

## TALK ON SUNGAI MELAKA REHABILITATION AND BEAUTIFICATION PROJECT

Reported by: Ir. Liew Chin Loong, Water Resources Technical Division

Ir. Liew Chin Loong gave a talk on the 'Rehabilitation and Beautification of Sungai Melaka' at IEM Conference Hall A, Bangunan Injenieur on Saturday, 22 November 2003 to about thirty participants. The project was financed by the Ministry of Tourism and implemented by Majlis Bandaraya Melaka Bersejarah (MBMB). Construction work began in July 2002 and is currently 60 percent complete. SMHB is the main consultant for the design and supervision of the civil works, which includes the design and construction of a sewer interceptor system, improvement of the river banks and partial dredging of Sungai Melaka.

The project area refers to the stretch of Sungai Melaka from the river mouth up to Jambatan Hang Jebat, which is 3.5km upstream. The river passes through the historical part of Melaka where many of the old heritage buildings have their back portions facing the river. Furthermore, many of these buildings along the river banks have built illegal extensions into the river.

The main objective of the project is to clean up the river by intercepting all direct sewer discharges into the river and to beautify the river embankment by the construction of landscaped river walks. The project also involves the construction of a storm water pumping station at Kg. Morten to minimise nuisance flooding due to tidal inundation.



A scenic view by side of Sungai Melaka

The speaker spoke on the design concept which covers the hydrology, hydraulics and structural aspects of river embankment design and also highlighted some of the design and construction problems encountered in the marine clay environment. There were a lot of questions from the floor and some members proposed that IEM should organise a trip to visit the project in Melaka. ■