No water for development projects

NO APPROVAL: 75 projects in the pipeline have been put on hold due to water shortage in the Klang Valley

SYARIKAT Bekalan Air Selangor (Syabas) is unable to approve the plans for 75 development projects in the Klang Valley because of a shortage of water supply.

Syabas executive chairman Tan Sri Rozali Ismail said due to the unexpected water shortage, Syabas will not be able to commit to further requests for water from developers.

"Since January, Syabas has not issued any planning approval for developments in areas where the source of water comes from a water treatment plant (WTP) that services the selected district. We can't afford to overload the WTP," he said at the launch of the World Water Day at Syabas headquarters in Bangsar yesterday.

He said the current volume of water reserved for Selangor, KL and Putrajaya, based on average demand, is 106.8 million litres per day (MLD).

"The reserve capacity we have this month is only 2.7 per cent of the distribution capacity in the state compared to a desirable reserve of 20 per cent. The current water reserve is too low to meet the demand from the seven districts that are affected by the water shortage," he said.

The seven districts affected are Petaling, Hulu Langat, Sepang, Klang, Kuala Langat, Gombak and Kuala Lumpur.