

## TOP NEWS

# Midah Ria residents uncertain of safety

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**KUALA LUMPUR** — Nearly 1,300 residents of Midah Ria, Cheras are concerned about their safety following major soil erosion early yesterday. Cheras MP Tan Kok Wai said authorities like the Building Control and Public Works Department needed to promptly ensure residents living in the 16-storey flat are safe.

He said as the underground monsoon drainage pipe had collapsed, it was

important to check if the area is habitable for residents as further devastation could occur if not addressed promptly.

"The pipe collapsed due to erosion and the heavy flow of rain water caused the soil to weaken overnight as it seeped through the cracks," said Tan.

"Two cars were damaged but we cannot guarantee it may not rain again and cause even more distress."

Chairman of the Nurul Huda surau in the flats' vicinity, Mohamad Rasid Noor Mohammad, 50, said it was not the first time such an incident had occurred.

"The first time was about three years ago when a big tree fell into the drain, but luckily nobody was hurt that time too.

"Something needs to be done now, we are living in uncertainty.

"We don't even know if it is still safe to stay here but we hope the authorities will give us the assessment report soon," he said.

Tan said the road is currently closed for repairs that will be carried out by City Hall.

"I have contacted the relevant authorities to assess the situation. The safety of the residents is our main priority.

"We are still waiting for a full report by City Hall."

Two cars were damaged by the erosion in the area where residents park their vehicles.

"We will offer the affected owners full compensation as the damage to their

vehicles happened on public property.

"We are waiting for them to make an official police report before we reimburse them for their losses."

The owner of one of the damaged cars, Wan Fatimah Wan Long, 28, said she was shocked to see what had happened to her car.

"I was on my way to run some errands when I saw that my car was not even in the parking bay. It had moved.

"My car was just a few metres from falling into the monsoon drain.

"The other car was still by the edge. I don't know who the owner is and I'm not sure what will happen to it," said Wan Fatimah.



Erosion caused by the collapsed drain pipe (circled). — Picture by Hari Anggara