

RM16.3mil project in Seri Kembangan to last 50 years

# Digging deep to mitigate floods

By **MELIZARANI T.SELVA**  
melizarani@thestar.com.my

FLOOD mitigation efforts in Taman Seri Serdang in Seri Kembangan, Selangor, are set to continue until 2019.

Divided into two packages, the works involve widening and deepening of the existing water retention pond and a tributary of Sungai Kuyoh.

Drainage and Irrigation Department (DID) senior assistant director Ganesan Balakrishnam said the works would continue until 2019.

"In the first package, we are deepening the retention pond by 1m and widening it from 8m to 14m. This will cost RM6.3mil and will be completed by February next year.

"The second package will involve the widening, deepening and upgrading of pumps in Sungai Kuyoh, which stretches for 4km.

"This will cost about RM10mil. It will begin in July, once we have an open tender for the project, and is scheduled to be completed in 2019.

"Both will ensure the Taman Seri Serdang area is protected from floods for 50 years, which is sufficient for now," he said.

As the water retention pond was close to the residential area of Jalan Raya 5 in Taman Seri Serdang, Ganesan added that DID would look into placing signage to prevent children from playing near the pool.

"We will put up warning signage and, at the same time, advise people not to fish at the pond, because it is very deep and dangerous," he said.

WNA Consultant Sdn Bhd is the



The water retention pond at Taman Sri Serdang that will be upgraded.

project planner and its project engineer Mohd Nazir Luwi said the plan would be more effective once the second package was completed.

"Once the 4km river is widened and deepened, and the pumps are in place, we can ensure the water will be stored in the retention pond and released slowly down stream to prevent flooding," he said.

Jalan Raya 5 resident of 30 years

Karim Laif said the retention pond needed work done every four years prior to this to avoid floods.

"During the rainy season, the houses behind mine often end up getting flooded because they are on lower ground.

"If they can increase the depth of the pond, I think it will solve all our problems.

"They have done deepening works twice in eight years. I hope it lasts longer this time," he said.

Selangor Local Government Development committee chairman Ean Yong Hian Wah said the RM16.3mil project is being funded by the state government.

"Taman Seri Serdang has had flood issues especially near SK Seri Serdang and Section 9.

"Since we started Package 1 of the works last year, we have seen a significant difference and there have been fewer floods," he said.