Akhbar Tempatan

KEMENTERIAN TENAGA, SAINS, TEKNOLOGI, ALAM SEKITAR DAN PERUBAHAN IKLIM

Bil	Berita	Media	Capaian Berita Penuh
03 NOV 2019 (AHAD)			
1.	**Kelantan folk told to brace for floods as rainy season starts**	New Straits Times	Rujuk Lampiran 1
02 NOV 2019 (SABTU)			
2.	**Shamsul Bahar dilantik CEO GreenTech Malaysia**	Berita Harian	Rujuk Lampiran 2

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Bil	Berita	Media	Capaian Berita Penuh
03 NOV 2019 (AHAD)			
3.	**Budak nyaris dihanyut banjir**	Harian Metro	Rujuk Lampiran 3
4.	**Bah kali keenam**	Harian Metro	Rujuk Lampiran 4
5.	**Syukur sempat pindah barang niaga**	Harian Metro	Rujuk Lampiran 5
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7.	**Science fest returns for sixth year**	The Star	Rujuk Lampiran 7

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8.	**Indonesia diancam cuaca ekstrem**	Berita Harian	Rujuk Lampiran 8
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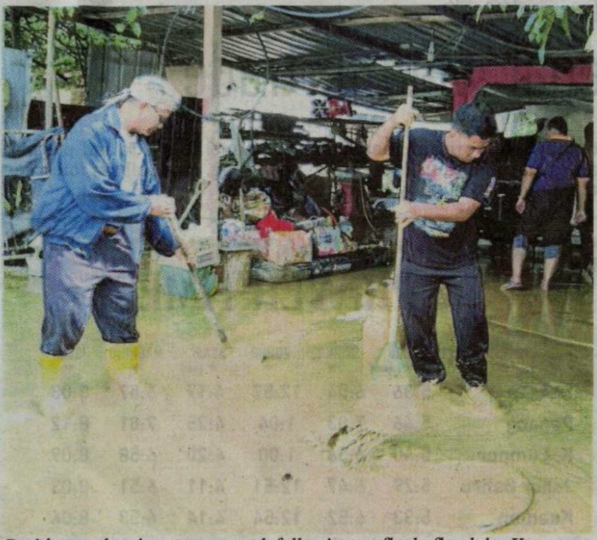
LAMPIRAN 1
NEW STRAITS TIMES (SUNDAY): MUKA SURAT 08
TARIKH: 03 NOVEMBER 2019 (AHAD)



Residents clearing away mud following a flash flood in Kampung Tanah Puteh, Gua Musang, yesterday. PIC BY RAMLI IBRAHIM

NORTHEAST MONSOON

Kelantan folk told to brace for floods as rainy season starts

KOTA BARU: Those living in low-lying areas in Kelantan have been advised to brace for floods following reports of the start of the rainy season brought by the northeast monsoon.

State police chief Datuk Hasanuddin Hassan said parents must supervise their children and monitor their movement to prevent untoward incidents, such as drowning.

"I advise the public to stop playing in *bah* (floodwaters). I know many used to do that during rainy seasons in the past.

"Parents, particularly those with small children, must stop them from playing in the flood water to prevent accidents."

Last year, a 17-year-old student drowned in Kuala Krai.

"In the previous year, we have recorded more than two drowning cases and we do not want these cases to recur."

Malaysian Meteorological Department director-general Jailan Simon was reported to have said the monsoon rain would intensify by 20 to 40 per cent.

He said severe floods were not expected to happen this year.

In 2014, more than 100,000 people in the state were displaced by heavy floods.

LAMPIRAN 2
BERITA HARIAN (BISNES): MUKA SURAT 17
TARIKH: 02 NOVEMBER 2019 (SABTU)

Shamsul Bahar Mohd Nor

Shamsul Bahar dilantik CEO GreenTech Malaysia

Malaysian Green Technology Corporation (GreenTech Malaysia) melantik Shamsul Bahar Mohd Nor sebagai Ketua Pegawai Eksekutif (CEO) yang baharu berkuat kuasa semalam.

