapai dengan lebih berkesan.

Timbalan Menteri Sains, Teknologi dan Inovasi, Datuk Dr. Abu Bakar Mohamad Diah berkata, hal tersebut perlu memandangkan golongan berkenaan mempunyai pengaruh penting dalam sesuatu isu serta berperanan dalam menentukan kejayaan sesebuah negara pada masa hadapan.

Menurutnya, peranan kerajaan pada masa kini yang giat berusaha membangunkan negara menjadi sebuah negara maju dan makmur

dilihat seiring dengan harapan yang diinginkan Generasi Y.

"Namun begitu, dalam masa sama kumpulan ini mahu kerajaan lebih rapat dan mendekati mereka untuk bertanyakan apa yang sebenarnya mereka inginkan.

"Justeru, lebih banyak usaha perlu diambil bagi mendekati Gen Y kerana golongan ini berpengaruh dalam kalangan generasi mereka dan mampu menentukan jatuh bangun sesebuah negara," katanya dalam sidang akhbar selepas merasmikan Karnival Gen Y Malaysia Di Hatiku 2016 Peringkat Universiti Teknikal Malaysia Melaka (UTeM) di Dewan Besar UTeM, Durian Tunggal, di sini hari ini.

Yang hadir sama, Naib Canselor

UTeM, Prof. Datuk Dr. Shahrin Sahib; Pengarah Bahagian Gerak Saraf dan Pengurusan Isu Jabatan Penerangan, Hashim Bedu dan Pengarah Jabatan Penerangan negeri, Lim Ann Teck.

Jelas Abu Bakar, golongan muda bagaimanapun perlu bijak dalam menterjemahkan setiap isu yang dipaparkan dalam media sosial serta tidak mudah terpengaruh dengan perkara belum sah.

"Jika dilihat, banyak isu dalam media sosial menjadi viral walaupun belum tentu kesahihannya.

"Justeru, Gen Y perlu berperanan untuk tidak mudah menyebarkan berita atau maklumat yang diperoleh di media sosial," kata beliau.

KERATAN AKHBAR
BERITA HARIAN (PENDIDIKAN) : MUKA SURAT 25
TARIKH : 29 MEI 2016 (AHAD)



Mahdzir (dua dari kiri) beramah mesra bersama pengetua, guru besar dan Pegawai Pejabat Pendidikan Daerah Sabak Bernam yang hadir pada Majlis Sepetang bersama Menteri Pendidikan di Dewan Sekolah Menengah Kebangsaan Dato Mustaffa.

Pengiktirafan UNESCO bukti kejayaan

➔ Pendidikan inklusif sentiasa jadi keutamaan negara melahirkan masyarakat berdaya saing

Oleh Suhaila Shahrul Annuar dan Norrasyidah Arshad
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Putrajaya

Pengiktirafan Pertubuhan Pendidikan, Saintifik dan Kebudayaan Pertubuhan Bangsa-Bangsa Bersatu (UNESCO) dalam pelbagai bidang membuktikan usaha Malaysia menyediakan pendidikan bersifat inklusif kepada rakyat.

Menteri Pendidikan, Datuk Seri Mahdzir Khalid, berkata pendidikan inklusif sentiasa menjadi agenda keutamaan negara dalam melahirkan masyarakat berdaya saing, berpandangan jauh, saintifik serta progresif.

Mahdzir yang juga Presiden Sur-

ruhanjaya Kebangsaan UNESCO Malaysia, berkata antara pengiktirafan itu termasuk pelantikan Menteri Pembangunan Wanita, Keluarga dan Masyarakat, Datuk Seri Rohani Abdul Karim Presiden Majlis Antara Kerajaan Bagi Pengurusan Transformasi Sosial (MOST IGC) UNESCO.

Simbol iktiraf

Pelantikan Ketua Setiausaha Kementerian Sains, Teknologi dan Inovasi, Datuk Seri Dr Noorul Ainur Mohd Nur sebagai Presiden Suruhanjaya Sains UNESCO, menjadi simbol pengiktirafan serta keyakinan komuniti sains dunia terhadap kepemimpinan Malaysia di peringkat antarabangsa," katanya.

