

# Six divisions record unhealthy air quality

**KUCHING:** Six divisions - Kuching, Samarahan, Sri Aman, Sarikei, Sibü and Miri - recorded unhealthy Air Pollutant Index (API) readings as of 4pm yesterday.

According to a source from Department of Environment, Sri Aman recorded the highest at 181, followed by Kuching and Miri (145), Samarahan (139), Sibü (127) and Sarikei (120).

Areas which recorded moderate API were Kapit (103), Mukah (99), Bintulu and Industrial Training Institute in Miri (ILKP Miri) at 82, Samalaju (73), Limbang (63) and

SK Baram (74).

There were also 12 hotspots detected in the state as of 4pm, with Kuching recording the highest number (5), followed by Limbang (2) and one each in Bintulu, Samarahan, Sri Aman, Sarikei and Miri.

In Kalimantan 1,087 hotspots were detected, while Sumatera had 306 and Brunei recorded none.

Meanwhile at a press conference yesterday morning, Deputy Minister of Energy, Technology, Science, Climate Change and Environment

Isnaraissah Munirah Majilis, among others, urged the public not to carry out open burning in view of the dry spell which is expected to last until next month.

Munirah added that Department of Environment had been told to intensify monitoring and surveillance on the daily air quality.

She also said the government would submit a diplomatic note to its counterparts in Indonesia very soon to help minimise open burning to prevent trans-boundary haze, which has greatly affected Malaysia.