Menurut agensi itu dalam kenyataannya, Shamsul Bahar akan menerajui agenda perubahan iklim negara dan memacu pembangunan ekonomi mapan.

Dengan pencapaian yang baik selama tiga dekad dalam korporat Malaysia, Shamsul Bahar mewakili gabungan minda saintifik yang dinamik dengan pengetahuan mengenai teknologi dan perniagaan.

Katanya, antara pencapaian utama Shamsul Bahar ialah menguruskan Benchmark International Ltd, Malta untuk menawarkan Bon Hijau patuh syariah kepada teknologi hijau, tenaga boleh baharu dan projek mapan di ASEAN, menunjukkan pendekatan strategik beliau dan pemahaman dalam pembangunan tenaga mapan.

Pada 2014, Shamsul dianugerahkan kelulusan paten di 40 negara untuk sistem tenaga boleh baharu yang menukar sisa plastik kepada Ultra Low Sulphur Diesel Oil (EN590) komersial dan beliau memenangi Anugerah Inovasi Tahunan MOSTI, Anugerah Pemangkin Malaysian Green Technology Corporation dan Anugerah Inovasi Teknologi Bersih Global Pertubuhan Bangsa-Bangsa Bersatu (PBB) untuk Sistem Tenaga Boleh Baharu Teknologi Hijau.

Mengulas mengenai pelantikannya, Shamsul Bahar berkata: "Saya berharap dapat mengetuai pasukan dengan visi dan matlamat untuk mengukuhkan kedudukan Malaysia sebagai negara yang dapat memastikan kemakmuran ekonomi bersama."

Shamsul Bahar sebelum ini adalah Pengarah Urusan Syngas Renewable Energy dan Pengarah Eksekutif Saham Utama Sdn Bhd.

Sebelum itu, beliau adalah Ketua Pegawai Eksekutif Polymal Corporation, yang mana beliau berjaya menjadikan syarikat itu sebagai penggiat utama di Asia Tenggara.

GreenTech Malaysia adalah agensi di bawah Kementerian Tenaga, Sains, Teknologi, Inovasi, Alam Sekitar dan Perubahan Iklim (MESTECC) bertanggungjawab untuk menerajui teknologi hijau untuk pertumbuhan hijau dan mapan di Malaysia. BERNAMA

LAMPIRAN 3
HARIAN METRO (LOKAL): MUKA SURAT 03
TARIKH: 03 NOVEMBER 2019 (AHAD)

PENDUDUK membersihkan lumpur di kawasan rumah mereka di Kampung Tanah Puteh selepas banjir kilat mulai surut. Gambar kecil, Norizan sempat selamatkan anak perempuannya.

BUDAK NYARIS DIHANYUT BANJIR

Ibu sempat selamat anak diletakkan atas katil

Oleh Ramli Ibrahim
cnews@nstp.com.my

Gua Musang

Seorang kanak-kanak perempuan berusia dua tahun nyaris dihanyut arus deras apabila rumahnya di Kampung Tanah Puteh, di sini, dilanda banjir kilat, kelmarin.

Dalam kejadian jam 10 malam, kanak-kanak terbabit sempat diselamatkan ibunya, Norizan Awang, 48, yang mengharungi banjir setinggi 0.5 meter.

Kanak-kanak berkenaan antara mangsa daripada 12 keluarga yang terjejas akibat banjir kilat susulan hujan lebat lebih tiga jam melanda daerah ini.

Difahamkan penempatan itu mula dinaiki air pada jam 8 malam dan surut semula pada jam 2 pagi.

Menceritakan kejadian cemas itu Norizan berkata, kediamannya mula dinaiki air jam 10 malam dan ketika itu dia memindahkan dokumen penting ke tempat selamat.

Katanya, dalam sekelip mata air naik ke paras 0.5 meter dan ketika itu anaknya diletakkan di atas katil di dalam bilik.

"Berikutan itu, saya bergegas menyelamatkan anak perempuan dan ketika itu lima lagi anak yang lain keluar ke tempat selamat.

