MPK gives reasons for floods

'Poor drainage the main cause'

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SHAH ALAM: Heavy rains and a poor drainage system are the main causes of the recent floods in Hulu Langat and Klang, a committee was told.

Klang Municipal Council (MPK) acting president Ehsan Mukhri told the Selangor Select Committee on Competency, Accountability and Transparency (Selcat) that the drainage system was unable to cope with the increased rainfall.

He also said that littering had contributed to the clogged drains.

"The Selangor Economic Action Council (MTEC) has approved an initial RM5mil allocation to enable us to carry out remedial work on the drains," he said yesterday.

He said MPK needed a bigger allocation from the state to carry out flood mitigation projects and would submit a revised proposal to the state government today.

Selcat was chaired by state assembly speaker Datuk Teng Chang Khim, assisted by Deputy Speaker Haniza Talha, Hulu Kelang state assemblyman Saari Sungib, Bukit Antarabangsa assemblyman Azmin Ali and Subang Jaya assemblyman Hannah Yeoh.

Apart from Ehsan, Selcat also questioned the directors of the Selangor Drainage and Irrigation Department (DID), Public Works Department (JKR), district officers of Klang and Hulu Langat as well as the presidents of Ampang Jaya and Klang municipal councils.

To a question by Teng on whether the faulty water gates could have contributed to the Klang floods, DID director Ab Qahar Osman admitted that two water gates were not fully operational but said it was not the main cause.