

Dramatic escape for motorist

Driver climbs out through car window after vehicle stalls in flash flood

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PETALING JAYA: A motorist had to climb out through his car window when its engine stalled during a flash flood at the New Pantai Expressway underpass near Sunway Pyramid during a two-hour downpour which resulted in traffic coming to stop for about an hour.

Kamarudin Fintal, 59, was driving his company's car from his workplace in Shah Alam towards Kampung Melayu Subang during the downpour.

"It was raining heavily by the time I reached the underpass. The water was at knee-level. All the cars were moving slowly," he said yesterday.

He said he tried to drive on but the engine stopped.

A tow truck reached the place about 90 minutes later.

Another motorist Arshad Bani, 58, a retiree, was on his way back to Subang Jaya from Kuala

Lumpur at 4.30pm during the downpour.

"Cars slowed down near the underpass and I just followed. There was no way I could turn back.

"The flood water reached up to almost half of my car window and my car engine died," he said.

He called his mechanic and waited three hours before the tow truck came.

At 5.14pm, LLMinfotrafik tweeted about a flash flood at KM3.1 (westbound) near PJS 8 and warned highway users about the congestion.

Later at 5.28pm, LLMinfotrafik followed up with an image of traffic jam at the underpass, adding that the congestion was 3km in both directions.

The flood water receded at 7.30pm.

The standstill on the NPE also affected the flow of traffic on Lebuhraya Damansara-Puchong, which saw many motorists trying to drive into the NPE getting stuck.

Yesterday saw increased traffic on the highways leading into the city as many motorists



That sinking feeling: Cars negotiating through floodwaters after torrential rain in Bandar Sunway yesterday.

appeared to be returning from the weekend holidays.

Plustrafik on its twitter continuously alerted motorists that traffic had slowed down at

stretches on the New Klang Valley Expressway, the Elite Expressway and the Kuala Lumpur-Seremban stretch of the highway owing to vehicle breakdowns or heavy rain.