NEWS UPDATE

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Assalamualaikum WBT dan Salam Sejahtera,

YBrs/Dr./ Ir./ Ts./ Tuan/Puan,
Hebahan koleksi keratan akhbar terpilih minggu ini untuk makluman dan rujukan.

1.	TAJUK	JAS TAHAN OPERASI KILANG DIDAKWA CETUS PENCEMARAN
	SUMBER	BH (25 JULAI 2024)
	BIDANG PERKARA/SUBJEK	ALAM SEKITAR
	MUKA SURAT/RUANGAN	15 (NASIONAL)

BH Khamis, 25 Julai 2024 — Nasional

JAS tahan operasi kilang didakwa cetus pencemaran

Kemudahan diarah jawab notis JAS

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Butterworth: Kilang besi di Kawasan Perindustrian Perai, di sini yang didakwa penduduk mencetuskan pencemaran udara ditahan operasi sehingga menjawab notis dikemuka Jabatan Alam Sekitar (JAS) Pulau Pinang.

Pengarah JAS negeri, Norazizi Adinan, berkata arahan penahanan operasi terhadap kilang terbabit dikeluarkan menerusi pemeriksaan mengejut dijalankan kelmarin bersama EXCO Perumahan dan Alam Sekitar, Datuk Seri S Sundarajoo.

"Kilang itu tidak boleh beroperasi sehingga notis (diberi JAS) dijawab dan apa-apa langkah pembaikan yang perlu dilakukan sudah dilaksana kilang.

"Satu pelan perancangan pematuhan jangka pendek dan panjang juga hendaklah dihantar oleh kilang sebagaimana kenyataan EXCO," katanya.

Hantar laporan berkala

Media kelmarin melaporkan kilang besi itu diarah menghantar laporan berkaitan secara berkala dalam tempoh tiga bulan bagi membantu siasatan JAS.

Ia susulan dakwaan pencemaran udara yang dilaporkan penduduk berhampiran, dipercayai habuk sisa besi dari sebuah kilang yang terletak dalam lingkungan radius 100 meter dengan rumah penduduk.

Bagaimanapun, Sundarajoo yang juga Ahli Dewan Undangan Negeri (ADUN) Perai memaklumkan pihaknya tidak dapat memastikan punca sebenar pencemaran udara yang berlaku itu.

Sundarajoo (kanan) bersama Norazizi (kiri) selepas membuat pemeriksaan mengejut di kilang besi di Kawasan Perindustrian Perai, kelmarin.
(Foto Danial Saad/BH)

2.	TAJUK	KILANG BESI DIDAKWA CETUS PENCEMARAN DITAHAN OPERASI : JAWAB NOTIS BARU BOLEH BEROPERASI !
	SUMBER	HARIAN METRO (25 JULAI 2024)
	BIDANG PERKARA/SUBJEK	ALAM SEKITAR
	MUKA SURAT/RUANGAN	6 (LOKAL)

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KILANG BESI DIDAKWA CETUS PENCEMARAN DITAHAN OPERASI

Jawab notis baru boleh beroperasi!

Butterworth

Sebuah kilang besi di Kawasan Perindustrian Perai, di sini yang didakwa mencetuskan pencemaran udara oleh penduduk berhampiran tidak boleh beroperasi sehingga menjawab notis dikemukakan Jabatan Alam Sekitar (Jas) Pulau Pinang.

Pengarah Jas negeri Norazizi Adinan berkata, pihaknya mengenakan penahanan operasi kelengkapan terhadap kilang terbabit melalui pemeriksaan mengejut dijalankan semalam bersama Exco Perumahan dan Alam Sekitar Datuk Seri S Sundarajoo.

"Oleh itu, kilang itu tidak boleh beroperasi sehingga notis dijawab dan apa-apa langkah pembaikan yang perlu dilakukan telah dilaksanakan oleh kilang.

"Satu pelan perancangan pematuhan jangka pendek dan panjang juga hendaklah dihantar oleh kilang sebagaimana kenyataan oleh Exco," katanya ketika dihubungi, di sini, semalam.

Jelasnya, kilang itu didapati bukan antara penyumbang utama kepada masalah pencemaran udara di kawasan berkenaan.

