



KERATAN AKHBAR

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PD set to have joint water-sewerage billing

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PORT DICKSON: Port Dickson is in line to be the first municipality in the peninsula to have joint billing for water supply and sewerage to help protect its rivers and beaches from pollution.

Water, Land and Natural Resources Minister Dr Xavier Javalanmar who disclosed this yesterday, said

Port Dickson was also proposed as only 54% of its population was connected to Indah Water Consortium's (IWK) two sewerage treatment plants here.

"Once we agree on joint-billing, IWK will be able to collect its dues from consumers.

"The money will be used to build last-mile infrastructure to connect premises currently not linked with IWK's network," he said during a

visit to the IWK regional sewage treatment plant in Bandar Sunggala near here.

Also present was Port Dickson MP Danik Seri Anwar Ibrahim.

Dr Xavier urged commercial premises and hotels in the resort town not connected to public sewerage system to ensure that wastewater was efficiently treated.

"The responsibility of preserving water resources and the environ-

ment is not solely the government's. "The private sector needs to play its part in preventing pollution," he said, adding that his ministry hoped to get the support of the state government in introducing joint billing.

IWK launched its first joint-billing initiative with Jabatan Bekalan Air Labuan in April 2016, recording a collection rate of 94% across 5,368 customers.