



1 Cars forced to wade through the floods at the Jalan Meru/ Puncak Alam intersection.

2 Floods at the Taman Sri Muda commercial area that left cars at the workshop stranded for an hour.

3 Two men seen wading through knee-deep water while on their way to the pedestrian bridge near the Batu Tiga KTM Station yesterday.

— Photos:
IZZRAFIQ ALIAS/
The Star



Experts from other countries to advice local authorities on flash floods

THE Selangor state government will be having a taskforce meeting today to find a solution to the flood issue.

State Infrastructure Committee chairman Zaidy Ahmad Talib said all the relevant agencies will be called in for the meeting by the Flood Taskforce.

"The rain has been very heavy and we have new flood areas that we did not expect.

"On Monday alone, we had floods in 17 different areas.

"We will be formulating a plan with the assistance of all the agencies," he said.

The plan would include the drainage systems that are maintained by the local authorities, the Drainage and Irrigation Department and the Works Department.

Zaidy said the taskforce had prepared checklists and action plans in preparation of the floods but did not expect the excessive rainfall.

The state, however, had allocated RM80mil for flood prevention next year, a 75% increase from the 2015 budget, and this does not include the RM24mil to upgrade the retention ponds in the state.

"We will also be organising an international symposium on flash

floods with experts from Japan, Korea and other countries sharing their success stories," he added.

Selangor, he said, may be able to adopt and implement some of the ideas from the symposium.

"We are a developing state and we need the ideas from other developing countries. We are doing our level best," he added.

Meanwhile, immediate remedial actions are already underway at several affected areas, including Puncak Alam in Kuala Selangor where 169 residents were forced to relocate temporarily because of the flood on Sunday night.

Kuala Selangor District Council president Noraini Roslan said cleaning works for all drainage systems were conducted periodically after the first flooding incident at Jalan Lautan Samudera on August 11.

"Cleaning works are done once in two months and the last session was conducted on Nov 11," she said in a press statement.

Apart from that, several long-term and short-term plans are being carried out as well including cleaning the water outlet from the Puncak Alam lake to the Puncak Bestari Lake.

The Kuala Selangor Drainage

and Irrigation department (JPS) is also conducting works to deepen the Puncak Alam lake which is expected to be completed on May 13, 2016.

The cost of the project is RM2.8mil and works are also underway to widen the drainage along Meru and Puncak Alam.

In addition, JPS is deepening the retention pond located in Sinar Alam and the Puncak Alam retention ponds' banks are being reinforced.

"The drainage system at the Hill Park and Puncak Alam 3 at Lorong Cakera Purnama 12/2 and 12/30 are also being realigned by the developer MKH Berhad and will be completed by March next year," she added.

In Shah Alam, its city council corporate communications head Shahrin Ahmad said MBSA had already initiated action plans to combat the problem.

"We have appointed a consultant to study and propose improvements that can be implemented to prevent floods in Section 13," he added.

The flash floods on Monday and Tuesday that trapped several vehicles parked in the area were caused by unexpected heavy rainfall.