

Penang floods: Sunday's storm 'most violent', PBAPP chief says

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GEORGE TOWN: The storm on Sunday (Nov 5) was the “most violent” in the history of the Penang Water Supply Corporation Sdn Bhd (PBAPP), said its chief executive officer Datuk Jaseni Maidinsa (*pic*).

He said a new rainfall record of 320mm was recorded over 24 hours at the Air Itam Dam, which is higher than the record 270mm recorded on Sept 15 this year.

“The dam capacity shot up by 10%.

“There are landslides at various locations along the road leading to the dam. The road has been temporarily closed in the interest of public safety,” he said in a statement on Monday.

He said the viewing platform in front of the waterfall at the Penang Botanic Gardens was washed away by surging waters.

Jaseni said one raw water intake there was also washed away while two other raw water intakes were completely submerged and choked.

“Water flow is so powerful that it is dangerous for any clearing work to be done now,” he said.



The viewing platform in front of the waterfall at the Penang Botanic Gardens was washed away by surging waters.

Jaseni said the aqueduct leading to the Guillemard Water Treatment Plant in Tanjung Bungah was blocked by landslides and uprooted trees.

“The water intakes at the Sungai Pinang Water Treatment Plant in Titi Kerawang were choked with debris. Fallen trees are blocking access to the upper intakes.

“The lower intake is cleared but the pipe is still chocked,” he said.

Due to the water treatment plants being choked with debris, he said there was unscheduled water supply interruption in some areas in Jesselton, Pulau Tikus and Jalan Air Terjun for a few hours on Sunday.

“There was unscheduled water interruption in Bandar Baru Ayer Itam due to power failure.

“Working with Tenaga Nasional Bhd, PBAPP successfully normalised water supply there at 6am on Monday,” he said.

Read more at <http://www.thestar.com.my/news/nation/2017/11/06/penang-floods-storm-most-violent/#hfLSAH1bzF2kW6Ou.99>