



KERATAN AKHBAR

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45 Nilai factories inspected over water treatment plant closure

SEREMBAN: Forty-five factories in Nilai here, which produce waste solvents and oils that have been identified as pollutants, were inspected by the state Department of Environment (DOE).

Negeri Sembilan Health, Environment, Cooperatives and Consumerism Committee chairman S. Veerappan said the inspection was carried out to identify premises responsible for causing odour pollution in Sungai Semenyih, which led to the closure of the Sungai Semenyih water treatment plant on Saturday.

"The inspection covers all factories, whether licensed or otherwise. We haven't identified the culprit. We are investigating and will announce the results later."

"However, we will continue the inspection to ensure that the contaminated material is disposed of only at Kualiti Alam Sdn Bhd's waste management centre in Sendayan."

He said this after visiting the site of a suspected oil spill be-

lieved to contain chemical substances at the Sungai Belihoi tributary in Mantin here yesterday.

He was commenting on a DOE statement on Tuesday that there were 46 factories in Nilai that had become the focus of the search for the culprit responsible for dumping toxic waste into Indah Water Konsortium's sewerage system.

As a result, the Sungai Semenyih water treatment plant was forced to cease operations and 328,957 consumer accounts in Petaling, Hulu Langat, Kuala Langat and Sepang were affected.

On the Sungai Belihoi tributary pollution on Wednesday, Veerappan said the results of the analysis of water samples and chemicals taken from the site would be known within two weeks.

The effort to clean up the pollution was underway and expected to be completed yesterday, he said, adding that water and air quality in the area had returned to normal. **Bernama**



Negeri Sembilan Health, Environment, Cooperatives and Consumerism Committee chairman S. Veerappan (second from left) visiting the polluted site in Mantin.



Five and Rescue Department personnel collecting samples of river water from the site of a suspected oil spill near Batu 14 in Mantin yesterday. PIC COURTESY OF FIRE AND RESCUE DEPARTMENT



Bags of contaminated river soil collected from the site of the pollution in Mantin. PIX BY AZZMAN ABDULL JAMAL