

# Drying Teluk Bahang dam gets a lifeline via Sungai Pinang water catchment area

By **Mohamed Basyir** - August 29, 2020 @ 6:27pm



*The Sungai Pinang water catchment area will allow Teluk Bahang to get additional raw water through an existing pipeline. - NSTP/DANIAL SAAD*

GEORGE TOWN: In a contingency measure, the Penang Water Supply Corporation (PBAPP) will pipe raw water from the Sungai Pinang water catchment area to refill the low capacity Teluk Bahang dam.

Located near the Titi Kerawang waterfall, the Sungai Pinang water catchment area would allow Teluk Bahang to get additional raw water through an existing pipeline.

"The existing 450mm treated water pipeline at the Sungai Pinang intake will be used to deliver the raw water and discharged into the dam.

"The potential yield from the Sungai Pinang catchment is 10 million litres per day," said its chief executive officer Datuk Jaseni Maidinsa in a press conference today.

Also present were Chief Minister Chow Kon Yeow and Tourism, Arts, Culture and Heritage Committee chairman Yeoh Soon Hin.

As of Friday, the effective capacity of the Teluk Bahang dam stood at 16.4 per cent of its capacity, sufficient for just over 50 days of water supply.

Jaseni said the dam's capacity however would increase during rainfall.

"With rainfall expected in the coming year-end rainy season, the deployment of the Sungai Pinang water contingency project would be helpful to refill the dam at a faster pace," he added.

Meanwhile, the scheduled eight cloud seeding operations near the Teluk Bahang dam has been put on hold.

This was because the private contractor appointed by the Meteorological Department of Malaysia (MET) informed the Penang Water Regulator that it has not received the "flares" needed for the operation.

Jaseni explained that the operation could only be done during certain conditions which would eventually create rain fall.

"The temperature must reach -1 degree Celsius so that the operation can be done.

"They (PWR) should write to and contact MET to confirm this issue and to request for their assistance in expediting the implementation of the first series of cloud seeding operations as soon as possible, in September 2020," he said.