

25.7.2025
Media Release

DATO' IR. PATHMANATHAN K.
CEO, PBAPP and PBA Holdings Bhd.

TRAINING “HELPFUL” POLICEMEN TO SAFEGUARD PENANG’S WATER ASSETS

- **PBAHB Polis Bantuan Hub officially opened by the Chief Minister of Penang near the Air Itam Dam.**

PENANG, Friday, 25.7.2025: PBAHB has opened a Polis Bantuan (Auxiliary Police) Hub (PBHub) to continuously train a team of security personnel to safeguard Penang’s water supply assets.

The PBHub is sited on a re-tasked bungalow complex near the Air Itam Dam. This property had previously housed the Air Itam Training Centre which was operated by the Penang Water Services Academy (PWSA). The PWSA has since centralised all its classroom courses at PBAPP’s Rifle Range One-Stop Operations Centre.

This building has been refurbished with a minimal budget of RM80,000. Here, at the PBHub, PBAHB’s Polis Bantuan personnel will undergo training courses that focus on:

- Physical fitness;
- Laws and standard operating procedures as related to Polis Bantuan duties;
- Workplace safety and road safety;
- Police drill revisions;
- Self-defence and apprehension techniques;
- Handling of venomous animals; and
- Certification under the Malaysian Skills Certificate (SKM) Level 2 for security operations and Level 3 for security supervision.

Most importantly, the PBHub will be used to train Polis Bantuan officers who are professional, yet helpful and friendly, to safeguard Penang’s water assets.

This is important because Polis Bantuan officers are actually the front-liners who interact with visitors and tourists at PBAPP facilities that are open to the public.

These facilities include popular green recreational areas such as the Air Itam Dam, Teluk Bahang Dam and Bukit Dumbar Recreational Park on Penang Island; as well as the Expanded Mengkuang Dam in Seberang Perai.

Essentially, their job is to keep these PBAPP premises secure for safe public access every day. Their presence and patrols at the dams deters crime, littering, mischief and misconduct. If there is any apparent threat, mishap or emergency scenario, they are trained to help people get to safety.

When landslides occurred near dams and reservoirs, they have re-directed traffic in prioritising public road safety.

During scheduled and unscheduled water supply interruptions in Penang, PBAHB Polis Bantuan officers have also stepped in to assist and support in water tanker operations in neighbourhoods all over the state. In fact, 10 of our officers have also served as tanker drivers.

So, the roles and responsibilities of PBAHB Polis Bantuan personnel extend beyond policing PBAPP facilities and premises. They also have a significant role to play in supporting PBAPP's corporate responsibility of serving Penang as a "friendly, caring and responsive" water supply operator.

A team of 183 officers

PBAHB's Polis Bantuan team was set up in 2013 with 11 personnel. As at July 2025, PBAHB employs a team of 183 Polis Bantuan officers, led by ASP Rusdi bin Junoh.

The team uses 6 patrol cars and 18 motorcycles to carry out daily on-site patrols and inspections. The team also mans a 24/7 CCTV System Control Centre in the Sungai Dua Water Treatment Plant (WTP). In this control centre, officers operate an online CCTV system to monitor activities at 18 key PBAPP installations, including the:

- Lahar Tiang Intake at Sungai Muda, Penang's primary raw water resource;
- 14km Sungai Dua Canal that channels raw water abstracted at the intake;
- Sungai Dua WTP (Penang's largest and most important WTP) and 9 other WTPs throughout the state; and
- Air Itam Dam, Teluk Bahang Dam and the Expanded Mengkuang Dam (open to the public) as well as the Bukit Panchor Dam.

Thank You.

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