

Seeking compensation from flood damage

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KEPONG Baru residents are anxiously awaiting the Federal Territory Drainage and Irrigation Department (DID)'s decision on June 11 as to whether they will receive compensation for losses they suffered during a recent flood.

Speaking to residents at a press conference recently at the Persatuan Penganut Dewa Teo Kong Sin Kuan Chinese Temple in Jalan Antoi Kanan 2, Kepong Community Service Centre head Yee Poh Ping said the residents are hoping the DID will give a favourable reply after the latter got in touch with its contractor, Petrodec.

"This wasn't a natural disaster. Construction work at the Sri Segambut retention pond near the Sungai Keroh river, and a 'wall' created by soil removed from the pond that prevented excess water from Sungai Keroh from flowing into the pond caused the flooding.

"In less than an hour, Jalan Antoi Kiri, Jalan Antoi Kanan 1, Jalan Antoi Kanan 2, Jalan Antoi and nearby areas were flooded. Many residents suffered damage to their properties, cars and personal belongings amounting to thousands of ringgit.

"In recent meetings with the DID, the latter agreed that its contractor was responsible for the flooding. It instructed the contractor to give a written statement

ANTICIPATION: Kepong Baru residents are waiting for the decision from the Federal Territory Drainage and Irrigation Department



Construction work at this retention pond near Sungai Keroh led to **a wall of soil that prevented excess water from the river from flowing into the pond.** This caused homes to be flooded. Pic by Nurul Syazana Rose Razman

on the matter on June 11.

"In the event that DID or its contractor do not want to compensate the affected residents, we will hold protests in front of DID's headquarters in Putrajaya, or its office in Kuala Lumpur.

"A total of 112 homes were affected by the flooding. We are seeking RM1 million in compensation," said Yee.

"We also want the DID to build a

1.22-metre-high, 500-metre-long wall near the Sungai Keroh bridge to prevent another flooding," he added.

Stan Chay, 69, who has been living in Jalan Antoi for the last 30 years said he suffered an estimated RM14,000 in losses when his furniture, mattresses, and TV set were destroyed, among other things.

"Some of my neighbours are

worse off because their cars, laptops and fridges were also damaged. The water level rose rapidly, leaving little time for us to salvage our valuables.

Yee said Kepong Baru is an upstream area with no history of flash floods.

He said the deepening of the retention pond was part of the Kuala Lumpur Flood Mitigation project.