"Termasuk kejadian ini sudah lima kali rumah kami dilanda banjir kilat sepanjang tahun ini dan mungkin bencana sama berulang lagi sebelum berakhir musim tengkujuh," katanya.

Sementara itu, Pegawai Angkatan Pertahanan Awam Malaysia (APM) daerah Gua Muasang, Mohd Yusalmi Yusoff berkata, banjir kilat menjejaskan 30 kediaman di tiga penempatan.

Katanya, selain Kampung Tanah Puteh, banjir kilat turut dilaporkan di Kampung Lepan Jaya dan Perumahan Agropolitan Rantau Manis.

Yusalmi berkata, APM mengerahkan seramai 10 anggota ke lokasi bagi membantu memindahkan mangsa terjejas.

LAMPIRAN 4
HARIAN METRO (LOKAL): MUKA SURAT 03
TARIKH: 03 NOVEMBER 2019 (AHAD)

Bah kali keenam

Gua Musang: Seramai 12 penduduk di Kampung Puteh, di sini, kelmarin mengalami banjir kilat kali keenam tahun ini menyebabkan mereka menanggung kerugian apabila peralatan rumah musnah.

Penduduk, Abdul Manaf Che Omar, 26, berkata, banjir kilat jam 10 malam kelmarin berlaku susulan hujan lebat bermula jam 7.30 malam dan dianggap yang terburuk pernah dialami.

12 penduduk terjejas akibat banjir kilat

Abdul Manaf berkata, banjir dipercayai berpunca daripada kontraktor yang menimbus separuh anak sungai terletak berhampiran bagi pembinaan jalan baharu Kampung Mentara-Bandar Gua Musang.

Katanya, apabila hujan lebat anak sungai terbabit tidak dapat menampung jumlah air yang tinggi dan melimpah ke kawasan penempatan.

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LAMPIRAN 5
HARIAN METRO (LOKAL): MUKA SURAT 03
TARIKH: 03 NOVEMBER 2019 (AHAD)

MOHD Ikram dan Rahimah membersihkan gerai selepas air surut di Kampung Bangsal Atap, Lubok Cina.

Syukur sempat pindah barang niaga

Alor Gajah: "Alhamdulillah, saya bernasib baik kerana sempat memindahkan barangan perniagaan ke tempat tinggi sebelum air naik sehingga 0.4 meter," kata peniaga, Rohaya Ibrahim, 57.

Dia yang berasal dari Kampung Bangsal Atap, Lubok Cina, dekat sini, berkata, hujan lebat kira-kira dua jam kelmarin menyebabkan air naik dengan cepat.

"Ketika kejadian saya berada di rumah, sebelum dihubungi seorang penduduk yang memaklumkan air mulai naik di sekitar gerainya.

"Saya bersama anak, Mohd Ikram Jailani, 33, dan anak saudara, Rahimah Abdul Samad, 19, bergegas ke gerai untuk menyelamatkan barangan serta pisang," katanya di sini, semalam.

LAMPIRAN 6
HARIAN METRO (LOKAL): MUKA SURAT 03
TARIKH: 03 NOVEMBER 2019 (AHAD)

BUMBUNG warung di Kampung Padang Lalang Segamat dihuni 12 mangsa bot terbalik termasuk Sarimah (gambar bawah).

'Terkenangkan arwah ibu...'

Segamat: "Setiap kali bah, saya akan terkenangkan arwah ibu, Marsiah Marjuni, 69, yang menjadi mangsa banjir dalam kejadian 13 tahun lalu," kata mangsa banjir, Sarimah Samikon, 57.

Menurutnya, dalam kejadian jam 11 malam 20 Disember 2006, dia bersama arwah ibu dan 11 mangsa banjir lain dalam perjalanan ke Pusat Pemindahan Sementara (PPS) Sekolah Agama Kampung Jawa selepas rumah mereka di Kampung Padang Lalang di sini, dinaiki air.

