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Highlight

Govt servants are not allowed to accept gifts — Dr Mahathir

Bernama

April 02, 2019 16:26 pm +08



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PUTRAJAYA (April 2): Prime Minister Tun Dr Mahathir today reiterated that government servants are not allowed to accept gifts.

Commenting on the arrest of a minister's political secretary for allegedly accepting bribes in the form of a branded watch, Dr Mahathir said it was up to the people to evaluate the crime.

"If somebody receives something before he was in the government, that is his problem, not our problem.

"It is only when you are working in the government, you are not allowed to receive gifts," he told reporters after witnessing the signing ceremony of an agreement between KA Petra Sdn Bhd and Hutchison Port Holdings Limited (Hutchison Ports) to develop the world's largest Ship-to-Ship Transfer Hub (STS Hub) in Johor here today.

The political secretary of a minister was today remanded by the Malaysian Anti-Corruption Commission (MACC) for four days over allegations of receiving bribes in the form of an Omega watch worth RM28,000.



According to media reports, the 47-year-old man was believed to have received the luxury watch as gratification to enable a development company to obtain projects under the ministry concerned.

Dr Mahathir was also asked on speculations that the Rehiring Programme for Illegal Immigrants would be held again in April. He said he could not answer the matter, as it was still at discussion stage.

The rehiring programme held by the Immigration Department from Feb 15, 2016 to June 30, 2018 had the aim of providing valid work permit to illegal immigrants in the manufacturing, construction, plantation, agriculture and service sectors.

In another development, Dr Mahathir said the government will decide on the issue of Lynas Malaysia Sdn Bhd waste in the Cabinet meeting.

"Maybe there are differences in opinions on the issue and it is normal. Nonetheless, what is decided by the Cabinet is considered the official government decision," he said.

The government on December 2018, stipulated two key conditions for Lynas to enable the company to renew its operation licence in which the company is required to send 450,000 tonnes of water leached purification waste containing radioactive substances out of this country.

Apart from that, they are also required to submit an action plan to dispose 'Neutralization Underflow Residue '(NUF) which do not contain radioactive materials.

This is subject to Regulations 9 (6) and 9 (7), as well as other Regulations under Environmental Quality (Scheduled Wastes) Regulations 2005. The license renewal application will only be considered, after complying with the conditions.

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"It is very low, even lower than the big oil producing countries. What more can you ask?" he said.

According to media reports, Asian LNG prices have dropped to their lowest in nearly three years, as record supply lands on global shores and high inventory levels in North Asia are curbing import demand. — *Bernama*

For related story, see: [MACC remands Salahuddin's political secretary for four days](#)

<https://www.theedgemarkets.com/article/govt-servants-are-not-allowed-accept-gifts-%E2%80%94-dr-mahathir>



Parliamentary committee says 'shocked' over minister's announcement on Lynas operations

Published 3 hours ago on 03 April 2019

By Shazwan Mustafa Kamal



The PM said yesterday that the Cabinet will meet to decide once and for all the federal government's stance on the management of Lynas' radioactive waste. — AFP pic

KUALA LUMPUR, April 3 — A special parliamentary caucus committee tasked with monitoring Lynas Malaysia Sdn Bhd's operations said it is shocked by a minister's announcement that the rare earth plant's operations will be continued.

This, said the committee in a statement, was because the Energy, Science, Technology, Environment and Climate Change Ministry had already said that Lynas should honour its contractual agreement to remove its water leach purification residue, before its operating licence expires on September 2, as well as cooperate with its Australian counterpart to return the waste to Lynas' country of origin.

"We are very concerned with the government's decision by the Entrepreneur Development Minister Datuk Seri Mohd Redzuan Md Yusof on March 30, 2019, whereby the factory processing rare earths, Lynas Corporation Ltd (Lynas) will be continued as a means by the government to attract foreign investment in the country," the committee said last night.

Redzuan had said the government has yet to decide whether the radioactive waste will be sent back to Australia.

It added that the statement was "shocking and in clear contradiction" of the stand and decision made by another ministry as well as a large number of MPs who are policymakers.

The committee said that it was not against foreign investment, but wanted to show political will in ensuring that any development should not have negative consequences on public health or the environment.

"We stress that the Lynas factory's operations cannot continue as long as the conditions for waste management have not been upheld," the committee added.



Members of the committee include DAP's Bentong MP Wong Tack, PKR's Merbok MP Nor Azrina Surip @Nurin Aina, Datuk Haji Hasanuddin bin Mohd Yunus - Hulu Langat (Amanah), Maria Chin Abdullah - Petaling Jaya (PKR), Wong Shu Qi - Kluang (DAP), Chan Ming Kai - Alor Setar (PKR), Khoo Poay Tiong - Kota Melaka (DAP), Datuk Hasbullah Osman - Gerik (UMNO-BN) and Haji Awang Hashim - Pendang (PAS).

Prime Minister Tun Dr Mahathir Mohamad said yesterday that the Cabinet will meet to decide once and for all the federal government's stance on the management of Lynas' radioactive waste.

