



KERATAN AKHBAR

SURAT KHABAR	:	THE MALAY MAIL			
TARIKH	:	25/9/2018	MUKA SURAT	:	8
JABATAN	:	KATS / YBM			
KLASIFIKASI	:	PERHATIAN			



Dr Xavier touches an embalmed turtle at the launch of the International Union for Conservation of Nature Symposium and Red List Assessment at Universiti Malaysia Terengganu (UMT) yesterday. Looking on are UMT vice-chancellor Datuk Nor Aeni Mokhtar (second from left) and her staff members. — Picture by Bernama

Minister urges crackdown on plastic waste factories

KUALA LUMPUR — Water, Land and Natural Resources Minister Dr A. Xavier Jayakumar has called on the authorities to suspend, without fear or favour, all unlicensed plastic waste recycling factories in Kuala Langat, Selangor.

The Kuala Langat MP said the unabated recycling activities continued to pollute the environment and pose health risks to nearby residents in his constituency.

He said the activities continued despite his order last month to the Kuala Langat Municipal Council to suspend the operations of all plastic waste recycling factories in Kuala Langat.

“Given the operators’ brazen acts in continuing their operations, this gives

me the impression that the authorities and enforcement agencies are either in cahoots with these operators or have not clearly done their duties to ensure such plants are not allowed to operate again,” he said yesterday.

Dr Xavier said he received feedback from complainants in his constituency alleging Tenaga Nasional Berhad had failed to cut the electricity supply to the illegal plants and their waste dump sites, citing legal issues.

He said he had also heard of the alleged lackadaisical attitude of the municipal council and the Selangor Department of Environment in conducting enforcement operations to ensure plastic recycling

operations and subsequent pollution were put to a stop.

“Thanks to the lack of enforcement or perceived lack of enforcement, my constituency and the country continues to be cited as a prime destination for recycling plastic waste,” he said, referring to a report by a New Zealand media source on Sunday.

“I call upon all these enforcement agencies to once again come down hard on those unlicensed operators by conducting enforcement without fear or favour.”

A journalist at RadioNZ reported that illegal factories in Malaysia burned and dumped plastic waste from New Zealand. — Bernama