

# Flow uninterrupted

Klang Valley residents don't have to bring out the pails as the turbidity level at the four treatment plants has improved assuring no water supply disruption. >2



## Good enough

Fisherman Hamzah Mohd Yusof, 53, looking at the untreated bottle of water (left) from Sungai Selangor that is at 150NTU and a bottle of mineral water.

— By SIA HONG KIAU / The Star

# Water safe to drink

The excessive turbidity in Sungai Selangor has improved



**Fresh catch:** Mohd Kamal showing a ikan lampam that he caught in Sungai Selangor yesterday.

By **STUART MICHAEL** and  
**ELAN PERUMAL**  
metro@thestar.com.my  
Photos by **SIA HONG KIAU**

**T**HERE will be no water supply disruption in Kuala Lumpur and Selangor as earlier indicated because the turbidity at the four treatment plants has improved.

In an earlier statement, Syarikat Bekalan Air Selangor (Syabas) reported that the production at the four plants declined to about 2,460mil litres to 1,000mil litres daily after recording extraordinary turbidity in Sungai Selangor.

The four water treatment plants — Sungai Selangor Phase 1, 2, 3 and Rantau Panjang — supply water to three million households in Selangor and Kuala Lumpur.

The Sungai Phase 1 treatment plant in Ijok, which recorded excessive turbidity on Monday has improved and is now safe for consumption.

A water supply disruption at this plant will affect 700,000 consumers in Kuala Lumpur and Selangor.

All the treatment plants draw water from Sungai Selangor. The overall turbidity of Sungai Selangor has dropped and is now much safer for treatment.

Sungai Phase 1 treatment plant operator Zahid Sahak said they stopped drawing water after 9pm on Monday.

"The more turbidity the water the

more chemicals need to be used for treatment," said Zahid, adding that the same problem happened 10 years ago.

He suspected that some development along the river in Hulu Selangor caused the pollution.

Fisherman Mohd Kamal Abdul Rahman, 45, said the water was so muddy that he did not catch any fish.

"Today, the water is back to normal and I just caught my first *ikan lampam*," said Mohd Kamal, who was one of the eight fishermen whose livelihood was affected by

the water pollution.

Another fisherman, Hamzah Mohd Yusof, 53, said his hand turned reddish when he dipped his hand in the river.

"I got worried. I normally catch *ikan baung* and *udang galah* here and earn about RM30 daily.

"With the river returning to normal, I hope my catch will improve," said Hamzah, from Kampung Hang Tuah in Batang Berjuntai.

Syabas said the turbidity was usually 300NTU (Nephelometric Turbidity Units) on normal days at the Sungai Phase1 plant.

Syabas has also put 42 lorries and 230 static tanks on standby to send water to the affected areas.

Selangor state executive councillor Elizabeth Wong said the state government felt that the water level at the dam in Kuala Kubu Baru was more than sufficient because of excessive rain.

"We have done our part and do not foresee any water shortage in the near future," she said

Wong said the onus was on Syabas and Puncak Niaga to ensure that the people did not face water cut.



**Smooth flow:** A fisherman fishing in Sungai Selangor as the water pollution level returns to normal.