Selangor govt rapped over oxidation pond developer

By THO XIN YI
thoxin@thestar.com.my

Photo by KIMBERLY YEO

THE Selangor MCA has taken the state government to task for converting an oxidation pond in Taman Serdang Jaya, Seri Kembangan into a commercial and residential development.

Its Public Complaints Bureau deputy head 2 Allan Liew said the 2.7ha site, which is owned by Selangor State Development Corporation (PKNS), has been earmarked for development comprising 260 apartment units and 54 shop office units.

During a site visit yesterday, Liew noted that hoardings had been put up around the pond and earthworks had begun within the site.

"The machines in the pond are still functioning. The greenish colour of the water was discharged into a drain and Sungai Kuyoh," he said.

Liew said if Selangor Mentri Besar Tan Sri Abdul Khalid Ibrahim was sincere about merakyatkan ekonomi, he should build low-cost or medium-cost houses for the people.

He urged Khalid to explain the rationale behind the development.

"We will lodge a report with the Malaysian Anti-Corruption Commission (MACC) to investigate if there are any element of corruption in this issue," he said.

Liew said if Selangor Development Corporation (PKNS) chairman Datuk Michael Chong had personally known the project, he would have ensured it was completed.

"The upgraded pond will be a mechanical pond known as sequencing batch reactor plant. It is not complete now," said Liew.

Shahrol added that the greenish discharge at the current pond was nothing to be worried about.

"It is a normal procedure to discharge treated effluent water out of the oxidation pond into the waterway," he said.

Kashi said the development was on with the condition that the adjacent pond must be upgraded before construction began.

A PKNS spokesperson, when contacted, said PKNS as the landowner had given rights to its subsidiary Selangor Industrial Corporation to embark on a joint venture with a private developer for the project.

He stressed that the development was not done at the expense of the people because another oxidation pond would be upgraded for a bigger capacity.

Indian Water Konsortium communication manager Shahrol Nisar Sulaiman confirmed the pond question was still functioning and would only cease to do so when upgrading works at another pond was completed.

"The upgraded pond will be a mechanical oxidation pond known as sequencing batch reactor plant. It is not complete now," said Shahrol.

Shahrol added that the greenish discharge at the current pond was nothing to be worried about.

"It is a normal procedure to discharge treated effluent water out of the oxidation pond into the waterway," he said.