

Flash flood hits Puchong

AFTERNOON HAVOC: Two-hour downpour brings traffic to a standstill, disrupts business

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FLASH floods struck several areas in Puchong yesterday afternoon following a two-hour downpour and brought traffic to a standstill between Km21 and Km24 of the Damansara-Puchong Expressway (LDP).

Several cars were also trapped by the sudden rise of flood waters, which reached a height of one metre along the highway and the IOI shopping mall car park.

The flood waters had also entered the shopping mall's ground floor, causing customers to be stranded as well as affecting businesses.

In addition, the basement floors of the shopping mall opposite the affected highway section were also flooded.

Nurul Ayesha Abd Rahman, 27, said she was on her way back to work at IOI Mall when the incident occurred.

"I was driving from Sunway to Puchong via the LDP when I noticed water had flooded the road. Assuming that it was shallow, most drivers, including myself, went ahead before realising too late that it was deeper than we thought," she said.

Nurul said that she lost control of her Perodua Myvi as the water current began to push her car away.

"I panicked and thought I was going to be submerged with my car as I saw a Perodua Kancil going under the water."

The school clerk said that the water had already begun to seep into her car when she managed to hit the accelerator and veered left where the water levels were low, before exiting the road.

"I was very lucky that my car did not break down," she said, adding that at least four to five cars had broken down along the highway following the floods.



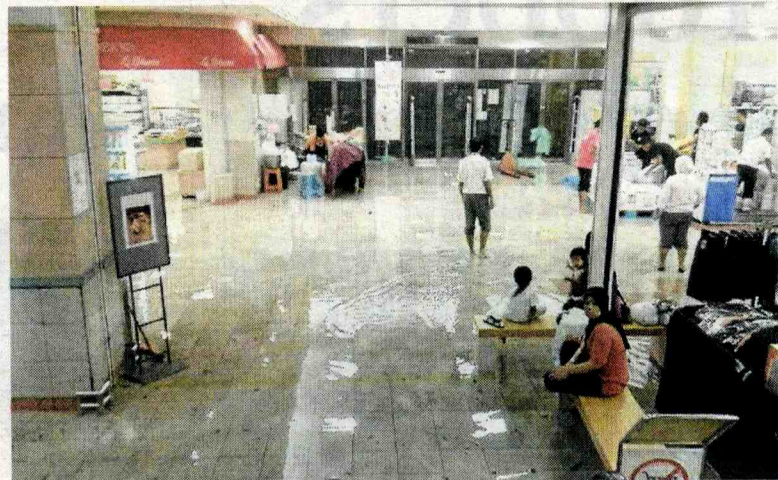
Three vehicles are trapped by flood waters, which was as high as 1.5m, during yesterday's flash floods along Km21 and Km24 of the Damansara-Puchong Expressway.

Flash floods were also reported at Taman Perindustrian Puchong, Bandar Puteri and the business centres surrounding the IOI Mall.

Many social network users posted pictures of the flash floods and alerted motorists not to use the highway.

Selangor Fire and Rescue Department operations assistant director Mohamad Sani Harul said the water level rose up to 1.5m at some locations but no casualties were reported.

He said the department received a distress call about 5pm and firefighters from the Puchong fire station were also dispatched to several locations. The flood waters receded by 6pm yesterday.



Shoppers wade through the floodwaters inside the IOI Mall in Puchong. The flood waters receded by 6pm yesterday.