

School almost snake-free

But PTA says checks should be carried out by City Hall to prevent recurrence



SHODDY WORK: The incomplete clean-up behind the walls of SK Bukit Damansara



ROSEDI: Applauded City Hall for its quick action



SETH YAHYA: Feels that area should be clean from other things



VEJAYAN: Suggested checks be carried out regularly

By REENA RAJ
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PARENTS and teachers are relieved that City Hall has begun clearing the bushes behind SK Bukit Damansara where snakes have been seen.

When *Malay Mail* visited the school yesterday we found that some of the bushes behind the school walls had been cleared. The monsoon drain, however, still needed clearing.

Many parents and teachers felt that clearing the bushes might not be the best solution to get rid of the snakes.

Senior assistant Rosedi Hamid applauded City Hall for its quick action but hoped that they would maintain the area from time to time.

"We cannot afford to have

a repeat of such incidents in the school as it involves the students' safety. It is best we keep this place clean so it will be safe," he said.

The school's Parent-Teacher Association (PTA) president, Seth Yahya, said City Hall should also work with other relevant departments to make sure that the bushes are free from any snake nests.

"The clearing of bushes still has a long way to go before the whole area is cleared, and I understand that City Hall is doing it in stages. I hope that besides the bush clean-up, the place would also be clean from other things," he said.

A parent, C. Vejayan, suggested that City Hall should send a team of experts to check on the school compound to make sure there are no signs of snakes.

"From time to time, checks should be carried out as the school has a history of snakes," he added.

Last Wednesday, *Malay Mail* reported that a Year One pupil, Hanna Kamelia was bitten on her right foot by a paradise flying snake in the school canteen after practising with 15 other students for a competition.

Ironically, a snake had been spotted earlier by Hanna's mother Nora.

At about 10.30am, Nora had gone to the school canteen and when taking a drink from the fridge she saw a snake that quickly disappeared.

With the help of the canteen workers, they found a young cobra behind the ice boxes. But it managed to escape.

Till now the cobra has not been caught.