Beliau berkata demikian pada Majlis Perasmian Penutupan Hari UNESCO Malaysia 2016 di sini, semalam.



PPD Sabak Bernam kemuka rancangan projek penambahbaikan serta pembangunan kepada JPN"

Mahdzir Khalid,
Menteri Pendidikan

Sementara itu, pada Program Sepetang Kepimpinan Sekolah Bersama Menteri Pendidikan di Sabak Bernam, Mahdzir berkata, beberapa penambahbaikan membabitkan infrastruktur dan fizikal 24 sekolah di daerah berkenaan akan dilaksanakan dalam tempoh terdekat.

"PPD Sabak Bernam kemukakan rancangan projek penambahbaikan serta pembangunan kepada Jabatan Pendidikan Negeri (JPN). Ada sudah diluluskan namun ada juga yang belum.

"Antara projek yang sudah kita luluskan adalah projek pembinaan bangunan merangkumi enam hingga tujuh kelas selain pembaikan makmal," katanya.

Program di Sekolah Menengah Kebangsaan (SMK) Dato' Mustaffa itu, dihadiri kira-kira 200 pengetua, guru besar dan Penolong Kanan.

KERATAN AKHBAR
SUNDAY STAR (NEWS) : MUKA SURAT 3
TARIKH : 29 MEI 2016 (AHAD)

THE Malaysian Nuclear Agency (Nuclear Malaysia) is working with Dewan Bahasa & Pustaka (DBP) to publish an encyclopaedia on nuclear science and technology in Bahasa Malaysia.

Nuclear Malaysia's senior director for commercialisation and technology planning programme Datuk Dr Zulkifli Mohamed Hashim said 95% of the work on the encyclopaedia has been completed.

"The encyclopaedia is expected to be ready by the end of this year. A series of workshops and discussions were organised in producing

Nuclear science encyclopaedia in BM

this encyclopaedia which has the strong backing of the Science, Technology and Innovation Ministry," he told the media after opening the Scientific Writing and Publishing Seminar in Ipoh on Wednesday.

The three-day seminar aims to upgrade the professionalism of scientific publications as well as promote the use of Bahasa Malaysia in such publications.

The seminar is organised by Nuclear Malaysia, DBP, the Malaysian Radiation Protection Association, and the Karangkraf Media Group with the support of the Malaysian Institute of Translation and Books, the Malaysian Agricultural Research and Development Institute (MARDI), PTS Publications and Distributors Sdn Bhd, as well as several local universities.

"The ministry also provided funding for us to complete the task," said Zulkifli, adding that 99 Nuclear Malaysia research officers were involved in producing the 250-page encyclopaedia.

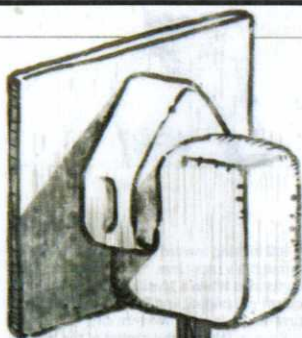
Meanwhile, Nuclear Malaysia director-general Datuk Dr Muhammad Lebai Juri said more emphasis should be given to science in line with the nation's aim of producing a scientifically literate

society so it can achieve developed nation status by 2020.

Muhammad, who was not present, had his speech read out by Zulkifli.

In his speech, Muhammad said those involved in research should disseminate information about their work through their writings.

"Although interest in reading scientific materials among the public is still considered low, it has not discouraged writers in continuing to produce interesting books to enhance knowledge," he added. - Bernama.



Charged up for safety

The recent incidents of phones and other gadgets exploding or electrocuting users should not be brushed off lightly. With more and more uncertified and potentially dangerous electronic items being sold openly, the Energy Commission is beefing up enforcement activities to ensure these products are taken off the market.

Stories by YUEN MEIKENG
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LAST month, 30-year-old Suhana Mohamad was electrocuted to death while talking on her mobile phone that was being charged at her home in Cheras, Kuala Lumpur.

That's a scary thing to hear because we Malaysians love our phones – there are 1.4 mobile phones for every person in the country, with the number continuing to rise as technology becomes more and more a part of daily life.

But as more products come into the market, it is vital that Malaysians are smart about what they buy and how they use it.

