

KL hit again by floods

WATER WOES: Highways and other parts of Klang Valley were not spared

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CITY folk who were caught in the flash floods on Thursday evening were busy cleaning up their homes and shops yesterday morning.

Sundry shop owner Renga Nayaki, 33, in Jalan Rahmat off Jalan Ipoh said not only does she have to bear the losses, the shop had to be closed for five hours for clean-up.

"We couldn't save the magazines placed on the rack in front of the shop. Among others that were damaged during the flash flood were detergent and bread."

She said the losses were relatively small compared to the one she suffered in the flash floods in April.

"Our losses in damaged goods and refrigerators in April was about RM20,000. We have been operating here for the past 11 years and have experienced flash floods at least twice a year."

Renga said that the flash floods



Alam Flora workers clearing mud at Jalan Rahmat off Jalan Ipoh.

was caused by the non-functioning flood mitigation water pump.

Restaurant worker Susilawaty Sujud, 43, also in Jalan Rahmat, said the downpour, which started at about 4pm, brought in silt and mud, making it difficult to clean up.

"Water levels rose within minutes

and by 5.30pm it was knee-high.

"We were taken by surprise with the rising water, so we frantically tried to save our electrical appliances. We also switched off our mains to avoid any electrocution.

"The place is still messy with mud everywhere. This is the second time

it's happened, but the worst was in April where the water rose up to about 1.5 metres," she said, adding the water receded about two hours later.

Naimah Shaari, 25, who was driving home in the evening, said that she was stuck in heavy traffic for almost three hours.

"I had just finished my classes in UiTM Shah Alam, and I was stuck on the Federal Highway from 6pm until I reached home at 8.30pm."

She also said she would have to take her car to the workshop after driving through the floods.

Among the badly-hit areas were Jalan Tun Razak, PWTC, Chan Sow Lin (near LRT station) Taman Danau Kota, Bandar Sri Permaisuri, Jalan Ipoh, Jalan Rahmat (near MIC building), Jalan Anak Gasing (Petaling Jaya) as well as highways including North Klang Valley Expressway (NKVE) from Shah Alam to Subang, MRR2, and New Pantai Expressway (near Angkasapuri).

About RM85 million had been spent on drainage improvements and maintenance of rivers last year.