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Status tanah punca masalah air di Kampung Orang Asli Pasir Puteh

17 OGOS 2023
KHAMIS



Zahari meninjau dan mengadakan perbincangan dengan agensi kerajaan berkenaan keadaan Kampung Orang Asli Pasir Puteh, Pasir Gudang pada Rabu yang berdepan masalah bekalan air bersih

PASIR GUDANG - Masalah status tanah menjadi punca Ranhill SAJ Sdn Bhd tidak dapat menyediakan bekalan air bersih di 30 buah rumah di Kampung Orang Asli Pasir Puteh di sini yang sudah diduduki sejak 1970-an.

Exco Pertanian, Industri Asas Tani dan Kemajuan Luar Bandar, Datuk Zahari Sarip berkata, tanah tersebut adalah milik syarikat berkaitan kerajaan (GLC) Johor Corporation (JCorp).

SAMBUNGAN

"Isu ini menjadi rumit dan tak boleh selesaiakan dalam masa terdekat. Kita akan membuat perbincangan secara terperinci yang akan diselaraskan di peringkat pejabat daerah," katanya selepas melawat kampung itu pada Rabu.

Terdahulu, Zahari mengadakan perbincangan bersama pegawai daerah, pihak Ranhill SAJ, pejabat tanah, Pengarah Jabatan Kemajuan Orang Asli (Jakoa) dan Pengarah Kementerian Pembangunan Luar Bandar berkenaan masalah itu.

Baru-baru ini Sinar Harian menyiarkan masalah 130 penduduk kampung tersebut yang tidak mempunyai bekalan air bersih serta merayu pihak terbabit segera menangani masalah itu yang sudah berlarutan sejak sekian lama.

Ketika ini mereka mendapatkan sumber air dari satu paip besar disediakan Ranhill SAJ terletak hampir satu kilometer dari kampung itu sebelum disalurkan ke dalam tangki air disediakan penduduk di kawasan belukar berdekatan tebing sungai.

Penduduk mendakwa, mereka terpaksa bersesak mengangkut air menggunakan baldi dan botol di kawasan tangki itu sehingga lebih tiga kali sehari selain menadah air hujan serta membeli air bersih untuk mendapatkan air bersih bagi kegunaan harian.

Mengulas lanjut, Zahari berkata, bagi pelan jangka pendek, pihak kerajaan negeri meminta Ranhill SAJ untuk menambah satu atau dua tangki air ke kampung itu bagi menampung keperluan penduduk.

"Bagi pelan jangka panjang, kita akan bincang lagi, nampak ada penyelesaian cuma tak boleh selesaikan segera dan perlukan penglibatan banyak pihak termasuk agensi kerajaan.

"Saya harap penduduk kampung bersabar, tadi sudah bincang dengan mereka dan ada yang minta supaya segera diselesaikan. Isu yang berlarutan berpuluh tahun, takkan boleh selesai dalam masa tiga bulan, ia akan ambil sedikit masa tetapi kita tak lepas tangan," katanya.

Sementara itu, seorang penduduk, Sharifah Rosiah Syed Mahmud, 48, bersyukur kerana masalah mereka tidak ada sistem perpaipan yang sempurna diberi perhatian oleh kerajaan negeri.

Dia yang mempunyai tiga anak dan bekerja di tempat ternakan kupang di kampung itu berkata, mereka terpaksa membeli air bersih di kedai runcit berhampiran atau membeli air paip daripada jiran selain menadah air hujan untuk kegunaan seharian.

Bagi Suria Entel, 32, keadaan tersebut amat menyukarkan kehidupan seharian penduduk kerana mereka perlu menunggu giliran dan menghabiskan masa yang lama bagi menggunakan sumber air yang terhad itu.

Coastal reservoirs a better solution for Sabah to resolve water woes

17 OGOS 2023
KHAMIS

KOTA KINABALU: Building coastal reservoirs will be a cheaper alternative for the Sabah government to resolve the state's water woes compared to constructing traditional dams, says a former MP. Former Putatan MP Awang Husaini Sahari said a coastal reservoir has no or very little adverse effects on the environment.

"It has the advantage of being less expensive to build and maintain than a dam for the same amount of water storage. Also, it would not entail flooding a big amount of land or relocating people," he said in a statement.

The PKR vice-president was responding to a recent statement by International Water Association members Datuk Dr Amarjit Singh and Lim Sin Poh pertaining to the implementation of coastal reservoirs in Sabah.

Amarjit and Lim said coastal dams would be a two-pronged approach towards resolving not only the water needs but also mitigating the state's perennial flood problems.

Awang Husaini agreed with the proposal, saying that blocking the river's flow with a dam would lead to soil erosion, a biologically dead river, in addition to upsetting the region's natural equilibrium and destroying agriculture and its cultural legacy.

A dam, he added, might create micro earthquakes due to increased water pressure which would be bad for local inhabitants and plants.

"Several water supply alternatives have been raised by experts over the years. Dr Felix Tongkul, a former UMS lecturer and expert on water catchments, has elaborated on sustainable water reservoirs. "Coastal reservoirs are a solution for water supply shortages and have been constructed in China, South Korea, Hong Kong and other countries," Awang Husaini said.

SAMBUNGAN

The chairman of Suria Strategic Energy Resources also lent support to a statement by Minister in the Prime Minister's Department (Sabah, Sarawak Affairs and Special Functions) Datuk Armizan Ali, who said that the state government has to make a firm decision now on development projects that could resolve the perennial water woes in Sabah.

Awang Husaini also said that the state government should seriously consider doing a comparison study between a conventional dam and a coastal reservoir.

A coastal reservoir is the best place to collect rainwater because unlike a traditional dam that depends on precipitation, all rainwater ends up in the sea, he added. "I think coastal reservoir technology could be the best solution for sustainable water supply not only in the west coast but the whole of Sabah, in line with the concept of Malaysia Madani," he said.