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HOME/**LIFE**

Canada experiencing warming at twice global level, report shows

Published **22 hours ago** on **02 April 2019**



In this file photo taken on November 13, 2007, a polar bear walks in the snow near the Hudson Bay outside Churchill, Manitoba, Canada. — AFP pic

MONTREAL, April 2 — Canada is experiencing warming at twice the rate of the rest of the world, with the effects most pronounced in the country's north, according to a new government report cited by local media yesterday.

Average temperatures have risen by 1.7 degrees Celsius since 1948, or about double the global average of 0.8 degrees Celsius, and “will warm further in the future, driven by human influence,”



according to a report by Environment and Climate Change Canada, which will be made public today.

In northern Canada, approaching the Arctic Circle, temperatures rose on average by 2.3 degrees Celsius over the same period.

The country-wide figure could reach as high as six degrees Celsius by the end of the century, according to scientific projections.

There are numerous consequences: melting ice, rising sea levels, floods, droughts, heat waves and more forest fires, to name a few.

“Scenarios with limited warming will only occur if Canada and the rest of the world reduce carbon emissions to near zero early in the second half of the century,” the report warned.

The document is being released as the Liberal government headed by Prime Minister Justin Trudeau, who has made the environment one of his top priorities, imposed yesterday a greenhouse gas emissions tax on four provinces judged to have not taken the problem seriously enough.

The measure has angered conservatives, a few months ahead of national parliamentary elections in October.

As part of its commitments to the 2015 Paris climate change accord, Canada agreed to reduce by 30 per cent its greenhouse gas emissions by 2030 compared to 2005 levels. — AFP

<https://www.malaymail.com/news/life/2019/04/02/canada-experiencing-warming-at-twice-global-level-report-shows/1738833>



Ministry studying sites for waste to energy plant

Published 20 hours ago on 02 April 2019



Housing and Local Government Minister Zuraida Kamaruddin said the review is being conducted for the construction of a WTE plant in two years' time. — Picture by Shafwan Zaidon

KUALA LUMPUR, April 2 — The Housing and Local Government Ministry (KPKT) is evaluating existing sanitary landfills as suitable sites to develop waste to energy (WTE) plants.

Its Minister Zuraida Kamaruddin said the review is being conducted for the construction of a WTE plant in two years' time.

“The usage of dump sites is expensive with land cost as one of the burdening factors while WTE is cleaner, more productive and more economical,” she said at the Minister’s Question Time at Dewan Rakyat today.

She was replying to Steven Choong Shiau Yoon (PH-Tebrau) who wanted to know the direction of KPKT on the rubbish disposal system in the country.

Zuraida said the transition to WTE would also generate revenue to the country from the production of renewable energy. — Bernama

<https://www.malaymail.com/news/malaysia/2019/04/02/ministry-studying-sites-for-waste-to-energy-plant/1738931>



Cambodia's environment, Singapore's problem



Published 3 days ago on 31 March 2019

By Surekha A. Yadav

MARCH 31 — So, apparently, my neighbourhood smells of urine.

That's right, Yishun — that proud northern region of our island — denigrated by the ignorant as a hotbed of crime (okay, there were a couple of cat killers) is now literally a pee town?

Honestly, this is rubbish! Firstly, Yishun is a lovely neighbourhood and secondly, I haven't noticed any urine smell and don't know anyone who has.

Still, on the online forums it is apparently a thing.

The National Environment Authority has said the urine and burning smells detected island-wide are in fact the result of fires at landfills and farm sites in Johor.

And this brings us to a serious point; from the regional plastic waste that washes up on our shores to the oil slicks that appear due to discharge from passing ships and of course the Indonesian haze that often chokes us in the hot months, Singapore seems to be the perpetual victim of other nations' inability to take care of their environment.

But is this really the case?

On the surface it seems open and shut. Singapore is as clean and green as they come. Almost 50 per cent of the island is covered in foliage and we have created a beautiful green island, Pulau Semakau, out of our plastic waste recycling efforts.

Our air, when not polluted by particles from our neighbours, is clean.

But when you begin to unpack Singapore's environmental credentials, things really aren't so clear.

Actually, while Singapore is literally green with a good per cent of foliage, the rest of our track record isn't necessarily great.

Our carbon footprint (per capita) is arguably the largest in Asia and the Pacific, particularly if you consider the emissions released by the planes that bring so many goods and people to our country.



Our domestic recycling efforts are abysmal. Over 90 per cent of Singaporeans make no real effort to sort their trash or recycle; rather, our recycling successes are based on government efforts and armies of imported labourers — themselves flown in from various parts of the world.

Our adoption of clean technologies like solar power, electric cars etc. has been sluggish but far worse than these is our role degrading the environment of our neighbours.

The reality is that Singapore's clean, green reputation is built on our wealth — and our wealth has come at an environmental cost... to our neighbours.

A simple example is our land area. To support our expanding population and economic growth, Singapore has added over 100 square kilometres to its land area over the past 50 years.

This reclamation though depends on raw materials, particularly sand extracted at great environmental cost to our neighbours.

Forty million cubic tons have been poured into the sea around our coast and a significant portion of this has come from unscrupulous suppliers.

Entire islands have vanished from the sea in Indonesia and river beds and ecosystems in Cambodia have been destroyed on account of sand mining — with one destination for this sand being Singapore.

So for the 100 square kilometres we have reclaimed, we have potentially damaged hundreds of kilometres of mangroves, rivers and islands in other countries.

