

# Clogged drains cleaned out



Yap (left) is joined by Cheng Hock Yew (second right) and Kuan Gan (right) as he inspects the works done by the contractors.

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**C**ONTRACTORS have been brought in to clear up rubbish-filled drains at Taman Perindustrian Jalan Reko, Kajang, after the urgency of the situation was realised.

Since Tuesday, contractors have been busy lifting concrete slabs to expose the 3m deep drains, which have been clogged with plastic bottles, containers and bags.

Serdang MP Datuk Yap Pian Hon said the 200m-drainage system needed to be cleared quickly as the industrial area had been flooded four times this year.

"Flooding in an industrial area jeopardises the economic activities of SMIs and causes losses to the operators," said Yap, adding that the drains had not been cleared in eight years.

To address the problem, Yap used RM20,000 out of his MP's allocation to clear the drains.

"This is a short term measure. The depth of the 200m long drain is 3m but then, under the road, the drainage channel narrows to 0.9m.

"This explains why water could not flow through as the channel was too small on one side causing rubbish to clog the drains," Yap said during a site visit on May 10.

On May 5, factory operators got together to voice their problems to Yap.

The clogged drains came as a shock to Yap as water was stagnant and filled with rubbish.

The factory owners and operators said complaints had been forwarded several times to the Kajang Municipal Council (MPKj) but no action had been taken despite MPKj officers visiting the area.

The operators and Yap decided to dig a portion of the road, meters away from the drain to find the cause of the problem.

The exposed road showed the culvert had been narrowed from 3m to 0.9m.

Yap said once the drains were cleared, contractors would place a 2.4 x 2.1m manhole concrete slab at the exposed section of the road.

"This way, the manhole slab can be lifted to carry out cleaning works," Yap said.

Yap said a rubbish trap would also be built midway between the industrial area and Kajang bus terminal.

He said the rubbish was carried downhill from the bus terminal and got stuck at the low-lying industrial area.

Yap also said the drainage system had three 90-degree point turns from the industrial area to Sungai Langat.

"We found this out after studying the layout plans and carrying out ground checks.

"With three 90-degree points, it will be difficult for the water to flow.

"I will propose to the Hulu Langat Drainage and Irrigation Department (JPS) to study the overall situation and provide technical advice to MPKj on how to improve the drainage system," Yap said.

Hoe Hup Heng Engineering owner Kuan Ban Hoe said he was happy that finally something was being done.

"Every time, it rained we had to prepare ourselves for the drains to overflow as the drains were clogged.

"We are thankful that Yap helped us out as we did not know who else to turn to," Kuan said.