

PERPUSTAKAAN AWAM PASIR GUDANG

KERATAN AKHBAR BERKAITAN PASIR GUDANG

12 APRIL 2021

ISNIN



AKHBAR	TAJUK BERITA	M/S
NEW STRAITS TIME	'RM15M WATER POLLUTION FINE NOT ENOUGH'	2
BERITA HARIAN	LAKSANA BUDAYA KERJA AMANAH, BERKESAN	3
BERITA HARIAN	PBT DIARAH LAKSANA PUSINGAN KERJA ELAK 'LITTLE NAPOLEON'	4



NEW STRAITS TIME

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PROPOSED AMENDMENT

'RM15M WATER POLLUTION FINE NOT ENOUGH'

Govt should have more measures at its disposal, says expert

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EXPERTS have expressed scepticism about the effectiveness of the government-proposed RM15 million fine for those found guilty of polluting waterways with scheduled waste.

They said while the sum would be a deterrent, the government should have more measures at its disposal to better complement the proposed fine.

Association of Water and Energy Research Malaysia president S. Piarapakaran said there should be no absolute sum for the penalty

and the figure should instead be calculated based on the environmental, economic and social impact of a pollution incident.

"It could be more or less than RM15 million, but the law should state that they would be charged the entire sum of the impact caused by the pollution," he said.

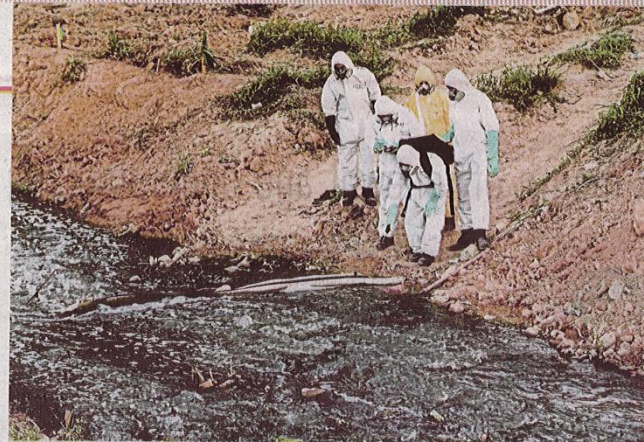
"If the Department of Environment (DoE) or other investigating authority says it is under-resourced, then we are willing to help the civil servants.

"We will help with the research and the calculations."

He said tracking scheduled waste through a registry from the moment it arrived on Malaysian shores was also a creative way of mitigating the problem.

"The entire supply chain should be tracked, especially for bulk deliveries and illegal companies buying the waste, so every bottle or consignment is scanned, recorded and stored in a database."

Piarapakaran also said as polluters resorted to such acts to re-



A Fire and Rescue Department team checking the pollution level at Sungai Kim Kim in 2019. Polluters often dump waste into waterways to reduce their expenditure. FILE PIC

duce expenditure, the government should also look into incentivising the proper treatment of waste and pollutants.

"They can encourage the setting up of certified, licensed and qualified communal waste treatment companies by giving them pioneer status and tax breaks.

"Exemptions can also be given to companies that use such authorised entities for cleaning up."

He urged the federal government to enforce the rarely-invoked Water Services Industry Act 2006, which carries the death penalty for those whose act of contaminating a water source had led to a fatality.

The act also allowed for imprisonments of up to 20 years and whipping for those found guilty.

Section 34B of the Environmental Quality Act 1974 states that no person shall place, deposit or dispose of any scheduled

wastes on land or into Malaysian waters, except at prescribed premises, without any prior written approval of the director-general of Environment.

"Those guilty of violating the law are liable to a maximum fine of RM500,000 or a maximum of five years' jail, or both.

Water quality specialist Dr Zaki Zainudin said punitive laws were good, but the focus should be on prevention.

"We have to better manage the number of pollutants going into the river and the risk of pollution."

He said the risks included pollutants from upstream activities, such as residential and industrial development.