The reality is that the money and space we use to fuel our clean nation has come at a cost to other environments in the region.

But it is not about blame — the point is about accepting our responsibility and understanding that Indonesia's fires and Cambodia's habitat loss are our problem too.

As such, it is imperative that we improve systems ensuring what sand we use is sourced sustainably (even if that means greater cost) and share wealth and technology.

We should be proud that 50 per cent our tiny island is green but maybe it is time we made the same investment to get the forest cover in Sumatra or East Malaysia back to 50 per cent too.

That would be an achievement and definitely make a dent in the haze.

*** This is the personal opinion of the columnist.**



> Local

Govt servants are not allowed to accept gifts: Dr Mahathir

02 APR 2019 / 16:28 H.



Mohamad, Prime Minister of Malaysia

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Prime Minister Tun Dr Mahathir points to a picture of the proposed STS Hub in Johor, on April 2, 2019. — Bernama

PUTRAJAYA: Prime Minister Tun Dr Mahathir today reiterated that government servants are not allowed to accept gifts.

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<https://www.thesundaily.my/local/govt-servants-are-not-allowed-to-accept-gifts-dr-mahathir-NI749384>



Kaukus Lynas sanggah kenyataan mengenai keputusan kerajaan

FMT Reporters

-

April 3, 2019 8:36 AM



Kerajaan belum membuat keputusan muktamad berhubung penghantaran keluar sisa dari Lynas.

PETALING JAYA: Sebuah kaukus Parlimen pula menyanggah kenyataan berkenaan keputusan kerajaan meneruskan kilang memproses nadir bumi, Lynas Advanced Material Plant (LAMP) di Gebeng, Pahang menyusuli bidasan daripada Ahli Parlimen DAP, Wong Tack dan

Ahli Parlimen PKR, Fuziah Salleh.

Jawatankuasa pantau Lynas, yang dipengerusikan oleh Wong berkata, kenyataan itu "ternyata bercanggah" dengan pendirian dan keputusan Kementerian Tenaga, Sains, Teknologi, Alam Sekitar & Perubahan Iklim (Mestec). Ia juga mendakwa kenyataan berkenaan keputusan kerajaan itu bercanggah dengan "sebahagian besar" ahli Parlimen.

"Kami berdiri teguh menyokong pendirian Mestec sebelum ini," katanya dalam kenyataan semalam, merujuk kepada pendirian dalam isu pengurusan 2 residu iaitu buangan pepejal, Water Leach Purification (WLP) dan buangan terjadual, Neutralization Underflow Residue (NUF).

Selain Wong, turut menamakan sokongan kepada kementerian Menteri Yeo Bee Yin itu adalah 2 ahli Parlimen DAP, 3 ahli Parlimen PKR dan 1 ahli Parlimen Amanah, serta 1 ahli Parlimen Umno dan PAS.

"Kami bertegas operasi kilang Lynas tidak boleh diteruskan selagi syarat-syarat pengurusan sisanya tidak dipatuhi seperti yang telah ditetapkan," katanya.

Pada 30 Mac lepas, Menteri Pembangunan Usahawan, Mohd Redzuan Yusof mengumumkan kerajaan tidak akan menutup kilang kontroversi itu, untuk menarik lagi pelabur berkecimpung dalam pembuatan produk seperti di Lynas.

Mestec dalam kenyataan 4 Disember lepas mengenakan 2 prasyarat pembaharuan lesen kepada kilang Lynas untuk terus beroperasi, iaitu ia perlu memastikan sisa WLP



dihantar keluar dari Malaysia, dan mengemukakan suatu pelan tindakan bagi pelupusan buangan yang terkumpul bagi sisa NUF.

Lynas menyifatkan keputusan Mestec tidak selari dengan laporan berasaskan kajian saintifik dan pakar oleh Jawatankuasa Eksekutif Penilaian Mengenai Operasi LAMP, dan prasyarat berkenaan tidak konsisten dengan cadangan penilaian jawatankuasa berkenaan.

Katanya, jawatankuasa itu menyarankan Lynas segera mengenal pasti lokasi dan fasiliti pelupusan kekal untuk sisa WLP, dan tapak untuk pembinaan fasiliti itu, sebelum lesen operasi diperbaharui. Mengenai sisa NUF, Lynas sudah menyerahkan pelan tindakan dan mahu kebenaran melaksanakannya dipercepatkan.

Kelmarin, Redzuan berkata keputusan jemaah menteri adalah "jelas" untuk membolehkan Lynas terus beroperasi dan cara menangani sisanya adalah perkara berbeza.

"Jika jawatankuasa itu kata ia tidak selamat, maka kita perlu menutupnya. Tetapi, setakat yang saya tahu, tiada petunjuk oleh jawatankuasa yang loji itu tidak selamat, selain cadangan sisa itu perlu dikembalikan."

Redzuan juga berkata Putrajaya belum membuat keputusan muktamad berhubung penghantaran keluar sisa.

"Ada alternatif lain untuk menguruskan sisa-sisa ini."

Semalam, Perdana Menteri Dr Mahathir Mohamad berkata jemaah menteri masih belum membincangkan soal pelupusan sisa Lynas tetapi apa yang ditentukan oleh jemaah itu nanti akan menjadi keputusan rasmi.

