

Rodents thrive at Taman Connaught



A mess: The Jalan Cedas backlane strewn with garbage.

OUR rat focus this week is at Taman Connaught in Cheras. A concerned resident, who e-mailed us, said the shop houses nearby, where a popular fast food outlet is located, is infested with rodents.

He pointed out that the backlanes were filthy with uncollected garbage, mainly discarded food items. He said the foul smell of rotting food permeates the backlanes where the trash were placed and had become a feeding ground for rats.

Since many of the business premises are occupied by food operators, one of his main concern is the overall cleanliness and hygiene of the outlets.

"How can you operate with so much filth in your backyard? If rats and cockroaches can thrive in the garbage chute area, certainly it will find its way into the dining area."

To get a complete picture, we despatched our veteran photographer Victor Ng who came back with some astonishing results. We found the claims to be true as a large section of the neighbourhood were littered with garbage.

Even the smell was nauseating. On one part of the backlane, we found a restaurant's kitchen area occupying nearly the entire width of the road.

This made it impossible for garbage collec-