"Ketika itu, saya bersama suami, Madiwar Nazer, 56, arwah ibu serta tiga anak, Emilia ketika itu berusia 16 tahun, Nurul (12) dan Muhammad Ridhuwan (enam tahun) bersama penduduk lain menaiki bot penyelamat.

"Namun ketika dalam perjalanan, bot dinaiki kami ditolak arus deras menyebabkan ia hilang kawalan lalu melanggar sebatang tiang elektrik lalu terbalik.

"Mujur kami sempat naik ke atas bumbung sebuah gerai sementara menunggu diselamatkan.

"Ketika di atas bumbung, barulah saya sedar ibu sebenarnya tidak dapat berpaut di kawasan sama sebelum mayatnya ditemui tidak jauh dari lokasi dua hari kemudian," katanya di rumahnya di Taman Kemawan di sini, semalam.

Menurutnya, ketika kejadian semua penumpang hanya sehelai sepinggang meninggalkan rumah dan diselamatkan jam 3 pagi oleh bot Jabatan Bomba dan Penyelamat Malaysia (JBPM) Segamat serta Bandar Putra.

Katanya, keluarganya reda dengan kejadian itu dan tidak pernah menyalahkan mana-mana pihak kerana sedar betapa sukarnya pihak berkuasa menjalankan tugas menyelamatkan mangsa banjir.

"Saya menghargai dan berterima kasih kepada anggota Angkatan Pertahanan Awam Malaysia (APM), JBPM, anggota dan pegawai Ibu Pejabat Polis Daerah (IPD) Segamat serta pelbagai agensi lain yang berkorban membantu mangsa banjir," katanya.

LAMPIRAN 7
THE STAR (NATION): MUKA SURAT 11
TARIKH: 02 NOVEMBER 2019 (SABTU)

Science fest returns for sixth year

Three-day event aims to boost interest and appreciation for STEM

KUALA LUMPUR: Billed as the largest science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) themed festival in the country, the Petrosains Science Festival 2019 returns for the sixth year.

Open to the public from yesterday until tomorrow, the festival, one of Petronas' key initiatives to support STEM learning and discovery, is organised by the team at Petrosains The Discovery Centre.

The launch of the festival at the Esplanade of the Park at KLCC was officiated by chairman of the Petrosains board and Petronas senior general manager of group strategic communications, Zahariah Abdul Rahman, as well as Petrosains chief executive officer Fedora Zulkifli.

Speaking to VIPs and invited guests that included Datuk Hashim Wahir, KLCC Property Holdings Sdn Bhd group chief executive officer and board members of Petrosains, Zahariah reiterated the oil and gas conglomerate's sustained commitment to the government's efforts in supporting the education ecosystem, and specifically, focusing on STEM in an effort to address the need for a sustainable pool of future scientists and technologists.

"At the core of our corporate social investment focus," said Zahariah, "is education and capability building, for us to continue making breakthroughs in technology, engineering and innovation."

Fedora, after expressing her gratitude to the collaboration between all teams in organising the sixth edition of the science festival, added: "Science centres are designed to be structured learning environments and play a pivotal role in many nations as a powerful learning system.

"Be it through exhibitions, programmes, festivals or competitions, science centres make science accessible and engaging."

The Petrosains Science Festival is designed to encourage, instill and boost the interest and appreciation for STEM, while its project team's hope that the festival becomes an iconic platform to connect STEM with the wider public by injecting an element of fun, informal learning and discovery while relating the impact of STEM in their lives.

Visitors to KLCC were given the opportunity to see STEM exhibits within festival booths dotting the perimeter.

The Kuala Lumpur edition of the festival caps a nationwide tour of the science festival that began in Kota Kinabalu in September, with stops in Pahang, Johor and Sarawak, culminating in the outdoor festival at KLCC this weekend as well as in the Galleria section within the Petrosains Discovery Centre.

The schedule of activities is available at www.sciencefestival.my.

Admission rates into the Discovery Centre vary for children of different age groups.

Entry to the festival in the park is free.

