

Residents say flood due to clogged drains

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ABOUT 50 houses in Taman Putra, Ampang were flooded after the downpour in Ampang on Wednesday.

The affected residents claimed the clogged drains were the cause of the flood that happened around 2pm.

They also expressed their dissatisfaction with the Ampang Jaya Municipal Council (MPAJ) for its failure to clean up the clogged drains.

Resident Treisa Yong, 39, of Jalan 19, said she started panicking and broke into tears when she saw the water level rising in her single-storey terrace house in Taman Putra.

"The water rose to my knees almost drowning some of my furniture," she said.

"I could not save anything in my living room as it happened so fast. I could not even open the front door due to the water pressure outside caused by the flood," said Yong.

Another resident, Woi Fua Kong, 62 said it was the worst flood to have happened in the area for years.

"We have had floods before, but it was never this bad. The last time this place got flooded was three years ago," he said.

Woi added that he had even built a retaining wall to prevent water from the drain to flow in.

However, the drain could not cope with the rising water level and his house was flooded within minutes.

As for Yunus Sarifin, 60, he said the water in the house was as



Gone: Yong's furniture and electrical appliances were damaged in the flood.

high as 0.8m after just 10 minutes of rain.

Yunus also blamed the clogged drain for the flood.

"Apart from damage to property, we also have to bear with cost of cleaning up this mess," he said.

Yunus added that he quickly rented a water pump to pump out the floodwater before things got worse.

Selangor Gerakan Youth chief Ben

Liew said the residents were devastated and wanted MPAJ to respond to the situation as soon as possible.

"MPAJ should conduct frequent check-up and clean up the drains in this area.

"Now the residents have suffered loss to their property in thousands and you can't even imagine the emotional trauma they are going

through," he said.

"The local council should take responsibility and lessen the burden of these residents," he said.

Liew added that a few landslides had also occurred in Ampang and Cheras due to the heavy rain on Wednesday.

The areas where the landslide happened were Taman Bukit Permai, Taman Saga and Cheras Baru.

"MPAJ should have taken preventive measures to avoid landslides from happening especially in areas with high population.

"In Taman Bukit Permai, for example, the landslide occurred just a few metres away from an apartment and had damaged a car," he said.

Liew added that they should have built a barrier or strengthen the hillslope.