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Incineration plant for scheduled clinical wastes

MALACCA, Mon. - Hospitals and clinics in the Klang Valley, Negri Sembilan, Malacca and Johor must dispose their scheduled clinical wastes at an incineration plant in Bukit Rambai here. Deputy Science, Technology and Environment Minister, Datuk Abu Bakar Daud said this directive was for Government-aided hospitals, private hospitals and clinics.

"The proper disposition of scheduled wastes is needed to safeguard public safety and health," he told reporters after launching the Tongkah Medivest Sdn Bhd's clinical incineration plant at Bukit Rambai industrial estate.

Also present were the State Committee Chairman for Housing, Local Government and Environment, Datuk Yasin Mohd Sarif, Department of Environment's director-general Tan Meng Leng and Tongkah Medivest executive chairman and chief executive officer Mokhzani Mahathir.

Two more incinerating plants are being built.

In October 1996, the Federal Government had privatised five supporting hospital services, including the disposition of scheduled clinical wastes to three companies. Tongkah Medivest is one of them.

The RM13 million Bukit Rambai plant is located on a 0.8 hectare land and can accommodate up to 12 tonnes of clinical wastes per day.

Abu Bakar said if hospitals or clinics in these areas were found to be disposing of their scheduled clinical wastes elsewhere, they could face stern action by the DOE. Under the Environmental Quality Act, owners of premises who dispose their clinical wastes in other areas than the designated ones can be fined RM100,000 or five years' jail.

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