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Factory complied with authorities' requirements, says Wong

BY ELAN PERUMAL



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An aerial shot of Sungai Semenyih shows the close proximity of factories in Jalan Villaraya 3 to the river.

A FACTORY reported to have been discharging effluent into Sungai Semenyih has the approval from the Department of Environment (DOE), said Selangor environment committee chairman Elizabeth Wong.

She said the factory also obtained the approval of the Lembaga Urus Air Selangor (LUAS) to extract water from the river.

From a check conducted by her office yesterday, she said, it was revealed that the factory had complied with the requirement of both the authorities.

Wong was commenting on an article in *StarMetro* on Tuesday which reported that some factories from the Jalan Sungai Lalang area in Semenyih were extracting raw water and discharging effluent into the river.



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into the drain that led to the river.

"There is nothing wrong in that. However, it is wrong for factories to discharge effluent into the river without treating it," she said.

Wong added that her office, DOE, and LUAS would continue to monitor the situation along Sungai Semenyih to ensure factories did not carry out any illegal discharge into the river.

"We are alert and those found committing such offence will be taken to task," she warned.

Global Environment Centre river care coordinator Dr Kalithasan Kailasam said DOE must closely monitor factories that have been given the green light to discharge treated effluent into the river, so that they continue to be compliant to standards set.

At the same time, he said, the state government must ensure that factories that had been given the permit to extract raw water is charged for usage of the water for its operations.

The contamination of Sungai Semenyih had, in recent past, disrupted water supply to millions of households in Selangor when the water treatment plants had to be shut down for clean-up work.

TAGS / KEYWORDS:

Government , Central Region , sungai semenyih

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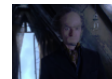
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