

LANDSLIP DUE TO ILLEGAL FARMING

A RESIDENT of Taman Cheras Jaya in Balakong, Selangor, had the fright of his life when a slope gave way near his house.

Lee told Actionline that the incident occurred only about 500m away from his house.

“The landslide caused the earth to tumble into a river, which is also near my house, about a few weeks ago.

“I was really scared and have reported the incident to the committee members of the residents association, but nothing is being done. I hope that something can be done to help me solve the problem,” he said.



The landslide near a river in Balakong.

ACTIONLINE

A spokesman of the Drainage and Irrigation Department (DID) told Actionline that the complainant was squatting on DID land and had opened a farm.

The spokesman added that farming had triggered the landslide.

“There is no need to repair

the slope. This was caused by farming.

“Therefore, we have asked for the complainant to carry out the slope repair himself.

“However, the landslide does not pose any danger to nearby residents and is not critical,” he said.

The spokesman said the complainant did not get permission from DID to open a farm on the land.

“He did not apply for a Temporary Occupation Licence to start the farm. Now he has to submit an application to continue with the farming.”

The spokesman said before the complainant started his illegal farm, the land was well maintained by the department.

“Even after acquiring the permission to operate on the land, it will still be the responsibility of the operator to take care of the land and river.”