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KERATAN AKHBAR

Free flow of info vital

Air Selangor: Water woe fix needs open communication channels

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PORT KLANG: The lack of communication between different industry players is one of the main reasons behind the unscheduled water cuts that hit Selangor, Kuala Lumpur and Putrajaya, says Pengurusan Air Selangor Sdn Bhd (Air Selangor).

Its chief executive officer Suhaimi Kamaralzaman said there is an urgent need to exchange information and hold discussions among the relevant agencies.

"The various parties must work together to ensure the rivers are not polluted.

"The relevant agencies that are monitoring the rivers should have alerted us upon finding any occurrence of pollution," he told reporters after distributing some 800 bottles of drinking water to residents of Arista Apartments in Bandar Parklands here.

Suhaimi said Air Selangor was not aware and would appreciate it if they were informed of any treatment plants being closed.

He said if a plant by a certain operator had to be closed due to overflowing or other issues, there was a high risk of polluting the environment.

When asked about the allegation that the contamination was due to discharge from a sewage treatment



Precious gift: (From left) Suhaimi and Azmizam handing out drinking water to resident Hamsyah Sandy (right), 67, at Pangsapuri Arista in Klang.

plant that found its way into the river, Suhaimi said the incident is currently under police investigation.

"We urge operators of a plant or a factory that are having problems within its premises, leading to waste

to be discharged into drains and rivers, to inform us earlier so that we can take action," he added.

Suhaimi said every agency has a responsibility to ensure the environment is safe and clean.

"If all parties can have open com-

munication, river pollution and water disruptions can be better handled and addressed promptly.

"If we only come together to talk after a crisis occurs, then the present situation will continue to happen," he said.

Suhaimi also said Air Selangor will continue to support the efforts taken by the National Water Services Commission, Lembaga Urus Air Selangor, the Environment and Water Ministries, as well as other relevant authorities in preventing environmental crimes from happening and in turn affecting consumers.

Port Klang assemblyman Azmizam Zaman Huri, who was also present at the event, suggested a committee comprising all the relevant agencies to be set up and also stressing that water issues should not be politicised.

"There must be clear guidelines and standard operating procedures for all the relevant agencies to manage contamination issues and ensure people get clean water," he said.

Azmizam said all parties should work together to serve the people better.

Watch the video
[TheStarTV.com](https://www.thestar.com.my)