Zaki said the government needed to come up with a blueprint to address water quality with clear and measurable targets and timelines.

"The targets should be in terms

of the water quality we need to achieve within a set timeline to manage the pollution load efficiently."

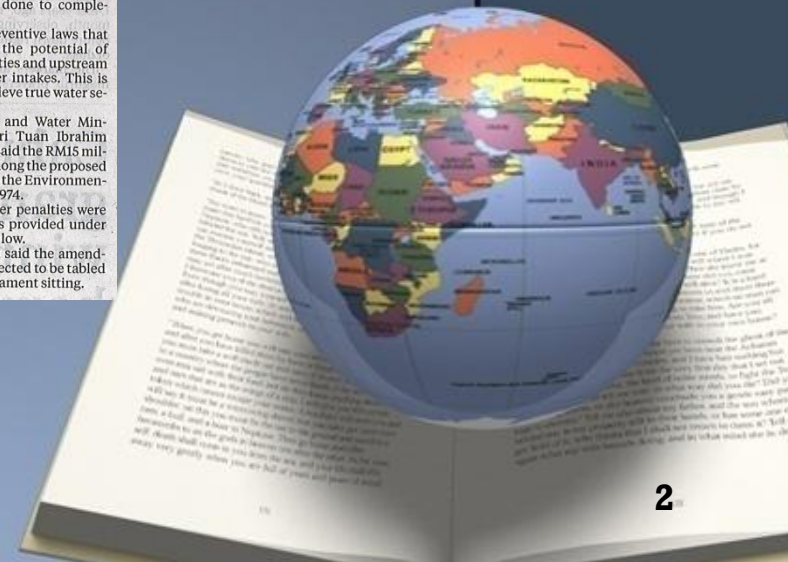
He said the blueprint should be gazetted and amendments to the law should be done to complement this.

"We need preventive laws that mitigate even the potential of pollution activities and upstream sources of water intakes. This is essential to achieve true water security."

Environment and Water Minister Datuk Seri Tuan Ibrahim Tuan Man had said the RM15 million fine was among the proposed amendments to the Environmental Quality Act 1974.

He said heavier penalties were needed, as fines provided under the act were too low.

Tuan Ibrahim said the amendments were expected to be tabled in the next Parliament sitting.



BERITA HARIAN

Laksana budaya kerja amanah, berkesan

Dari Muka 1

"PBT juga terdedah kepada anasir sogokan. Tugas harus digilirkan untuk mengelakkan *little napoleon*."

"Saya harap semua pihak berkecuali mengambil kesempatan dalam amalan norma baharu ini untuk melaksanakan budaya kerja amanah dan berkesan," katanya kepada BH, semalam.

Berikutan itu, Suruhanjaya Pencegahan Rasuah Malaysia (SPRM) mendedahkan kegiatan kartel projek yang memonopoli tender kerajaan sejak 2014 dengan nilai projek dianggarkan mencecah RM3.8 billion selepas bersekongkol dengan pegawai kerajaan.

Dalam kes lain, SPRM menumpas sindiket pengelantaran Pas Lawatan Kerja Sementara (PLKS) palsu yang turut membabitkan orang dalam agensi kerajaan.

Sementara itu, Ketua Setiausaha Negara, Tan Sri Mohd Zuki Ali mengarahkan Jabatan Perkhidmatan Awam (JPA) melaksanakan pusingan kerja terhadap pegawai yang memegang jawatan sensitif, yang cenderung kepada isu berkaitan salah laku.

Mohd Zuki dilaporkan kesal dengan segelintir pegawai awam membenarkan diri mereka diperguna pihak berkepentingan bagi mendapatkan habuan lumayan.

