

Schools maybe closed if API worsens

PUTRAJAYA: The Education Ministry is in contact with the Health Ministry on whether to activate a mechanism to monitor the Air Pollutant Index (API).

"If the index hits the hazardous level, we will announce the closure of certain schools," said minister Datuk Seri Hishammuddin Tun Hussein.

He said the API in Kuala Lumpur was 83, indicating moderate levels.

Asked whether outdoor activities would continue, Hishammuddin advised those with particular health problems such as asthma to approach their teachers.

"I urge the teachers to accommodate these students and not force them (to participate)," he said.

"As a general rule, life goes

on, especially the PMR examinations."

It is the last day today.

On another matter, Hishammuddin said the Government had approved a package of incentives to make it more attractive to teach in rural areas.

"All the physical infrastructure provided under the Ninth Malaysia Plan would be meaningless if our teachers are not willing to teach there," he added.