Here's to a great event: Zahariah (seventh from right) and Fedora (fifth from left) with Hashim (centre) and festival partners posing for a group shot at the launch of the sixth edition of the Petrosains Science Festival at the esplanade of KLCC park yesterday morning.

Watch the video
thestartv.com

LAMPIRAN 8
BERITA HARIAN (DUNIA): MUKA SURAT 46
TARIKH: 03 NOVEMBER 2019 (AHAD)

Indonesia diancam cuaca ekstrem

BNPB sedia dana RM252j untuk misi bantuan bencana sepanjang tahun

Jakarta: Agensi Meteorologi, Iklim dan Geofizik (BMKG) menggesa seluruh penduduk Indonesia kekal berwaspada untuk menangani cuaca ekstrem dalam tempoh dua bulan lagi ketika peralihan musim hujan.

Ketua jabatan ramalan cuaca agensi berkenaan, Miming Saepudin berkata, pihaknya menjangkakan musim hujan akan mencapai tahap puncak pada Januari dan Februari, tahun depan.

Bagaimanapun, pada November dan Disember ini bakal menyaksikan cuaca buruk dan kemungkinan peningkatan bencana hidrometeorologi.

"Kita perlu memerhatikan potensi cuaca ekstrem, ketika tempoh peralihan musim, termasuk puting beliung, hujan batu dan suhu ekstrem," kata Miming.

Menurut agensi itu, hujan lebat selepas musim kemarau panjang dijangka melanda Aceh, Sumatera Utara, Sumatera Barat dan utara Papua.

"Aceh dan Sumatera patut berjaga-jaga dengan banjir dan tanah runtuh," katanya.

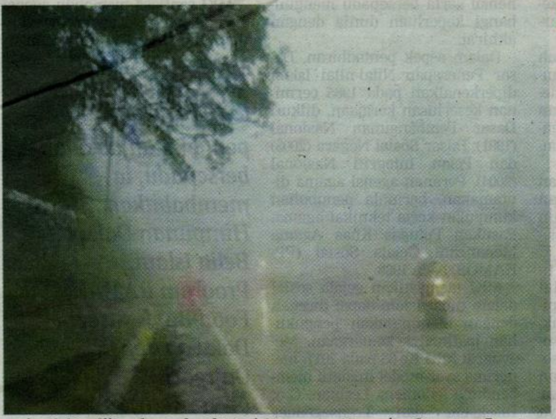
Fenomena ombak besar mungkin berlaku di selatan dan barat daya Sumatera serta selatan Jawa sehingga mencapai tinggi 2.5 meter, menurut ramalan BMKG.

"Berhati-hati juga dengan arus kuat dari Sumatera Barat ke selatan Bali dan Nusa Tenggara barat," kata Miming.

Sementara itu, agensi Mitigasi Bencana Nasional (BNPB) sudah memperuntukkan 850 bilion rupiah (RM252.43 juta) untuk bantuan bencana sepanjang tahun ini.

Dana ini akan digunakan untuk mengatasi bencana hidrometeorologi, termasuk banjir dan tanah runtuh di seluruh negara.

AGENSI/JAKARTA POST



Hujan lebat dijangka melanda *Aceh, Sumatera Utara dan Sumatera Barat serta bahagian utara Paupa.* (Foto AFP)

Cuaca Indonesia

- **Dua** musim utama cuaca di Indonesia adalah musim panas kering antara Mac, Jun sehingga September dan hujan monsun, September hingga Mac.
- **Waktu** musim berbeza kerana barat, timur dan Borneo Indonesia dipengaruhi corak angin monsun yang berbeza.
- **Musim** hujan ini berbeza dengan Asia Tenggara dan India biasanya dari Mei hingga September

Grafik BH

Akhbar Tempatan

LAMPIRAN 9
THE STAR (STAR WORLD): MUKA SURAT 26
TARIKH: 03 NOVEMBER 2019 (AHAD)

Health emergency declared in Delhi

NEW DELHI: Authorities in New Delhi declared a public health emergency and closed schools and all construction activity until next week as air pollution in the city hit its worst level this year.

