

Sri Aman air quality improves to unhealthy from hazardous

THE STAR ONLINE | Wednesday, 18 Sep 2019



KUCHING: Authorities are continuing to monitor the air quality in Sri Aman even though the Air Pollutant Index (API) is no longer at hazardous levels on Wednesday (Sept 18).

The API in Sri Aman measured 237 at 9am on Wednesday (Sept 18) – still very unhealthy, but an improvement over the high of 397 at 9pm the previous night.

It is the only area in Sarawak with very unhealthy air quality this morning.

Nine other areas recorded unhealthy levels from 103 to 173, while Kapit and Limbang had moderate readings of 76 and 85 respectively.

An API of between 0-50 is considered good, 51-100 moderate, 101-200 unhealthy, 201-300 very unhealthy and 300 onward hazardous.

State Deputy Chief Minister Datuk Amar Douglas Uggah said the Sri Aman divisional disaster management committee was meeting on Wednesday morning to coordinate their actions, including efforts to put out local fires.

"There are two hotspots in Sri Aman, and we hope they can be extinguished today.

"We continue to monitor whether any more hardware needs to be mobilised from outside Sarawak," he told reporters after presenting cheques from the Unit for Other Religions (Unifor) to elected state representatives here, to be distributed to respective religious organisations.

Uggah also said a team was on standby to conduct cloud-seeding operations.

"I'm going to have a meeting soon to assess whether we have clouds for us to do cloud seeding.