

Residents urge authorities to fix flash flood problem in Taman Sri Manja

By **BRENDA CH'NG**
brenda@thestar.com.my

RESIDENTS of Taman Sri Manja in Petaling Jaya are urging the authorities to help resolve a long-standing flood issue that affects their driveway during a downpour.

Their concern is justified following recent thunderstorms that had caused traffic congestion, flooding and uprooting of trees in various areas in the Klang Valley.

"We believe the floods is due to the poor drainage here as the water is always stagnant and doesn't move at all," said P. Prema, a resident at Jalan PJS 3/40.

Prema, who has lived there for almost two years, said residents were not strangers to the frequent flash floods occurring in their neighbourhood.

To keep the problem at bay, Prema raised her kitchen to a higher level to prevent water from entering her house from the back.

"Now only my porch gets affected but water has not entered the house," she said.

The issue has been brought to the attention of Petaling Jaya City Council (MBPJ) a few times but residents say nothing had been done.

"I have not seen MBPJ officers come here to check or do anything and I don't want to complain any-



A motorist on Jalan PJS 3/40 braving the floods during a downpour.

more," said a resident who wanted to be known as Saad.

Having lived in the area for more than four years, he said the flash floods were more frequent now because of the heavy rain.

When contacted, MBPJ councillor for the area Ahmad Akhir Pawan Chik said they were aware

of the flood issue which had been happening since 2008.

"This is due to the drainage there and discussions at MBPJ are still ongoing on how to resolve the issue," he said.

He added that previous preventive measures had been implemented such as cleaning the

drains, widening them and installing culverts, but the problem still persisted.

"The explanation I received from the Engineering Department was that the area was on lower ground and water cannot be channelled out fast enough," he said.