

PERPUSTAKAAN AWAM PASIR GUDANG

KERATAN AKHBAR BERKAITAN PASIR GUDANG
04 SEPT 2016
AHAD



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SINAR HARIAN

Sf 4/9/2016

Semangat patriotik Taman Pulau Indah

SKUDAI - Semangat patriotik terserlah dalam kalangan masyarakat Taman Pulau Indah apabila program sambutan ambang merdeka anjuran lima kawasan rukun tetangga (KRT) di sini, baru-baru ini mendapat sambutan meriah penduduk dari pelbagai lapisan usia.

Program bermula jam 9.30 malam dengan perarakan berbasikal oleh lebih 100 kanak-kanak dan keterujaan mereka boleh dilihat menerusi kreativiti dalam menghias basikal masing-masing.

Pengerusi KRT Fasa Mawar/Dahlia merangkap pengerusi jawatankuasa sambutan, Nazeri Sarip, perarakan fasa 1 bergerak dari Tasik Pulau Indah ke tapak Dewan serbaguna untuk menerima bendera yang disampaikan oleh Ahli Majlis Zon Pulau Indah, Puan Fazilah, diikuti perarakan fasa 2 ke Pusat Aktiviti KRT Fasa Mawar/Dahlia.

"Perarakan sejauh 5 kilometer itu menyemarakkan semangat patriotik kepada peserta dan penduduk yang berbaris di sepanjang laluan, melauatkan kata semangat sambil mengibarkan Jalur Gemilang.

"Setibanya di pekarangan Pusat Aktiviti KRT, mereka disambut meriah oleh lebih 300 penduduk dan sementara menanti detik 12 malam, pelbagai aktiviti pengisian bertemakan patriotik melibatkan semua lapisan penduduk dilakukan termasuk nyanyian lagu-lagu patriotik dan persembahan kebudayaan. Kemunculan penyair Amni Jagat menyampaikan puisi merdeka menyemarakkan lagi kemeriahan majlis.

"Aktiviti diselang seli dengan cabutan bertuah yang disampaikan

oleh semua pengerusi 5 KRT secara bergilir. Kemuncak acara adalah laungan merdeka dan nyanyian lagu Negaraku mengiringi dentuman bunga api yang cukup menggembirakan semua yang hadir," katanya.

Beliau mengucapkan penghargaan kepada Ketua Balai Polis Kangkar Pulau, Pengerusi Jawatankuasa Penduduk, Ahli Majlis MPJBT, dan kedua-dua surau di kawasan itu atas kerjasama dan sumbangan diberikan.



AJK sambutan gembira berjaya melaksanakan program melibatkan ramai masyarakat Taman Pulau Indah.



NEW STRAITS TIMES

NST 4/9/2016

State lines up projects, may turn to underground water

JOHOR BARU: The Johor government has lined up a number of projects to alleviate the water crisis that has plagued the state for the last few years.

During the tabling of Johor's 2016 Budget last year, Menteri Besar Datuk Seri Mohamed Khaled Nordin said three water treatment plants would be built under a RM430 million allocation by the state government.

The plants will be built in Buloh Kasap in Segamat, Pagoh in Muar and Kahang in Kluang.

He also said all old water pipes would be replaced.

Last October, the state government approved a RM4 million project to transfer additional raw water to two dams hit by critically-low water levels.

Khaled said the project was expected to provide up to 30 million litres of additional raw water per day to the Sungai Layang and Sungai Lebam dams.

The project will transfer between 10 and 15 million litres of raw water per day (mld) via a 15.3km-long network of pipes from Sungai Papan to Sungai Lebam.

Another 15mld will be transferred via a 5km-long network of pipes from Sungai Tiram to the Sungai Layang dam.

In March, Prime Minister Datuk Seri Najib Razak announced that the Federal Government had approved a RM100 million allocation for a water transfer project to channel raw water to the Sungai Layang Dam in Pasir Gudang.

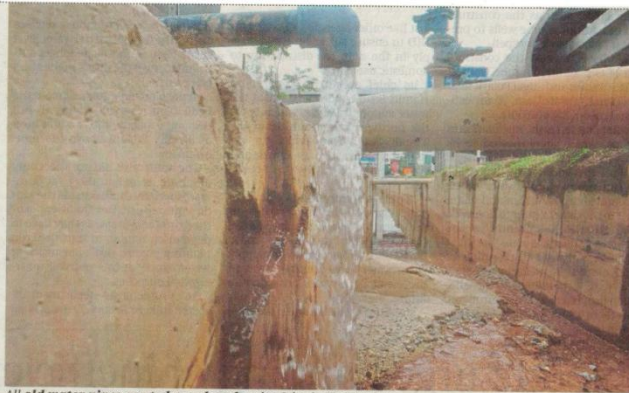
Petronas is also developing the RM1.3 billion Pengerang Integrated Complex (PIC) Raw Water Supply Project (Pamer), which would churn out 260 mld.

Of this, 230 mld is for the PIC, while the remaining 30 mld would be supplied to the Sungai Lebam Reservoir to supplement the state's water supply for public consumption in Pengerang.

The state government is exploring the possibility of using underground water as an alternative source of raw water.

State Public Works and Rural and Regional Development Committee chairman Datuk Hasni Mohammad said there was a need for the state to identify new sources of raw water to ensure continuous supply.

