

30.4.2026  
 Media Release

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 Chief Minister of Penang cum Chairman of PBAHB and PBAPP.

**SUNGAI MUDA ALERT UPDATE 1: RIVER LEVEL BELOW 2.0M AT LAHAR TIANG INTAKE FOR 8 DAYS**

<b>22.4.2026 – 29.4.2026</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Average daily river level at Lahar Tiang Intake (Penang)</b></li> </ul>	<b>1.38m – 1.71m</b> Lowest point: 1.27m at 4.30pm on 23.4.2026.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>PBAPP daily raw water abstraction from Sungai Muda</b></li> </ul>	<b>Minimum 896 MLD</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Drop in Beris Dam capacity from 22.4.2026 – 28.4.2026</b></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>4.6% over 8 days</b></li> <li><b>0.58% per day average</b></li> </ul>

PENANG, Thursday, 30.4.2026: The Sungai Muda river level at Penang’s Lahar Tiang Intake has been below the 2.0m “safe level” for 8 consecutive days, from 22.4.2026 to 29.4.2026. *(Please refer to “Appendix A”).*

PBAPP’s normal raw water abstraction volume from Sungai Muda is 1,119 million litres per day (MLD). In the recent 8-day timeframe, our lowest raw water abstraction from Sungai Muda was limited to minimum 896 MLD.

To keep the Sungai Dua Water Treatment Plant (WTP) running at optimal capacity and avoid treated water shortages in Penang, PBAPP has been drawing down between 58 MLD and 274 MLD from the Expanded Mengkuang Dam (EMD).

The effective capacity of the 86,400 million litre (ML) EMD has dropped by 1.9% (92.1% on 22.4.2026 to 90.2% on 29.4.2026).

**Kedah’s Beris Dam capacity worry**

The worrisome development is a recent 4.6% drop in the capacity of the 122,400ML Beris Dam in Kedah. Its capacity fell from 56.5% on 22.4.2026 to 51.9% on 29.4.2026. This reflects an average capacity drop rate of 0.58% per day.

At present, the Beris Dam is the only Kedah dam that can release water into the Sungai Muda system to support water supply and irrigation abstractions.

Unless there is a large volume of rainfall in the water catchment areas of the Beris Dam and Muda Dam in May, June and July 2026, the Sungai Muda river system may run dry. There are 11 water supply intakes and 9 irrigation intakes in Penang and Kedah which are fully dependent on Sungai Muda.

### **Federal intervention to avert a potential water crisis**

PBAPP seeks the urgent intervention of the National Water Services Commission (SPAN) and the Ministry of Energy Transition and Water Transformation (PETRA) to avert a potential 2026 water crisis in Penang and Kedah.

Please prioritise water supply, in view of the following considerations:

1. The primary dam that supports the Sungai Muda river system, the Muda Dam, is effectively out of commission. Its 160,000 ML capacity reportedly plummeted by 64.7% over 51 days (from 84.6% on 1.1.2026 to a critical level of 19.9% on 20.2.2026), due to low rainfall and aggressive irrigation drawdowns. As at 29.4.2026, the capacity of the Muda Dam is 8.7%.
2. If capacity of the Beris Dam continues to drop at an average of 0.58% daily, this dam may reach its 20% critical level in 55 days.
3. The south-west monsoon season (May to September) is usually a dry season with less rainfall expectancy.
4. Penang and Kedah rely on raw water from Sungai Muda daily to ensure sufficient water supply to millions of water consumers, including all the MNC and SME factories in Bayan Lepas, Prai, Batu Kawan, Mak Mandin and Kulim.
5. Cloud seeding over Kedah may be helpful but it does not guarantee high volumes of rainfall to refill the Beris Dam and Muda Dam to safe levels.

Thank You.

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**Appendix A: Average daily Sungai Muda river levels recorded at Penang's Lahar Tiang Intake (1.4.2026 – 29.4.2026)**

