

Hole-y bridge

Jalan Pulau Meranti closed after erosion causes structure to collapse

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Photo by **MOHD SAHAR MISNI**

DAILY commuters travelling between Putrajaya and Puchong through Kampung Pulau Meranti, Puchong, had to take an alternative route after a bridge along Jalan Pulau Meranti collapsed on Monday evening.

The collapse left a gaping hole on one side of the bridge and the road has since been closed to traffic.

Kampung Pulau Meranti village head Zul Asry Ambia said the incident happened in the late afternoon on Monday.

"We made complaints to the Public Works Department (PWD) and the Drainage and Irrigation Department (DID) about five months ago when we noticed erosion on the river bank where the bridge is sitting on.

"However, no one came to investigate the matter and the river bank just gave way after the current spell of heavy rain.

"PWD officers closed the road after it collapsed but pedestrians are still being allowed to walk on

the side of the road that is still intact.

"We are told that they will put up a temporary bridge for light vehicles but we are not sure when it will be ready," he said.

He added that students who lived in Kampung Pulau Meranti and Kampung Sungai Rasau who went to either SK Pulau Meranti, Sekolah Rendah Agama Pulau Meranti or SM Putra Perdana had to take the day off school because their transport could not get into the village to pick them up.

Those travelling to Puchong now have to take a longer route through Cyberjaya because of the closed bridge.

Dengkil assemblyman Datuk Marsum Paing said the PWD has put up barriers for motorists to make U-turns at either ends of the bridge.

A Selangor PWD spokesperson said remedial works is being carried out and the bridge is expected to be opened by this evening.

However, the department will require another six months for further investigations of the collapse and to carry out proper repair works.



Dangerous drop: The gaping hole is about 12-feet wide, 36-feet long and 10-feet deep. The road is closed to prevent danger to road users.