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Water

PERLIS PLANS TO PRODUCE MINERAL WATER

KANGAR, March 28 (Bernama) -- The Perlis government plans to produce mineral water for the state's needs following the recent discovery of an underground water source near a hill in Chuping.

Menteri Besar Datuk Seri Shahidan Kassim said today samples of the water had been sent to the Standards and Industrial Research Institute Malaysia (Sirim) for study and certification.

"The Public Works Department (PWD) has extracted the water on a trial basis but not for the market," he told reporters after launching the state-level healthy living campaign, themed "Eat For Health" at Beseri, near here.

Shahidan said the mineral water which was given the brand name "Pure" was already distributed free to certain people and among those who had tasted it was Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad during his working visit to the state on March 15.

The state government planned to commercialise the production of the mineral water with an allocation of RM500,000.

The private sector would also be invited to join in the mineral water processing industry because of the vast underground water reserve estimated to be one kilometre deep and about six kilometres long, he said.

Earlier at the launch, he said that as chairman of the state Health and Welfare Committee, he would prohibit government departments and agencies from importing mineral water even though it was cheaper.

He said some imported mineral water had been found to contain a high level of impurities which could affect the health. -- BERNAMA

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