

Silt in river may cause flash floods

JITTERY: Residents of Kampung Masjid Segambut Dalam say the silt came from nearby housing projects

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RESIDENTS of Kampung Masjid Segambut Dalam, here, fear that another flash flood may occur if City Hall fails to address their flood-related problems.

Kampung Masjid Segambut Dalam Residents' Association chairman Nordin Kadir said problems had yet to be addressed since the mayor Datuk Ahmad Phesal Talib's last visit in August.

Nordin conveyed this to the Segambut Barisan Nasional chairman Jayanthi Devi Bal-

aguru during the latter's visit to the village recently.

Nordin said Sungai Toba, which flows through the village, carried silt from several nearby construction sites.

"There is silt as deep as 0.6m in the river. If City Hall does not act on the problem, we fear it will lead to another flash flood.

"Even after the mayor's last visit, no one came to clear the silt or deepen the river or assists us in any way to prepare for the monsoon season," said Nordin.

He added that the presence of over 2,000 illegal immigrants in the village had contributed to the river pollution.



Jayanthi Devi Balaguru surveying the silt from a nearby mixed development project site that has settled in a drain.

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Wet spell brings watery woes

MULTIPLE PROBLEMS: The current rainy season has caused clogged drains in Taman Muda to collapse

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THE current rainy season has affected motorists at Jalan Bunga Raya in Ampang and residents of the surrounding areas.

Teratai constituency complaints bureau chief Ben Liew said that due to clogged drains, flash floods frequently occur at the junction near the Esso petrol station of Jalan Bunga Raya.

"This would result in massive road congestion here as about 2,000 motorists use this road because it connects them to Jalan Bunga Tanjung and Jalan Mawar," he said.

The traffic jams are made worse in the evenings when parents pick up their children at a nearby school and residents go to the Taman Muda night market.

Resident Wong Chong Sing, 43, said two accidents have occurred due to the flooded road.

"The cars were constantly moving and braking and in the midst of this my car was hit from behind by another vehicle.

"There was another accident where a young motorcyclist skidded on the muddy road. He suffered wounds on his arm," said the hawker.

The floodwater had also flowed into houses.

"It usually rains in the evenings and that is when the water would rise about 30cm in my house.

"It is very inconvenient as this is the time I prepare dinner for my family but instead I have to clean out the flood water," said Poon Siew Chang, 45, a resident of Jalan Bunga Tanjung.

The biggest damage wreaked by the flash floods is the soil erosion of the inner road at the Esso petrol station.

"A part of the drain wall has collapsed and other parts are starting to crack. There could be soil erosion anytime soon," Liew said.

Liew had suggested on Thursday that Ampang Jaya Municipal Council (MPAJ) close the affected road to allow repair works to be carried out on the collapsed wall of the drain.

"The residents have sent two complaint letters to Teratai assemblyman Janice Lee's office last week but no action was taken," he said.



Ben Liew (second from left) and residents of Taman Muda showing the **collapsed wall of the drain and soil erosion** at the Jalan Bunga Raya Esso petrol station. Pic by Yong Chee Choong