



Kampung Manjoi residents braving the floodwaters yesterday. — NST picture by Wong Tuck Keong

# 500 villagers flee flash flood

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**IPOH:** Kampung Manjoi's reputation as a flood-free zone was shattered yesterday after a nearby river overflowed and inundated the area.

Many residents were caught by surprise when water entered their homes. The flood forced the evacuation of 500 people who sought shelter at homes of relatives and friends.

Stable worker Mohd Norman Sokak, 53, said the area had never experienced serious flooding before.

His house in Kampung Manjoi Ulu, where he has been staying for more than 15 years, was among the badly affected.

"I woke up at 4am to go to work and was surprised to see water seeping into the house. At first, I thought it was just a minor flood but by 9.30am,

water was up to my waist," he said.

Norman said flash floods used to hit the area, which was located downstream of Sungai Pari, but it ended when bunds were built along the river.

Teacher Rosli Abdul Aziz, 46, of Taman Merdeka, said he had to send home several students after their families had to vacate their houses. He never thought the area would be flooded again after bunds

were built.

Manjoi Assemblyman Datuk Nadzri Ismail said some 110 houses in Sri Klebang Tambahan, Desa Sri Chepor and Ulu Chepor were also affected by flood. "We have arranged for the Welfare Department to help the residents."

He said the missing iron gates, which acted as valves at the river, could be the cause of the flood. The iron gates were reportedly stolen.