

Move to curb floods gets an airing

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PUTRAJAYA: Developers may soon have to adhere to the Malaysian Environment Friendly Manual (Masma), a set of guidelines aimed at reducing flash floods. The Cabinet is likely to discuss the guidelines early next year.

Natural Resources and Environment Minister Datuk Seri

Azmi Khalid said this was among measures to address the problem of floods, especially in urban areas.

Under Masma, builders will be required to construct water absorption areas around houses instead of drains, and replace concrete drains along highways with grass-filled

canals with in-built water-retention tanks.

Car parks, too, must be built in such a way that water would seep into the ground.

Azmi was speaking at a Press conference after chairing the Standing Commission Meeting to discuss flood control at his ministry here.