LAPORAN LIPUTAN MEDIA HARIAN
ISNIN 12 OGOS 2019

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UKKMOA

UNIT KOMUNIKASI KORPORAT
KEMENTERIAN PERTANIAN & INDUSTRI ASAS TANI
(UNTUK EDARAN DALAMAN MOA, JABATAN DAN AGENSI SAHAJA)

TARIKH	MEDIA	RUANGAN	MUKA SURAT
12/8/2019	BERITA HARIAN	NASIONAL	19

Syarikat ambil alih NFC akan diumum segera

Johor Bahru: Syarikat tempatan yang bakal mengambil alih Pusat Fidlot Kebangsaan (NFC) akan diumumkan dalam masa terdekat, kata Menteri Pertanian dan Industri Asas Tani, Datuk Salahuddin Ayub.

Beliau berkata, ia berikutan syarikat berkenaan bersetuju dengan syarat utama iaitu membayar pinjaman kerajaan yang pernah dibuat ketika pentadbiran kerajaan sebelum ini.

Katanya, proses pengambilalihan NFC itu juga akan diselesaikan segera bagi membolehkan industri ruminan negara dibangunkan secara lebih terancang dan bersepadu.

"Kementerian juga sudah mengadakan perbincangan dengan syarikat terbabit (syarikat berminat ambil alih NFC) sebanyak enam kali dan hasilnya amat positif.

"Syarikat berkenaan juga bersetuju membayar pinjaman diberikan kepada NFC sebelum ini kepada kerajaan berjumlah RM250 juta yang menjadi syarat utama sekiranya mana-mana syarikat mahu mengambil alih projek itu.

"Kementerian akan mengadakan mesyuarat dengan Kementerian Kewangan dan Peguam Negara, Tommy Thomas bagi memperincikan semuanya termasuk dari segi perundangan sebelum memuktamadkan segala-galanya.

"Sebaik dimuktamadkan, kita akan umumkan syarikat yang mengambil alih NFC kepada umum sedikit masa lagi," katanya selepas program ibadah korban di Program Perumahan Rakyat (PPR) Kempas, di sini, semalam.

April lalu, *BH* melaporkan sebuah syarikat tempatan berminat mengambil alih NFC yang pernah dilanda kontroversi bagi membangunkan semula projek ternakan lembu itu.

Salahuddin Ayub dipetik berkata, bagaimanapun NFC hanya boleh dijual sekiranya syarikat yang mahu mengambil alih projek itu bersetuju membayar pinjaman diberikan kepada NFC kepada kerajaan berjumlah RM250 juta.

***Salahuddin bersama penduduk bergotong-royong** melapah daging lembu ketika program korban di PPR Kempas Johor Bahru, semalam.*

[Foto Hairul Anuar Rahim/BH]

Headline	Agriculture Minister meets again companies planning to acquire NFC		
MediaTitle	Oriental Daily News		
Date	12 Aug 2019	Color	Black/white
Section	News	Circulation	85,616
Page No	A9	Readership	256,848
Language	Chinese	ArticleSize	544 cm²
Journalist	N/A	AdValue	RM 6,361
Frequency	Daily	PR Value	RM 19,082

有意收购养牛中心 农长再晤企业

新山11日讯｜农业及农基工业部长拿督沙拉胡丁阿育透露，将在近期再次与有意收购国家养牛中心的企业会面，以便该企业能缴清国家养牛中心积欠财政部的贷款后，正式投入运作。

他重申，解决国家养牛中心拖欠财政部的贷款，是该企业接管的条件之一，而他本身乐见养牛中心投入运作。

「我也很希望早日解决这项课题，前提是财政部的贷款必须先缴清。之前农业部已和该企业会面五六次，希望接下来的会面，可对接管事项取得进展。」

沙拉胡丁阿育也是国家诚信党埔莱国会议员，今日中午间返选区出席诚信党甘拔士峇鲁支部所举行的哈芝节宰牲活动后，接受媒体访问时，这么表示。

与此同时，沙拉胡丁也表示，榴梿种植业目前处于丰收的情况，相比过去只有特定地点如彭亨文冬、劳勿等有收成，如今全国各地都传来榴梿丰收的情况。

沙拉胡丁（前左2）在宰牲活动上，与党员一同分割牛肉。 -[illegible]-

果农应增旅游元素

「除了名种榴梿如猫山王及黑刺等，甘榜榴梿价格最低也有5令吉一公斤，这相比过去每公斤50仙至1令吉的情况有大改善，果农笑颜逐开。」

此外，他直言，如今大马可以向中国出口带壳榴梿，进一步刺激榴梿种植业的成长，惟为了鼓励年青人进军有关行业，农业部鼓励果农加入旅游元素。

他期待，果农设立农产品旅游中心，让民众可直接前往享用水果及进行休闲活动，也为年青人提供就业机会，农业部将推出补助计划，资助有意朝这方面发展的果农。

另一方面，针对北马多个州属发生风灾，沙拉胡丁回应，农业部已指示吉打、槟城、玻璃市等三州的农业部门，评估风灾对农业领域带来的损失，他在哈芝节假期结束后将立刻指示向有受影响农民提供必要的援助。

