

**Inundated:**  
Flash flood in  
Jalan Barat,  
Petaling Jaya  
during a  
downpour  
recently.



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# Watery woes in Petaling Jaya

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**T**HE rainy spell reared its ugly head in the city of Petaling Jaya in October and as the saying goes, when it rains it pours.

So when it poured, areas such as Jalan 223, Jalan Seimpat and Jalan Barat (in front of Hilton Petaling Jaya) were flooded.

Based on Twitter feeds via @KLTrafficUpdate during those particular days, the two-hour downpour also caused minor flash floods, traffic jams and fallen trees in areas such as Damansara-Puchong Highway (LDP), areas near the Sultan Abdul Aziz Shah Airport and the Glenmarie exit near Subang Jaya.

Members of the public who were having lunch at the Medan Selera MBPJ food court in Jalan 223 had to climb onto the tables because of

## RM2mil allocated to resolve flash floods in the city

the rising water as a result of the flash floods that occurred after a downpour in the afternoon.

Yusof Abdul, who operates a drink stall there, said the water started to rise about 1.15pm when there were about 60 people eating at the food court, which had just undergone a major refurbishment.

"I have been doing business here for the past three years. But today was quite a scene because the flood water rose quite fast," he told *StarMetro*.

Petaling Jaya City Council (MBPJ) public relations officer Zainun Zakaria said the council had identified areas prone to flash floods and short-term mitigation plans

included fixing broken drains and cleaning out the clogged ones.

When the flash flood occurred in front of Hilton Petaling Jaya, Zainun said it was because of the clogged drains from an adjacent construction site.

She added that MBPJ would also work with the Drainage and Irrigation Department to rehabilitate rivers to counter over-flowing problems.

Floods that took place in the Sunway Mas commercial area in PJU 1, especially in Jalan PJU 1/3B, have also been a long-standing problem.

During the recent council meeting to discuss the 2013 budget, it was

announced that RM2mil would be allocated to carry out flood mitigation work at the Sunway Mas commercial area in PJU 1.

Engineering works to overhaul the drainage systems in Kampung Cempaka, Sunway Mas and Bukit Mayang will also only take place in the second quarter of 2013 after the tenders and engineering plans have been cleared.

One of the problems faced by the council is clearing the undergrowth as there is a Tenaga Nasional Bhd substation in the area and the roots have become intertwined with the cables.

This would entail rebuilding the drainage channel.