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`Shortage due to breakdown at source'

KUALA LUMPUR, Wed. - The Malaysian Water Association today said the current water problem was the result of a breakdown in supply at the source.

MWA president Datuk Syed Muhammad Shahabudin said inadequacy of the source, like rivers and dams, was the main source of the shortage.

At a Press conference today, Syed Muhammad said the inadequacy of the source was due to one or a combination of certain factors.

These included a drop in river levels, prolonged drought, delay in completing water supply projects, and an excess of demand caused by a sudden surge in development.

Syed Muhammad said the MWA was a non-governmental organisation promoting the management of water supply and waste water.

He said water resources were directly or indirectly managed by several agencies.

These agencies, which are answerable to the State Governments, are involved in the planning, development, regulation and control of activities in rivers and catchment areas.

He also said the association supported the setting up of a National Water Council mooted by Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad.

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