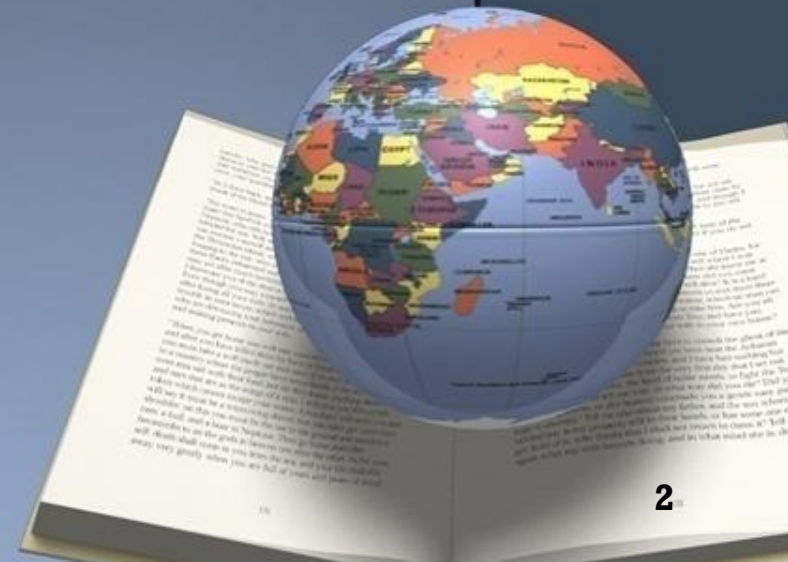
Berikutan arahan itu, Ketua Pengarah Perkhidmatan Awam, Tan Sri Mohd Khairul Adib Abd Rahman, kelmarin meminta semua Ketua Setiausaha (KSU) Kementerian dan ketua jabatan melaksanakan pusingan kerja sekurang-kurangnya 50 peratus daripada pegawai yang layak seawal-lewatnya akhir bulan ini.

ia antara lain bertujuan mencegah kemungkinan berlaku penyelewengan, penyalahgunaan kuasa dan rasuah membabitkan pegawai dan kakitangan awam.

Mengulas lanjut, Zuraida berkata, beliau sudah mengarahkan pengurusan tertinggi di kementeriannya dan PBT untuk kerap turun padang bagi memantau pelaksanaan projek, tadbir urus dan penguatkuasaan.

Katanya, ia bagi memastikan semua projek pembangunan kawasan dan kepentingan rakyat dilaksanakan dengan berkesan, pada masa sama mengelakkan unsur rasuah dalam tadbir urus.

"Tahun 2021 adalah tahun pelaksanaan bagi Kementerian Perumahan dan Kerajaan Tempatan (KPKT). Saya sudah mengarahkan KSU Kementerian, Timbalan KSU, Ketua Pengarah, Ketua Jabatan dan PBT turun padang memantau semua projek, selain pengurusan dan penguatkuasaan," katanya.



BERITA HARIAN

PBT diarah laksana pusingan kerja elak 'Little Napoleon'

BH
12/4/21
M 1/3

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Kuala Lumpur: Semua pihak berkuasa tempatan (PBT) di seluruh negara, diarah melaksanakan pusingan kerja seperti diminta Ketua Pengarah Perkhidmatan Awam (KPPA) bagi jawatan sensitif dan penguat kuasa, dalam usaha mencegah rasuah dalam kalangan pegawai dan kakitangan awam.

Menteri Perumahan dan Kerajaan Tempatan, Datuk Zuraida Kamaruddin, berkata langkah sama juga perlu dilaksanakan dalam semua PBT bagi mengelak wujud 'Little Napoleon' dalam

PBT juga terdedah kepada anasir sogokan. Tugas harus digilirkan untuk mengelakkan 'little napoleon'

Zuraida Kamaruddin,
Menteri Perumahan dan Kerajaan Tempatan



kalangan penjawat terbabit.

'Little Napoleon' merujuk penjawat yang berada pada pangkat atau kedudukan tetapi tidak menghayati prinsip integriti, malah cenderung menyalahguna kuasa seperti melambatkan kerja dan keputusan, yang akhirnya mencemarkan nama baik perkhidmatan.

Zuraida berkata, kegiatan rasuah yang berakar umbi dalam mana-mana kementerian atau jabatan kerajaan, perlu dibanteras dan harus memabitkan semua peringkat.

Nasional 3

