



Taib: S'wak govt bears the brunt of 'unhappy events'
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The Sarawak government has to bear the brunt of a recent "string of unhappy events" in Kapit division although they were linked to climatic changes, Chief Minister Abdul Taib Mahmud said today.

Taib, who is also state planning and resources minister, was referring to the massive logjam in the Rajang River early this month, which was a natural disaster caused by heavy downpour.

It was not caused by overlogging or impoundment of the Bakun hydro dam.

"What can we do? We (state government) get blamed for it. I just say okay even though I am not responsible for it," he said at the Sarawak Economic Development Corporation (SEDC) Integrity Day 2010 in Kuching.

The state government was also blamed for the low water level in Belaga, which certain quarters alleged was due to the impoundment of the Bakun dam -- despite the current unpredictable dry spell.



Abdul Taib said the people should be made aware that some occurrences were man-made while others were caused by natural disasters due to the adverse effects of climatic changes worldwide.

Meanwhile, SEDC chairman Talib Zulpilip said the corporation was given a clean bill of health by the auditor-general for many years, which meant that "it was doing something right as fewer mistakes saved costs", especially on its various projects.

Talib, who is also state tourism and heritage assistant minister, said it also reflected on lesser disciplinary cases faced by SEDC.

- Bernama