"Namun, ia disyaki mempunyai kemungkinan tertinggi sahaja sebab tiada kajian saintifik dibuat dan (pemeriksaan) hanya berdasarkan bukti (aduan) dari penduduk," katanya.

Media sebelum ini melaporkan kilang besi berkenaan diarahkan menghantar laporan berkaitan secara berkala dalam tempoh tiga bulan bagi membantu siasatan Jas Pulau Pinang berhubung dakwaan pencemaran udara yang dilaporkan penduduk berhampiran.

Sundarajoo yang juga Ahli Dewan Undangan Negeri (Adun) Perai dilaporkan berkata, ia selepas beliau menerima aduan daripada penduduk kawasannya memaklumkan rumah mereka tercemar dengan habuk sejak minggu lalu sehingga dibimbangi menjejaskan kesihatan.

Katanya, ia dipercayai habuk sisa besi dari sebuah kilang yang terletak dalam lingkungan radius 100 meter (m) dengan rumah penduduk.

"Setakat ini, kita tidak dapat memastikan lagi punca (sebenar) pencemaran udara (yang berlaku) tetapi oleh kerana habuk itu mengandungi kandungan besi yang boleh dimagnetkan, kita rasa (ia) dari kilang besi (berdekatan).

"Oleh itu, saya bersama Jas pergi ke kilang besi terbabit dan menemui serta mendapatkan kerjasama daripada Ketua Pegawai Operasi (COO) kilang untuk melaksanakan pemeriksaan berwajib.

"Pada masa sama, meminta pihak kilang menghantar laporan berkaitan secara berkala dalam tempoh tiga bulan, bagi membantu siasatan Jas," katanya.

HABUK sisa keluli yang masuk rumah penduduk.

SUNDARAJOO (kanan) bersama Norazizi (kiri) meninjau dan bertemu dengan pengurusan sebuah kilang besi, semalam.

3.	TAJUK	CHEMICAL LEAK CAUSED SHUTDOWN OF FOUR S'GOR TREATMENT PLANTS
	SUMBER	THE STAR (25 JULAI 2024)
	BIDANG PERKARA/SUBJEK	ENVIRONMENT
	MUKA SURAT/RUANGAN	3 (NATION)

Chemical leak caused shutdown of four S'gor treatment plants

PETALING JAYA: Two people have been detained for investigation over the odour pollution that shut down four water treatment plants in Selangor and caused water disruption to thousands of households in seven districts in the Klang Valley since Tuesday.

Confirming the detention, the Department of Environment said they were being held under Section 25 of the Environmental Quality Act.

"(The section) provides for a mandatory prison sentence of up to five years and a fine of up to RM10mil if convicted," it said in a statement yesterday.

The department said it had conducted an investigation at a premises suspected of processing acrylic materials in the industrial area of Jalan Kampung Orang Asli, Kuang in Rawang, after the odour pollution was detected.

"The inspection found that the source of the odour pollution was due to a leak of a chemical known as Poly Metha Acrylic Acid (PMAA) from a storage tank, which is a liquid product produced on the premises.

"The spill eventually overflowed into the drains of neighbouring premises, then into the main road drain and subsequently into Sungai Kuang.

"This waterway feeds into Sungai Kundang, which in turn flows into Sungai Sembah, eventually reaching Sungai Selangor. The chemical leak caused the release of an odour due to the strong and pungent smell of PMAA," it said.

DOE said it had issued an immediate directive to the operator to carry out cleaning works within the premises, the drains and affected streams, and for these works to be completed by a licensed contractor.

"Three evidence samples were also taken and submitted to the Chemistry Department for composition determination and matching tests.

"The operational area of the premises along with the processing equipment have also been seized by the DOE through the issuance of an Equipment Operation Detention notice under Section 38(1)(a) of the Environmental Quality Act, 1974 until the investigation is completed."

On Tuesday, the Rantau Panjang WTP and Sungai Selangor Phase 1, Phase 2 and Phase 3 WTPs (SPP1, SSP2, and SSP3) had to be shut down, affecting supply to seven areas under Air Selangor namely; Petaling, Klang, Shah Alam, Gombak, Kuala Lumpur, Hulu Selangor and Kuala Selangor.

