



Sungai Rawang will be widened and deepened along a 5km stretch under the project.

Project to end floods in Rawang's Kuala Garing area

Story and photos by CHARLES FERNANDEZ
charlesf@thestar.com.my

A RM15mil flood mitigation project in the Kuala Garing area in Rawang spells good news for its residents who have, for a long time, had to endure flash floods everytime it rains.

The project not only involves deepening and widening of Sungai Rawang which runs through the area but also the upgrading of the drainage system within a five-kilometer radius of the river.

Taman Garing, Taman Sri Garing Jaya and Taman Sri Rawang, with more than 5,000 residents are the worst affected housing estates because they are located close to the river.

Over the years, Sungai Rawang has been deepened and widened several times but the incessant silt brought about by extensive development upstream had nullified these efforts.

Rawang assemblyman Datuk Tang See Hang said Transport Minister Datuk Seri Chan Kong Choy, who is also Selayang MP, obtained the funding for the project after he (Tang) put forward the proposal to him.

Tang together with Selayang Municipal Council (MPS) president Zainal Abidin Azim and officers from the Drainage and Irrigation Department (DID) conducted a three-hour survey of the area.

"The situation has been very bad in the last one year because of massive development in the area. The DID started work on the project on Nov 1 after they were asked to come up with a master plan for the flood mitigation programme," he



Tang (right) being briefed on the flood problems by residents and teachers of a school in Rawang.

said.

Tang, who is also a state executive councillor, said initial investigations showed that there was a bottleneck at the drainage system near Taman Garing and Taman Garing Prima, which caused a backflow that usually lead to floods.

"The project will be completed in 24 months and upgrading and deepening will be carried out along a five kilometer stretch of the river. Once this is completed, flooding in Kuala Garing will soon be a thing of the past," he assured.

Tang said this was the first major upgrading of a drainage system in Rawang.