In Suhana's case, the charger that caught fire and led to her electrocution was not from the manufacturer that produced her phone, according to an initial investigation by the Energy Commission (Suruhanjaya Tenaga).

The incident sent shockwaves through the nation, galvanising the commission to begin inspecting premises selling mobile phone chargers.

"From the inspection, it was found that a significant number of chargers checked did not have a Certificate of Approval (CoA) and Sirim-ST label," the commission reveals, referring to the **Standards and Industrial Research Institute of Malaysia**.

In a bid to prevent tragedies like Suhana's and other recent incidents of phones and other gadgets exploding or electrocuting users, the commission will be intensifying its enforcement activities to weed out unsafe and uncertified mobile phone chargers and electronic equipment in the market.

Such efforts will include conducting more checks and raids to curb the manufacturing, importation and sale of equipment that has not been certified by the commission and Sirim. The commission will also embark on joint enforcement operations with the police, the Ministry of Domestic Trade, Co-operatives and Consumerism, Sirim, and related agencies.

"Other than that, we are also carrying out consumer awareness initiatives on the matter in print, electronic and social media," the commission explains in an e-mail to *Sunday Star*.

It doesn't help that uncertified mobile phone chargers are being sold openly to the public today, at prices as low as RM10.

After inspecting 157 premises, the commission found 653 adapters and charger units of various brands that do not have the Sirim-ST label.

"These premises were given a warning notice to withdraw, dispose of or return the unapproved chargers. If the notice is not complied with, the chargers will be confiscated and legal action will be taken by commission," the commission's e-mail says.

If convicted, the owners of the premises can be fined up to RM5,000, jailed up to a year, or both.

There are more and more of these uncertified and unapproved devices being sold lately, with their cheaper prices appealing to the consumer.

However, the commission points out that, "Consumers must be aware that these devices are harmful as they are not properly tested."

"Buying only certified and approved devices is one way to curb the sale of those uncertified and unapproved ones," it says.

The commission urges consumers to report the location or premises that sell such uncertified products by going to its website, st.gov.my.

"Users should also refer to safety procedures in user manuals should they have any doubts about using or charging their device," it advises, adding that mobile phone owners should also refrain from using their device while it is being charged – if the charger is faulty, electricity can leak out and harm the user.

Besides incidents involving mobile phones, the commission also recorded a case involving a victim electrocuted to death by a laptop charger in Malim Nawar, Perak, in March 2012.

It is also currently investigating the case of a fisherman in Yan, Kedah, who suffered serious injuries last month when the phone he was charging exploded just as he was about to answer a call.

While the authorities are taking action, it is ultimately up to consumers to wise up about their smartphones and other devices.

Where there is a demand, there will be supply, so consumers need to stop demanding and buying uncertified products even though they are cheaper than original brands to stop the supply of such items.

Amin Ashaari, co-founder of tech website SoyaCincau.com, says the level of

awareness among consumers when it comes to digital devices is still wanting.

"Enforcement efforts by the authorities are not enough. We need smarter consumers."

"A lot of uncertified mobile accessories are easily available for sale. Some chargers are sold in petrol stations and are packaged in just a plastic bag."

"The safety of these accessories is suspect but some people still buy them for their convenience," he says, noting that some uncertified chargers could cost as low as between RM10 and RM20.

Amin also points out that the high mobile phone penetration in Malaysia is a factor that contributes to the higher risks of mishaps continuing to occur.

"This risk is there as long as you use unauthorised products," he says, adding that some of these products are not built with safety features such as circuit breakers and overcharge protection.

Amin also hopes major mobile phone manufacturers will also play a role in educating users to buy original products.

Expressing concern over the recent spate of incidents, Institution of Engineers Malaysia president Tan Yean Chin says the institution hopes that current regulations can be further enforced to ensure the safety of consumers.

Currently, to protect users, there are regulations requiring homes to be equipped with a residual current device (RCD) to cut off power supply when an unbalanced electric current is detected. However, Tan says some houses may not have this system in place or may have very low quality RCDs installed.

"The purpose of the RCD is to detect any leakage of currents that may be caused by short circuits or overheating of equipment."

