KEMENTERIAN TENAGA DAN SUMBER ASLI

KERATAN SURAT KHABAR

SURAT KHABAR	:	STAR METRO			
TARIKH	:	28.01.22 (JUMAAT)	MUKA SURAT	:	1
JABATAN	:	UMUM			



Cut off: While shops fronting the landslide site at Jalan LP1A/1, Lestari Perdana, Seri Kembangan cannot operate, other traders nearby are also affected. — LOW BOON TAT/The Star

Seri Kembangan shops lament loss of business due to repairs at landslide site

By JADE CHAN
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OPERATORS of shops near the landslide site in Lestari Perdana, Seri Kembangan, are hoping that repair works will be completed soon as the current situation is impacting their business.

"Even though my shop doesn't face the landslide site, my business is still affected as the access road is partially cut off and customers have difficulty looking for parking," said a shopowner who only wished to be identified Lam.

He runs a furniture business at Jalan LP1A/2.

"There were no customers the past couple of days and it may remain like that until the authorities fully reopen the road.

"But I'm luckier as I can still open my shop compared to those whose shops are facing the landslide site."

He believes that heavy rain and weak soil had led to the collapse of a drain bank at Jalan LP1A/1 on the evening of Jan 25.

Lam said the impact of the landslide might have been less severe if the authorities had repaired a nearby site where a landslide occurred in 2017.

"There were already signs that something would happen in the past week, as the roads had cracks that were slowly widening."

Five cars were "swallowed up" and 17 shops nearby were ordered closed.

It has been reported that repair works on Jalan LP1A/1 will cost about RM5mil.

A contractor appointed by the Subang Jaya City Council (MBSJ) is in the midst of installing 12m-high sheet piles to reduce soil movement as a temporary measure.

A second crane was brought in yesterday to speed up repair works.

Separately, Subang Jaya deputy mayor Mohd Zulkurnain Che Ali said Tuesday's drain bank collapse was due to underground water movement, which was not connected to the 2017 landslide incident that had been due to water runoff from a sewerage system.

Meanwhile, Alliance for Safe Community chairman Tan Sri Lee Lam Thye said after the 2017 landslide, the authorities then should have done what was necessary to prevent a recurrence.

"They must take remedial measures to ensure there is no repeat of this incident.

"This matter is urgent, especially since the inclement weather is not likely to change, given climate change.

"But first, the real cause of the incident at Lestari Perdana has to be studied in depth so that the appropriate measures can be taken," he said in a statement.

Lee said local authorities must have competent safety experts to find lasting solutions.

"The need is also great now to have a safety audit in all places with the risk of landslides and other natural disasters, and such audits must be done annually to identify risk factors and recommend preventive measures," he added.