

**Assalamualaikum WBT dan Salam Sejahtera,
YBrS/Dr./ Ir./ Ts./ Tuan/Puan,
Hebahan koleksi keratan akhbar terpilih minggu ini untuk makluman dan rujukan.**

1.	TAJUK	NAHRIM KAJI IMPAK KEHADIRAN BAHAN CEMAR TERHADAP KUALITI AIR
	SUMBER	BH (16 JULAI 2024)
	BIDANG PERKARA/SUBJEK	ALAM SEKITAR
	MUKA SURAT/RUANGAN	14 (NASIONAL)

NAHRIM kaji impak kehadiran bahan cemar terhadap kualiti air

Putrajaya: Institut Penyelidikan Air Kebangsaan Malaysia (NAHRIM) sedang giat menjalankan penyelidikan berkaitan impak kehadiran bahan cemar baharu terhadap kualiti air di beberapa lembangan sungai di Malaysia di bawah Rancangan Malaysia ke-12.

Timbalan Perdana Menteri, Datuk Seri Fadillah Yusof, berkata bahan cemar berkenaan termasuk pengganggu endokrin (EDCs), kerintangan antimikrob (AMR) dan juga mikroplastik.

Beliau yang juga Menteri Peralihan Tenaga dan Transformasi Air berkata, bahan cemar baharu yang menjadi tumpuan di peringkat antarabangsa adalah pencemaran berkaitan mikroplastik dalam sumber air di Malaysia.

"Mikroplastik mengikut takrifan Pertubuhan Kesihatan Sedunia (WHO) adalah serpihan plastik bersaiz kurang daripada 5 mm dan ia memasuki sistem sungai melalui beberapa cara, terutamanya dari larian air permukaan, efluen air sisa (terawat dan tidak dirawat), efluen perindustrian dan sisa plastik terurai," katanya.

Beliau berkata demikian dalam

ucapannya sempena Seminar Mikroplastik Kebangsaan Pertama anjuran NAHRIM bersama Frontier Laboratory Ltd Japan dan Persatuan Penyelidikan Air Malaysia, di sini semalam.

Memetik daripada Laporan World Economic Forum 2023, Fadillah berkata, seseorang terdedah kepada pengambilan plastik secara tidak sengaja melalui bawahan air sebanyak lima gram seminggu.

"Kerajaan komited untuk meningkatkan kualiti air sungai dengan kerjasama kerajaan negeri dan sektor berkepentingan lain melalui langkah-langkah strategik. Namun, usaha-usaha kerajaan ini tidak akan berhasil sekiranya kesedaran pada peringkat komuniti tentang kepentingan memelihara sumber air masih rendah," katanya.

Sementara itu, pada sidang media, Fadillah berkata, walaupun penggunaan plastik tidak dapat dielakkan, penggunaannya perlu diimbangi agar ancaman kepada alam sekitar dapat dikurangkan.

"Jadi hasil daripada program ini, kita akan dapat mengetahui kedudukan di Malaysia melalui



Fadillah melawat tapak pameran selepas merasmikan Seminar Mikroplastik Kebangsaan Pertama 2024 di Pusat Konvensyen Antarabangsa Putrajaya (PICC), semalam. (Foto BERNAMA)

hasil penyelidikan yang sedang dibuat di empat sungai, apakah dasar yang dapat di bangunkan pada masa depan.

"Kita boleh kemukakan kepada kerajaan untuk kita tangani cabaran-cabaran baharu dalam konteks pencemaran, khususnya mikroplastik," katanya sambil menambah standard kualiti air minum adalah di bawah Kementerian Kesihatan (KKM) dan ia akan dilihat sekiranya standard air perlu ditambah baik dan apakah skopnya.

Ketua Pengarah NAHRIM, Mohd Zaki Mat Amin, yang turut hadir pada majlis berkenaan berkata kerja penyelidikan berkaitan pencemaran mikroplastik meliputi kerja persampelan, pengumpulan data lapangan dan

analisis makmal.

