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### Water crisis can hit Klang Valley earlier

By Aisyah Sulaiman and Muhd Nazri Azmi  
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**KUALA LUMPUR:** Klang Valley may suffer a water crisis by 2014, predicted The Association of Water and Energy Research Malaysia (AWER).

Its president, S. Piarapakaran said increase in water demand might cause the crisis to hit Klang Valley even earlier.

"Our annual study shows that 2014 will be the year for water crisis in Selangor, Kuala Lumpur and Putrajaya.

"The demand for water increases every year and the production limit from our treatment plants might not be sufficient," said Piarapakaran in a statement today.

He said the government should carry forward the Pahang-Selangor Raw Water Transfer project and the Langat 2 water treatment plant to prevent the crisis.

"Last year, we have requested the government to do a detailed modelling of directly affected zones in Klang Valley if a water crisis happens.

"As a long term solution, we will also need 'water grid', which is similar to the electricity grid. to tackle this problem," he said.

Piarapakaran cited the shut down of the Semenyih Plant due to raw water pollution in September 2010 as an example of water supply insecurity.

"Each worst case scenario must be studied as it will give a clear indication of the criticality of water crisis.

"The Selangor government has suggested to construct groundwater extraction plants, which means they acknowledge the water crisis. However the solution might not work as it has failed before," he said.

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He added that the federal and state government should work together towards preventing the impending problem.

The Selangor government had in December 2010 promised to allow the federal government to build the Langat 2 water treatment plant, which is part of the Pahang-Selangor Interstate Water Transfer Project.

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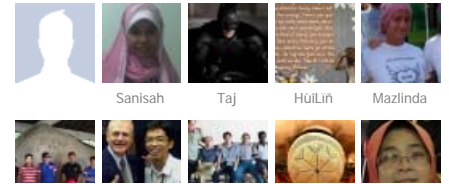


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