<https://www.freemalaysiatoday.com/category/bahasa/2019/04/03/kaukus-lynas-sanggah-kenyataan-mengenai-keputusan-kerajaan/>



Centralised plastic recycling hub on the cards, says Zuraida

Minderjeet Kaur

April 2, 2019 12:23 PM



Bernama pic.

KUALA LUMPUR: Housing and Local Government Minister Zuraida Kamaruddin says Putrajaya is looking to introduce a centralised plastic recycling hub to better monitor and manage the industry.

Once it is built, she said, all plastic waste recycling factories outside the park will be considered illegal.

She was replying to Che Abdullah Mat Nawi (PAS-Tumpat) who had asked about plastic pollution in the country.

Zuraida also said her ministry is working with the Customs Department to inspect each container entering the country to ensure that only clean plastic is brought in.

"We issue the approved permit licence for the import of plastic waste, and before issuing it, we will inspect the site first.

"However, site approval is under the purview of the local councils and local authorities," she said to Teh Kok Lim (PH-Taiping), who asked about Kedah's decision not to issue licences for plastic waste recycling centres.

"They have the right not to grant licences for the sites," she said.

In February, widespread dumping of plastic waste into rivers and open burning were reported in Klang and Hulu Langat.

Klang MP Charles Santiago asked the health ministry to carry out an immediate public health audit following concerns over the level of water and air pollution in Port Klang.

He urged the ministry to take steps to prevent more people from falling ill after eating fish from contaminated waters or breathing air polluted by the burning of plastic waste.

<https://www.freemalaysiatoday.com/category/nation/2019/04/02/centralised-plastic-recycling-hub-on-the-cards-says-zuraida/>



Ministry studying sites for 'waste to energy' plants



Housing and Local Government Minister Zuraida Kamaruddin said it was being done in preparation for the construction of a WTE plant in two years' time. Pic by NSTP/EIZAIRI SHAMSUDIN

KUALA LUMPUR: The Housing and Local Government Ministry is evaluating sanitary landfills as sites to develop waste to

energy (WTE) plants.

Minister Zuraida Kamaruddin said it was being done in preparation for the construction of a WTE plant in two years' time.

"The usage of dump sites is expensive with land cost as one of the burdening factors, while WTE plants are cleaner, more productive and more economical," she said during Minister's Question Time at Dewan Rakyat today.

She was responding to Steven Choong Shiau Yoon (PH-Tebrau) who wanted to know the ministry's direction in rubbish disposal.

Zuraida said the transition to WTE would also enable the country to generate revenue through the production of renewable energy.

Zuraida said her ministry intended to centralise the processing of imported plastic waste to facilitate monitoring of companies involved.

She said the measure was aimed at eradicating illegal factories which processed imported plastic waste as they had severely impacted the environment.

"State governments should centralise all of them in a designated waste area and if they are found outside the area, they will be considered illegal factories," she said in reply to a supplementary question from Datuk Che Abdullah Mat (PAS-Tumpat) who wanted to know whether the government intended to ban the import of plastic waste.

She said the ministry's enforcement personnel could work with the Customs Department to tighten surveillance at the country's entry points to stop the inflow of plastic waste. — BERNAMA



Parliamentary caucus on Lynas says Redzuan's comment 'shocking'

- **NATION**
- Wednesday, 3 Apr 2019 1:15 PM MYT
- by **ong han sean**



KUANTAN: The Parliamentary Caucus on Monitoring Lynas has expressed surprise over Entrepreneur Development Minister Redzuan Mohd Yusof's statement that the rare earth plant will be allowed to continue operations.

The caucus said the statement was especially shocking and contradicted the Energy, Science, Technology, Environment and Climate Change Ministry's (Mestecc) decision and the

position of a large number of MPs.

Referring to promise No.39 of the Pakatan Harapan's manifesto, the caucus said any continuation or investment policy must take into account the people and the environment's safety.

"We stand strong in supporting Mestecc's position on the management of the two main residues: 451,564 tonnes of water leach purification (WLP) and 1.113 million tonnes of neutralisation underflow (NUF) that have accumulated at the Lynas plant since 2012," the caucus said in a statement on Wednesday (April 3).

Redzuan caused a storm recently after he was quoted by Malay daily Utusan Malaysia as saying that the Lynas rare earth refinery would not be shut down, sending a signal that foreign direct investment was welcomed in Malaysia.

Then on Monday (April 1) in Parliament, Redzuan said the government's decision on Lynas was clear – that it would be allowed to continue operating in Malaysia.

The caucus said Mestecc had issued two additional pre-conditions on Lynas' operating licence renewal, which required the company to remove the WLP residue from Malaysia and for an action plan to be submitted on the disposal of NUF.

"We regret that these two pre-conditions are not taken seriously, and even then, Lynas chief executive officer Amanda Lacaze has been reported as admitting that Lynas is unable and has no intention to remove the WLP, which has naturally-occurring radioactive materials, from Malaysia," it



said, adding that this ran counter to Lynas Corporation and Lynas Malaysia's letter of undertaking which stated their commitment.

The caucus also said to this day, Lynas had not given any commitment to prepare long-term comprehensive waste management.

