

Wind gust alert up today



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BANDAR SERI BEGAWAN

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BRUNEI can expect strong winds of up to 70km/h, with speeds anticipated to rise if weather conditions turn for the worse.

The Meteorological Service at the Civil Aviation Department reported wind speeds of 16 knots, equivalent to approximately 30km/h as of 1.30pm yesterday. According to various sources, the wind speed on the runway on a normal day in Brunei is approximately five knots.

"We are experiencing strong winds, with gusts of 60km/h expected during the passage of showers," the duty forecaster told The Brunei Times yesterday. "Even though the wind is strong, the weather remains fair," he added.

The forecaster explained that yesterday's forecast was expecting strong winds at sea, with speeds reaching as high as up to 70km/h on Brunei's waters.

According to the Meteorological Section, the highest wind speed ever recorded was 61.5 knots, a speed of almost 114 km/h.

"These strong winds were recorded in June 2001," said the forecaster.

Chen Ming Ming, 53, who lives in an apartment in the capital, said the winds had been strong the last few days, but especially yesterday.

"The winds picked up earlier than usual," she said.

A Muara resident said the winds in the port town were especially strong in the morning.

"At about 9am to 10am, it was strong enough to really rattle the windows," said Fizat Hj Ali Hassan.

The 26-year-old civil servant added that the breeze that residents of the area receive is usually gentle, as opposed to the strong winds experienced yesterday.

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