



## Four out of 20 dams in M'sia at critical levels

**PUTRAJAYA:** Water capacity at four out of 20 dams monitored by the Department of Irrigation and Drainage (DID) was at a critical level as of Monday.

The four dams are Kwong in Kelantan at 27.9% capacity, Padang Saga in Langkawi (38%), Labong in Johor (14.3%) and Timah Tasoh in Kangar (38.8%).

Natural Resources and Environment Minister Datuk Seri Dr Wan Junaidi Tuanku Jaafar said the other dams recorded water levels at between 53% and 100%.

In another development, he said a technical meeting on coral reef monitoring would be held by the Department of Marine Parks soon.

"Extreme temperature increase can affect marine ecosystems, especially

corals, because they are very sensitive to changes in their environment," he said in a statement yesterday.

Wan Junaidi said sudden temperature changes of 2°C for eight weeks could cause coral bleaching and death.

He added that the ministry along with other relevant agencies had been enhancing prevention efforts against open burning, which could potentially cause haze.

The efforts include activating the open burning prevention action plan throughout the country since Jan 12.

Between early this year and March 19, a total of 703 open burning cases were detected nationwide involving forest, agriculture, industry and landfill areas, as well as construction sites. — Bernama

**Sore sight:** Cracked mud appearing at the Pahang River in Temerloh due to the El Nino phenomenon. The dams in the state are still operating at a functional level. — Bernama