"It is critical to install and maintain RCDs to ensure safety, as they serve as the second tier protection if there is any explosion or leakage from malfunctioning equipment," Tan says.

He adds that the institution, through its Electrical Engineering Technical Division, is willing to assist the Government and related agencies such as Energy Commission with the necessary technical advice.

"We can also assist in the investigation of the incidents and help to raise awareness of consumers in using electrical equipment," he says.

Mobile phone mishaps

May 7, 2016

A girl's mobile phone reportedly caught fire when it was charging at her home in Setiawangsa, Kuala Lumpur. Half an hour after plugging it into the charger, the phone started emitting smoke and flames, burning the pillow it was resting on.

April 23, 2016

Fisherman Muhammad Syawal Md Isa, 28, of Kampung Piti Serong in Yan, Kedah, suffered serious injuries when the mobile phone he was charging exploded as he was about to answer a call. He said the phone was hot to the touch before it exploded, knocking him unconscious.

April 15, 2016

A woman was electrocuted to death while she was talking on her mobile phone as it was charging. Suhana Mohamad, 30, died at her home in Taman Desa Baiduri in Cheras, Kuala Lumpur, at 11.30pm.

March 19, 2016

A power bank belonging to a 72-year-old retired engineer exploded in the glove compartment of his car. Tan Heng Swee was unhurt as the incident happened when he was not in his Proton Iswara in Nibong Tebal, Penang.

February 2015

A mobile phone user was electrocuted to death in an incident involving the device's charger in Selama, Perak.

March 2012

A user was electrocuted to death in an incident involving a laptop charger in Malim Nawar, Perak.

Safety tips when charging your mobile phone

- > **Always use the original charger** that comes with your mobile phone. A different charger or one bought separately can be dangerous as it might not be compatible with the phone.
- > If you have to buy a charger separately, **look for those with the ST-Sirim label** indicating it has been certified by the Energy Commission (Suruhanjaya Tenaga) and tested by Sirim (Standards and Industrial Research Institute of Malaysia). Chargers are controlled electrical appliances which must have a certificate of approval.
- > **Never use uncertified chargers** as they could be made from poor quality components that can't receive and/or withstand the flow of electricity for long periods of time.
- > **Never use a mobile phone while it is charging**, as current leakages could cause electric shocks.
- > **Refer to devices' user manuals** for information on how to use or charge the device. You should only use original mobile phones and adapters that have been certified.
- > Communication devices like mobile phones must carry the **Malaysian Communications and Multimedia Commission** label - check the validity of the label on your device at ecomm.sirim.my.
- > Purchase mobile phone batteries from the **original equipment manufacturer** when replacing old batteries.

Source: Energy Commission, Sirim QAS International Sdn Bhd and others

Product recall system needed

A MORE effective and specific product recall system, similar to the one in Europe, is needed to better protect consumers from faulty and potentially dangerous products.

Malaysian Association of Standards Users technical policy (product safety) executive Nur Asyikin Aminuddin says such a system is important to help consumers identify which products to avoid.

"The system should also be easy for consumers to refer to by having a user-friendly product recall list uploaded online," she says.

Nur Asyikin adds that the European Commission's Rapid Alert System enables information about dangerous products found in the market to be exchanged among countries in the region.

The European Commission also updates a list of alerts on products reported by national authorities every week.

"The association wants such a product recall system because it is very important when it comes to product safety."

"If a product has a problem in terms of its safety or functions, there will be a market recall until such items are safe enough for the consumer," she says.

She urges consumers to report unsafe incidents through the Apec (Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation) Product Safety Incident Information Sharing System's website at psiss.net.

The Domestic Trade, Co-operatives and Consumerism Ministry says it developed an online product recall system last year through its MyStandard portal at mystandard.kpdnkk.gov.my.

"Using this portal, local manufacturers, importers or suppliers of any goods may voluntarily report product recalls to the ministry and their recall notice

will be published for public viewing," says a ministry spokesperson.

The ministry advises consumers to lodge a complaint with its enforcement division if they encounter counterfeit products in the domestic market.

National Consumer Complaints Centre (NCCC) legal and policy executive Shabana Naseer Ahmad says there has been an increase in the number of complaints about general consumer products, including digital devices.

