

Ample parking space with low fees ignored



S. Pirahaspathy showing the almost empty parking bays at Kompleks Mutiara.

■ **By Naveen Mathew Menon**

streets@nstp.com.my

KUALA LUMPUR: The road in front of Kompleks Mutiara on Jalan Ipoh was widened two years ago to smoothen traffic flow but today the situation is as chaotic as ever.

Traffic continues to crawl along the stretch of inconsiderate motorists parked their vehicles illegally along the roads.

The haphazard parking not only causes traffic congestion but also inconvenienced commuters waiting at the bus stop.

"Motorists have no qualms about parking along the third

lane and even at the bus stop," said S. Pirahaspathy who lives at 4th mile Jalan Ipoh.

"Buses are forced to stop on the second lane, which holds up traffic and causes massive traffic jams.

"There are a couple of schools here and many students use buses. It's dangerous for them to weave through the traffic to get to the bus."

Two signboards indicating that it is a tow away zone have failed to deter motorists from brazenly leaving vehicles along the road.

And it is not that there is a lack of parking space either.

"There is a parking area just outside the complex for those who want to make a quick

dash into the building. It costs only 50 sen for half an hour.

"Parking inside the mall costs only RM1 for the first three hours and RM1 per hour after that from Monday to Friday. Parking is RM2 per entry on weekends," said a frustrated Pirahaspathy who showed *Streets* the empty parking lot in the building.

"People driving along this stretch have to slow down and it takes 20 minutes to clear the stretch sometimes.

"City Hall often tows away the illegally parked cars and issues summonses too.

"But people still continue to park as they like. Perhaps, the fines are not high enough," he said.