

# Strengthen the riverbank

Taman Cheras Utama folk still worried about condition of embankment

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Photo by ROHAIZAT DARUS

**R**ESIDENTS of Jalan CU9 in Taman Cheras Utama, Kuala Lumpur are worried as they feel the measures taken to fortify the riverbank behind their houses, which is on the verge of collapsing, is inadequate and may damage their properties.

The residents said despite complaints made to the relevant authorities, nothing had been done.

The three complaints were made in 2004, 2009 and 2012.

When the matter was first highlighted to the authorities, the residents said mangrove trees were

**DID took some remedial measures but the residents are still worried as the steel piling has been placed around the affected area only.**



— EDDIE NG



**Dangerous:** Only a portion of the riverbank has been cemented and fixed with steel pilings and mangrove wood to prevent further landslide.

planted to prevent further soil erosion.

However, this did not work and the riverbank collapsed again.

The Irrigation and Drainage Department (DID) then cemented the ground and inserted steel piling around the affected portion of the riverbank.

In May this year, Balakong assemblyman Eddie Ng said worried residents had highlighted the matter to him.

"I wrote to the DID and they took some remedial measures but the residents are still worried because the steel piling has been placed around the affected area only and not the entire riverbank.

"There is still a portion that is not secure and may erode," he said.

"We are also not sure how deep the steel piling and the mangrove trees are as DID did not give us details," he said during a site visit, adding that the problem could not

be resolved if proper measures were not taken.

Ismail Tahir, 57, who has been living in Cheras Utama for over 20 years now, said measures taken to fortify the riverbank were insufficient.

"The entire riverbank must be strengthened with steel piling and mangrove trees, not just a section of it," he said.

No DID representatives were present during the site visit.