

**Klang floods due to inaction against developers, says MCA**  
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**By TEH ENG HOCK**

KLANG: Inaction by the Klang Municipal Council (MPK) and Drainage and Irrigation Department (DID) against errant developers has caused the town to become flood-prone, said Klang MCA [chairman Datuk Teh](#) Kim Poo.

He said many developers found ways around DID's Urban Stormwater Management Manual, which compelled development projects to follow strict planning guidelines such as adequate drainage and retention areas.

"Developers refuse to implement (according to the guidelines) as it will incur extra cost.

"For example, they have to set aside land for a retention pond whereas they could build more houses or shops," he told a press conference at the Klang MCA office Wednesday.

The manual, introduced in 2001, failed to be fully implemented as the MPK and DID did not strictly enforce it, he said.

He lauded the Kuala Lumpur City Hall (DBKL) for planning and implementing a rainwater harvesting policy, which helped flood mitigation.

"DBKL imposed that terrace houses must be able to store 1,500 litres of rainwater, while semi-detached houses and bungalows must store 3,000 litres.

"Can you imagine if thousands of houses did that? It would help prevent flash floods as it will ease the pressure on the drainage system," he said.

Teh, a former MPK councillor and Pandamaran state assemblyman, said developers in Klang "have their ways out" of complying with the stormwater management guidelines.

When pointed out that he and his Barisan Nasional colleagues were in power in the initial years of the plan, Teh said some developers would use the excuse that their project was approved before the manual was introduced.

"Some remove the tanks after they receive the CF (certificate of fitness) and re-use the tanks in their next project.

"There is a penalty (if they are caught flouting the law)," he said.

In the flash flood last Friday, Teh said a survey found that 4,358 homes were affected and he had requested for aid from the Prime Minister's Department.

He also slammed Klang MP Charles Santiago and Pandamaran assemblyman Ronnie Liu for not pressing MPK to clean up after the floods.

"The rubbish aggregated during the Tuesday flood on the drainage system and tidal gates were not cleared, and caused more serious flooding when it rained heavily again on Friday," he said.

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