

STREETS **YOUR NEWS****'Floods not due to MRT project'**

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MASS Rapid Transit Corporation (MRT Corp) and MMC Gamuda KVMRT Sdn Bhd (MGKT), the contractor for the MRT underground works, have refuted claims that the project was behind the recurring flash floods in Jalan Petaling and Jalan Sultan.

MRT Corp strategic communications and public relations director Amir Mahmood Razak said the root cause of the problem could be due to the heavy flows from non-MRT sites adjacent or next to the MRT Merdeka and Pasar Seni sites.

"During the downpour, rainwater was seen gushing through the drains which were heavily silted. Most of these drains were running at one-third its capacity which means on average two-thirds of the drains were clogged," he said.

Amir said the earthworks for the MRT project were completed last year. Currently, he said, the underground tunnels and stations are being built.

"Since the beginning of the MRT construction, we have been taking the necessary measures to ensure the safety of the public, our workers

LIKELY CAUSE: Flash floods in Jalan Petaling and Jalan Sultan due to heavy flow from non-MRT sites with badly silted drains

here and the surroundings.

"We have also launched a detailed investigation to establish the possible causes of the floods.

"Hopefully, the public would understand that the flooding was not caused by the MRT Merdeka and Pasar Seni sites," he said.

He said the Merdeka site is located on higher ground and slopes towards Jalan Hang Tuah while the Pasar Seni site is situated on a downward slope at the opposite end of where the flood occurred.

"This means any surface run-off from the two sites is unlikely to enter Jalan Sultan and Jalan Petaling.

"We have installed silt trap system at both sites to allow only clear water to run off into the perimeter drains built by MGKT.

"The water from Merdeka site will flow into the cut-off drain in Jalan Hang Tuah and go straight to Sungai Kerayong, while Pasar Seni site will carry de-silted water from the construction into Sungai Klang," he said.

Giving updates on the KVMRT project, he said about 61 per cent of the underground work has been



The drainage system in MRT Pasar Seni project site carries de-silted water to Sungai Klang. Pic by Farizul Hafiz Awang

completed while for the overall project, 45.6 per cent has been completed.

He added that the tunnelling work in Bukit Bintang area was complete with the Tunnel Boring Machine

digging up to JW Marriott Hotel for the upper level and Fahrenheit shopping mall for the lower level.