

Battling flash floods in Rawang

Large retention pond to be built in Jalan Batu Arang



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A 2.3HA plot of land near the Aeon Anggun Rawang mall on Jalan Batu Arang is being turned into a large retention pond to combat the constant

flash floods in Rawang.

Floods occurred when the nearby Sungai Gong swelled after a downpour, even resulting in the collapse of part of the Jalan Bayu Permai 5 residential road.

Other areas hit by flash floods included the Pekan Rawang and Rawang Jaya areas.

Shoplots at the latter area were also hard hit, as they were in a

low-lying area.

The Selangor Municipal Council (MPS) Engineering Department had to bring in a backhoe to collect soil that was carried in by the floodwaters.

Both Gombak district officer Datuk Hisham Nor Dahlan and Rawang assemblyman Gan Pei Nei who inspected affected areas in Rawang and Jalan Batu Arang recently confirmed the construction of the retention pond.

Gan said for Pekan Rawang, the ongoing Selangor Drainage and Irrigation Department project to improve the town's drainage was temporarily stopped.

"So far, only Syarikat Bekalan Air Selangor (Syabas) has responded to the request by the JPS contractor to move its pipes.

"The contractor is waiting for Telekom Malaysia and Tenaga Nasional Berhad to respond,"

said Gan, adding that the reason for flashfloods in Rawang, such as at the Giant hypermarket, was due to higher-ground developments.

"Although these developments, which are under construction, have temporary retention ponds, they are insufficient," she added.

In the case of the planned Sungai Gong retention pond, the land is currently occupied by several squatter businesses, including a cowshed.

"The relevant authorities, including JPS and the Gombak District and Land Office, I have been told, will move to reclaim the land soon," said Gan.



1 Gan (third from left) and Nor Hisham (fourth from right) inspecting a site for a drainage upgrading project, with JPS and MPS personnel in Rawang town.



2 Roads in front of the shoplots in Rawang Jaya covered with soil left behind by floodwaters.



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