

Selangor Using Toxo Mosquitoes To Reduce Dengue Cases

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SHAH ALAM, April 1 (Bernama) - The Selangor government is using toxo (elephant) mosquitoes to reduce dengue cases in the state, the state assembly was told Wednesday.

Health, Entrepreneur Development, Science, Technology and Innovation Committee chairman, Dr Daroyah Alwi said the method was being implemented by Subang Jaya Municipal Council (MPSJ).

"The toxo mosquito method conducted at Pangsapuri Sri Tanjung, USJ 6, Subang Jaya and Kampung Seri Aman, Puchong had significantly reduced dengue cases.

"However, the method is still at experiment stage and its effectiveness is being monitored regularly," she said when replying to a question from Ng Tien Chee (DAP-Balakong) who asked about new methods to reduce dengue cases.

Toxo mosquitoes eat other mosquito larvae, including aedes. They also eat their own larvae if there are no other mosquito larvae available.

Daroyah said the number of dengue cases declined due to various anti-dengue programmes launched by the Selangor state government since January.

"Recent data until March 28 shows that the number of dengue cases in Petaling district dropped to 433 cases from 547 cases on March 21.

"The number of dengue cases in Selangor also dropped from 1,754 cases on Feb 7 to 970 cases until March 28," she said replying to a question from Yaakob Sapari (PKR-Kota Anggerik).

She said health authorities will continue to use the Outdoor Residual Spray (ORS) technique to reduce dengue in Petaling, Gombak, Hulu Langat and Klang.

"Gotong royong programmes will continue to be held to make the community understand the importance of a clean environment by maintaining the health level and to reduce aedes breeding grounds."

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