

K. Belud water supply hit by siltation

KOTA KINABALU: Taps are running dry again in the Kota Belud district because of heavy siltation in the Kadamaian river.

The river flowing from Mount Kinabalu has been badly affected by erosion and siltation in the aftermath of the June 5 earthquake near the mountain, causing water treatment plants to stop working.

Water production ceased three days ago, and only a small amount could be pumped out from tubewells.

The Water Department as well as the Fire

and Rescue Department have been sending supply to some 100,000 people in the affected area using nine tankers.

Kota Belud district officer Abdul Gari Itam said two of the three treatment plants in the area could not handle the silt-laden raw water from the river.

"The remaining one can only treat some groundwater, but it is not enough for the whole district," he said.

"We hope people can donate bottled water to villagers in Kota Belud."