



1 Traffic lights at the former Rothmans roundabout in Petaling Jaya stopped working during the thunderstorm resulting in standstill traffic during the evening rush hour.



2 A structure of a worker's canopy from an LRT construction site fell on the LDP.



3 Fire and Rescue Department personnel carrying the kindergarten students in Puncak Alam to safety as waters reached 1m.

Downpour causes chaos in Klang Valley

Thunderstorm leads to floods, landslip and fallen trees

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THE thunderstorm in the Klang Valley caused flash floods in Petaling Jaya, Kuala Lumpur, Shah Alam, Ampang, Puchong, Rawang and Batang Berjuntai bringing traffic to a standstill for several hours on Tuesday evening.

However, there were no casualties reported during the freak thunderstorm which led to many in the Klang Valley to return home late after work.

In Bandar Puncak Alam, Fire and Rescue Department personnel were deployed to rescue some 25 children and teachers from a kindergarten after waters reached 1m.

Bestari Jaya station chief Sahidallah Osman said Fire and Rescue Department personnel were monitoring the Puncak Alam

flash flood area following the abnormal rainfall.

He said clean-up work was being done by the affected residents.

Fire and Rescue Department personnel from seven different stations throughout Selangor were called out within the space of three hours to deal with collapsed trees in Rawang, Bangi, Puchong, Cheras, Morib and on the Rawang-Batang Berjuntai road, which had caused traffic congestion.

The Ampang Jaya Municipal Council (MPAJ) said it would continue to monitor for signs of slope failure after a landslip occurred along Jalan Zamrud in Taman Bukit Ampang following the downpour.

Fire and Rescue Department personnel rushed to the scene after earth movement was detected on the 3m hillslope behind a row of houses causing a drain embankment to crack.

There were no reports of injuries during the 7pm incident.

MPAJ public relations officer Norhayati Ahmad said the damaged drain would be rebuilt.

"We will also be covering the damaged portion of the slope with tarpaulin and continue to monitor the site," said Norhayati.

She added that some RM30mil would be spent on slope rectification works in six areas within the municipality.

Resident C. Poornima, 70, said the landslip affected one of the homes in the area.

"There was some commotion on Tuesday night and we only knew later that it was soil movement.

"Although this is the first time in the last 30 years that this has happened, it is quite worrying.

"I can only hope that the situation does not worsen," she said.

Meanwhile, a structure of a worker's canopy from an LRT con-

struction site fell onto the Damansara-Puchong Expressway (LDP), following the thunderstorm.

The incident, which occurred just before the U-turn heading towards IOI Mall, caused traffic congestion from 5pm.

Kinrara assemblyman Ng Sze Han urged Prasarana to secure their temporary structures better for the safety of motorists.

"Fortunately, there were no injuries as the structure did not fall on any vehicle," he said.

Prasarana Rail and Infrastructure Projects Sdn Bhd (subsidiary of Prasarana Group) chief executive officer Datuk Zohari Sulaiman said the temporary structure was built along the LRT extension and had fallen due to unusually strong winds.

"We have already ordered the contractor to make sure all canopies are properly mounted," he said.