

Sg Penchala riverbed to be **upgraded**

Works will include repairing collapsed road

UPGRADING work will finally be carried out at Sungai Penchala in SS2 Petaling Jaya, including repairing a collapsed road nearby. Residents in the vicinity have been waiting two years to hear the news.

The riverbed of Sungai Penchala had sunk by a metre and caused a portion of the road beside Block D of the Damansara Bistari low-cost flats to collapse.

Work costing about RM2.78mil will be carried out by the Selangor Drainage and Irrigation Department (DID) together with the Petaling Jaya City Council (MBPJ).

The work is expected to take 18 months and will involve a one-kilometre stretch of the river, starting from SS2 Mall to Jasmine Towers.

"We have waited a long time for this," said Damansara Bistari resident Shari Othman.

The 59-year-old said he had lived in fear that his apartment would collapse anytime.

Shari, who moved in six years ago, said they first noticed a small crack on the road.

"It has been getting worse over the past two years and now cars cannot even drive through," he said.

Ramlah Saad, 55, said she had to walk on the collapsed road every day to get to the *surau* located in Block D of the flats.

Block D is opposite Block C where Ramlah stays and they are separated by the river.

The collapsed road is located 5m away from Block D.

"It is dangerous for everyone, including my grandchildren who play nearby," she said.

DID plans to raise the riverbed and strengthen it with gravel stones before MBPJ repairs the collapsed road.

"We cannot repair the road yet because we need to strengthen the soil beneath first," said MBPJ councillor Lee Suet Sen.

Lee, who is also an engineer, explained that MBPJ had taken remedial measures after the road collapsed in 2011.

They spent RM1mil to instal steel sheet piles to strengthen the river walls to prevent the road from col-



Remedial measures: MBPJ spent RM1mil to install steel sheet piles to strengthen the river walls after the road collapsed in 2011.

lapsing further.

Apart from four blocks in Damansara Bistari, the upgrading project will also impact those staying in Ken Damansara III, Ameera Residences, Five Stones and Jasmine Towers and notices will be issued to residents.

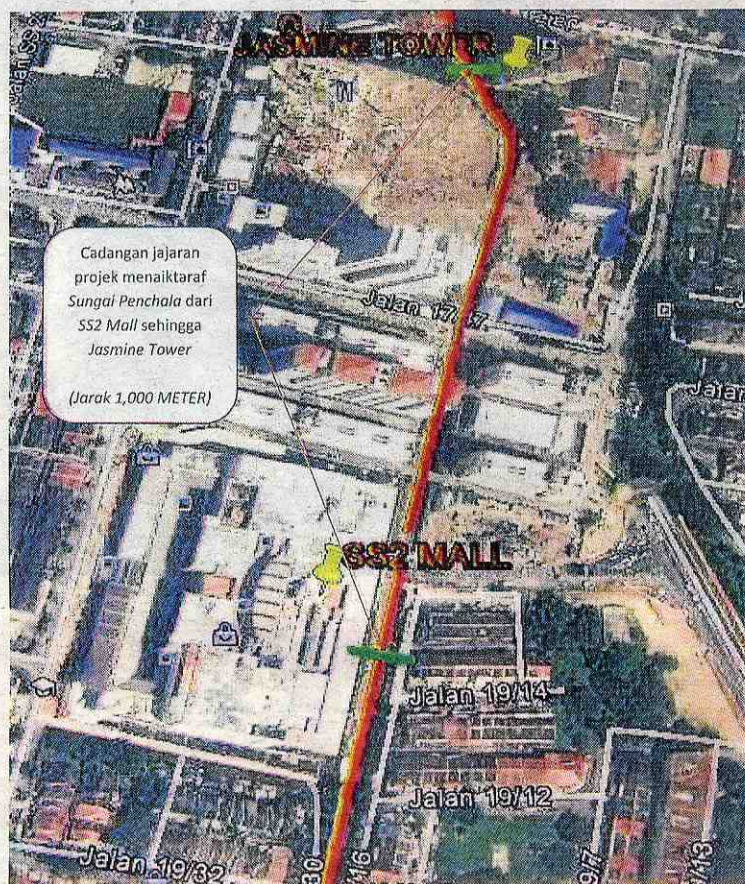
Damansara Utama assemblyman Yeo Bee Yin said she would be working with DID to upgrade and strengthen all rivers in her area, especially Sungai Kayu Ara.

"We hope the Federal Government will allocate funds for this," she said.

CADANGAN JAJARAN PROJEK MENAIKTARAF

SUNGAI PENCHALA DARI

SS2 MALL SEHINGGA JASMINE TOWER



Long overdue: A map image showing the one-kilometre stretch where upgrading works will take place.



Accident waiting to happen: Damansara Bistari resident Ramlah Saad and her grandchildren have to be careful each time they walk along the collapsed road.