



SMK Tengku Ampuan Rahimah students in Klang stepping on chairs and benches to move around the school during a flash flood yesterday. Several other areas in Klang were also flooded after a two-hour downpour which began at 9am yesterday. Pic by Osman Adnan

Fed up with flood problem

PERENNIAL HEADACHE: State urged to take speedy action to build retention pools in flood-prone areas

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A TWO-HOUR downpour caused flash floods in several areas, including residential areas and a school here.

Form Three SMK Tengku Ampuan Rahimah student Muhd Anas Fitri, 15, said he always made it a point to carry a pair of slippers to school for fear of floods.

Anas said yesterday's flood was the worst he had encountered for the past three years.

He was among more than 1,000 students affected by a flash flood which hit the school about 9am following heavy rain yesterday.

Anas said he feared poisonous creatures like snakes might endanger students. "A couple of years ago, a student was almost bitten by a cobra during a flood."

Anas, who will be sitting the Penilaian Menengah Rendah examination this year said despite the flood, teachers went ahead with their respective classes.

School principal Rahmah Arsad said flash floods were a common occurrence for the teachers and students.

"Meetings with the Parent-Teacher Association (PTA) and the Klang Municipal Council officers on flash floods are conducted from time to time but there seems to

be no solution to the problem," she said, attributing it to poor drainage system and clogged drains.

The heavy rain also flooded residential areas in Pandamaran, Port Klang, Bukit Tinggi, Bayu Perdana and Taman Sentosa.

Motorists were also caught in traffic jams after certain stretches of roads had to be closed due to flood waters.

Kota Alam Shah assemblyman M. Manoharan said flash

floods in Selangor had been a perennial problem. He urged Menteri Besar Tan Sri Abdul Khalid Ibrahim to use the RM1.9 billion in state reserves to fund the building of retention pools in flood-prone areas.

"Action must be taken fast before the situation worsens."

"A couple of years ago, a student was almost bitten by a cobra during a flood."

Muhd Anas Fitri
student