No rain but floods occur

Tough job: A worker hired by an MBPJ cleaning contractor cleaning up debris in Jalan PJU 1/3B.

Residential and businesses at the SunwayMas Commercial Centre in Jalan PJU 1/3B are puzzled that the area is flooded despite experiencing dry weather for the past few days.

Kessey Tung, who runs an auto-repair business in a rented shoplot near the affected area, said this was the first time the place had been flooded, possibly due to a faulty underground drainage system.

"I have to shift my tools and machines upstairs to avoid damage," he said.

Tung, whose shoplot is near the Tenaga National Berhad (TNB) substation, said the water had risen as high as 30cm before, pointing to a waterline clearly marked on the substation's wall.

SunwayMas Owners/Tenants Pro-Tem Association chairman Wendy Chan said the situation was getting worse and they had made several complaints to the Petaling Jaya City Council (MBPJ).

"The reply we get is that they are looking into the matter. But this has been going on for the past few years," said Chan.

She added that they had also sent a report to the recurring flood problem to PJ mayor Datuk Mohamad Rostam Sakiman in January.

Chan said the residents behind the shoplots had also complained about water from underground pipes spilling into their homes.

Shahuddin Arshad, who runs a souvenir and t-shirt printing business, said previous floods had affected his business as well as the eatery next to his.

"The water enters the shops and damages everything. Then everybody has to clean up and replace the damaged goods. Who is going to compensate for that?" he asked.

"We are also worried that the water from the drain might get into the eatery's water supply as well. Then everybody will be affected," said Shahruddin.

Three personnel from MBPJ's Complaints Department who came to assess the situation, said they would forward their report and photographs of the affected area to MBPJ's engineering department for action.

Zainon Zakaria from MBPJ's public relations unit, said the officers had found that the drainage system in the area was not built properly.

"There will be a meeting with the Engineering Department this week. "They will identify and try to rectify the problem with the drainage soon. We will also look for a long-term solution," said Zainon.

By VINCENT TAN
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Photos by SHAHRUL FAZRY

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