

KL's flood control project under review

KUALA LUMPUR, Wed. — City Hall and the Irrigation Department (DID) are reviewing the 1966 Kuala Lumpur Flood Mitigation Project, Deputy Agriculture Minister, Datuk Alex Lee, said today.

However, he added, the project would still be reviewed in line with the initial proposal of an inter-related program for river channelisation and reservoir storage to control the flow of the Klang River and its tributaries.

"City Hall and the DID will brief the Economic Planning Unit of the Prime Minister's Department and the Treasury over the revision and the implementation of the project."

The initial proposals of the program are:

- channelisation of stretches of the Batu, Gombak, and the Klang Rivers in the vicinity of Kuala Lumpur;
- enlargement of the existing Klang Gate Dam and Reservoir on the Klang River;
- construction of the Gombak Dam and Reservoir on Gombak River; and,
- construction of the Batu Dam and Reservoir on the Batu River.

Datuk Alex told the *New Straits Times* that of the four proposals under the project, only the construction of the Gombak dam near seven and the half mile Gombak had been scrapped.

The project was scrapped after residents, whose villages would be inundated if a dam were to be built, lodged a protest.

Last Monday, Datuk Alex said flood problems in the city were due to the absence of a dam at the Sungai Gombak. There are already dams at both Sungai Klang and Sungai Batu.

He added that three dams were capable of holding back 18 million cubic metres of water, while two dams could only hold 10 million cubic metres of water.