"We would like to stress that we have never opposed foreign investment, but as representatives chosen by the people, we must have the political will to ensure sustainable development that will not have a negative impact on the people's health and safety as well as the environment.

"With this, we insist that Lynas' operations cannot be continued as long as the waste management conditions are not complied with," it said.

The caucus is chaired by Bentong MP Wong Tack and include Merbok MP Nor Azrina Surip, Hulu Langat MP Datuk Hasanuddin Mohd Yunus, Kluang MP Wong Shu Qi and Petaling Jaya MP Maria Chin Abdullah among others as its members.

Read more at <https://www.thestar.com.my/news/nation/2019/04/03/parliamentary-caucus-on-lynas-says-redzuans-comment-shocking/#01RsmX5PJf1Q9Qpv.99>



DPM backs Redzuan: He can comment on Lynas because investment falls under his

- **NATION**
- Wednesday, 3 Apr 2019 12:52 PM MYT
- by [tarrence tan](#), [martin carvalho](#), [hemananthani sivanandam](#), and [rahimy rahim](#)



KUALA LUMPUR: Entrepreneur Development Minister Datuk Seri Mohd Redzuan Yusof can comment on the Lynas issue because matters pertaining to investments fall under the purview of his ministry, says Deputy Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Wan Azizah Wan Ismail.

"It's about pollution, but in terms of investment, it's under Redzuan," she said.

Dr Wan Azizah added that decisions made with regard to the Lynas issue must take

into account factors such as investments and economic empowerment.



"We want investment and economic empowerment. However, on the other side, we are seeing pollution in our country, so they must address the waste issue," she told reporters when met at the Parliament lobby on Wednesday (April 3).

The Pandan MP also downplayed the public spat between Pakatan Harapan ministers over the issue, saying she regards this as a "healthy debate" between leaders.

"Between these ministers, it's a healthy debate among us, so that together, we can find the best solution in addressing issues," she said.

Dr Wan Azizah's remarks appeared to have contradicted her colleague Fuziah Salleh, who told Redzuan on Monday (April 1) to stop commenting on the Lynas issue because the matter does not fall under his ministry.

Fuziah, Deputy Minister in the Prime Minister's Department on Islamic Affairs, was quoted as saying that investment matters fall under the International Trade and Industry Ministry and the Malaysian Investment Development Authority (Mida).

She said the issue of Lynas' waste management falls under the purview of the Energy, Science, Technology, Environment and Climate Change Ministry, which is headed by Yeo Bee Yin.

Fuziah, also Kuantan MP, has been particularly vocal against Lynas and has repeatedly stressed that the radioactive waste should not be allowed to remain in Kuantan, as it was harmful to the environment and the people's health.

Redzuan caused a storm in Pakatan after he said the government would allow Lynas to continue operating in Malaysia.

He said that the Pakatan government was a business-friendly government, adding that Lynas' investment was "too big to ignore".

On Monday (April 1), Deputy Energy, Science, Technology, Environment and Climate Change Minister Isnaraissah Munirah Majilis said the government wants to cooperate with the Australian government to ensure that waste from Lynas is sent back to where it came from.

Meanwhile, Redzuan's remarks also drew brickbats from the Parliamentary Caucus on Monitoring Lynas (JKPPL), which said it stands firmly behind Yeo's stance on the matter: that Lynas' water leach purification waste must be removed from Malaysia.

JKPPL is a loose body formed by several Pakatan lawmakers last December after the Parliament Select Committee announced that the formation of an official parliamentary caucus on monitoring Lynas was put on hold.

JKPPL is chaired by Bentong MP Wong Tack and comprises Petaling Jaya MP Maria Chin Abdullah, Kluang MP Wong Shu Qi, Hulu Langat MP Datuk Hasanuddin Mohd Yunus, among others.

Read more at <https://www.thestar.com.my/news/nation/2019/04/03/dpm-backs-redzuan-he-can-comment-on-lynas-because-investment-falls-under-his/#VHs0cxXL3w0uKmy.99>



Dr M: STS plan will boost economic growth

- **NATION**
- Wednesday, 3 Apr 2019



Ambitious plan: Dr Mahathir being briefed by Shahrul (second from left) on the STS Hub project. Also present are Saifuddin (left) and Loke (right).

PUTRAJAYA: The proposed Ship-to-Ship (STS) transfer hub project in Johor Baru will be a major boost to Malaysia's economic growth, says Prime Minister Tun Dr Mahathir Mohamad.

Set to be the largest STS hub in the world, he said it was in everyone's interest for the project to succeed.

"This is a project that will benefit Malaysia. I do not think anyone would want to see Malaysia lose out," he said after witnessing the signing of an agreement between KA Petra Sdn Bhd and Hutchison Ports Holdings Ltd, which will jointly develop the STS Hub at Johor Baru waters.

The project came into the limelight after Tunku Mahkota Johor Tunku Ismail Ibrahim shared a posting on his Facebook page which criticised the project.

The post by a group called Gerakan Muafakat Johor claimed that Putrajaya bulldozed the project without the knowledge of the Johor government and wanted to enrich its cronies.

Dr Mahathir denied that Johor was in the dark about the project, saying that a lot of people were already aware of it since discussions began last year.

He also said Menteri Besar Datuk Osman Sapian was well aware of the planned development.

