



Kuala Kubu Baru residents worry over the receding water level at the **Sungai Selangor dam**. Pic by Md Fuzi Abd Lateh

Rising alarm over receding water at dam

ANXIETY: Residents worry the Sungai Selangor dam is half empty but state authority says it's half full

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THE Sungai Selangor dam has seen worse days but the people of Kuala Kubu Baru are still worried about its receding water level, which has seen the dam's capacity decreasing by about 50 per cent in the past two months.

Kuala Kubu Baru Federal Village Development and Security Committee (JKKKP) chairman Mohamad Rafdzi Razali, 58, wants the Federal Government to step in to solve the problem before it affects the people.

"We want the Federal Government to help solve this problem as the state government seems incapable of doing so," he said.

Pekan Kuala Kubu Baru JKKKP chairman Md Yusof@Mustapha Kamaruddin, 66, said the people in the district were very concerned with the situation.

He said last year, the water level at the dam receded as well, causing much anxiety among residents.

"We hope there will not be any water shortage as this will cause a lot of problems for people."

Another resident, Hadinah Hamzah, 58, saw the receding water level was a blessing in disguise.

"Maybe this is a sign for the state government to stop politicising the water issue.

"We are all praying that the dam will fill up soon when the rainy season returns," she said.

But Selangor Water Management Authority (Luas) director Md Khairi Selamat said there was no reason to be alarmed as the situation was under control.

He said the water level was only considered critical if it dipped below 30 per cent and despite reports that the water level was now dangerously low, the capacity of the Sungai Selangor dam had increased over the week because of heavy rain.

"To date, the dam's capacity has increased to 53.48 per cent, or 123 million cubic metres, compared with 52.02 per cent, or 119.65 million cubic metres, on Oct 11.

"The residual flow at the Bestari Jaya barrage is also increasing. The reading on Oct 16 was 2,581 million litres a day (MLD) compared with the minimum reading of 300 MLD.

"The dam's capacity is expected to continue rising and reach maximum capacity as the dam area had started to receive rain brought by Northeast Monsoon beginning from November to March," he said in a statement.

The dam in Kuala Kubu Baru, Hulu Selangor can store up to 235 million cubic metres of raw water to supply the Rasa and Bukit Badong treatment plants.

The two plants supply 60 per cent of treated water to the Klang Valley.