A thick haze has hung over the Indian capital this week caused by plumes of toxic smoke from farm fires raging in neighbouring states.

An index measuring the level of a deadly air pollutant hit 484 on a scale of 500 on Friday, the government's Central Pollution Control Board, the worst this year.

The index measures the level of PM2.5, tiny particulate matter that goes deep into the lungs.

Anything above 400 poses a risk for people with respiratory illnesses and can also affect even those with healthy lungs.

Some companies advised employees to avoid exposure to toxic air and work from home.

"We have been advised to stay at home on Monday," said Anuj Rawat, an account director at Kantar, the market research arm of British advertising major WPP. Kantar employs around 400 people at its office in New Delhi, Rawat said.

The Environment Pollution Control Authority, which is leading the effort to tackle Delhi's pollution, said: "We have to take this as a public health emergency as air pollution is now hazardous and will have adverse health impacts on all, but particularly our children."

Haze hazard: Birds flying near India's Presidential Palace on a smoggy day in New Delhi. — Reuters

It banned all construction work in the sprawling metropolis of 20 million people and its neighbouring cities until Nov 5.

Each year, farmers in the states of Punjab and Haryana burn crop residue to prepare for the sowing season, ignoring government warnings.

According to government-run monitor Safar, satellite pictures had captured nearly 3,200 incidents of stubble burning on Thursday in Haryana and Punjab that contributed to 44% of Delhi's pollution.

Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal offered free masks on Friday and ordered schools shut till Nov. 5 to protect children.

The toxic air has left several Bangladeshi cricket players with sore throats and itchy eyes ahead of their Twenty20 match against India today.

"Government knew an emergency situation was approaching and did not take substantive steps on stubble burning or big industrial polluting sources," said Sunil Dahiya, an energy and air pollution analyst at Greenpeace.

"A public health emergency situation began at least 10 days ago." — Reuters

Akhbar Tempatan

LAMPIRAN 10
NEW STRAITS TIMES (BUSINESS): MUKA SURAT 29
TARIKH: 02 NOVEMBER 2019 (SABTU)

U.K. STORES

Tesco aims to cut 1b plastic packaging pieces

Tesco plans to remove the small plastic bags used to pack loose fruit, vegetables and bakery items and replace them with paper ones from its stores in the United Kingdom. BLOOMBERG PIC

LONDON: Tesco has pledged to remove one billion pieces of plastic packaging from products in its United Kingdom stores by the end of next year, seeking to reduce its environmental impact and meet growing consumer demand for less waste.

Last year, Tesco said it wanted to remove hard-to-recycle materials from its business.

It said yesterday it would have eliminated the hardest-to-recycle materials from its own brand products by end of this year, removing over 4,000 tonnes of materials from 800 lines.

It said it was also working with branded suppliers on this.

Tesco, which trades from 3,787 stores in Britain and Ireland, employing 340,000 people, now plans to remove the small plastic bags used to pack loose fruit, vegetables and bakery items and replace them with paper ones.

It will remove plastic trays from ready meals, secondary lids on products such as cream, yoghurts and cereals, and spoons, forks and straws from snack pots and drinks cartons.

It also plans to remove 200 million pieces of plastic used to pack clothing and greetings cards.

Tesco has told more than 1,500 suppliers that packaging will be key to deciding which products are sold in its stores.

"Our work to remove, reduce, reuse and recycle is already transforming our packaging," said chief executive officer Dave Lewis.

"By focusing on solutions that we can apply across all our UK stores and supply chain, we can make a significant difference and achieve real scale in our efforts to tackle plastic," he said. **Reuters**

LAMPIRAN 11
NEW STRAITS TIMES (WORLD): MUKA SURAT 37
TARIKH: 02 NOVEMBER 2019 (SABTU)

AUSTRALIAN COAL

Climate activists to face harsh penalties

SYDNEY: Australia's pro-coal government threatened harsh new penalties against "apocalyptic" activism yesterday as a global wave of climate protests has become increasingly disruptive for the country's lucrative mining industry.

