

Unfinished project cause of floods

Devotees want authorities to complete monsoon drain behind their gurdwara in Port Dickson

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SIKHS from Port Dickson are urging the authorities to complete construction of a monsoon drain project which channels water from residential and commercial areas along Batu 1 Jalan Pantai to the sea.

Gurdwara Sahib Port Dickson secretary S. Ravinder Singh, 36, said the move to defer the construction of the final stretch of project was a cause for concern.

"There is only another 800m stretch to be constructed.

"As a result, water from upstream areas now flow into the gurdwara entrance and becomes stagnant.

"Apart from the increase in the number of mosquitoes here, we also had to endure an unbearable stench from the monsoon drain," he said.

Ravinder said the gurdwara committee never faced the problem previously as there was no monsoon drain running outside its premises.

"We hope the authorities will hear us out

and quickly complete the remaining stretch," he said, adding that work on the monsoon drain was last done in November.

Ravinder said he had written to the Port Dickson Municipal Council, the Drainage and Irrigation Department and other agencies but had not received a reply from them.

"The stagnant water is also causing some soil erosion and we have seen cracks appearing at our gurdwara floor and perimeter wall.

"In fact, a section of our gurdwara was flooded during heavy rain and high tide," he added.

He said the Port Dickson Gurdwara Sahib committee also received complaints from Sikhs from other places on regards to the monsoon drain problems.

"We get a lot of visitors as we are the only gurdwara in Port Dickson and located about 100m away from a beautiful stretch of beach.

"The committee hopes the authorities will complete the project as soon as possible," he added.



Ravinder (second from left) and members of the Sikh community showing the uncompleted monsoon drain. Work on the project stopped last November. — UU BAN/The Star