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We might as well give water free

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THE water booklet published by NEAC reveals several interesting facts. Fact 1: Singapore pays only three sen for every 1,000 gallons of raw water it buys from Johor. Fact 2: each Singaporean pays only 26 Singapore cents for a whole year's supply of water from Johor. Fact 3: Singapore is offering to pay Johor only 45 sen for 1,000 gallons of Johor water.

Although Johor sells millions of gallons of water to Singapore every day, I suspect Singapore is so kiasu, it will never pay Malaysia a fair price.

Discussing this issue with some of my friends, they were shocked. How can we give away such a valuable asset for free? What if Singapore is kiasu enough to accept the Johor water for free? I told my friends: "Even if Singapore accepts the Johor water for free, it is no big deal. We can afford to forgo the amount of money it now pays us."

According to the NEAC booklet, we get only RM2.8 million every year for the millions of gallons of Johor water we supply to Singapore. Instead of wasting time and effort trying to resolve the water issue, this is what Dr Mahathir should tell the Singapore Government leaders: "Keep your money, you need the RM2.8 million (and the Johor water) more than we do."

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