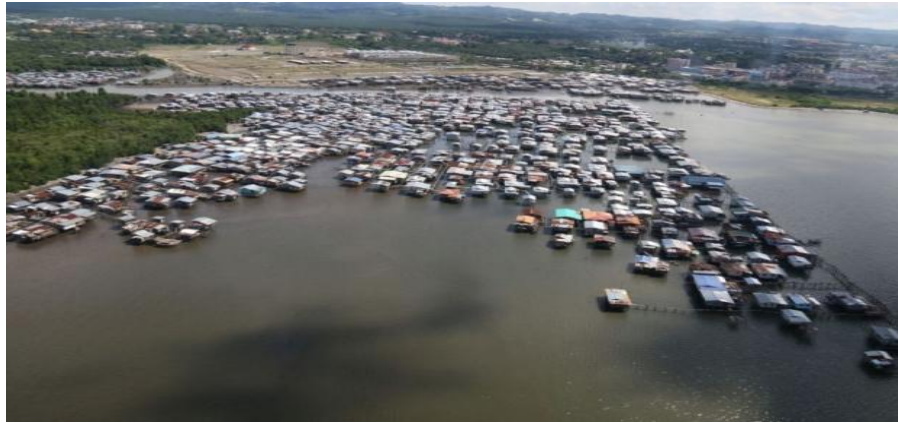


GOVERNMENT TO IMPLEMENT ‘ULTRAFILTRATION’ WATER TREATMENT SYSTEM IN THE INTERIORS OF SABAH AND SARAWAK, MINISTER SAYS

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An ultrafiltration (UF) water treatment system developed by University of Malaya will be applied to the interior of Sabah and Sarawak. — Picture courtesy of EsscomSIBU, April 9 — The ultrafiltration (UF) water treatment system developed by University of Malaya will be applied to the interior of Sabah and Sarawak.

Minister in the Prime Minister’s Department Datuk Joseph Belaun said the system which uses solar energy could treat and render water from the hill, river, well and rain safe for consumption.

According to him, the system does not require frequent maintenance as it has a self-cleaning function.

However, he said, the system would not be installed at every longhouse or village considering the cost, which is more than RM100,000 per unit.

“Our plan is to provide it to longhouse clusters with large families, located a long distance from the road and which possibly have to wait a long time before getting proper water supply,” he said.

He said this after watching a demonstration of the system at Rumah Senabong Mawan in Sungai Kua, Selangau, today.

The demonstration was conducted by Prof Dr Mohamed Kheireddine Aroua and Prof Ir Dr Mohamed Azlan Hussain from the UM Engineering Faculty’s chemical engineering department.

The installation of the system at the longhouse was made possible through cooperation between UM and Universiti Malaysia Sarawak with a grant from the Higher Education Ministry.

For longhouses and villages that have a low population density, Entulu who is also Selangau member of parliament said other approaches of water supply such as from the hill, will be applied.

Meanwhile, he said he would endeavour to find the funds for the system to be installed in other areas, to be identified later.

Although the cost of the system is higher than the Life Saver M1 Tank system, the move would be justified in the long run, he said. — Bernama