

A bridge too near

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THE construction of a small bridge across a monsoon drain in Taman Megah, Kajang has riled residents of Jalan Megah 2.

They say a landowner is building the bridge to provide exclusive access to her bungalow opposite Taman Megah with the knowledge of the Kajang Municipal Council (MPKj).

Resident A. Kunasekaran said piling works for the bridge began a few months ago while construction was carried out late into the night. He also said 10-wheelers would use the narrow road in front of his house to access the area.

"We suspect MPKj is in cohorts with the landowner because we were slapped with warning notices for parking our cars in front of our houses. Ironically, the council has done nothing to prevent trailers from entering our residential area," he complained.

His wife R. Sarimala said the police also came by to warn her against parking her car outside her house. But when she explained the situation to them, they left.

"For the past three years, lorries have been dumping construction debris here. When we questioned the drivers, they said the landowner told them to do so and even collected a small fee," said Kunasekaran.

Pensioner N. Ramakrishnan said an engineer with the MPKj engineering department came once and told residents the bridge project had the approval of the council but did not produce an official letter.

"She also claimed to have the approval of the Hulu Langat Drainage



Left:
The bridge built by a landowner across a monsoon drain to provide exclusive access to her house. Note the construction debris piled on the side of the drain reserve.

Below:
Ramakrishnan with the warning notice issued by MPKj for parking his car outside his house in Taman Megah.

and Irrigation Department and said she would fax over the letters. It has been months and we haven't received anything," he said.

"If the project has the council and JPS' approval, then why is there no signboard? Instead, residents were

warned for interfering with so-called council matters," he voiced out.

When the *StarMetro* visited the site on Monday, the bridge was half constructed and building debris were piled high.

A JPS officer, who only identified

himself as Badaruddin, said he had no knowledge about the goings-on and advised residents to speak to the council over the matter.

When contacted, MPKj officers declined comment.