Headline	MOA arah agensi periksa kerosakan kawasan pertanian		
MediaTitle	Utusan Sarawak		
Date	12 Aug 2019	Color	Black/white
Section	TEMPATAN	Circulation	37,981
Page No	14	Readership	113,943
Language	Malay	ArticleSize	218 cm²
Journalist	N/A	AdValue	RM 1,297
Frequency	Daily (EM)	PR Value	RM 3,892

MOA arah agensi periksa kerosakan kawasan pertanian

JOHOR BAHRU: Kementerian Pertanian dan Industri Asas Tani (MOA) sudah meminta pegawai-pegawai di agensi berkaitan untuk turun padang membuat pemerhatian terhadap kawasan-kawasan pertanian di negeri utara yang terjejas akibat kejadian ribut pada 9 Ogos lalu.

Menterinya, Datuk Salahuddin Ayub berkata pemerhatian dibuat pihak Lembaga Kemajuan Pertanian Muda (MADA) dan juga pejabat-pejabat Jabatan Pertanian di Perak, Kedah, Pulau Pinang dan Perlis.

Ini bagi membolehkan satu laporan terperinci dibuat berhubung kerosakan yang dialami petani akibat bencana itu.

"Sebaik sahaja saya masuk ke pejabat (bertugas semula) pada Selasa ini, saya akan lihat laporan yang diberikan, untuk pastikan apakah bentuk-bentuk bantuan yang perlu disalurkan?," kata beliau kepada pemberita pada Program Korban Hari Raya Aidiladha di Projek Perumahan Rakyat (PPR) Kempas.

Jumaat lepas, beberapa kawasan terjejas akibat bencana itu antaranya ialah Langkawi, Alor Setar Kedah, Pulau Pinang dan Perlis.

Jabatan Meteorologi Malaysia (MetMalaysia) mengesahkan kejadian ribut di beberapa negeri itu berpunca daripada Taufan Lekima yang melanda beberapa wilayah di China.

Sementara itu, berhubung proses pengambil alihan National Feedlot Corporation (NFC), Salahuddin berkata ia sudah semakin hampir dimuktamadkan, kerana kerajaan sudah mencapai kata persetujuan daripada sebuah syarikat berkenaan, untuk membayar balik sepenuhnya baki pinjaman yang diberikan kepada NFC oleh Kementerian Kewangan.

Katanya, pembayaran balik pinjaman itu adalah sebahagian daripada syarat yang ditetapkan kerajaan kepada mana-mana syarikat yang berminat untuk mengambil alih NFC.

Tambahnya, syarikat itu yang merupakan syarikat tempatan, juga menyatakan minatnya sejak awal dan sudah mengadakan rundingan hampir enam kali bersama kementeriannya.

"Syarikat itu sudah bersetuju untuk membayar pinjaman dan kita akan mengadakan pertemuan lagi dalam tempoh terdekat untuk menyelesaikan beberapa isu termasuk perundangan. Pertemuan ini akan melibatkan pihak MOA, Kementerian Kewangan dan pihak Jabatan Peguam Negara.

"Saya mahu ia (pengambil alihan projek) dipercepatkan, supaya syarikat yang baharu itu boleh terus memajukan projek. Ini baik untuk MOA dan rakyat, kerana kita mahu meningkatkan kita punya industri ruminan dalam negara," katanya.

NFC ditubuhkan untuk membangunkan industri daging lembu terancang, bersepadu dan mampan sebagai langkah meningkatkan bekalan daging tempatan sebanyak 30 peratus namun berdepan kontroversi ketika pentadbiran kerajaan lalu.

-Bernama

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Headline	Agricultural minister to hold talks with interested buyer of NCF soon		
MediaTitle	Sin Chew Daily		
Date	12 Aug 2019	Color	Full Color
Section	Nation	Circulation	288,920
Page No	7	Readership	866,760
Language	Chinese	ArticleSize	137 cm²
Journalist	N/A	AdValue	RM 4,152
Frequency	Daily	PR Value	RM 12,455

農長：盼養牛中心課題速解決

近期再洽有意收購者

（新山11日讯）农业及农基工业部长沙拉胡丁指出，当局已与一家有兴趣收购国家养牛中心（NCF）的本地公司会面洽谈了5至6次，近期将再次洽谈细节，希望此课题能尽速解决。

他说，由于这项收购计划需要买家偿还财政部借出的贷款，且需商谈相关的法律条款，因此政府将再会面以商谈细节。

沙拉胡丁也是埔来区国会议员，他于今年出席甘拔士人民组屋（PPR）举行的哈芝节宰牲仪式（Korban）后召开新闻发布会时，如是指出。

他表示，希望这家公司在成功收购后能够带领中心走出困境，为国家及人民带来利益。

榴梿出口晋新里程碑

针对我国榴梿市场及出口情况，他透露，榴梿出口在今年已踏入一个新的里程碑，成功达到将整颗榴梿出口至中国目标。

"目前正是榴梿盛产的季节，我也了解到，本地的榴梿市场已大大的提高，就算是甘榜榴梿价格也已有所提升，这大大的帮助了种植榴梿的农民。"

