

Datuk Keramat traders want improvements at market



Shahidan (second from right) checking the newly completed stalls at the Datuk Keramat market. Accompanying him are Mahadi (right) and local traders.

By FARID WAHAB
faridwahab@thestar.com.my

DATUK Keramat market traders, who lost their shops to a fire last year, are grateful for new stalls but want some improvements done to make it more conducive for them to operate.

Roti canai seller Yunus Mahmud, 61, said the zinc roofing should be extended.

"The zinc roof is not wide enough and traders' merchandise gets exposed to the sun and rain.

"There used to be a customers' entrance in the middle of the row of shoplots, but it is not there anymore.

"Now, people can enter only from the main entrance which is quite inconvenient," said the trader from Taman Keramat Permai.

"After my shop burned down, I

had to stop operating my business and relied on my children for financial support," said the father of four.

Saleh Jaharan, 64, who sells *nasi lemak* and *lontong*, is concerned about the height of the ceiling.

"The new ceiling is low so it gets quite stuffy in the afternoon.

"The low ceiling also results in poor air circulation," he said.

The Setapak resident said that after the fire, he set up a temporary stall a few metres away from the market.

"I had to spend RM2,500 to set up my stall as the furniture and stove were destroyed in the fire," he said.

On March 17, more than 40 shops at the Datuk Keramat market were razed.

The traders said they would be

moving into their lots during Ramadan.

The market, which opens from 5am to 2pm daily, has wet and dry sections.

Federal Territories Minister Datuk Seri Dr Shahidan Kassim, who visited the area, said the shops were rebuilt by a developer as part of its corporate social responsibility.

"The 50 shoplots at the market were built at a cost of RM1.5mil.

"The developer also paid for the cost to instal electricity and water.

"For now, the traders will enjoy an exemption on monthly rental," he said.

Also present were Kuala Lumpur mayor Datuk Seri Mahadi Che Ngah and Sinotech Properties Development Sdn Bhd project director Mohd Zaili Mohd Zainordin.

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Bekas Timbalan Pengarah Kanan DBKL kena bela diri

Kuala Lumpur: Mahkamah Tinggi di sini, semalam memerintahkan bekas Timbalan Pengarah Kanan Dewan Bandaraya Kuala Lumpur (DBKL), Sabudin Mohd Salleh, membela diri atas dua pertuduhan memperoleh suapan berjumlah RM200,000 bagi mengeluarkan permit kerja.

Hakim Mohamed Zaini Mazlan membuat keputusan itu selepas membenarkan rayuan pihak pendakwaan untuk mengetepikan keputusan Mahkamah Sesyen di sini pada 18 Disember 2020, yang melepas dan membebaskan Sabudin daripada dua pertuduhan berkenaan.

"Rayuan dibenarkan, keputusan Mahkamah Sesyen diketepikan dan kes ini dikembalikan ke Mahkamah Sesyen untuk responden (Sabudin) membela diri," katanya.

Kes dikendalikan Timbalan Pendakwa Raya (TPR) Datuk Wan Shahrudin Wan Ladin, Natrah Fareha Rahmat dan Mohd Shahrom Idris manakala peguam K Theivaendran mewakili Sabudin.

Pihak pendakwaan merayu terhadap keputusan Hakim Mahkamah Sesyen yang melepas dan membebaskan Sabudin daripada pertuduhan terbabit di akhir kes pendakwaan.

Enam saksi pendakwaan memberi keterangan pada perbicaraan kes itu.

Mengikut pertuduhan pertama dan kedua, Sabudin, 60, yang ketika itu Timbalan Pengarah Kanan (Awam) di Jabatan Kejuruteraan Awam dan Pengangkutan Bandar DBKL, didakwa memperoleh suapan wang tunai berjumlah RM200,000 daripada Wong May Kuan.

May Kuan ialah subkontraktor kepada Dusari Niaga yang melaksanakan 'Cadangan Kerja-kerja Pengisaran dan Penu-rapan Semula Jalan bagi Bekas Lubang Gali Syarikat Utiliti Di Sekitar Wilayah Persekutuan Kuala Lumpur untuk Dewan Bandaraya Kuala Lumpur Bagi Tahun 2018/2020 (2017/A214)' sebagai upah mengeluarkan permit kerja kepada Dusari Niaga.

BERNAMA