"Many complainants were not aware the handphones and other electronic products purchased were not genuine and some found they were secondhand products."

"Only when problems occurred and they had it checked at the service centre or repair shop did they realise that the items were not genuine," she says, adding that there have also been complaints of batteries overheating or their cases bulging.

According to the NCCC's 2014 Annual Consumer Complaints Report, there was a rise in the number of complaints regarding electronics and telecommunication products. Of the 6,318 complaints lodged in 2014 about general products, some 1,807 were concerning these gadgets - an increase from the 26.9% recorded in 2013.

Among the complaints received were that brand new mobile phones could not be charged or cameras that did not work. Shabana advises consumers to demand for a refund or replacement of faulty products, as it is their right to do so.

"If merchants refuse to comply with the request, complaints can be lodged with the Consumer Claims Tribunal, the Domestic Trade, Co-operatives and Consumerism Ministry or the NCCC at nccc.org.my," she says.

Check power banks and USB cables too

MORE needs to be done to check that power banks and USB cables are safe for consumers too.

To keep digital devices up and running throughout the day, such portable batteries and USB cables are much in demand in the market.

Amin Ashaari, co-founder of tech website SoyaCincau.com, says while mobile phones and chargers come with safety certifications from local regulators, there is currently none for power banks.

Unlike chargers, "there is no sticker or label to look out for on power banks. This makes it a bit difficult for the public to decide which ones to buy," he says, urging the authorities to step up and close this gap.

In the meantime, Amin says we should stick to buying power banks from reputable brands and stay away from those that are unbelievably cheap.

"For example, a 10,000mAh power bank from a good brand would be about RM50. If someone is selling a power bank with the same capacity for RM20, you should be suspicious," he says.

Amin also urges the public not to expose power banks to heat by leaving it inside cars under the scorching sun.

"Cheap power banks do not have protection to prevent them from exploding or rupturing. When a battery is exposed to heat, gases will build up and they could leak and explode."

"Also, once your power bank or device is fully charged, unplug it and don't leave it to be overcharged," he says.

Noting that there have been mishaps involving power banks from imitation brands, Amin says such battery packs may not have overcharge protection.

This potentially creates dangerous situations when the power bank is being charged from a power outlet and when it is used as a power source to charge devices.

"Without the necessary built-in features, there is nothing to prevent a power bank from being overcharged when connected to a power outlet."

"Also, when charging a device, it will not shut off by itself when the battery of the device is full."

"Usually, with the overcharge protection, the battery should shut off by

itself," Amin explains.

As for using USB cables to charge mobile phones from laptops or desktop computers, Amin says there is no significant risk because the voltage supplied is low compared to chargers.

"USB cables can transfer current to you if their rubber casing is ruptured or frayed. But usually, the damage on the cord is visible and this stops people from using them," he points out.

Concurring with Amin, Malaysian Association of Standards Users technical policy (product safety) executive Nur Asyikin Aminuddin says it is time for the authorities to regulate power banks and USB cables as well to help reduce risks.

Sirim QAS International Sdn Bhd managing director Khalidah Mustafa says the body has yet to certify power banks and USB cables under its product certification scheme. However, companies producing such items can approach Sirim to do so.

(Sirim is the Standards and Industrial Research Institute of Malaysia and Sirim QAS International is Malaysia's leading certification and testing body.)

As for phone chargers, she advises

users to refer to the user manuals provided.

"It is not advisable to use the phone while charging, especially with wet hands."

"Consumers are also advised to purchase batteries from original equipment manufacturers when replacing old batteries to ensure that the new battery is identical to what was originally supplied with the phone," she says.

Meanwhile, communication devices such as mobile phones are regulated by the Malaysian Communications and Multimedia Commission (MCMC) and certified by Sirim QAS International. "Certified handphones will carry the valid MCMC label," says Khalidah, adding that, "Consumers may check the validity of the MCMC label using the 'Check your label' mobile application or through the ecomm.sirim.my website."

For chargers supplied together with mobile phones, Sirim QAS International will only grant approvals to the manufacturers or importers if the phone and all its accessories have complied with the relevant MCMC technical specifications.