他说，北干那那也将成为售卖榴梿的农业旅游区，该部希望在种种带动及刺激下，借此吸引年轻人加入榴梿行业。

诚信党12月党选

针对诚信党改选事宜，沙拉胡丁披露，全国党选将在今年12月举行，各州党选则落在10月。

"党选中存在竞争是没有问题的，并且也公开给所有党员参与。相信党员们遵守纪律及承担责任，将塑造一个很好的竞选氛围。"

出席宰牲仪式者尚有：诚信党甘拔士峇鲁人民组屋支部协调员哈兹阿曼。

沙拉胡丁在活动上说，欣喜在今日的活动上看到居民相处融洽一同欢庆节日，他自今早也走访了选区内的宰牲仪式活动，目前已献祭了20头牛，希望明年数量能够增加。

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Headline	3,368 rumah dilapor rosak		
MediaTitle	Berita Harian		
Date	12 Aug 2019	Color	Full Color
Section	Nasional	Circulation	82,252
Page No	4	Readership	246,756
Language	Malay	ArticleSize	657 cm²
Journalist	Rohaniza Idris	AdValue	RM 21,839
Frequency	Daily	PR Value	RM 65,516

Lekima mengganas

Penduduk, Hassan Deraman menunjukkan kediaman tanpa bumbung diterbangkan angin dalam kejadian ribut di Tanjung Dawai, Sungai Petani, semalam. (Foto Nor Farhani Che Ad/BH)

3,368 rumah dilapor rosak

329 sekolah, institusi pendidikan terjejas babit kerugian RM20j

Oleh Rohaniza Idris, Mohamed Farid Noh, Muhammad Mustakim Ramli, Norrasyidah Arshad, Siti Sofia Md Nasir, Mohd Aizat Shamsuddin dan Ilah Hafiz Aziz
bhnews@bh.com.my

Kuala Lumpur: Tempias Taufan Lekima yang membadai lapan negeri pada Jumaat lalu, mengakibatkan kerosakan ribuan rumah, sekolah dan rumah ibadat serta pelbagai kemudahan asas lain serta tanaman, yang dianggarkan bernilai puluhan juta ringgit.

Setakat ini, sebanyak 3,368 rumah dilaporkan rosak iaitu 1,358 di Kedah; Perlis (883); Pulau Pinang (lebih 500); Perak, Selangor (508) dan Terengganu (119). Kelantan dan Pahang turut dilaporkan terkesan dengan tempias taufan itu.

Kementerian Pendidikan juga mengenal pasti 329 sekolah dan institusi pendidikan di negeri berkenaan mengalami kerosakan yang menyebabkan kerugian RM20 juta.

Kementerian Pembangunan Luar Bandar memaklumkan 11 Taman Bimbingan Kanak-Kanak (Tabika) di Kedah dan Perlis turut rosak.

Kerja membaiki kerosakan rumah serta kemudahan lain juga sudah bermula termasuk pembersihan dan baik pulih di Lapangan Terbang Antarabangsa Pulau Pinang.

Kementerian Pertanian dan Industri Asas Tani pula mengarahkan Lembaga Kemajuan Pertanian Muda (MADA), Kawasan Pembangunan Pertanian Bersepadu (IADA) dan Pejabat Pertanian di Kedah, Perlis, Perak, Selangor dan Pulau Pinang menghantar laporan kawasan pertanian yang mengalami kerosakan.

Tempias Taufan Lekima yang mencetuskan angin kencang dengan kelajuan lebih 100 kilometer sejam, mengakibatkan kerosakan besar yang menyebabkan sambutan Aidiladha semalam, suram buat mangsa terjejas terutama di Kedah, Perlis, Pulau Pinang, Selangor dan Perak.

Angin kencang membadai seawal waktu Maghrib Jumaat lalu hingga awal pagi kelmarin, turut menumbangkan ratusan pokok dan menyebabkan seorang wanita dan seorang terbunuh serta puluhan lagi mangsa cedera ringan.

Di Jitra, Menteri Besar, Datuk Seri Mukhriz Mahathir, berkata kawasan paling teruk terjejas ialah Kuala Muda yang mencatat 400 rumah rosak.

"Kerajaan negeri akan beri peruntukan lebih dan kita juga berurusan dengan Kerajaan Persekutuan," katanya selepas Program Korban di Masjid Pida 3 di sini, semalam.

Beliau juga memaklumkan kerajaan negeri sudah memberi bantuan awal RM300 kepada penduduk terjejas.

Di **Kangar**, Menteri Besar, Datuk Seri Azlan Man, berkata kerajaan negeri bekerjasama dengan agensi berkaitan seperti Majlis Agama Islam dan Adat Istiadat Melayu Perlis (MAIPs) bagi memberi bantuan kepada mangsa.

"Bantuan bergantung kepada tahap kerosakan dialami mangsa kerana dalam ribut sebelum ini, ada keluarga menerima RM5,000 dan maksimum jumlah boleh diberi adalah RM30,000," katanya sambil memaklumkan sudah mengagihkan barangan keperluan harian dianggarkan kepada mangsa terjejas," katanya.

