

Yet another round of floods in Penang

NO EVACUATION:

Low-lying areas in Teluk Kumbar, Balik Pulau, inundated after continuous downpour

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HEAVY rains past midnight yesterday led to flash floods in low-lying areas in the southwest district here.

About 50 houses in Kampung Nelayan and Kampung Suluk in Teluk Kumbar here were inundated in 0.3m of floodwaters. However, there were no reports of evacuation.

Rampant development and poor drainage have often been blamed for causing flash floods in the areas.

Checks by the *New Straits Times* in the villages showed floodwaters, which entered the houses at 3am, had subsided by 9am.

Housewife Ilah Othman, 70, said flash floods were a norm, especially after a continuous downpour.

"I thought nothing of it when it started raining at midnight. I did not expect my house to be flooded.

"I was awakened by my children's



Hashim Ahmad throwing out floodwaters from his house in **Kampung Nelayan**, Teluk Kumbar, yesterday. Pic by Danial Saad

screaming at 3am when floodwaters entered our house," she said in Kampung Nelayan.

Fisherman Hashim Ahmad, 73, said he realised his house was flooded only when he woke up for his morning prayers, adding that it was the fourth time the village had been flooded this year. He had stayed there for five decades.

"My legs felt cold as I got out from my bed.

"I looked around and realised the entire house was flooded. I was lucky as I had moved some of my belongings to higher ground before going to bed."

The low-lying areas of Lintang

Pondok Upeh in Balik Pulau were also inundated, affecting several houses.

Villager Rahimah Osman took to social media to vent her frustrations, saying that she was tired of getting flooded each time it rained heavily.

She said the poor drainage system was the cause of the flash flood.

Pulau Betong assemblyman Muhammad Farid Saad, who visited the affected houses yesterday morning, said the flash floods were a result of a continuous downpour and the high-tide phenomenon.

"We are looking for a solution to prevent a recurrence of the problem."