

Community

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TWO new treated water reservoirs have been commissioned in Jawi, Penang, to ensure sufficient supply of water in south Seberang Prai (SPS) for more than 24 hours.

Deputy Chief Minister II Dr P. Ramasamy said the R2 and R3 reservoirs in the Penang Water Supply Corporation Sdn Bhd (PBAPP) reservoir compound cost RM16.69mil.

The R2 and R3 reservoirs were completed in January 2015 and January 2016 respectively.

Dr Ramasamy said there were some 62,000 water consumers in SPS and their daily water demand had reached about 86 million litres.

“The number of consumers and the daily water demand of SPS will increase significantly in the near future.

“This is because SPS stands at the threshold of an exciting future. The state government is promoting the growth of the SPS Growth Corridor,” he said after opening the R3 Reservoir in the PBAPP Jawi Reservoir Compound on Thursday.

The event was held at the PBAPP Jawi Customer Centre.

Dr Ramasamy said the SPS Growth Corridor would be the future hub for manufacturing and services, as well as a 21st century commercial and residential development centre in Batu Kawan.

“There will be 11,800 units of affordable housing by the state government.

“We will also get to see a new RM8bil integrated development by the Penang Development Corporation (PDC), Aspen Vision Land and Ikea franchisee Ikano here. “There is also the RM11.3bil Penang International Park Technology Park and Business Outsourcing Prime project by PDC, Temasek and Economic Development Innovations of Singapore,” he said.

The treated water that is stored in the Jawi Reservoirs is pumped from the Sungai Dua Water Treatment Plant located some 40km away in north Seberang Prai.

Also present was PBAPP chief executive officer Datuk Jaseni Maidinsa, who said the Federal Government should carry out regular cloud seeding to avoid a water crisis. “There should be a continuous effort in view of the current dry season.

“The clouds are forming now and we must take advantage of every opportunity to fill up the dams,” he said. “We want a proper cloud seeding like in the movie ‘Battle of Britain’ where the planes are sent continuously to conduct the operation.

“It should be done in an intensive way and not on an ad-hoc basis,” he said.