"Lembangan sungai terpilih dalam penyelidikan ini ialah Lembangan Sungai Langat, Lembangan Sungai Kelantan, Lembangan Sungai Klang dan Lembangan Sungai Sarawak.

"Hasil penyelidikan mendapati purata kelimpahan mikroplastik di empat lembangan sungai tersebut adalah di antara 179.6 partikel per liter sehingga 4541.4 partikel per liter.

"Purata kelimpahan mikroplastik di setiap lembangan sungai ini dipengaruhi oleh aktiviti antropogenik seperti aktiviti industri dan domestik, selain pengurusan sisa pepejal tidak terurus yang menyumbang kepada kemerosotan kualiti air sungai," katanya. **BERNAMA**

2.	TAJUK	STUDY OF NEW POLLUTANTS IMPACTING WATER QUALITY
	SUMBER	THE STAR (16 JULAI 2024)
	BIDANG PERKARA/SUBJEK	ENVIRONMENT
	MUKA SURAT/RUANGAN	2 (NATIONAL)

Study of **new pollutants** impacting water quality

PUTRAJAYA: The government, through the National Water Research Institute of Malaysia, has been actively conducting research on the impact of new pollutants on water quality in several river basins in Malaysia under the 12th Malaysia Plan, said Deputy Prime Minister Datuk Seri Fadillah Yusof.

He said the contaminants include endocrine-disrupting chemicals, microplastics and those causing antimicrobial resistance.

"One of the new pollutants gaining international attention is microplastic pollution in Malaysia's water sources.

"Microplastics, defined by the World Health Organisation as plastic fragments less than 5mm in size enter the river system through various pathways, primarily surface water runoff, wastewater effluents (both treated and untreated), industrial effluents and decomposed plastic waste."

He said humans are exposed to microplastics through food and air.

Fadillah, who is also energy transition and water transformation minister, was speaking yesterday at the First National Seminar on Microplastics organised by the National Water Research Institute in collaboration with Frontier Laboratory Ltd of Japan and the Malaysian Water Association.

Quoting from the World Economic Forum Report 2023, Fadillah said individuals may inadvertently ingest up to five grams of plastic per week through water consumption.

"The government is committed to enhancing river water quality in collaboration with state governments and other stakeholders through strategic initiatives. However, these efforts will be ineffective if community awareness about the importance of preserving water resources remains low."

During a media conference, Fadillah acknowledged that while plastic usage is unavoidable, it must be managed to minimise its environmental impact, Bernama reported.

He added that the results of a study being carried out in four rivers would reveal the situation in Malaysia and help to shape future policies.

"We can propose solutions to the government to address emerging challenges, particularly on microplastic pollution," he said, adding that drinking water quality standards fall under the Health Ministry.

The institute's director-general Mohd Zaki Mat Amin highlighted that research on microplastic pollution involves sampling, field data collection and laboratory analysis.

"The research covers several river basins including Sungai Langat, Sungai Kelantan, Sungai Klang and Sungai Sarawak. Results show that microplastic concentrations in

○ Govt concerned about contaminants, including endocrine-disrupting chemicals, microplastics and those causing antimicrobial resistance: DPM



Fadillah, accompanied by Energy Transition and Water Transformation Ministry deputy secretary-general Datuk Mohd Rodzwan Mohd Baba Sakti (right), visiting a booth at an exhibition held in conjunction with the event in Putrajaya yesterday. - **BERNAMAPIC**

these basins range from 179.6 particles per litre to 4541.4 particles per litre on average."

He expressed concern over the presence of microplastics in Malaysia's aquatic ecosystems, highlighting the threat they pose to aquatic life, and their indirect exposure to humans through the food chain.

It is estimated that Malaysians use an average of nine billion plastics annually.

It was reported last year that the country's recycling rate was at 35.38%, indicating inadequate management of plastic waste, raising concerns about its environmental impact, particularly on rivers.

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