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 Media Release

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PENANG DAM CAPACITIES UP SLIGHTLY BUT PLEASE SUPPORT THE 250LCD WATER SAVING TARGET FOR 2025

- **Teluk Bahang Dam: 49.4%, Air Itam Dam: 60.4%**
- **Significant rainfall recorded in water catchments areas on Penang Island over the past 39 days.**

PENANG, Friday, 9.5.2025: PBAPP has recorded minor improvements in the effective capacities of the 2 dams on Penang Island. However, Penangites should continue to conserve water as per the 250 litres/capita/day (LCD) domestic consumption target for 2025.

The following table outlines the status of Penang’s 3 major dams:

Dam	Effective capacity 1.4.2025	Effective capacity 9.5.2025	Rainfall in WCAs
Teluk Bahang Dam	46.9%	49.4%	400mm
Air Itam Dam	55.7%	60.4%	528mm
Expanded Mengkuang Dam (EMD)	92.5%	91.0%	528mm*
* The EMD is a pumped storage scheme which is less dependent on rainfall in its water catchment areas (WCAs). It is a strategic drought dam which is primarily refilled with raw water from Sungai Kulim.			

The Teluk Bahang Dam and Air Itam Dam may only be refilled by rainfall in the respective water catchment areas (WCAs) nearby. There has been significant rainfall in the WCAs on Penang Island in the past 39 days.

However, it should be noted that the Teluk Bahang Dam and Air Itam Dam are “daily dams” from which raw water is drawn down everyday to produce treated water.

As such, the effective capacities of these 2 dams are also determined by water consumption in the respective service areas. So, please use less water at home if you want the dams to be refilled to optimal levels faster whenever it rains.

There are 45,895 water consumers in the Teluk Bahang Dam's service areas (Teluk Bahang, Batu Ferringhi, Tanjung Bungah, Tanjung Tokong). Insofar as the Teluk Bahang Dam is concerned, PBAPP continues to implement dry weather controls to limit drawdowns to 60 million litres per day (MLD).

Meanwhile, there are 29,948 water consumers in the Air Itam Dam's service areas (Air Itam and Farlim). Since 1.1.2025, PBAPP has been implementing the Air Itam Dam Action Plan 2025 (AIDAP 2025) to "defend" its reserves. Under this plan, PBAPP is pumping in a maximum of 33 MLD of water from the Sungai Dua Water Treatment Plant (WTP) in Seberang Perai into the Air Itam Dam service area.

No immediate threat for now

Based on current weather conditions (with some rainfall), PBAPP does not foresee any immediate serious threat to water supply on Penang Island, arising from effective capacities of the Teluk Bahang Dam and Air Itam Dam.

In Seberang Perai, PBAPP continues to abstract raw water at optimal levels from Sungai Muda to produce treated water in the Sungai Dua WTP. Since 1.5.2025, the Sungai Muda river level at the Lahar Tiang Intake have ranged between 2.5m and 3.0m, above the safe level of 2.0m.

Focus on the 250 LCD target for domestic consumption

Nevertheless, PBAPP would like to remind all Penang water consumers to conserve water at home so that we may achieve the 250 LCD target for Penang in 2025.

The challenge that PBAPP and Penang faces is the effective refilling of these 2 dams to optimal capacities by the end of 2025.

Due to climate change, we must not consume water carelessly and assume there will "automatically" be sufficient rainfall to refill the dams to 100% by the end of the year.

Remember: We must store enough water to face the next major dry season from the beginning of 2026 without major issues.

- Please avoid washing vehicles with a hose. Please use a water bucket, sponge and cleaning cloth instead. If possible, wash your vehicles less often.
- Please use watering can instead of a hose to water your garden and plants. Using a watering can will save us a lot of water.



PBA

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Memenuhi segala keperluan bekalan air anda

Meeting all your water supply needs

- Please do not leave a tap running and teach your children to close taps properly.

For more water saving tips, please www.pba.com.my. Please help us to increase the effective capacities of the Penang Island dams.

Thank You.

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