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Water bill to be tabled in first parliament session next year

KUALA LUMPUR: A bill on national water resources will be tabled in the first Parliament session next year, said Deputy Natural Resources and Environment Minister Datuk Hamim Samuri.

He said the bill, the draft of which was currently being refined, among others seeks to prevent water supply crises.

“This is for the future of our national water supply and our water resources to be better managed,” he told reporters after opening the **14th Medicinal and Aromatic Plants Seminar** here yesterday.

He said similar bills had been tabled in the state assemblies in the peninsula.

“Thus far, the move has been well received. Sabah and

Sarawak will be next,” he said.

Also present were **Forest Research Institute Malaysia director-general Datuk Dr Abd Latif Mohmod** and **Majlis Amanah Rakyat director-general Datuk Ibrahim Ahmad**.

Hamim said if the bill was passed, there would be clear cut guidelines on protecting and preserving water resources more effectively.

He added that the bill was timely in view of water supply crises cropping up now and then.

“Its related to water management. We are now facing various situations such as global warming, water pollution and water shortages, all of which the bill will address,” he said.

— Bernama