

4.4.2019

PRESS STATEMENT

by YB PROF. DR. P. RAMASAMY

Penang Deputy Chief Minister II.

## **PENANG WATER SERVICES ACADEMY WILL SPEARHEAD TECHNICAL TRAINING FOR THE MALAYSIAN WATER SUPPLY INDUSTRY**

- **The Penang Water Services Academy (PWSA) and its new branch campuses will focus on technical training and certification for water supply industry personnel nationwide.**

PENANG, Thursday, 4.4.2019: The Penang Water Services Academy (PWSA) is branching out nationwide to provide government-recognised competency training for water industry personnel.

PWSA is managed by PBA Resources Sdn Bhd (PBAR), a 100% owned subsidiary of PBA Holdings Bhd (PBAHB). PBAHB is also the holdings company for Perbadanan Bekalan Air Pulau Pinang Sdn Bhd (PBAPP), the licensed water operator that serves Penang.

On 3.12.2018, PBAR signed a smart partnership agreement with KYM STES Sdn Bhd to establish the Malaysia Water Institute (MWI) in Melaka. KYM STES is a subsidiary of International College of Yayasan Melaka (ICYM).

Following the 3.12.2018 agreement, MWI has been positioned as a branch campus of PWSA that will provide PWSA technical training programmes in the southern region of Peninsular Malaysia.

PWSA is also planning to sign an agreement with another renowned organisation soon, to set up a branch campus in the central region, with a similar arrangement.

With its base in Penang and this network of two branch campuses, PWSA will become the leading national player in providing technical training for water industry technical to Malaysian Skills Certificate (*Sijil Kemahiran Malaysia* – SKM) levels.



## Rationale for PWSA's Commitment

2018 population estimates indicate that were 1.77 million living in Penang and 32.4 million people living in Malaysia. Almost everyone is dependent on good water supply services daily to support their lifestyles and conduct socioeconomic activities.

Due to growing water demand and climate change, billions of ringgit are being invested to upgrade water supply infrastructure and optimise water resources in Penang and throughout the nation.

Besides upgrading the “hardware”, we must also prioritise and optimise competency training for water supply industry technical personnel. Personnel who are trained to be competent are less prone to making mistakes and are better at avoiding mishaps.

In short, PWSA working towards ensuring that all technical Malaysian water industry personnel are properly trained to serve the nation competently in the future.

## 3 Options for SKM-level Certification

PWSA offers 3 options for SKM-level certification that will also be available from its branch campuses:

- Full-time SKM programmes for school-leavers seeking employment in the water supply industry. To date, 240 MARA trainees have attended full-time these programmes.
- SKM-SLDN (*Sistem Latihan Dual Nasional* or National Dual Training Scheme) programmes for newly hired personnel selected. PWSA has provided training programmes for 300 personnel from PBAPP and possibly other Malaysian water supply organisations under its SLDN-SKM programmes in the future.
- SKM-PPT (*Pengiktirafan Pencapaian Terdahulu* or Recognition of Prior Achievement) programmes for experienced personnel with accumulated skills. A total of 357 Malaysian water supply personnel have obtained SKM-PPT certifications through PWSA.



The Penang State Government and the PBA Holdings Bhd hopes that water supply operators, government departments and all organisations who are involved in the water supply industry in Malaysia will take advantage of PWSA's training services.

Let us work together to ensure that all technical water supply industry personnel are certified to be competent, for the benefit of the people and the nation.

Please note that PWSA has trained a total of 945 SKM-level graduates since 2010. Since its foundation in 2007, a total of 3,872 water industry personnel and school-leavers have attended various training programmes at PWSA.

The academy's Malaysian client list includes almost all water supply organisations and related government departments and agencies in Malaysia.

PWSA's international client list includes water operators in Indonesia, Myanmar and Nepal. Meanwhile, PBAR has also collaborated with PERPAMSI, the Indonesian Water Supply Industry Association representing more than 400 water operators in Indonesia.

Thank You.

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# MAJLIS KONVOKESYEN SISTEM LATIHAN DUAL NASIONAL PERBADANAN BEKALAN AIR PULAU PINANG SDN BHD

Disempurnakan oleh

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TIMBALAN KETUA MENTERI II PULAU PINANG

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