



The downpour on April 6 caused Sungai Kerayong to overflow its banks and created a flash flood in Pekan Salak South.

Clogged drains worsen floods

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FLASH floods have been hitting various parts of Kuala Lumpur for the past several months now.

Usually after a downpour, city folks would have to deal with massive traffic jams, collapsed trees and damage to property.

Residents of smaller townships on the fringe of the city have not been spared.

For people living in Pekan Salak South in Sungei Besi, the situation has become intolerable.

Residents and the business community living and working around Jalan Besar have yet to get over the last flood on April 6.

Federal Territory MCA public service bureau head Banie Chin said the downpour caused Sungai Kerayong that flows through the area to overflow its banks, flooding the shops in front of the road.

"The flood water rose up to 1.5m in houses further down the road," he said.

Chin believed that the flash flood was



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not only due to Sungai Kerayong overflowing its banks. "Blocked pipes and clogged drains which obstructed water flow made the situation worse.

"Debris from construction work of the

Kuala Lumpur-Putrajaya highway is also a factor to be considered," he added.

According to Chin, City Hall had carried out flood mitigation works in the area several years ago.

It involved deepening a monsoon drain in the area, building a pump station and twin box culvert near Sungai Kerayong.

"Whenever it rained, water would overflow from the monsoon drain and flood neighbouring homes.

"However, the gate at the pump station is supposed to close automatically during a downpour and the rainwater in the monsoon drain is supposed to be diverted to Sungai Kerayong.

"But the pump station does not work all the time due to rubbish clogging up the pumps.

"We all need to work together to solve this problem once and for all," Chin said, adding that it was everybody's responsibility and not just City Hall's.

Chin had met with residents and the business community in the area to talk about what could be done to solve the problem.