

RM2bil to clean one river

THE government will have to spend about RM2 billion to clean up each polluted river in the country — but it does not have that kind of money.

Natural Resources and Environment Ministry parliamentary secretary Datuk Sazmi Miah said that was why the government was taking the educational approach towards solving the river pollution problem.

“It is for this reason that we have decided that educating the public on the importance of keeping rivers clean is much more effective in the long term.”

Sazmi said the Drainage and Irrigation Department was monitoring 146 river catchment areas in the country and found 15 to be among the most polluted. Among the 15 are the Sungai Juru and Sungai Pinang in Penang.