

04 SEP 1997

Air-Quality

AIR QUALITY IMPROVES NATIONWIDE

KUALA LUMPUR, Sept 4 (Bernama) -- Malaysians can breathe easier today with the air quality nationwide showing a marked improvement.

The Air Quality Index was less than 50 for most places while in the other areas the quality had improved to at least moderate level.

In a Department of Environment report, the air quality reading for Kuching improved to 37 compared to an unhealthy 104 yesterday.

Others which have an air quality of under 50 are Shah Alam (48), Sungai Petani (27), Ipoh (40), Kuantan (31), Kota Bahru (27), Kemaman (38) and Jerantut (10).

Eight other areas within the moderate air quality level of between 51 and 100 are Kuala Lumpur (79), Gombak (64), Petaling Jaya (69), Klang (97), Seberang Prai (51), Malacca (80), Nilai (60) and Johor Bahru (51).

Science, Technology and Environment Minister Datuk Law Hieng Ding yesterday announced that the Meteorological Department will induce rainfall by way of cloud-seeding in the Klang Valley from Monday to resolve the haze problem.

The department will use a light aircraft owned by Pan Malaysian Air Transport Bhd for this purpose. Cloud-seeding creates rain clouds.

Law said this follows a directive from Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad to study the best ways to resolve the nationwide problem.

He said if proven successful, the method of cloud-seeding will be used for the rest of the country. -- BERNAMA

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