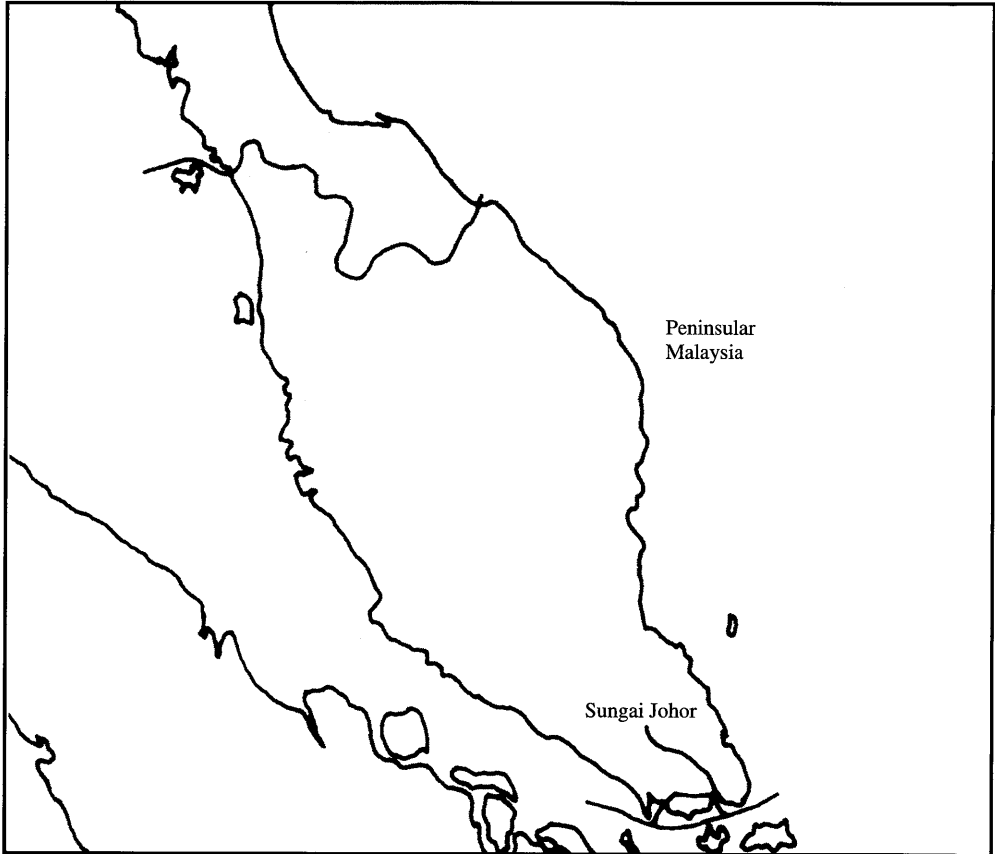


Malaysia

Malaysia-2: Sungai Johor



Introduction

Malaysia is situated in the heart of Southeast Asia, just north of the equator. It has a total land area of 330,434 km² and is divided into two distinct regions i.e. Peninsular Malaysia, (which extends from the Thai border down to the island nation of Singapore and across the South China Sea) and the two states of Sabah and Sarawak (on the northern coast of Borneo, which are bordered by Indonesia to the south and the Philippines to the east).

Being in the tropical region, the climate is hot and humid throughout the year. The mean annual rainfall is 2,500 mm and the temperature range from 21°C to 32°C. Out of a total population of about 20 million (1997), approximately 16.9 million live in Peninsular Malaysia whilst 3.1 million live in Sabah and Sarawak. A variety of racial backgrounds are available. The majority of Malays, Chinese and Indians are in Peninsular Malaysia whereas Iban, Kadazan and Bidayuh are the main indigenous ethnic group in Sabah and Sarawak.

The river catalogued in this volume is the Johor River, Johore. It is the longest river in Johore State (about 123 km) and flows through the southeastern part of Johore draining an area of 2,636 km². The river originates from Mt.Gemuruh and discharges into the Straits of Singapore in the south. This area is in the tropical rain forest with a mean annual rainfall of about 2,500 mm. Its mean annual discharge measured at Rantau Panjang is about 38 m³/s.

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Ir.Hj. Keizrul bin Abdullah, Chairman of Malaysian National Committee for IHP,
Ir. Phuah Kim Heng, Secretary of Malaysian Committee for IHP,
Ir. Chong Sun Fatt, Deputy - Secretary, Malaysian National Committee for IHP, and,
Mr. Low Koon Sing, Water Resources Engineer, Department of Irrigation and Drainage, Malaysia.