

Residents blame poor pond maintenance

SHAH ALAM: The failure of the Kuala Selangor District Council (MDKS) to maintain the drainage system in several retention ponds in the area is believed to have caused the flash flood in Bandar Puncak Alam.

Zone 7 Residents Representation Committee chairman Mohd Razib Mohd Talib said poor maintenance of the drainage system led the pond to be constantly filled with water.

"Whenever there is heavy rain, water would overflow from the pond into nearby areas, causing flood."

Razib said after the area was flooded in August, MDKS dug out a new

drain, but did not maintain the retention pond's drainage system.

The flood that started on Sunday night affected more than 170 homes and some 150 people had to be moved to a temporary relocation centre at Surau Taufiqiyah.

State Infrastructure, Public Amenities, Agro-based Industry executive councillor Zaidy Abdul Talib said the short-term solution was to clean all water outlets, including small drains, and the long-term solution was to deepen the retention ponds so they could hold more water.

"Re-dredging works for Puncak Alam 2 and Puncak Bestari retention ponds are underway and will be completed by June."

In **Kuala Selangor**, Kuala Selangor member of parliament Dátuk Irmo-hizam Ibrahim said the state government should take full responsibility for the flood.

He said the state government had boasted about having funds, but focused more on Darul Ehsan Investment Group than the people.

"I brought the matter up in Parliament and I believe the root cause is the lack of drainage in the area."