

# Ministry: Work together in cleaning Sg Klang

**KUALA LUMPUR:** The Natural Resources and Environment Ministry is calling on the Selangor state government and local councils to work together in cleaning up Sungai Klang.

Following a front page report by *The Star* that 21 tonnes of rubbish is collected monthly from the Klang Valley's biggest river, minister Datuk Seri Dr Wan Junaidi Tuanku Jaafar said he wanted to keep its waters clean.

But the ministry's will alone would not be enough, he said, noting that the Federal Government only had jurisdiction of 8km of the 120km river.

"The local councils must work with us. They cannot rely on my ministry alone because water resources and the river are under the state purview.

"This is why we are inviting Selangor to work together with

us to make the river a river of life. If not, waste from domestic and industries will continue to pollute it," he said.

Malaysian Water Partnership vice-chairman Datuk Hanapi Mohamad Noor said that as many as 700kg of rubbish was thrown into drains daily which eventually find its way into Sungai Klang.

This despite the "Love Our River" campaign that was launched more than 10 years ago.

The Malaysia Environmental Quality Report 2014 showed that based on the 473 rivers monitored by the Department of Environment, 186 rivers (39%) were slightly polluted and 43 rivers (9%) were polluted in 2014.

This is an increase of the 173 rivers (36.6%) slightly polluted and 25 polluted rivers (5.3%) the previous year.