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More power from Pangi station

Mail Mathew

TENOM: Sabah Electricity Sdn Bhd (SESB) rationing in one at a time. has embarked on new measures to increase the existing electricity generation capacity of 66 Megawatt (MW) per day to 75MW in the Tenom Pangi Hydro Power Station to be channeled to the Sabah Grid System.

The RM57 million project by the Ministry of Energy, Green Technology and Water (KeTTHA), is expected to be completed by 2016. SĒSB General Manager (Generation) Philix Laimon said this when briefing the media at the office of the Pangi Hydro Generator Station here about 10km from town.

According Laimon, the project is part of a concerted effort to reduce complaints from SESB consumers regarding the lack of capacity to meet consumer demand around the State, causing rationing to be done sometimes.

"However, it does not mean that this effort will remedy the electricity rationing measures in an area but it will reduce the frequency of interruptions or

" We will do our best purely to satisfy the consumers but our ability to do so is very limited ... having said that, we will be implementing in stages," he said.,

He added that the process involved adding a generation of 3MW for each turbine set, bringing the total capacity after being upgraded to 25MW (22MW previously) with the works involving three sets of existing turbines.

On the allegations by certain quarters that the construction of the Pangi dam was a reason for flooding in Tenom and Beaufort, Laimon said the allegations are purely an assumption.

"It does not arise at all because in the event of severe flooding in Tenom, the three dam gates will be opened fully to release flood waters straight down the Padas River.

'While in Beaufort, it is not possible for the size of the flood to be larger than what is experienced in Tenom because everything is released through the fully opened dam gates," he said.