Prime Minister Scott Morrison told a peak mining body that his conservative government was seeking to legislate against activists engaged in "secondary boycotts", or pressuring firms not to deal with the resources industry.

"We are working to identify serious mechanisms that can successfully outlaw these indulgent and selfish practices that threaten the livelihoods of fellow Australians," Morrison said.

"The right to protest does not mean an unlimited licence to disrupt people's lives and disrespect your fellow Australians."

Morrison has been ratcheting up the rhetoric since his surprise election victory early this year when a political gamble ahead of the vote to greenlight a huge new coal mine in Queensland is considered to have paid off.

The controversial Adani mine is a lightning rod for climate activism in Australia, with environmentalists calling out businesses that engage with the firm.

Morrison labelled groups that call for boycotts as an "insidious threat" to the economy that his government would not allow to "go unchecked".

"There are new threats to the future of the resources sector that have emerged," he said.

"A new breed of radical activism is on the march. Apocalyptic in tone. Brooks no compromise. All or nothing. Alternative views — not permitted."

Morrison's government rejected calls for greater action to curb greenhouse gas emissions, insisting that Australia would meet the targets set out in global agreements without undermining its crucial mining sector.

"Australia won't write a blank cheque with its economy," to fight climate change "which requires action from around the globe," he said yesterday, responding to protests by climate activists who rallied across the country last month as part of the global "Extinction Rebellion" movement. **AFP**

LAMPIRAN 12
THE STAR (STAR WORLD): MUKA SURAT 26
TARIKH: 02 NOVEMBER 2019 (SABTU)

Indonesia denies re-exporting waste around Asia

Irresponsible practice: Scavengers collecting trash at the Burangkeng landfill in Burangkeng, West Java. Around 500m from the site, residents found a mound of alleged imported waste. — The Jakarta Post/ANN

JAKARTA: The Indonesian government has denied a claim made by environmental groups alleging it had re-exported containers of hazardous waste to other countries in Asia rather than sending them back to their countries of origin.

The claim was made in a report issued recently by Indonesian environmental group Nexus3 and global waste trade watchdog Basel Action Network. In it, the groups alleged that the government sent containers of contaminated scrap materials to India and other countries.

Of at least 58 containers meant to be sent back to the US, 38 of them were diverted to India, the groups found. Meanwhile, three containers were sent to South Korea and one container each went to Thailand, Vietnam, Mexico, the Netherlands and Canada. Only 12 containers were returned to the US.

The groups also reported that the 58 containers were re-exported from various importers in East Java, including paper mills that had imported recycled paper but instead received papers mixed with plastic scraps.

The environmental watchdogs alleged that the government defied its commitment to the Basel Convention, an international treaty that controls the movement of hazardous waste between countries.

The convention, ratified by Indonesia, stipulates a provision on returning imported hazardous waste to its country of origin.

The Finance Ministry's customs and excise director-general, Heru Pambudi, said on Thursday that there were two East Java recycling companies responsible for making deliveries to seven countries that did not initially export the hazardous waste.

However, the paper recycling companies, PT Mega Surya Eratama (MSE) and PT Surabaya Mekabox (SM), had both filled out their re-export documents accordingly, with MSE ordering for 38 containers to be sent to the US and SM sending 20 containers to Germany.

"According to our observations, some of the returned containers have yet to arrive in their countries of origin, including the US, as they are still being held in Singapore, Malaysia or Thailand," Heru said.

"The government never issued any recommendation or letters that allowed for the contaminated waste to be re-exported to other Asian countries."

The Environment and Forestry Ministry's director-general of waste and hazardous and toxic material management, Rosa Vivien Ratnawati, said the government refused to accept imports of material contaminated with hazardous waste.

"We are working with the customs office to send back the imported materials to their countries of origin," she said.

According to data from the Customs and Excise Office, authorities held 2,194 containers at several ports across the country as of Wednesday. They suspected the containers, imported from numerous countries around the world, were filled with scrap paper and plastic that had been contaminated with other waste. — The Jakarta Post/ANN