KEMENTERIAN TENAGA DAN SUMBER ASLI

KERATAN SURAT KHABAR

SURAT KHABAR	:	NST			
TARIKH	:	26.04.22	MUKA SURAT	:	10
JABATAN	:	-			

ROCKFALLS

RM8m to repair Penang's Lorong Bukit Kukus slope

GEORGE TOWN: Nearly 2,000 residents of Grandview Heights and Bukit Saujana flats in Paya Terubong here feared for their safety following rockfalls at the Lorong Bukit Kukus slope fronting their homes.

Three incidents were reported in 2017, 2018 and 2020, but no one was injured.

Vehicles parked on both sides of the road were undamaged.

The Penang government has set aside nearly RM8 million to repair the slope.

State Infrastructure Committee chairman Zairil Khir Johari said works were expected to begin in the third quarter of this year.

Zairil said the Penang Island City Council had been tasked with carrying out the work, which would involve 3.35ha.

"The state government has taken temporary measures to ensure the stability of the slope.

"Since last year, we have put up barriers and netting on the slope to prevent rockfalls.

"In the third quarter of this year, we will carry out repairs on the slope, which is expected to be completed in 18 months.

"It will involve rock bolting, soil nailing, installation of flexible rockfall barriers and netting, drainage and road resurfacing," he said during a visit to the slope yesterday.

He was accompanied by Paya Terubong assemblyman Yeoh Soon Hin.

Zairil said the state government had instructed local authorities to monitor slopes and take action against landowners who carried out works without approval.



Penang Infrastructure Committee chairman Zairil Khir Johari (left) and Paya Terubong assemblyman Yeoh Soon Hin looking at the plans to strengthen the Lorong Bukit Kukus slope in George Town, Penang, yesterday. PIC BY MIKAIL ONG

"We find that these land owners are carrying out agriculture land clearing, especially in Bukit Bendera and Balik Pulau, without getting approval.

"We call on these farmers, who have been carrying out agriculture for generations, to reach out to the local authorities by June to register themselves to legalise their activities," he added.

By doing so, he said, the council could monitor the activities of landowners to ensure they followed the guidelines.