

Water disruption in Klang Valley

BURST PIPE: 500,000 households affected after pipe bursts during flash floods

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MORE than half a million people in the Klang Valley may have to put up with dry taps over the next few days after a large pipe burst in Batu Caves following Wednesday's flash floods.

Syarikat Bekalan Air Selangor (Syabas) executive operations director Yusof Saroji said water disruption was expected to affect more than 80 neighbourhoods in Gombak and Kuala Lumpur as the main water supply from the Wangsa Maju treatment plant had to be turned off.

"We have to prevent wastage and the constant flow of water from the burst pipe so that it does not interfere with the on-going major remedial works," he said yesterday.

At noon yesterday, Syabas workers were still excavating soil in the Dusun Kubung pond at Batu Caves to remove a displaced water chamber and to patch up the burst pipe.

Work at the site are expected to be completed by today.

"We are trying to fix the pipe as soon as possible and we hope that the residents can bear with us," he said. Syabas' contingency plan involved the deployment of 40 static water tanks and more than 350 Syabas water trucks to affected residents over the next three to four days.

Yusof added that water from the Langat plant would be pumped to areas with low pressure to minimise disruption.



A Syabas worker at the Dusun Kubung pond at Batu Caves helping to remove a displaced water chamber and patch up the burst pipe. Pic by Mokhsin Abidin

Meanwhile, at the Pudu Sentral bus terminal, workers were seen clearing muddy residue and silt on the lower ground.

At the Shree Lakshmi Narayan temple off Jalan Ipoh, floodwaters breached the compound, the open car park as well as the canteen and kitchen.

The temple's youth chief Karan

Chhabra said every time it rained heavily, the temple would come under water.

"I hope City Hall will look into this problem as the temple is located next to a river near the Putra World Trade Centre.

"Kampung Kasipillay, the neighbourhood where we are located, is also prone to floods," he added.

Meanwhile, City Hall said trees were uprooted in at least 20 areas in the city due to strong winds.

Among the badly affected areas were Cheras, Jalan U Thant, Bukit Bintang, Lebuhraya Mahameru, Setapak and Jalan Ipoh.

Several main roads, including Jalan Tun Razak, Jalan Parlimen, Jalan Duta, Jalan Pudu, Jalan

Cheras Lama, Jalan Chan Sow Lin and Jalan Segambut were submerged in water.

The floods also caused massive traffic jam at Jalan Tun Razak, Jalan Duta, Jalan Mahameru, Jalan Kuching and the Jalan Bukit Pantai highway.

The Smart tunnel remained open to traffic in both directions.