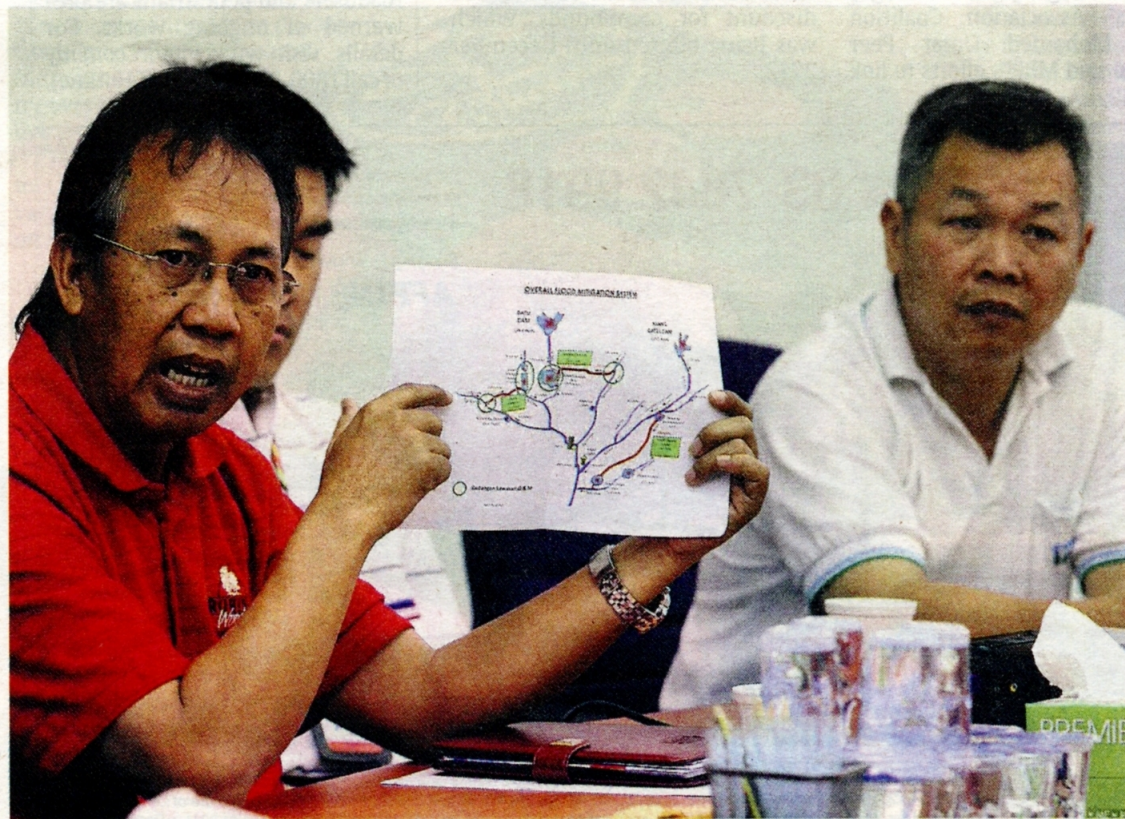


Monorail depot project will not cause flooding, assures DID



No problems here: Ahmad Husaini explaining to residents that studies have shown the construction of the piers along the riverbed will not cause flooding.

By **JASTIN AHMAD TARMIZI**

jastin@thestar.com.my

THE Drainage and Irrigation Department (DID) has assured that construction work to build the monorail depot along banks of the Klang River in Brickfields, Kuala Lumpur will not cause any flash floods.

The residents were worried that any construction of piers and elevated highways along the riverbed would cause flooding, and questioned the wisdom in allowing the project.

During a meeting with the residents, DID director-general Datuk Ahmad Husaini Sulaiman assured the residents that the construction of piers along the riverbed would not cause flooding.

"There are two things that have been done to confirm whether the construction of the pillars would cause flooding.

"One was a hydraulic test to see whether the pillars will hinder the flow of the water and the second was to see what kind of flow the river would have, taking into account the flood mitigation system upstream, which is the SMART tunnel and the Batu Jinjang retention pond.

"But when rain falls within the catchment, the water level in this area

always remains at a certain level, which means that there will not be any overflow.

"We are also looking at any situation where the piers will cause backwater effect, and the hydraulic studies proved that it will not happen," said Ahmad Husaini.

Temple of Fine Arts president V. Kanagasivam, who was present at the meeting with representatives of DID and Prasarana, said the residents were happy that Ahmad Husaini himself came to see the residents regarding the matter.

"We are happy and grateful that the director-general himself has come to see us on this matter. Now we do not have to worry about any flooding as the assurance has been given by DID.

"DID has also given me assurance that they will look into the pipeline system and sewerage of our temple," he added.

Kanagasivam had earlier told *StarMetro* that due to the construction work, the pipeline system of the temple had been damaged and the sewerage is not working properly.

"He (Ahmad Husaini) has given us assurance that Prasarana will solve the problems faced by affected buildings and residents," he said.