

PJ river in dire need of restoration

HEAVY rain in the evenings over a period of two weeks has caused a stretch of riverbank of Sungai Kayu Ara, which runs parallel to a recreational field off Jalan SS25/20 in Taman Mayang, Petaling Jaya, to collapse.

"More than 10m of the riverbank has been washed away. It has caused the foundations of the chain link fence next to the river to collapse.

"A stretch of about 1km is rapidly being eroded and the field is waterlogged," resident Yap Cheng Kiat, 74, said.

Other residents in the neighbourhood feel that the heavy rain over the past two weeks had worsened the erosion that began after authorities had carried out metal sheet piling in the middle of the river bed.

"Most of the residents believe the interlinked metal sheets driven deep below the river bed had changed the course of the flow and this caused the erosion," a resident said.

He added that the erosion would eventually damage the recreational field if it was not looked into immediately.

"We urge the Petaling Jaya City Council (MBPJ) and the Petaling Drainage and Irrigation Department to come together and resolve the problem," he said.

A row of light industrial buildings stand on the other side of the river. It was noted that garbage generated from businesses there had been dumped into the river, thus killing off the vegetation and weakening the riverbanks.



Washed away: Sungai Kayu Ara's riverbank is heavily eroded and needs to be rectified urgently.