Di **Georgetown**, Pengerusi Jawatankuasa Kebajikan, Masyarakat Penyayang dan Alam Sekitar Pulau Pinang, Phee Boon Poh, berkata lebih 500 kediaman rosak di Pulau Pinang akibat ribut itu akan menerima bantuan menerusi Tabung Yang Dipertua Negeri (TYT).

"Jumlah bantuan yang akan diberikan kira-kira 10 peratus daripada nilai kerosakan dengan terhad kepada RM5,000 untuk satu kediaman," katanya.

Di **Terengganu**, Pengerusi Jawatankuasa Keusahawanan, Sumber Manusia, Industri Mikro dan Hal Ehwal Penjaja negeri, Mohd Nurkhuzaini Ab Rahman, berkata kerajaan negeri akan menghulurkan bantuan segera kepada mangsa termasuk bantuan segera RM3,000 yang sudah disalurkan melalui Pusat khidmat Masyarakat Dewan Undangan Negeri (DUN) untuk membaiki kerosakan kecil rumah di DUN Kota Putera.

Di **Johor Bahru**, Menteri Pertanian dan Industri Asas Tani, Datuk Salahuddin Ayub, berkata pihaknya sedang mengumpulkan data kerosakan kawasan pertanian terutama sawah padi di negeri dilanda tempias Taufan Lekima bagi menentukan bantuan sewajarnya.

"Kementerian akan melihat dan menilai semua laporan kerosakan berkenaan supaya bantuan sewajarnya dapat diberikan kepada petani terjejas," katanya pada sidang media selepas program ibadah korban di Program Perumahan Rakyat (PPR) Kempas di sini, semalam.

Sementara itu, Malaysia Airports Holdings Bhd (MAHB) dalam satu kenyataan memaklumkan kerja pembersihan dan baik pulih dijalankan di Lapangan Terbang Antarabangsa Pulau Pinang.

Mukhriz berbual dengan Muhammad Khairil Nizam Ruslan, tunang kepada Marziah Che Omar yang maut dalam nahas ketika kejadian ribut di Jitra, kelmarin. (Foto Zuliaty Zulkiffli/BH)

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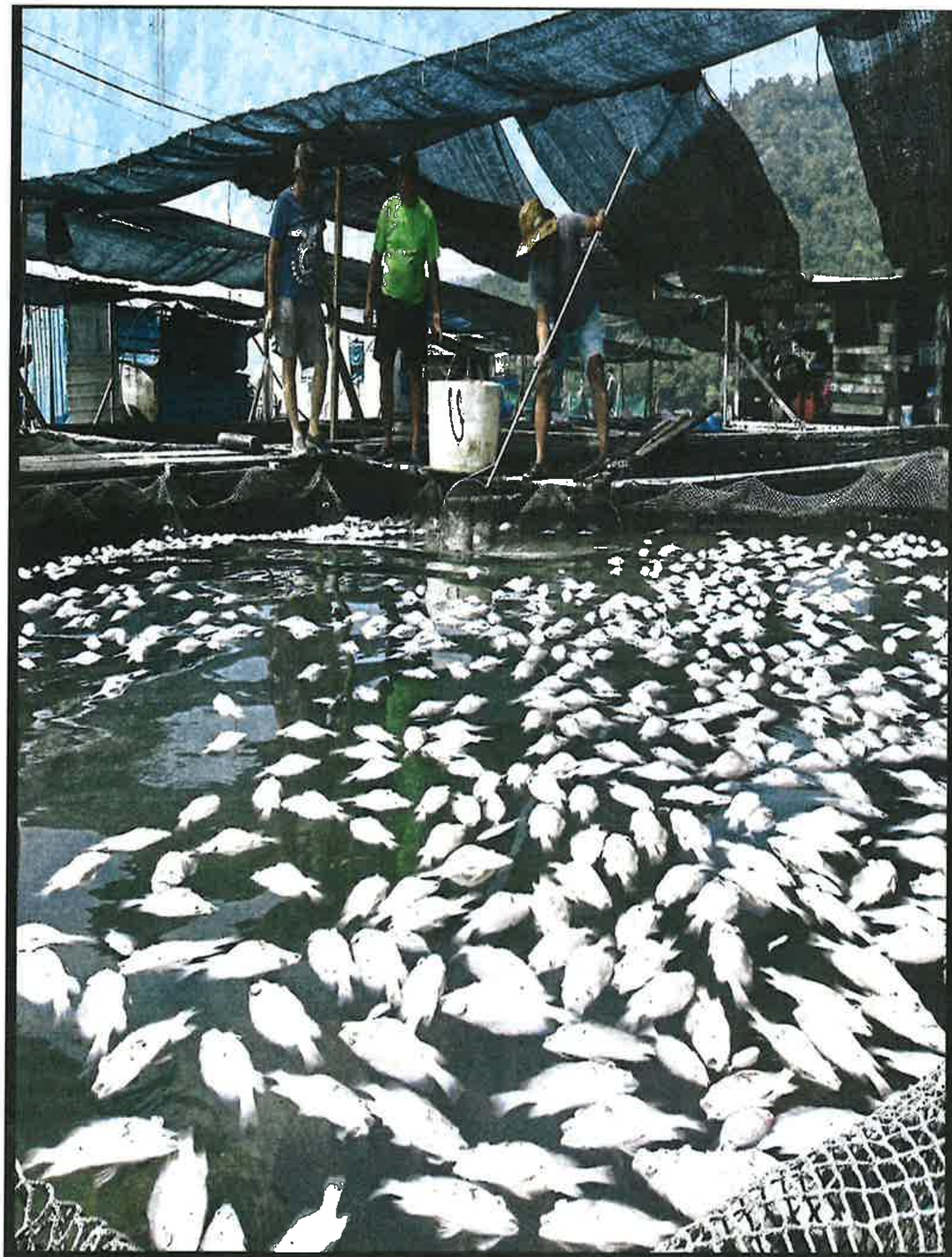
TARIKH	MEDIA	RUANGAN	MUKA SURAT
12/8/2019	THE STAR	PEOPLE,S PAPER	1



