

Flash floods reignite an old fear among kampung folk

JOHOR BARU: A decade has passed since they were hit by a deluge, but the villagers of Kampung Kangkar Tebrau still have a fear of floods.

Among them is taxi driver Abd Karim Jamal, 57, who said that he and his family always worry that the “big floods of 2006 and 2007” will happen again.

He said they were always on edge “whenever the rain lasts more than an hour” at their village.

“We were so traumatised by the floods all those years ago,” he said.

So the family was very fearful when they had to shelter at a temporary relief-centre on Thursday evening after the village was hit by flash floods.

They were among the 84 victims housed at two centres – a multipurpose hall and a community hall –



for the night.

The victims included villagers from Kampung Maju Jaya, Kampung Bunga Ros and Kampung Paya Kenangan.

By noon the next day, the floods had eased and they returned to

their respective homes.

Karim, a father of five who has been living in the village for 35 years, blamed the floods on development in the surrounding areas.

He said flash floods also hit the village last February.

Waist-deep in water:

Johor Fire and Rescue Department personnel assisting Kampung Kangkar Tebrau residents after they were hit by flash floods.

Housewife Che Jamilah Majid, 53, who has been renting a house there since 2010, said she has stopped buying furniture.

“I have to replace them every time the house is flooded, so why bother having any,” she said.