

Flood mitigation projects on track

KUALA LUMPUR — MRT Corp is working towards implementing flood mitigation efforts for its Sungai Buloh-Serdang-Putrajaya (SSP) line.

Speaking after a briefing session for MPs, assemblymen and municipal councillors on the SSP line's progress in Sungai Buloh yesterday, MMC-Gamuda KVMRT project director S. Param said a flood mitigation study was conducted last year.

"The study was to identify flood-prone areas along the line's southern region from Salak Selatan to Seri Kembangan and Serdang, as well as its causes. We began after the previous briefing session in May last year, where the issue was raised," he said.

MRT Corp project director Datuk Amiruddin Ma'aris said once the study was concluded, its outcome was shared with the municipal councils and the Department of Irrigation and Drainage (DID).

"We raised our concerns at the project implementation's highest level — the MRT executive council — which is chaired by Chief Secretary to the Government Tan Sri Ali Hamsa, keeping the governmental agencies abreast of the mitigation efforts," he said.

Amiruddin said it was vital to coordinate with the councils and DID as it could impact the ongoing line construction.

"We take measures on our side of the line alignment but the other side falls

under their jurisdiction. A synchronised schedule sequence, for example, can help to avoid instances such as abortive work," he said.

Conducting the study and implementing flood mitigation efforts go beyond what MRT Corp is required to do for the SSP line project, but Amiruddin is convinced of its necessity.

"From our experience during the construction of the Sungai Buloh-Kajang line from July 2011 until its opening in December last year, we don't want to wait until something occurs and only then we react," he said.

"Now the next step is to ensure everything is implemented effectively."