

Good for dams, bad for landfills

PETALING JAYA: The incessant rain over the Klang Valley in the past two months has brought smiles to some and worries to others.

For dam managers Puncak Niaga Sdn Bhd the more the rain the better it is for its dams at Klang Gate, Tasik Subang and Hulu Langat.

A check by *The Star* showed that the water levels at Klang Gate and Tasik Subang dams are rising while the Hulu Langat dam is at maximum capacity.

According to the Irrigation and Drainage Department, the Klang Gate dam is at a "healthy level" of 32 million litres, Tasik

Subang 3.4 million litres and Hulu Langat 38 million litres.

If the rain continues, it would not be long before the water at Klang Gate and Tasik Subang starts to overflow.

Such is the good news for the eight million Klang Valley residents depending on water from the three dams.

They are not expected to face shortages at least until the end of the year or in the event of a drought in the coming months.

However, managers of landfills and treatment plants have cause to worry if this continues.

Chock Eng Tah, managing director of KUB-Berjaya Enviro

Sdn Bhd that manages the 740ha Bukit Tagar landfill, said its water traps were on the verge of overflowing due to the excessive rain water.

He said too much rain would also disrupt the operations of its leachate treatment plants.

"The heavy rainfall of late is not good news to us because we have to be on a 24-hour watch to make sure that our treatment plants are in working order.

"We want to ensure that the rivers are not polluted and that is why we are monitoring the weather and rainfall all the time," he said.