

Malaysia To Implement PM2.5 Air Quality Reading Method End Of 2016 - Wan Junaidi Bernama
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KUALA LUMPUR, Oct 21 (Bernama) -- Malaysia is to fully adopt the Air Pollutant Index (API) reading method that can measure fine particles less than 2.5 micron (PM2.5) by end of 2016.

Natural Resources and Environment Minister Datuk Seri Wan Junaidi Tuanku Jaafar said PM2.5 would provide a more accurate measurement of the country's API, compared to the current way of measuring fine dust of less than 10 microns (PM10).

"Installation should be done in stages as there are over 50 monitoring stations in the country, compared to only five or six in Singapore, that's why they can implement the PM2.5 measurement since 2014.

"In fact, another 13 monitoring stations will be built after the implementation of the PM2.5 particulate measurement," he said when met at the Parliament lobby today.

However, Wan Junaidi said the API reading parameter currently used in Malaysia was still acceptable and in accordance with international standard.

In the meantime, Wan Junaidi said according to the Department of Environment (DOE), until now there was no yellow haze as being spread on social media.

"The truth is, there is no yellow haze as the DOE said it. It (yellow haze) happens in Indonesia but it doesn't happen here (Malaysia)," he said.

Wan Junaidi has also advised netizens to always check the validity of any haze-related news received before believing or spreading it.

The ministry also received reports on the increase in pollution in some areas, including Banting and Cheras.

He said DOE would inform the public about the actual air pollution level prevailing in the country.

"Obviously it is not about the haze only, even when you start the car then it will contribute to the air pollution and it will mix with the haze," he said.

Hence, he urged members of the public not to conduct any open burning activities and reduce the usage of vehicles.

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