When the fishes keep dying ...

The fishing village of Teluk Bahang in Penang has been rocked by a second case of poisoning that killed at least 50,000 fishes this time. While the cause is not known yet, test results of water samples taken from the first case of poisoning in May showed the presence of heavy metal contamination.

> See report on page 5 by CAVINA LIM

TARIKH	MEDIA	RUANGAN	MUKA SURAT
12/8/2019	THE STAR	NATION	5

It's another round of heartache

Fish breeders hit badly again as 50,000 fishes found dead in Teluk Bahang

By CAVINA LIM
cavina@thestar.com.my

Tragic findings: Ooi looking at two dead fishes found at the polluted sea water in Teluk Bahang.

GEORGE TOWN: At least 50,000 fishes have died in Teluk Bahang, the second such case within three months.

Test results from previous water samples after the first case of poisoning from Teluk Bahang confirmed that there was contamination of heavy metals.

However, state environment committee chairman Phee Boon Poh said the level of heavy metal was at a "permissible level".

"No, not nickel. But heavy metal but within the permissible level. The death is due to a lack of oxygen," he said.

Yesterday, fish breeder Ooi Hye Hin estimated that he suffered losses of about RM800,000 after more than 50,000 of his fishes died.

Ooi said he was alarmed to find that the fishes started "jumping" in the waters at about 1am yesterday.

"I knew something was wrong then. True enough, I found all of them dead this morning."

Ooi, 57, said he had been hit twice by such a case this year.

"It happened in May. Now, this is worse because all 50,000 plus of my fishes are dead and none could be salvaged. They are worth about RM800,000," he said when met at his fish farm.

"I cannot resume this business anymore," said Ooi, adding that he had been in the fish breeding business for close to 20 years.

Fish farms are scattered throughout Teluk Bahang town. During a visit to this fishing village yesterday, there was a pungent smell in the air.

The Star reported about the death of thousands of grouper in Teluk Bahang on May 28 with fishermen complaining that their livelihood had been affected.

In June, it was reported that there was still uncertainty about the cause of the deaths at the Teluk Bahang farms.

Centre for Marine and Coastal Studies (Cemacs) director Prof Datuk Dr Aileen Tan said yesterday there were heavy metals detected but the level was not high enough to kill the fishes in the May incident.

"We have detected the shift of phytoplankton diversity and also a high concentration.

"Sign of eutrophication (excessive nutrients) in the shallow bay which may cause the depletion of dissolved oxygen - excessive nutrients in the water (phosphate and ammonia).

"In our monitoring since then, the nutrient levels are still high.

"The state government is very concerned and have committed to look more in-depth with collaboration from the Fisheries Department, Environment Department and other agencies," she said.

"This time it might be slightly different because the strong current and waves from Typhoon Lekima might have stirred some toxins from the seabed.

"We are not sure because the high mortality is so drastic.

"The earlier incident happened gradually with groupers, followed by other fishes like snappers a couple of weeks later," she said.

Prof Tan also did not rule out the water quality in Teluk Bahang, which has degraded over the years, as the reason the fishes were dying.

"The dissolved oxygen at the affected area is extremely low which is below 4mg/L even though the sampling was done almost midday.

"The whole area is a very shallow bay and the mass mortality happened during neap tide where the water movement is minimal.

"The strong wind and current that happened during the Lekima Typhoon a day before might have stirred up toxic materials from the seabed.

"Combined factors of toxin and low dissolved oxygen may have caused a stressed environment to the fishes around the area," she said.

Prof Tan said water and fish samples collected will be analysed for nutrients, phytoplankton and heavy metals.

"We cannot comment much on this latest case until the results of those analysis are out.

"We will do a more thorough survey on Tuesday.

"We need to look at more parameters but dissolved oxygen is definitely not favourable to the culture of fish," she added.

Prof Tan said in the earlier incidents, they found there was extremely high phytoplankton bloom which has depleted the oxygen level during the night and caused a "Dead Zone" (hypoxia) environment.

"Long term monitoring is needed. So the authorities can advise the breeders when the first sign of degradation in water quality has been detected," she added.

Cemacs science officer Sim Yee Kwang, who was part of the team of officers from Cemacs at Ooi's site, said the water temperate, salt and pH levels were normal, but oxygen levels in water was low compared to normal.

