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Samy-Water

KL TO TAKE OVER MANAGEMENT OF WATER SUPPLY FROM SELANGOR

KUALA LUMPUR, April 13 (Bernama) -- The Works Ministry is preparing a Cabinet paper on Kuala Lumpur's proposal to take over the management of its water supply from the Selangor government.

Minister Datuk Seri S.Samy Vellu said today the ministry would have to refer the matter to other ministries concerned before the paper could be submitted to the Cabinet for approval.

He could not say when the paper would be completed but admitted that the matter required urgent attention.

"We want to carry out a complete reticulation exercise within the Federal Territory (FT) because loss of water in the FT now comes to 40 per cent," he told reporters, here.

The minister said that if 20 per cent of the amount lost could be saved, "we will not need any more water (from other states)."

He said the water could be saved if the management of supply in Kuala Lumpur was separated from Selangor.

Samy Vellu also said that Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad had agreed to the pipe laying work at Sungai Gombak to channel water to residents in Wangsa Maju, here.

"We can either channel the water from Sungai Gombak to the (Klang Gates) dam or to the new water treatment plant (in Wangsa Maju) which will be ready on July 16," he said.

He said although the matter was under the jurisdiction of the Selangor government, the federal government had to intervene because it was responsible for the people in the Federal Territory.

The Federation of Malaysian Consumer Associations (Fomca) had earlier today called for amendment to the federal constitution to bring water under the federal government's jurisdiction. -- BERNAMA

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