

'Need for warning system to tackle flash floods'

MITIGATION: It can minimise damage, says Nur Jazlan

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THE authorities have been urged to prepare an early warning system and quick response plan to tackle flash floods in the city centre here as the problem is expected to persist until the Sungai Segget flood mitigation and beautification project is completed by the middle of next year.

Pulai member of parliament Datuk Nur Jazlan Mohamed, who is also deputy home minister, said if such system was in place, those in the area might be more prepared or could have warned people not to go there.

"Flash floods might be brief, but the damage could be substantial. With the system in place, we could minimise the damage."

He said the Iskandar Regional Development Authority (IRDA), which was undertaking the Sungai Segget flood mitigation and beautification project, had told him that the project was on track to be completed by June.

"IRDA said phase one of the project, which includes the construction of a sewage treatment plant, is 47 per cent complete while phase two, which involves the flood mitigation and beautification projects, is 54 per cent complete."

He was speaking after visiting the project site and Sungai Segget tidal gate. Present was IRDA Federal Commissioner Datuk Benjamin Hasbie.



Pulai member of parliament **Datuk Nur Jazlan Mohamed** visiting the **Sungai Sengget tidal gate** in Johor Baru yesterday. Pic by Zain Ahmed

Nur Jazlan said it was important for IRDA to work with Johor Baru City Council to overcome the problem so that the image of the city was not tarnished.

"We want Johor Baru to be an international city, so it is important for the authorities to tackle such problems."

He said development here should

be in line with the infrastructure.

"This is to ensure that development is sustainable and will not cause problems such as flash floods."