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States urged to set up water management boards

SHAH ALAM, Tues. - To resolve the problem of pollution in rivers which are the source of drinking water, all State Governments have been urged to set up water management boards.

Agriculture Minister Datuk Amar Dr Sulaiman Daud said if proactive measures are not taken by the State Governments, then the problem of river pollution would never be resolved.

"There must be stringent rules in relation to rivers and sources of raw water used for treatment and consumption. It's time State Governments seriously implement the directive of Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad who wants all States to ensure ways to clean the source of raw water used for consumption purposes."

Speaking to reporters after opening the Selangor Drainage and Irrigation Department water management yearly meeting here today, Sulaiman said water especially from rivers could be fully utilised only if they were clean and unpolluted.

He said rivers were not properly managed and were exploited by people who dumped rubbish.

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