"I met him yesterday (Monday) and we spoke about this, so he knows," said Dr Mahathir, adding that there had not been any official rejection of the project from Johor.

The Prime Minister also said Tunku Ismail should be in the know about the project.

"He (Tunku Ismail) is in Johor. Many people in Johor know about it. I'm puzzled if he doesn't know about this. He knows a lot of things, yet he doesn't know about this," said Dr Mahathir.

When asked about claims that the project was meant to benefit Putrajaya's cronies, he responded: "Everyone in Malaysia is my crony. I work for all the people, including people in Johor."

He added that Singapore was also aware of the plans for the STS Hub.



“Singapore knows about this. They protested, but we showed them that this is in Malaysian waters and not Singaporean waters.

“As far as I know, we are entitled to build the project if it is in our waters,” he said.

On another matter, Dr Mahathir said the government had no plans to lower the price of Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG), which he said was already being sold at a “very low, subsidised price”.

He was responding to the decline in Asian LNG prices, which dropped to a record low of US\$4.43 (RM18) per MMBtu.

On Lynas Malaysia Sdn Bhd, Dr Mahathir said the Cabinet would discuss the management of its radioactive waste material before making a final decision.

“There may be differences of opinion, but that is normal. The Cabinet will determine the official stand,” he added.

Cabinet ministers have been at loggerheads on the Lynas issue in the past week, with Entrepreneur Development Minister Datuk Seri Mohd Redzuan Yusof controversially claiming that Malaysia will allow Lynas to continue operating here.

Last year, Energy, Science, Technology, Environment and Climate Change Minister Yeo Bee Yin said Lynas should honour its commitment to remove its water leach

purification residue from Malaysia before the endorsement of its operating licence, which expires on Sept 2.

Read more at <https://www.thestar.com.my/news/nation/2019/04/03/dr-m-sts-plan-will-boost-economic-growth/#Zyk7dkIT3mw4zSEV.99>



'Cuci' Sungai Gabai

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ASINGKAN sampah ikut kategori.

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SIKAP mementingkan diri individu hingga sanggup melakukan pencemaran sumber air terutama di sungai kini semakin menjadi-jadi.

Ini terbukti dengan pendedahan media berkenaan pencemaran sungai dengan bahan sisa kimia di Sungai Kim Kim, Pasir Gudang, Johor yang menggemparkan seluruh tanah air baru-baru ini.

Menyedari kepentingan sumber bekalan air utama, Harta Maintenance Sdn Bhd bersama Trash Hero Malaysia melaksanakan program khidmat masyarakat membersihkan Sungai Gabai, Hulu Langat, Selangor, 24 Februari lalu.

Seramai 55 sukarelawan yang menyertai usaha meningkatkan kesedaran berkenaan kepentingan kebersihan sungai dalam kehidupan.

Setiausaha Trash Hero Malaysia, Faisal Abdur Rani, berkata pihaknya sentiasa aktif dalam aktiviti menggalakkan lebih ramai penyertaan awam melakukan aktiviti pembersihan sungai.

“Menerusi pembabitan lebih ramai orang, kita berharap ia akan meluaskan lagi aktiviti pembersihan sungai.

“Bukan itu saja, kita juga ingin meningkatkan lagi kefahaman masyarakat berkenaan ancaman air tadahan yang tercemar kepada kesihatan.



INGIN sebar mesej penjagaan sungai.

“Selain itu, bersama-sama memulihkan kembali sumber air yang digunakan untuk kehidupan seharian dan rekreasi.

“Paling utama, melalui aktiviti pembersihan ini, kita berharap isu pembuangan sampah dan pengurusan sisa di Malaysia dapat ditangani.

“Setiap kali aktiviti mencuci sungai dijalankan, kita akan mengasingkan sampah untuk meminimumkan sisa yang akan pergi ke tapak pelupusan seperti plastik dan barangan tidak mudah lupus hingga mengakibatkan pencemaran,” katanya dalam satu kenyataan.

Dalam program berkenaan, sukarelawan mengutip tin, botol, kepingan logam, bekas bungkusan makanan, kain dan plastik yang dibuang di Sungai Gabai.



SERAMAI 55 sukarelawan.

Sukarelawan berjaya mengumpulkan sampah keseluruhan 243.48 kilogram (kg) dengan 20.52 kg yang boleh dikitar semula selepas diasingkan.

Program pembersihan Sungai Gabai ini berjaya mengurangkan kira-kira 8.43 peratus sisa yang akan pergi ke tapak pelupusan sampah.

Sementara itu, Eksekutif Komunikasi Korporat Harta Maintenance, Fakhira Zaid berkata selaku

rakan penjagaan persekitaran lestari sejak 1980, pihaknya yakin bumi adalah harta diamanahkan untuk dipelihara bagi generasi akan datang.

“Buat pertama kalinya, kita bekerjasama dengan Trash Hero Malaysia melakukan program pembersihan sungai.

“Kita sentiasa mengalu-alukan kerjasama dengan organisasi lain bagi acara seperti ini pada masa akan datang.

“Kita akan terus berusaha untuk meningkatkan kesedaran mengenai kepentingan melindungi alam semula jadi daripada pencemaran serta membaikpulih kualiti alam sekitar di Malaysia,” katanya.

