

# When it floods ...

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KUALA Lumpur City Hall gets warnings on the level of rising river waters in real time online from the Drainage and Irrigation Department. But this information doesn't seem to get onto ITIS info-boards.

Zainal Fikry, principal assistant director for Hydrology, Water Resources and Flood Mitigation of the Federal Territory DID, said they monitor five rivers — Batu, Keroh, Gombak, Kelang and Kerayong.

"The information on the water levels at these rivers is available to City Hall 24 hours a day and is updated every 15 minutes. City Hall is also informed online if these rivers reach the alert, warning or danger levels."

Zainal said the danger level indicates that the area near a particular river would flood in about an hour.

"DID is not able to predict floods in

areas that are far from rivers, but we are working on this. We are analysing historical rainfall and flood data for the city and this will show us which areas are likely to flood if rainfall is high in a particular area," he said.

A Project Lebuhraya Utara Selatan spokesman said Plus receives information from road users on any flooding or other incidents along the expressway.

The highway then verifies the incident through their patrol units and conveys the information to the media for radio announcements and traffic updates.

"However, we do not have any link to the ITIS, but information is relayed to the ITIS control centre by phone since that system is independent."

PLUS operates eight traffic information boards located at selected areas along their expressways.