

# Melaka suspends outdoor activities

THE STAR ONLINE | Monday, 16 Sep 2019



Shrouded in haze: The view of the Melaka City Hall building due to the bad weather as the API reading in the city hit 222. Melaka has stopped all outdoor activities in the state. — Bernama

PETALING JAYA: All sports and outdoor activities in Melaka have been suspended due to the worsening haze situation in the state.

Melaka's Communications, Multimedia, NGO, Youth and Sports Development Committee chairman Kerk Chee Yee said the Melaka Sports Council has decided to delay all kinds of outdoor sporting events, including training programmes following unhealthy Air Pollutant Index (API) levels in the state.

"As at noon, the reading was 222, at a 'very unhealthy' level. Delaying the activities was necessary after considering advice from the Environment Department (DOE), especially on the health risks (posed to) athletes, coaches and spectators," he said yesterday.

Kerk said the affected activities and programmes would resume at a later date when the haze situation improves.

"The council will work closely with the DOE to monitor the haze situation.

"We also call on other outdoor event organisers, not under the council's purview to follow suit by reducing the health risks of those training during this time," he said.

It is learnt that several state programmes lined up in conjunction with Malaysia Day celebration were also cancelled.

Among them was a Malaysia Day celebration with the disabled community in Alor Gajah yesterday and Malaysia Day fun run in Ayer Keroh today.

Melaka Health and Anti-Drug Committee chairman Low Chee Leong said his office, with support from sponsors, will be distributing 3,000 face masks to frontliners such as postmen, traffic policemen and waste management janitors beginning tomorrow.