MCA: Find solution to water woes with relevant authorities

BENTONG: The Selangor government should work with the relevant authorities in finding the best solution to address a possible water crisis.

MCA deputy president Datuk Seri Liow Tiong Lai said the issue should not be politicised as water was a basic necessity.

"The situation is critical and if no proper measures are put in place, it is going to be a major problem. It appears that the Selangor government is not keen and serious in tackling the issue. If the state keeps on delaying and not act promptly, it would turn into a full blown crisis affecting Selangor people," he said after closing the Kids Invent! programme at the Bentong town hall here yesterday.

In SHAH ALAM, an official of the Energy, Green Energy and Water Ministry has taken the Selangor government to task over its claims that it is cheaper to manage water loss than build a water plant.

Disagreeing with the state government's reasoning, the ministry's water sector senior division secretary, Sutekho Ahmad Belon, said it would cost RM7.2bil to reduce non-revenue water (NRW) from the current 32.3% to 20.8% in Selangor and the Federal Territories of Kuala Lumpur and Putrajaya.

Furthermore, such effort would only provide an extra 500 million litres per day (MLD) for these areas.

In contrast, the total cost of raw water transfer from Sungai Pahang and the Langat 2 water treatment plant would cost RM8.9bil but it would provide a capacity of 1.13 billion MLD, he said.

"It is more cost efficient to build the Langat 2 water treatment plant than to reduce water loss by 10%," Sutekho told a water forum organised by the ministry here yesterday.