



**UNIT KOMUNIKASI KORPORAT JABATAN
PERIKANAN MALAYSIA
BERITA PERIKANAN HARI INI**

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SENARAI AKHBAR	TAJUK
Utusan Malaysia	•
Berita Harian	•
Harian Metro	•
Kosmo !	•
Sinar Harian	•
The Star	• Shallower lake boon for fishermen's catch
New Straits Time	•
Nanyang Siang Pau	•
Malaysia Gazette	•
Malaysiakini	•
Bernama	•
Borneo Post (Kuching)	•
The Sun	•
TV Sarawak	•
Life News Agency	•

JENIS AKHBAR							MUKA SURAT	TARIKH	
UTUSAN MALAYSIA		KOSMO !		THE STAR	✓	NANYANG SIANG PAU			
BERITA HARIAN		SINAR HARIAN		THE SUN		ORIENTAL DAILY			
HARIAN METRO		NEW STRAITS TIMES		THE MALAY MAIL		PELBAGAI			
KATEGORI LIPUTAN : POSITIF			NEGATIF		NEUTRAL		6	27/7/2024	

Shallower lake boon for fishermen's catch

SIK: The water level of Tasik Gubir at the Muda Dam, near here, has receded drastically.

Checks by Bernama at the lake area yesterday also found that inland fishermen's boats had to be moored far from their original spots, which have now become dry land.

According to fisherman Mohd Yusof Syafaie, the drop in the lake's water level is considered normal, especially during the dry season and due to water release from the dam.

"It is common for the water level to drop during the dry season and when water is released by Mada (Muda Agricultural Development Authority) for agriculture, as the dam is intended for water storage.

"But this year, it has been somewhat drastic, causing the lake to become shallow," he said when met here yesterday.

However, it is also a blessing in disguise as the drop in water level helps fishermen achieve higher catches in shallow water.

Mohd Yusof said when the water level is high, fishermen usually have to move their nets more frequently around the lake to get a good catch.

"But now, just a few hours is

enough to get a substantial catch; there's no need to wait until evening," said the 67-year-old who has been fishing in the lake for 30 years.

His catch is sold to middlemen, earning him an income of around RM80 daily.

Another fisherman, Mohd Azni Tajudin, 41, said although shallow water makes fishing activities easier, it also limits the areas where fishing boats can navigate.

"If the area is too shallow, we can't go there; we need to head to deeper areas where the boat can pass, so we can't go too far for fear of the boat getting stuck," he said.

On Thursday, Mada said the water level at the Muda Dam, one of the key dams in Kedah for agricultural and domestic use, stood at 9.96%.

The other two dams managed by Mada, Pedu and Ahning, recorded water levels of 43.1% and 83.07% respectively.

Separately, the Meteorological Department said several areas have been put under Level One heat status.

The areas are Larut and Matang in Perak, Kota Marudu in Sabah, and Sri Aman and Bintulu in Sarawak.



Dry land: The water level at Muda Dam's Tasik Gubir in Sik, Kedah, has receded drastically. — Bernama