

6-2-2025

Seberang Prai Tengah district records highest water usage in Penang



GEORGE TOWN: The Seberang Prai Tengah (SPT) district consumed the highest volume of treated water amongst Penang's five districts last year.

According to Penang Water Supply Corporation (PBAPP) chief executive officer, Datuk K. Pathmanathan, SPT consumed an average of 209 million litres per day (MLD) or about 24 per cent of the 872 MLD metered consumption in the state.

He said this was followed by the southwest district at 22.8 per cent, Seberang Prai Utara (SPU - 20.5 per cent), northeast district (19.3 per cent) and Seberang Prai Selatan (SPS - 13.4 per cent).

"SPT is now the second most populous district in Penang.

"It houses nine industrial areas/parks, including the Prai Industrial Area, Bukit Tengah Industrial Area, Juru Industrial Park and Penang Science Park.

"Although the southwest district has a population relatively lower population base, it encompasses the Bayan Lepas Free Trade Zones, Bayan Lepas Industrial Park and Diamond Valley Industrial Park," he said in a statement today.

Pathmanathan said, last year, the average state water consumption stood at 872 MLD as compared to 877 MLD in 2023.

He said there was a marginal 0.6 per cent drop in consumption, year-on-year.

"Nevertheless, PBAPP will continue to focus on implementing its Water Contingency Plan 2030 (WCP 2030) projects on time.

In 2024, PBAPP produced an average of 1,208 MLD of treated water to meet Penang's water demand. With a non-revenue water (NRW) percentage of 28 per cent, the metered consumption was about 872 MLD.

"Projections indicate that Penang's water demand will escalate from 1,208 MLD in 2024 to 1,532 MLD in 2030.

"Hence, PBAPP is gearing up to supply more treated water in 2030, in support of the achievement of the Penang 2030 vision," he added.

The WCP 2030 encompasses the development of eight strategic water infrastructure projects in the timeframe from 2023 to 2028.

The objectives of the WCP 2030 are to:

- complete six water treatment plants/modules (two each in SPU, SPT and SPS) to increase PBAPP's water treatment capacity by 602 MLD;
- pump more water from the Sungai Dua Water Treatment Plant to Penang island via two new 1.8m pipelines; and
- unlock three new secondary daily raw water resources for Penang (the Expanded Mengkuang Dam, Sungai Kerian and Sungai Prai).

"PBAPP will also support the implementation of six federal projects to reduce Penang's water risks related to future prolonged dry spells, including the El Niño phenomena," he said.

It was reported that the Penang government and PBAPP were working with the federal government on four major water supply projects.