

# Sand supply to republic stopped in 2000

JOHOR BARU: Johor stopped supplying sand to Singapore in 2000, and has since monitored sand-dredging activities in areas where permits have been issued.

Mentori Besar Datuk Abdul Ghani Othman told Ayub Jamil (BN-Rengit) in the state assembly yesterday that 97 such permits had been issued to date.

In a reply read by state executive councillor for Agriculture, Agrobased Industry and Rural and Regional Development Ahmad Zahri Jamil, Ghani said revenues from sand-mining totalled RM4.04 million last year.

Of the permits, 35 were issued in Kota Tinggi, 19 in Kulai, 17 in Mersing, 16 in Segamat, four in Labis, two each in Batu Pahat and Kluang, and one in Muar.

In Johor Baru, two permits were given, to Danga Bay Sdn Bhd and Sewanda Group Sdn Bhd respectively, for dredging at Teluk Danga. (Sewanda's permit expired last March.)



**Ghani said sand-dredging activities are monitored**

Ghani said the sand was for local use and not for export to Singapore. On unfinished projects under the Eighth Malaysia Plan, he said of the projects approved, 437 had been completed; 127 were under construction, 30 were at planning stage and 21 had yet to take off. He said 61 of the projects worth RM1.7 billion would be undertaken in the Ninth Malaysia Plan.