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Media Release

IR. PATHMANATHAN K.
CEO, PBAHB and PBAPP.

PBAPP RESPONDING TO LOW SUNGAI MUDA RIVER LEVEL

- **Sungai Muda level (Penang) dipped below 2.0m for 4 consecutive days.**
- **Muda Dam (Kedah) level reported as 16.6% on 12.7.2024.**
- **PBAPP drawing down reserves of the Expanded Mengkuang Dam (EMD).**

PENANG, Monday, 15.7.2024: PBAPP is drawing down water from the Expanded Mengkuang Dam (EMD) in Seberang Perai to sustain good water supply services throughout the State of Penang.

The maximum drawdown capacity of the EMD is 600 million litres per day (MLD). PBAPP has started drawing down an average of 41 MLD since 13/7/2024 to complement raw water abstraction from Sungai Muda.

The raw water from the EMD and Sungai Muda is channeled to the Sungai Dua Water Treatment Plant (WTP), Penang's largest and most important WTP. Treated water from this WTP is pumped to about 465,000 consumers throughout Seberang Perai as well as in Daerah Timur Laut (DTL) and Daerah Barat Daya (DBD) on Penang Island.

The daily EMD drawdowns ensures that the Sungai Dua Water Treatment Plant (WTP) continues to produce an average of 1,026.59 MLD of treated water.

Low Sungai Muda river level in Penang

The level of Sungai Muda at the PBAPP intake in Lahar Tiang, Seberang Perai, dropped below the 2.0m "safe level" recently for 4 consecutive days, from Thursday (11.7.2024) to Sunday (14.7.2024).

Accordingly, PBAPP abstracted an average of 1,125.50 MLD of raw water from Sungai Muda last week, as compared to 1,196.13 MLD under normal circumstances.

Under normal circumstances, more than 80% of the raw water that PBAPP abstracts daily originates from this river.

Status of Kedah dams that release water into Sungai Muda

The effective capacity of the 160 billion litre Muda Dam (in Kedah) was reported to be 25.7% on Friday, 12.7.2024.

The Muda Dam is one of 2 dams in Kedah that releases water into Sungai Muda for use by Kedah and Penang.

The reported level of the other dam, the Beris Dam, was 82.4% on Thursday, 11.7.2024. The maximum effective capacity of the Beris Dam is 120 billion litres. Kedah has the option to release more water from the Beris Dam to increase the level of Sungai Muda. This measure will avoid any major issues at 14 WTPs in Kedah and the Sungai Dua WTP in Penang.

PBAPP on high alert, consumers should use water wisely

On 14.7.2024, the effective capacity of the EMD was 90.5%. With drawdowns available from the EMD, the present low Sungai Muda river level should not pose an immediate threat to water supply in Penang.

However, PBAPP is operating on high alert and monitoring the status of Sungai Muda carefully because this river is Penang's primary raw water resource.

We would also like to seek the kind understanding and cooperation of all water consumers to use water wisely in Penang because the Sungai Muda river level is low and the reserves of the Muda Dam have been depleted.

For domestic water saving tips, please visit www.pba.com.my.

Thank You.

Issued by : Syarifah Nasywa bt Syed Feisal Barakbah
Corporate Communications Unit
Email : syarifah@pba.com.my



Empangan Mengkuang yang Diperbesarkan (EMD): PBAPP sedang mengambil air dari empangan ini kerana paras air Sungai Muda rendah. (Siaran akhbar 15.7.2024)

Expanded Mengkuang Dam (EMD): PBAPP is drawing down water from this dam in response to low Sungai Muda river levels. (15.7.2024 media release) © PBAPP 2024.