

Rail track contractor prepares for floods

MGJV sets up emergency response teams in four states

BUKIT MERTAJAM: MMC-Gamuda Joint Venture Sdn Bhd (MGJV) has set up emergency response teams in preparation for possible flooding at low-lying areas along the 328km Ipoh-Padang Besar electrified double-track project.

The company, which is the contractor for the project, is joining hands with relevant authorities to prepare for the monsoon season which is expected to bring more rain to the northern states.

MGJV director Datuk Azmi Mat Nor said the company's management staff were working closely with the local authorities, Meteorological Department, Drainage and Irrigation Department and the police to face any emergency due to floods in Perlis, Kedah, Penang and Perak.

"We have set up emergency response command centres in the four states and emergency response teams to help flood victims.

"We have identified seven flood-prone areas in Perak and 10 in Penang, and have stationed heavy machinery such as backhoes and excavators at the command centres," he said at the MGJV site office here yesterday.

Azmi said the company's main focus was to ensure water pas-

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— DATUK AZMI MAT NOR

sages, culverts, drains and waterways were maintained to prevent overflowing at the project sites.

"We will take immediate measures if intense rainfall causes the water level to rise. There will be 24-hour surveillance along the project's perimeter," he added.

In **ALOR SETAR** earlier, Azmi said some 2,000 company staff in Kedah and Perlis would be mobilised for the emergency response teams.

He said they would be monitoring Kodiang, Megat Dewa, Tunjang, Sungai Korok, Anak Bukit and Alor Setar in Kedah and Bukit Ketri, Mata Ayer and Arau in Perlis.

"We will also activate an emergency hotline (1-300-80-1999) once the flood alert is raised," he added.

The double-track project is expected to be completed in November 2014.