"We will be bringing the fish and water samples back to USM for analysis," he added.

Watch the video
thestartv.com

TARIKH	MEDIA	RUANGAN	MUKA SURAT
12/8/2019	HARIAN METRO	SETEMPAT	17

PENDUDUK bergotong-royong melapah Badok selepas disembelih sempena Aidiladha di Kampung Laut, semalam.

30 minit untuk tumbang Badok

■ Lembu baka Blonde seberat 800kg disembelih guna teknik unik

Ahmad Rabiul Zulkifli
am@hmetro.com.my

MASYARAKAT setempat bersama-sama melapah daging korban.

Kuala Terengganu

Lebih 200 penduduk berkumpul seawal jam 9 pagi bagi menyaksikan lembu baka Blonde seberat lebih 800 kilogram (kg) disembelih di Kampung Laut, di sini, semalam.

Lembu baka besar yang dipanggil Badok berusia empat tahun itu mengambil masa 30 minit untuk dijatuhkan menggunakan lori tiga tan sebelum dikorbankan jurusembelih, Wahab Awang, 60, pada jam 10 pagi.

Nor Faizatul Akmal Wahab, 25, dari Kampung Laut berkata, majlis korban sempena Aidiladha kali ini memberikan pengalaman baharu buatnya yang kali pertama melihat sendiri lembu baka bersaiz besar disembelih.

"Berasa terhibur kerana proses menyembelihnya lain daripada lembu biasa kerana lembu itu dijatuhkan menggunakan lori.

"Saya dan keluarga kerap datang ke kandang untuk melihat lembu baka bersaiz besar terbabit, jadi saya mengambil peluang ini untuk datang melihat haiwan terbabit dikorbankan hari ini (semalam)," katanya.

> **"Memang lembu baka lebih mahal berbanding lembu biasa tetapi ia bersesuaian dengan jumlah daging yang diperoleh untuk diagihkan"**
>
> *Engku Mohd Hashimi Sayed Ahmad*

Sementara itu, penduduk, Zulizan Wahid, 33, berkata, dia teruja untuk kerja penyembelihan lembu besar itu apabila dimaklumkan rakannya.

"Menjadi sejarah di kampung kami kerana lembu itu yang terbesar pernah disembelih di kampung berbanding lembu biasa.

"Setiap tahun ada lembu yang disembelih cuma kali ini proses penyembelihan menggunakan kaedah yang berlainan dan ia sangat unik," katanya.

Sementara itu, Ketua Seksyen Ruminan Jabatan Perkhidmatan Veterinar Negeri (JPV) Terengganu, Engku Mohd Hashimi Sayed Ahmad berkata, pihaknya menggalakkan lembu sado dijadikan haiwan korban bagi menjamin kualiti yang terbaik.

"Sejumlah 3,779 lembu termasuk 60 lembu baka ditempah dan mendapat kebenaran untuk disembelih pada Aidiladha di negeri ini pada tahun ini.

"Kami menggalakkan lebih ramai penduduk menggunakan lembu sado sebagai haiwan korban pada tahun hadapan.

"Memang lembu baka lebih mahal berbanding lembu biasa tetapi ia bersesuaian dengan jumlah daging yang diperoleh untuk diagihkan," katanya.

TARIKH	MEDIA	RUANGAN	MUKA SURAT
12/8/2019	NEWSTRAITS TIMES	NATION	16

PARASITE DISEASES

VETERINARIAN GETS RARE HONOUR

Veterinary research director Dr Chandrawathani Panchadcharam wants to improve livestock quality so we can always have safe, wholesome food

ADRIAN DAVID
KUALA LUMPUR
news@nst.com.my

Dr Chandrawathani Panchadcharam is now studying the use of herbal remedies in treating livestock.

AT a glance, Dr Chandrawathani Panchadcharam appears like any other civil servant.

But the demure mother of two packs a killer punch when dealing with parasites that threaten the lives of animals.

Like a martial arts exponent, Dr Chandra, as she is referred to, carries a "six-dan black belt" that knocks off the deadly microbes, ticks and worms that literally suck the blood out of livestock.

Her efforts, together with her staff at the Veterinary Services Department, have helped save hundreds of thousands of farm animals.

Many breeders will have wound up their businesses if not for the research and development of people like Dr Chandra, who is the department's research and innovation division director in Putrajaya.

It comes as no surprise that Dr Chandra is the first Asian woman, and only the second Asian, to be awarded an honorary membership in the World Association for the Advancement of Veterinary Parasitologists (WAAVP).

Professor Kozo Fujisaki from the National Institute of Animal Health in Tsukuba, Japan, was the first Asian to be honoured.

Dr Chandra was also one of three women in the world to be honoured since the award was introduced in 1967. She said the other two were Professor Rosina C. Krecek of South Africa and Dr Ann Donahue of the United States.

They received the award from WAAVP president Professor Douglas Colwell from Canada at a ceremony in the US recently.

Dr Chandra said to date, 45 people had been made WAAVP honorary members, including the late Lord Soulsby of the United Kingdom.