FOR MORE STORIES See StarMetro

River pollution over the years

2024

January
A swift response by the Selangor Water Management Authority averted the closure of the main water treatment plant, thus preventing any water supply disruptions after odour pollution was detected in Sungai Gong, Rawang.

July
Several areas in the Klang Valley experienced water cuts due to odour pollution traced back to a premise in Kuang, Gombak in Selangor. The Selayang Municipal Council said the owner had its licence suspended for seven days and was issued a RM1,000 compound for discharging waste improperly.

2023

April
Pollution turned the water in Sungai Gong, Rawang blue, resulting in the shutdown of the Selangor Water Management Authority's treatment plant.

September
Heavy machinery oi discharged into drains polluted Sungai Gong, causing water cuts in several areas in Petaling, Hulu Langat, Sepang, and Kuala Langat.

October
An estimated five million people in 1,292 areas in the Klang Valley experienced unscheduled water cuts due to suspected pollution in Sungai Selangor.

2022

May
Odour pollution at the Jenderam Hilir raw water intake led to unscheduled water disruptions in 472 areas across Selangor.

December
Around 1.5 million people in the Klang Valley faced dry taps during the holidays due to odour pollution at the Jenderam Hilir raw water intake.

2021

September
Odour pollution in Sungai Semenyih caused the Semenyih water treatment plant to shut down, impacting 463 areas in Petaling, Hulu Langat, Sepang, Putrajaya, and Kuala Langat.

2020

October
Water cuts due to pollution in Sungai Semenyih, believed to have come from a duck farm in Negeri Sembilan, affected over 300,000 premises in Petaling, Hulu Langat, Kuala Langat and Sepang.

2019

March
4,000 people affected, including 111 schools in Pasir Gudang closed due to illegal dumping of chemical waste into Sungai Kim Kim in Johor.

The Star graphics

4.	TAJUK	CHEMICAL LEAK CAUSED SHUTDOWN OF FOUR S'GOR TREATMENT PLANTS
	SUMBER	THE STAR (25 JULAI 2024)
	BIDANG PERKARA/SUBJEK	ENVIRONMENT
	MUKA SURAT/RUANGAN	3 (NATION)

Calls grow louder on harsher penalties for polluters

PETALING JAYA: Air Selangor's move to shut down four water treatment plants in Selangor from Tuesday, which led to disruption in seven districts in the Klang Valley, was the right thing to do, says the National Water Services Commission (SPAN).

SPAN chairman Charles Santiago said that the water supply operator's prompt action was necessary to ensure polluted water did not reach consumers.

"We shouldn't jump on Air Selangor for closing down the water treatment plants. Otherwise, the polluted water would reach consumers," he said when contacted.

He stressed that the Water and Irrigation Department (JPS) and the Selangor Water Management Board (Luas) should be responsible for monitoring and managing rivers.

"The Environment Department (DOE) is responsible for the waste and the local council is in charge of the licensing including monitoring," he added.

Selayang Municipal Council president Shahman Jalaludin told *The Star* that the factory responsible for the odour pollution, which resulted in thousands losing access to water from Tuesday, was caused by negligence and has had its licence suspended for seven days.

He said the owner, who is a first-time offender, had also been issued a RM1,000 compound for discharging effluents improperly.

"The owner has been instructed to clean up the discharge before we can allow them to operate.

"This was caused by their carelessness as the substance had leaked out from a broken tank on the premises," he said yesterday.

Fomca president Datuk Dr Marimuthu Nadason has slammed the stakeholders involved in water supply and demanded greater accountability.

Marimuthu said all three parties – SPAN, Air Selangor and Luas – should stop pointing the finger at each other over the matter.

"You are entrusted to carry out this responsibility yet this is still happening," he said.

He added that stricter penalties had to be imposed against perpetrators.

"What is a RM1,000 fine to them? There has to be more, perhaps the penalty of jail term to make people take this seriously," he said.

Sahabat Alam president Meenakshi Raman agreed that the low fine would not deter pollution.

She said that more training and education should be provided to officers to realise that the offences were serious environmental crimes.

"Otherwise, (the fines were) a mere slap on the wrist and it does nothing for the environment," she said.

Sekiranya YBrs/ Dr./ Ir./ Ts. /Tuan/Puan**,** memerlukan maklumat lanjut, hubungi Unit Perpustakaan EiMAS di emel berikut:

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