Menurutnya lagi, Harta Maintenance turut aktif dalam aktiviti tanggungjawab sosial korporat lain termasuk pembersihan kawasan surau, program kelestarian, pengurusan tenaga, program penanaman pokok, kempen penggunaan air, dan program tandas bersih untuk perlindungan alam sekitar ke arah kehidupan yang lebih lestari.



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<https://www.hmetro.com.my/nuansa/2019/04/440325/cuci-sungai-gabai>



Tak dibenar terima 'hadiah' dalam kerajaan - PM

- MyMetro
- Mutakhir



DR MAHATHIR. FOTO Asyraf Hamzah

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“APABILA anda berada dalam kerajaan, anda tidak dibenarkan terima hadiah (rasuah),” kata Tun Dr Mahathir Mohamad.

Perdana Menteri memberi reaksi itu ketika mengulas penahanan setiausaha politik kepada seorang menteri oleh Suruhanjaya Pencegahan Rasuah Malaysia (SPRM), semalam, atas dakwaan menerima rasuah seutas jam tangan mewah.

Dr Mahathir berkata, jika individu berkenaan didapati melakukan kesalahan atau tidak, ia terpulung kepada siasatan yang akan dilakukan nanti.

“Kalau seseorang individu terima sesuatu (berunsur rasuah) sebelum mereka masuk dalam kerajaan, itu masalah mereka bukan masalah kami (kerajaan),” katanya.

Beliau berkata demikian pada sidang media selepas menyaksikan majlis menandatangani Perjanjian Induk (HoA) antara Ka Petra Sdn Bhd (KA Petra) dan Hutchison Ports di Putrajaya, hari ini.



DR MAHATHIR mendengar penjelasan Hub Pertukaran Kapal ke Kapal (STS Hub) di Putrajaya. FOTO Asyraf Hamzah

Mahkamah Majistret Putrajaya hari ini mengeluarkan perintah reman selama empat hari kepada Setiausaha Politik kepada Menteri Pertanian dan Industri Asas Tani bagi membantu siasatan berhubung suapan berbentuk seutas jam tangan dianggarkan bernilai RM28,000.

Sumber dipetik berkata, siasatan awal mendapati lelaki berusia 47 tahun itu dipercayai menerima jam tangan mewah itu sebagai dorongan membolehkan sebuah syarikat pembangunan mendapatkan projek di bawah kelolaan sebuah kementerian.

Dalam perkembangan lain, Dr Mahathir berkata, kerajaan akan memutuskan perkembangan terbaru mengenai isu sisa buangan oleh Lynas Malaysia Sdn Bhd dalam mesyuarat Kabinet kelak.



“Mungkin akan berlaku perbezaan pendapat mengenai isu berkenaan dan ia normal. Namun, apa yang diputuskan oleh Kabinet kelak akan dianggap keputusan rasmi kerajaan,” katanya.

Ditanya mengenai adakah Malaysia akan mengikuti langkah Singapura untuk menurunkan harga bahan api susulan penurunan harga minyak global, Dr Mahathir menjelaskan, harga bahan api yang dipasarkan di negara ini sudah dijual pada harga subsidi.

“Malah, harga bahan api di Malaysia lebih murah berbanding negara-negara besar pengeluar minyak. Apa lagi yang anda mahu,” katanya.

Selain itu, ditanya mengenai spekulasi Program Penggajian dan Penempatan Semula PATI (Rehiring) akan diadakan semula pada April ini, Dr Mahathir berkata, beliau tidak boleh menjawab perkara itu berikutan ia masih dalam peringkat perbincangan.

Sementara itu, Dr Mahathir turut memaklumkan Kontrak Rakan Pelaksana (PDP) bagi pembinaan Lebuh Raya Pan Borneo Sarawak akan diumumkan oleh Kementerian Kewangan kelak.

Sebelum ini, kerajaan memutuskan untuk menilai pelaksanaan model projek lebuh raya berkenaan khususnya mencari mekanisme terbaik dari segi penjimatan kos dan keupayaan kewangan.

Malah, Menteri Kerja Raya Baru Bian dilaporkan berkata, semakan semula model projek lebuh raya itu tidak membabitkan pembatalan pembinaan.

Projek Lebuh Raya Pan Borneo masing-masing membabitkan kos keseluruhan RM16.48 bilion untuk Sabah dan RM12.86 bilion di Sabah.

Artikel ini disiarkan pada : Selasa, 2 April 2019 @ 3:37 PM

<https://www.hmetro.com.my/mutakhir/2019/04/440115/tak-dibenar-terima-hadiah-dalam-kerajaan-pm>



>> EDISI > JOHOR > Tiada lagi sampah masuk ke Simpang Renggam: Maszlee

Tiada lagi sampah masuk ke Simpang Renggam: Maszlee

MOHAMAD NORZAHARUDDIN KASIMON | 03 Apr 2019



Maszlee (kiri) menunjukkan sampah yang masih terdapat di Tapak Pelupusan Sampah Ladang CEPI Renggam.

SIMPANG RENGAM – 75,000 pemilik akaun Ranhill SAJ Sdn. Bhd. (Ranhill SAJ) di Simpang Renggam yang sering terjejas bekalan air boleh menarik nafas lega apabila tiada lagi sampah yang akan dibuang di Simpang Renggam selepas ini.

