Selangor wants to take over Syabas

WATER CRISIS: Selangor BN says Khalid is deceiving the people

Zin, however, said the issue of water shortage was real and moves to take over Syabas' management would only delay a solution to the problem.

In a press conference yesterday, Khalid claimed Syabas owed RM2.8 billion to water treatment operators as of April, adding that this was further proof against it.

"Syabas also failed to reduce the rate of non-revenue water (NRW) to 20 per cent, in addition to easier audit reports revealing that Syabas had failed to implement its capex (capital expenditure) well."

He said the state government's move to take over its management was consistent with the provisions in the concession agreement between the state, Syabas and Federal Government.

He added that this was, however, subject to the Federal Government's approval.

He said a letter would be sent today, requesting approval from the Federal Government and Spah to take over the management from Syabas, adding that under the former's key performance index, a reply would need to be sent within 14 days.

"Syabas now has admitted that it would have to ration water supply across the state. If Khalid does not believe it, whom would he believe?"

Dataran Seri Mohd Zin Mohamed Selangor BN coordinator

Former Sime Darby group CEO to be charged with CBT

PUTRAJAYA: Former Sime Darby Bhd president and group chief executive officer Datuk Seri Ahmad Zahid Haniff has been arrested by the Independent Anti-Corruption Agency and is expected to face charges today under the Penal Code.

The 55-year-old, who was removed from the government-linked company, is expected to be charged with criminal breach of trust and cheating.

MACC Investigations director Datuk Muszafar Ali said Zubir had been released on a RM50,000 bail in one surety, pending the charges.

Zubir had been implicated in land deals in Sarawak that had resulted in the company losing more than RM100 million.

He was said to have been entrusted with the company's funds to acquire 18 native customary rights (NCR) land under the Sarawak Upstream Expansion Plan for land in the state.

It is understood that the said NCR land area as were located across the state, including in Enbatal and Sariki.
4 held for harming MACC men

**UNDER INVESTIGATION:** Suspects alleged to have intimidated officers checking illegal gold mining operations

POLICE have detained four men to facilitate in investigations of an incident involving a group of people who allegedly tried to harm Malaysian Anti-Corruption Commission (MACC) officers on duty in Gunung Andalas, Perak, on Thursday.

State police chief Datuk Jalaluddin Abdul Rahman said the men had been remanded for three days, beginning yesterday.

"They were detained at 10pm on Sunday. "We are holding them for questioning and to trace others who were also involved in the incident," he said after attending a meet-the-people session, organised by the Public Complaints Bureau at Kota Baru Polytechnic in Bako Lanasa here yesterday.

Jalaluddin said the four men were being investigated for various offences, including possession of dangerous weapons, intimidation and preventing public servants from carrying out their duty.

However, he denied an allegation that several policemen were involved in the incident.

"No, there was no policeman involved. That is slander. Please do not make any assumptions," he said.

In the incident, a group of people, believed to be gangsters, surrounded 15 MACC officers who had just conducted an operation at an illegal gold mining site in Sungei Lamas in Pahang at 9pm.

Five reports were lodged by the MACC officers a day after the incident.

Kelantan Land and Mines director Datuk Wai Mustapha Wan Ab Hamid said he had not ruled out the possibility of corruption and gangsterism in the mining activities.

On Saturday, Kelantan Mentari Besar Datuk Nik Abdul Aziz Nik Mat said that he was aware of illegal mining activities in the state.

The following day, Kelantan Umno liaison chairman Datuk Seri Mustapa Mohamed said that it was regrettable that Nik Abdul Aziz himself did not do anything about it.

"The matter should be resolved by the Kelantan government. The law must be upheld," he said.

Latheefa resigns as PJ councillor

**SHAR ALAM:** Parti Keadilan Rakyat (PKR) legal adviser Latheefa Koya has resigned as Perak City Council (MPP) councillor, in a move to head off her anticipated sacking.

In a letter sent yesterday to Selangor Mentari Besar Tun Sri Abdul Khalid Ibrahim, Latheefa stated her position had become "a matter of public knowledge and speculation". Therefore, her role as councillor was "unsustainable).

Latheefa had also sent copies of the letter to PKR president Datuk Seri Dr Wan Azizah Wan Ismail, who is the wife of Pakatan Rakyat de facto leader Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim, and MPP mayor Mohamad Rodzi Bakar.

It was learnt that in the letter Latheefa claimed the instability of her position was because of an internal email she had sent to PKR party leaders, which had triggered Khalid’s administration.

"I refer to an internal email regarding my concern on housing for the poor, which I have sent to you and other top party leaders recently," the letter stated.

"The letter is unrelated to MPP matters," the letter stated.

'MPPP list misleading'

**GEORGE TOWN:** Penang Barisan Nasional yesterday claimed that the list of hillside projects issued by the Penang Island Municipal Council (MPPP) was flawed.

Its chief, Teng Chang Yeow, said the list contained many misleading informations.

"We will write to the state government to answer why there has been an increase in density in many projects. They have not answered yet," he said.

"The council had put up the list for display after hillside projects came under the spotlight recently," he said.

Some quarters had claimed the projects were damaging the environment and work was carried out without clear guidelines.

In an unrelated matter, Teng said the state BN would introduce a city and townhouse plan for middle-income earners.

He said BN was now drawing up the plan.

"We will announce the details in the next two or three weeks," he said.

Zin: Khalid is out of touch

FROM PAGE 1

He said the New Straits Times that Khalid should visit residential and industrial areas instead of "spouting from his office chair".

"By taking over Syabas' management, what is the state government's plan? Is it going to remove the engineers and experts there and replace them with others? Most importantly, can this move resolve the crisis once and for all?" Zin added that Khalid's response seemed deceptive and never in touch with the crux of the issue.

Syabas corporate communication and public affairs general manager Priscilla Alfred said it would not make any statement until it receives official directives.