

**TRUE OR NOT**

Thursday, 22 Feb 2024

**QuickCheck: Was a video of tourists not bathing in Penang because of dirty water made recently?**

R. SEKARAN

RECENTLY, a video went viral on the social media app TikTok in which a tourist couple claimed that they did not bathe in Penang for three days due to dirty tap water in their hotel room and it has been claimed that the clip uploaded concerns recent events.

Is it true that this video was made recently as claimed?

VERDICT:



FALSE

This video is actually from May 2023, says Penang Water Supply Corporation (PBAPP) chief executive officer K. Pathmanathan.

"We do not know which hotel the couple was complaining about, nor the area or district as tourists are not registered as water consumers in PBAPP's database," he said in a statement on Wednesday (Feb 21).

He added that PBAPP cannot determine if the "dirty tap water" seen in the video was caused by PBAPP or the hotel's internal pipes, water tank and/or water filtration system.

Pathmanathan said PBAPP is only responsible for water quality until the 'meter position' for any premise owned or rented by the water consumer.

The video circulating on social media showed the foreign couple alleging that they didn't shower for three days because the water in their hotel was yellow and they didn't want to risk any health complications.

The video garnered 4.9 million viewers and more than 350,000 likes.