Ahli Parlimen Simpang Renggam, Dr Maszlee Malik berkata, ini susulan penutupan operasi Tapak Pelupusan Sampah Ladang CEPI di Renggam oleh Kementerian Perumahan dan Kerajaan Tempatan (KPKT) pada 26 Mac lalu.

“Selepas ini tiada lagi sampah yang akan masuk ke Simpang Renggam dan ini adalah satu berita baik kepada rakyat Simpang Renggam setelah bertahun-tahun mengalami masalah ini dan kerajaan PH berjaya menyelesaikan masalah ini dalam tempoh 10 bulan.

“SWM Environment juga akan memastikan tapak ini tidak berlaku sebarang tumpahan air larut resap (leachate) ke sungai lagi dan akan melakukan penambahbaikan Loji Rawatan Leachate (LTP) dengan kos sebanyak RM3.15 juta,” katanya.

Beliau yang juga Menteri Pendidikan berkata kepada pemberita selepas melakukan lawatan ke Tapak Pelupusan Sampah Ladang CEP 1 Renggam, di sini, hari ini.



Keadaan sampah di Tapak Pelupusan Sampah Ladang CEPI Renggam.

Turut hadir ialah Setiausaha Bahagian Kerajaan Tempatan Pejabat Setiausaha Kerajaan Johor, Muzaldin Mohamad; Pegawai Daerah Kluang, Ismail Abu dan Yang Dipertua Majlis Daerah Simpang Renggam (MDSR), Muhamad Syukri Abdul Rahim.

Menurutnya, selain itu langkah kedua yang akan dilakukan adalah mengenal pasti



sumber-sumber pencemaran air yang lain seperti ladang-ladang ternakan ayam dan sisa kumbahan yang tidak dirawat dengan betul.

“Kita akan meminta bantuan daripada agensi terlibat seperti Jabatan Perkhidmatan Veterinar (JPV), Jabatan Alam Sekitar (JAS) dan pihak berkuasa tempatan (PBT) agar sumber pencemaran air yang lain ini dapat diatasi.

“Mesyuarat Kabinet baru-baru ini juga telah memutuskan bahawa Kementerian Air, Tanah dan Sumber (KATS) akan melakukan aktiviti pembersihan di Sungai Ulu Benut selain mendapat sokongan daripada Universiti Teknologi Malaysia (UTM) dan Universiti Tun Hussein Onn Malaysia (UTHM),” katanya.

Pada masa sama, Ranhill SAJ dan Badan Kawal Selia Air Johor (BAKAJ) juga telah bersetuju agar sumber air mentah daripada Empangan Machap akan disalurkan terus ke Loji Rawatan Air (LRA) Simpang Renggam agar penduduk di kawasan ini tidak mengharapkan semata-mata sumber air daripada Sungai Benut.



Maszlee (tengah) sewaktu melawat Tapak Pelupusan Sampah Ladang CEPI Renggam.

<https://www.sinarharian.com.my/article/21480/EDISI/Johor/Tiada-lagi-sampah-masuk-ke-Simpang-Renggam-Maszlee>



>> EDISI > PAHANG > Lynas diminta urus sisa buangan, elak pencemaran

Lynas diminta urus sisa buangan, elak pencemaran

NORAWAZNI | 02 Apr 2019



Andansura

KUANTAN - Lynas Corporation Ltd (Lynas) yang memproses nadir bumi di Pusat Perindustrian Gebeng, perlu menguruskan sisa buangan dengan sebaiknya bagi mengelak pencemaran.

ADUN Beserah, Andansura Rabu berkata, pengurusan sisa buangan perlu dibincangkan oleh Lynas bersama kerajaan supaya ia dapat diuruskan dengan baik.

"Isu buangan sisa kena diberi perhatian terutamanya selepas kerajaan pusat membuat keputusan untuk tidak menutup operasi Lynas.

"Saya juga berpendapat ketetapan kerajaan (tidak tutup) berdasarkan bukti saintifik yang mengesahkan operasi Lynas adalah selamat," katanya ketika dihubungi Sinar Harian, hari ini.

Semalam, Menteri Pembangunan Usahawan, Datuk Seri Mohd Redzuan Yusof bdrkata, kerajaan tidak sepatutnya memaksa syarikat berkenaan mengambil tindakan untuk eksport pembuangan sisa radioaktif itu ke Australia, kecuali dinilai sebagai 'sangat tidak selamat'.

Beliau berpendapat, kilang itu perlu terus dibenarkan menjalankan operasi di negara ini seperti yang telah diputuskan oleh Kabinet, dan hal yang berkaitan dengan pembuangan sisa radioaktif adalah isu berbeza.

Mengulas lanjut itu itu, Andansura berkata, beliau menerima keputusan yang dibuat oleh pihak kerajaan, namun faktor keselamatan dan alam sekitar perlu dititikberatkan.

"Kita terima (keputusan kerajaan) tapi kita mahu lihat tindakan kerajaan dan bagaimana Lynas menguruskan sisa buangannya.

"Ini yang warga Kuantan mahu lihat dan tahu sebenarnya," katanya.

<https://www.sinarharian.com.my/article/21393/EDISI/Pahang/Lynas-diminta-urus-sisa-buangan-elak-pencemaran>