"Now, 99 per cent of our raw water supply comes from surface water. With the development that we are experiencing, there is a need for us to find alternative water sources and the two sources that have been identified are rainwater harvesting and underground water," said Hasni.



All old water pipes are to be replaced under Johor's 2016 Budget.

He said the proposal to use underground water was made during the Johor Water Forum last year.

"During the forum, Professor Dr Kotaro Takemura from the Japan Water Forum conducted a study and found that several areas in Johor, namely Gunung Pulai and Tiram, have potential big reserves of underground water.

The state government initially planned to send a delegation to the Fukuoka and Kumamoto prefectures in Japan in April this year to explore the technology used to extract underground water.

However, the visit was postponed due to the earthquake in Kumamoto in April this year.

Most recently, the Johor government approved an immediate allocation of RM50 million to alleviate the water crisis in Mersing.

This will allow work to proceed on a 30km water transfer project to help the Pengu Water Treatment Plant in Sungai Lenggor.

SAJ Holdings Sdn Bhd chief executive officer Abdul Wahab Abdul Hamid said under the 11th Malaysian Plan, a second dam would be built in Mersing.

Once completed, it will be the biggest dam in Mersing.

A private consultant has been appointed by the Energy, Green Technology and Water Ministry to prepare a feasibility report on the dam.

About 40,000 people in Mersing have been hit by water rationing for the past five months as severe drought had depleted the water source at the Congok Dam.

Another dam that is under construction in Kahang, near Kluang, will be completed under the 11th Malaysia Plan.



NEW STRAITS TIMES

NS1 4/19/16

No end in sight for despondent Mersing folk

JOHOR BARU: When residents of Mersing were first hit by a water shortage, they braced themselves for several dry days.

What they did not expect, however, was for those dry days to last five months.

Restaurant operator Nita Halini Mohamed, 40, who lives in Jalan Endau, Mersing, said her business suffered a slump as the water supply had gone from bad to worse over the past few months.

"We thought rationing in Mersing would be the same as in other areas and would improve in due time, but we were wrong."

Nita collects up to 20 buckets of water a day.

"I need clean water for my restaurant and the water shortage has affected my business."

Mersing is the latest district in the state to be hit by a water crisis, following a prolonged drought caused by the El Nino phenomenon, which caused water level at the Congok Dam to dip way below the critical level.

Last year, residents in Pasir Gudang, Masai and part of Johor Baru were affected.

Residents in parts of Kluang are midway through a month-long rationing because of the low water level of Sungai Sembong Kiri, which supplies raw water to the Sembong Timur water treatment plant.

Another Mersing resident, Rohani Mohd, 40, said she had experienced four days without water supply, even though the rationing roster stated that water supply would resume every third day.

"I live in Kampung Seri Pantai, which is on higher ground. Most areas like mine are not getting enough supply due to low water pressure."

She had been relying on water storage tanks at home, and had to call SAJ Holdings, the state water utility, for additional water supply.

Kampung Benaung Mersing resident Razila Affandi, 25, said her neighbourhood relied on water from water tankers because of low pressure.

"We are allowed 100 litres of water a day during collection days. Collecting water is a daunting task."

Razila was shocked to learn that water supply had now been reduced to only six hours every three days under the rationing.

"I hope that the state government knows that Mersing is facing a serious water shortage and is working to ease the people's suffering."

Sani Ahmad, 54, from Pasir Gudang, said he hoped he did not have to experience another round of rationing after more than four months of putting up with disrupted supply.

"It is a big hassle for most of us, especially the elderly."
A food stall operator in Taman Sri

Lambak, Kluang, who wanted to be known only as Misiah, said it was hard to run an eatery without water.

"What are we going to do when we need to clean up the food stall? How are we to wash the dishes?"

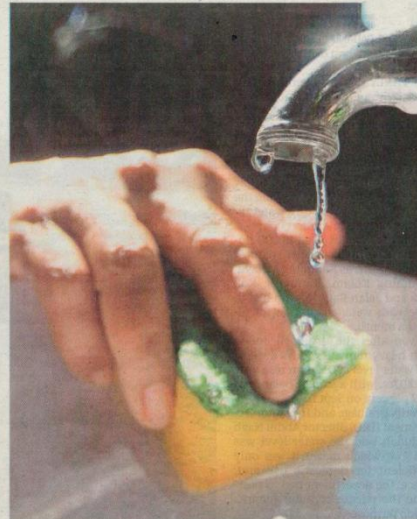
Endau assemblyman Datuk Abd Latif Bandi urged residents in Mersing to be patient as the state government was taking short- and long-term measures to address the water shortage there. Endau is one of two state constituencies in the Mersing parliamentary constituency.

Latif, who is state Housing and Local Government Committee chairman, said the RM50 million project to transfer raw water to the Tengku water treatment plant was under way and would be completed in six to seven months.

SAJ Holdings chief executive officer Abdul Wahab Abdul Hamid said it was working around the clock and was deploying water tankers to ensure water supply reached every consumer in the district.

He said the current capacity of Congok Dam was one million cubic metres, but the Federal Government planned to double the capacity and the tender process for this upgrade would start in two months.

He said this was in addition to the new dam that would be built by the Federal Government in Mersing as a long-term measure to solve the water supply issue in the district.



The water shortage in Mersing is taking a toll on restaurants. Pic by Mohd Azren Jamaludin