Powering-up on enforcement

Premises to be raided to ensure chargers comply with safety standards

By YUEN MEIKENG
meikeng@thestar.com.my

PETALING JAYA: More raids and checks will be conducted to "unplug" uncertified mobile phone chargers and electronic equipment from the market in a bid to protect users from dangerous products.

This is being sparked off by recent incidents involving handphones, including the case of a housewife who was electrocuted while she was talking on her phone as the battery was being recharged in Kuala Lumpur last month.

To prevent such incidents, the Energy Commission (ST) told *Sunday Star* that it is intensifying enforcement to curb the manufacture, import and sale of uncertified products.

But as more users charge their handphones and devices with power banks, consumers are also hoping the authorities will look into regulating portable batteries.

Currently, power banks are not required under law to be certified

To date, we have yet to certify any power banks or USB cables under our product certification scheme.

Khalidah Mustafa



for its quality and safety.

However, power bank manufacturers can voluntarily come forward to **Sirim QAS International Sdn Bhd** to obtain product certification.

"To date, we have yet to certify any power banks or USB cables under our product certification scheme," said the certification, inspection and testing body's managing director Khalidah Mustafa.

Noting the lack of consumer awareness in getting original and certified devices, the Energy Commission said there are more unauthorised products sold in the

market than before and which are usually cheaper than the original ones.

"Joint enforcement operations will be carried out soon with Sirim, the Domestic Trade, Co-operatives and Consumerism Ministry, police, and related agencies to curb the sale of products that do not have a Certificate of Approval (CoA) and Sirim-ST label," the commission said.

The commission is also working to increase consumer awareness using print, electronic and social media.

After the death of the housewife who was electrocuted, the commission carried out inspections on premises selling mobile phone chargers.

"From the inspection, we found that a significant number of chargers did not have the necessary approvals.

"So far, a total of 157 premises have been checked and 653 adapters and charger units of various brands did not have Sirim-ST labels," it said.

The owners of these premises were given warning notices to withdraw, dispose or return the unapproved mobile phone chargers.

"If the notice is not complied with, action will be taken whereby chargers will be confiscated and the owners of the premises will be taken to court.

"If convicted, they can be fined up to RM5,000, jailed for a year or both," the commission said.

Fomca secretary-general Datuk Paul Selvaraj urged consumers to use only registered products and be

extra cautious as there are many counterfeit brands in the market today.

He also called on the authorities to make it mandatory for power banks to be certified as it concerns consumer safety.

"Power banks should be tested and come with safety certification labels to safeguard consumers.

"Anything that involves consumer safety should require mandatory checks and not be on a voluntary basis," he said.

The Domestic Trade, Co-operatives and Consumerism Ministry advised consumers to always ensure devices purchased are from original manufacturers.

"If they encounter such counterfeit products in the domestic market, complaints may be made to the ministry's enforcement division.

"Telecommunication devices and most of its accessories come with manuals, and consumers are advised to read the instructions carefully before using the product to avoid unwanted mishaps," it said.



Angin Kencang, Laut Bergelora Sehingga Selasa

KUALA LUMPUR, 29 Mei (Bernama) -- Angin kencang Barat Daya berkelajuan 40 hingga 50km sejam dengan ombak mencapai ketinggian sehingga 3.5 meter dijangka berlaku di kawasan perairan Perlis dan Kedah sehingga Selasa ini.

Jabatan Meteorologi Malaysia dalam kenyataannya hari ini berkata ribut petir di perairan Perlis, Kedah, Pulau Pinang dan Kelantan pula dijangka berterusan sehingga awal pagi esok.

"Keadaan ini boleh menyebabkan angin kencang sehingga 50km sejam dengan ombak mencapai ketinggian sehingga 3.5 meter. Ianya berbahaya kepada bot-bot kecil, rekreasi laut dan sukan laut," tambah kenyataan itu.

Sementara itu, amaran angin kencang dan laut bergelora kategori pertama turut dijangka berlaku di kawasan perairan Phuket sehingga Selasa.

Menurut kenyataan itu, angin kencang Barat Daya dengan kelajuan 40 hingga 50km sejam dengan ombak mencapai ketinggian sehingga 3.5 meter itu berbahaya kepada sebarang aktiviti laut termasuk bot-bot kecil.

-- BERNAMA