"He is a distinguished veterinarian, 'One Health' pioneer and writer of the book *Helminths, Arthropods and Protozoa of Domesticated Animals*.

"This award is presented to persons who have contributed in a distinguished manner to the advancement of veterinary parasitology.

"I am honoured to have done Malaysia proud with my work in parasitic disease control in the veterinary industry," said Dr Chandra, who will retire on Nov 8 after 32 years of service.

On being chosen for the prestigious membership, Dr Chandra said the panel would scrutinise the candidate's work, curriculum-vitae and experience.

Dr Chandra is also the immediate past president of the Society of Malaysian Parasitology and Tropical Medicine.

DEDICATED TO HER FIELD

Dr Chandra hails from Ipoh and was educated at Tarcisian Convent in Lim Garden. She graduated from Universiti Putra Malaysia (UPM) as a doctor of veterinary medicine in 1985.

She furthered her studies at the same varsity and graduated with a Master of Science in veterinary helminthology in 1988, under the tutelage of eminent parasitologist Professor Rehana Sani.

"In 2004, I obtained my doctor of philosophy in applied helminthology from the Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences in Uppsala, Sweden, under the mentorship of Professor Peter Waller and Professor Arvid Uggla," she said.

In 1995, she became the parasitology section's head at the Veterinary Research Institute, and then its deputy director in 2007.

"Our task is to encourage young scientists to find ways of profitable farming and new test methods for disease control.

"Most importantly, we want to improve the productivity of farmers so Malaysians will always have safe, wholesome food on the table.

"It has been an absolute pleasure doing research to solve problems cause by parasites in farm animals," she said.

Dr Chandra's work is shared during lectures at various universities, including UPM, Universiti Sultan Zainal Abidin (Unisza) in Kuala Terengganu and Universiti Kelantan Malaysia in Kota Baru.

Dr Chandra is the daughter of former Pahang Labour Department director P. Panchadcharam and Ipoh Marian Convent retired teacher M. Puvaneswari.

"I developed a passion for writing and publishing materials on parasitology," said Dr Chandra.

Her husband is J. Jeyarajah, 63, a former administrator and trustee of Yayasan Sultan Idris Shah, a foundation for the disabled.

The couple is blessed with a son, Jayashankar Jayarajah, 22, a third-year electrical engineering student at the National Defence University of Malaysia.

Daughter Jeyanthi, 18, is pursuing A Levels at Kolej Yayasan UEM.

Dr Chandra's interest and love for animals are inspired by her father-in-law, the prominent former Perak Turf Club chairman Tan Sri V. Jeyaratnam.

LIFE AS A VETERINARIAN

Dr Chandra and her team often spent hours working with farmers and animal breeders.

"This includes getting them involved in training and diagnosis at laboratories.

"We also collaborate with local and foreign universities to gain knowledge and experience," she said, adding that her superior, Department director-general Datuk Dr Quaza Nizamuddin Hassan Nizam, had given tremendous support.

Dr Chandra added that among the biggest challenges were identifying the problems faced by farmers.

"Often, animals die due to unknown, undiagnosed and untreated causes. Up to 80 per cent of my department's work involves de-worming livestock with *ubat cacing*.

"However, as the worms developed resistance, some of these drugs are not effective anymore," she said, adding that the government spent millions annually to buy *ubat cacing* for the industry.

Dr Chandra said her team also educated farmers and breeders on providing better nutrition to strengthen the immune system of their animals.

"Healthy animals provide safe food for consumers and that is our strength. We must ensure what we eat is tested and wholesome," she said.

Among the major parasites her team researched were *Trypanosoma evansi*, a protozoa that infects the blood, *Haemaphysalis longicornis* (goat ticks) and *Haemonchus contortus* (a worm that feeds on the blood of goats and sheep).

To minimise the extensive use of medication, Dr Chandra said her department was studying the use of herbal remedies.

"We are passionate about the scientific advancements in green technology and advocate greater use of this.

"One of the areas we have worked on is the use of neem and papaya leaf extracts to combat parasites," she said.

Despite her hectic schedule, Dr Chandra manages to find time for some charity work.

"I have become involved in preparing meals for the underprivileged at a soup kitchen in my neighbourhood on Saturdays and Sundays," said Dr Chandra, who is staying in Brickfields.

She added that social work offered her some time to mingle with the community of all races and do her bit for the less fortunate.

(From left) Professor Rosina C. Krecek of South Africa, Dr Ann Donahue of the United States and Dr Chandrawathani Panchadcharam of Malaysia celebrating after being presented with the World Association for the Advancement of Veterinary Parasitologists honorary membership in the United States recently. PIC COURTESY OF DR CHANDRAWATHANI PANCHADCHARAM

Headline	Vietnamese fishermen arrested for multiple infractions		
MediaTitle	New Sabah Times English (KK)		
Date	12 Aug 2019	Color	Black/white
Section	Home	Circulation	11,025
Page No	8	Readership	33,075
Language	English	ArticleSize	306 cm²
Journalist	JONATHAN NICHOLAS	AdValue	RM 678
Frequency	Daily (EM)	PR Value	RM 2,033

Vietnamese fishermen arrested for multiple infractions

By JONATHAN NICHOLAS

LABUAN: Marine Police arrested five Vietnamese fishermen for numerous infractions including the possession of sea cucumber trawling equipment on Saturday.

