KEMENTERIAN TENAGA DAN SUMBER ASLI

KERATAN SURAT KHABAR

SURAT KHABAR	:	STAR METRO			
TARIKH	:	17.02.22	MUKA SURAT	:	4
JABATAN	:	JPN SELANGOR/JPSM			



Hee (third from left) with some of the recipients of the Selangor Environmental and Green Technology Small Grant Programme at the state secretariat building in Shah Alam.



Selangor plans to expand its permanent forest reserve to a third of its total land area. Seen here is the Ayer Hitam Forest Reserve bordered by Puchong, Bukit Jalil and Seri Kembangan. — Filepic

Aiming to expand forest reserve

Sabak Bernam among areas Selangor govt plans to look into for gazettement

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SELANGOR is working towards gazetting a third of its land area as permanent forest reserve by 2030, says Selangor tourism, environment, green technology and Orang Asli affairs committee chairman Hee Loy Sian.

He said this at an environmental and green technology small grant distribution programme held at the state secretariat building in Shah Alam, Selangor.

"Our current permanent forest reserve stands at 32.5% of land in Selangor.

"We aim to increase the number to one-third of the land in the state.

"We are looking at converting forests in areas such as Sabak Bernam into permanent forest reserves," he explained.

The state government had also formed a committee, two weeks ago, to tackle climate change, Hee highlighted.

"We will set up a council and engage with a team of experts who will analyse climate change-related issues such as flooding.

"In two months' time, we aim to bring together experts such as professors as well as non-governmental organisations.

"We hope they will accept our invitation and discuss what needs to be done to address climate change-related issues," he said.

On the 20sen collected for every plastic bag sold to customers, Hee revealed that RM13mil had been collected over two years.

"In 2020, some RM6.6mil was collected while in 2021, RM6.4mil was collected," he said.

"We saw a reduction of about RM200,000 last year compared to the previous year.

"We want to continue seeing a downward trend in terms of plastic bag use."

The money collected, he said, would be used for educational purposes.

"This year, we will collaborate with the media and non-governmental organisations to educate the public on the importance of not using plastic bags.

"About 60% of the RM13mil goes to the state while 40% will be returned to local governments for them to carry out activities related to environment and climate change," he added.

Meanwhile, RM1.3mil had been allocated under the Selangor Environmental and Green Technology Small Grant Programme.

Of the 320 applications submitted for the programme, only 128 applications were approved to receive the grants.

Hee said those under the environment category received a RM10,000 grant while those under the green technology category received a RM20,000 grant.

The grants will be used on environment-related educational seminars and high-impact projects as well as creation of vertical gardens or community gardens and river-cleaning activities.