

Khalid: Water rationing may end next week

PROGRESS: Water from mining pool being pumped to Sungai Selangor Dam

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SELANGOR may discontinue water rationing next week if the water level at the Sungai Selangor dam improves further, said Menteri Besar Tan Sri Abdul Khalid Ibrahim.

He said there had been positive development at the dam following the diversion of water from mining pools to it.

"Once when we manage to extract 700 to 800 million litres per day (MLD) (through pumping) and the water level at the dam continues to increase, the water rationing will be stopped.

"We can declare an end to the rationing by end of next week if this condition continues," he said after a meeting with Selangor residents at Dewan Hamzah at Klang Municipal Council here yesterday.

Khalid reassured the public that water from the mining pools was safe for consumption.



Selangor Menteri Besar Tan Sri Abdul Khalid Ibrahim says tests are conducted on the raw water from the mining pools *before and after it has been treated* to ensure it is safe for consumption. Pic by Faiz Anuar

"We have professors who had told us that it can be done. We have carried out tests on the water (from the mining pools)," he said in response to a question on the water quality.

He said the raw water from the mining pools would be tested before being treated.

Khalid said after the treatment, the water was tested again before it was channelled to the public.

State Youth, Sports, Infrastruc-

ture and Public Amenities Committee chairman Dr Ahmad Yunus Hairi, while urging Selangor residents not to be over excited with the latest development, said the steady downpour for the past week had also increased the water levels at six of the seven dams in the state.

"As of yesterday, the water level at the Sungai Selangor dam stood at 39.71 per cent, an increase of 1.18 per cent from its reading last Saturday," he said, adding that it was

good progress because of the combination of natural rainfall and cloud seeding efforts by the state government and Malaysian Meteorological Department.

He said the water level at the Tasik Subang dam was at 87 per cent, followed by the Semenyih dam (75.18 per cent), Sungai Tinggi dam (62.16 per cent), Klang Gates dam (56.77 per cent) and Langat dam (52.97 per cent) as of yesterday.

Yunus said the pumping works to extract water from an old mining pool to Sungai Selangor had been ongoing for the past month.

"There are nine old mining pools in the state, but the state government is only extracting water from the Hang Tuah pool in Bestari Jaya.

"Four pumps with the capacity of 50 MLD each are used to pump water to the dam.

"The state government will receive another five pumps which will help increase the dam's water level," he said, adding that the state needed 20 pumps to effectively channel water from the remaining pools.

Last Wednesday, the state government had announced a RM10 million allocation to build infrastructure for water extraction works from the mining pools.

In a separate issue, Khalid said DAP Bukit Jelutong member of parliament Jeff Ooi had no authority to ask him to resign.