The suspects aged 27 to 41 were on a vessel whose registration numbers are believed to have been cloned from that of another in Kudat.

Just like most Viet ships that were caught sneaking their way into Malaysian waters, the crew and vessel appear to pilfer and wreck havoc on our ocean's ecosystem – all in the name of making a bounty off illegal sea cucumber harvests.

Sabah Marine Police Region 4 Commander ACP Pajeri Ali said the vessel was intercepted by a patrol boat that was on a Search and Rescue mission for shipwrecked Bruneian fishermen at about 11am, north of Tanjung Kubong.

"Further inspections revealed all suspects to be void of any identification documents or fishing permits.

Marine police officers aboard the cloned boat with the Vietnamese suspects in custody.

"The boat and its contents of fishing equipment, a satellite telephone, GPS navigation devices, a diesel outboard engine and fish containers all estimated to be worth RM460,000 were seized.

"Under Section 25 the Fisheries Act the ship's owner may be imposed fines of up to one million ringgit and its crew members RM100,000 each if convicted," Pajeri said in a statement.

The suspects were also charged under Section 11(3)(b) of the same act and 6(1)(c) of the Immigration Act and handed over to the district Fisheries Department for further investigation.

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Headline	Pusat pengumpulan hasil pertanian akan dibina di Kota Kinabalu		
MediaTitle	New Sabah Times Bahasa (KK)		
Date	12 Aug 2019	Color	Full Color
Section	Semasa	Circulation	11,025
Page No	8	Readership	33,075
Language	Malay	ArticleSize	530 cm²
Journalist	N/A	AdValue	RM 2,935
Frequency	Daily (EM)	PR Value	RM 8,806

Pusat pengumpulan hasil pertanian akan dibina di Kota Kinabalu

DISAMBUT TARIAN TRADISI ... Junz (tiga kanan) bersama Jamawi (tiga kanan), Noorita (dua kanan) disambut dengan tarian tradisi Murut. Turut kelihatan Penasihat Pertanian Negara Datuk Yap Yun Fok (kiri).

OLEH MARSITMI ANSIUNG

TENOM: Pusat pengumpulan hasil pertanian antarabangsa akan diwujudkan di negeri ini bagi memudahkan para petani memasarkan hasil pertanian mereka.

Menteri Pertanian dan Industri Makanan Datuk Junz Wong berkata, pusat itu akan dibina di Kota Kinabalu.

Katanya, pusat itu akan dilengkapi dengan pelbagai kemudahan termasuk bilik kuarintin, pembekuan, pembungkusan dan sebagainya.

"Pusat pengumpulan hasil pertanian itu nanti menjadi pusat penghantaran hasil-hasil pertanian dan ternakan para petani, penternak dan nelayan di seluruh negeri ini, sekali gus mengurang kebergantungan mereka kepada orang tengah," katanya kepada media selepas melancarkan pesta durian dan buah-buahan tropika peringkat daerah Tenom di Tenom Coffee Valley di sini kelmarin.

Beliau berkata, pengwujudan pusat itu kini dalam perancangan Kementerian Pertanian Negeri bagi membantu para petani di negeri ini.

Mengenai dengan masa depan dan pasaran durian musang king Junz berkata, ia mempunyai masa depan dan pasaran yang baik diperingkat antara bangsa.

"Pada masa ini pun permintaan negara China dengan durian musang king amat tinggi," jelasnya.

Walau bagaimanapun katanya, para petani perlu berhati-hati dari segi penjagaan kualitinya kerana ia akan menjejaskan pasaran jika kualiti tidak diambil perhatian.

Menyentuh tentang pesta durian dan buah-buahan tropika anjuran Pengusaha Pelancongan Tenom dengan kerjasama Pejabat Daerah Tenom, Pejabat Parlimem P.181 Tenom dan Persatuan Pengusaha Durian dan Buah-Buahan Tropika Sabah itu, Junz berkata, ia tepat pada masanya kerana tahun hadapan adalah kempen Tahun Melawat Tenom.

Beliau juga meminta supaya pesta ini dianjurkan setiap tahun dan dimasukkan dalam kalendar pelancongan negeri Sabah.

Terdahulu dalam ucapannya, Junz menggalak penduduk di daerah ini untuk bergiat aktif dalam industri pertanian dan agro pelancongan.

Hadir sama Ahli Parlimen Tenom, Puan Noorita Sual; Ahli Dewan Undangan Negeri (Adun) Kemabong, Jamawi Jafaar; Penasihat Pertanian Negara, Datuk Yap Yun Fok; Pemimpin Pembangunan Masyarakat (PPM) Melalap, Nossil Basayu mewakili Adun Melalap, Datuk Peter Anthony; Pegawai Daerah Tenom, Sungkim Rumangun; Sharon Voo selaku pengerusi penganjur, ketua-ketua jabatan dan pemimpin-pemimpin masyarakat.

ALBUM ... Junz (enam dari kanan) bergambar kenangan bersama pemenang pertandingan tanaman pamelo dan durian terbaik.

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