

Najib Witnesses Signing Of Melaka, Negeri Sembilan Water Supply Pact
Bernama
Mar 10, 2015

PUTRAJAYA, March 10 (Bernama) -- Prime Minister Datuk Seri Najib Tun Razak, Tuesday witnessed the signing of a supplementary agreement between the Melaka and Negeri Sembilan governments on the supply of treated water to help overcome a shortage in Negeri Sembilan.

The agreement was signed by Syarikat Air Melaka Berhad (SAMB) chief executive director Datuk Mohd Khalid Nasir and Syarikat Air Negeri Sembilan Sdn Bhd (SAINS) director Wan Rasdi Wan Ismail.

Also present at the ceremony were Melaka Chief Minister Datuk Seri Idris Haron and Negeri Sembilan Menteri Besar Datuk Seri Mohamad Hasan.

Speaking to reporters after the event, Idris said the agreement provided for the Melaka government to supply about five billion litres (1.1 million gallons) of treated water daily via Tampin and Batang Melaka for the use of about 5,100 consumers in Negeri Sembilan.

"We have agreed that the rate of payment will be RM1.40 per cubic metre, and the period of water supply to Negeri Sembilan is from March 1 to June 1," he said.

He said Melaka was in a position to provide the treated water as it had excess supply and did not face the risk of depletion.

The treated water would be supplied through the Gadek plant, with the raw water sourced from the Jus Dam, he said.

"The treated water supply from the Tampin district is dependent on the minimum level of the Bukit Tiga reservoir being four metres. If the level dips below four metres, the supply would cease," he explained.

Idris said Melaka continued to receive raw water from Johor, up to 156 million litres (35 million gallons) daily.

"I have to mention here that raw water is sourced from Johor while treated water is supplied to Negeri Sembilan," he said.

Idris had said on Feb 25 that Melaka was ready to assist Negeri Sembilan overcome a shortage of clean water supply in two districts, namely Tampin and Rembau.

Melaka had sought the assistance of Negeri Sembilan when it faced a water crisis in 1991 and was willing to help its neighbour now faced with a similar situation, he said.

Earlier, Najib chaired the 123rd meeting of menteris besar and chief ministers at the

Perdana Meeting Room, Perdana Putra Building.

The meeting is aimed at streamlining the administration among the states and discussing matters arising.

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