

Company has to compensate government for wrongdoing

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A COMPANY carrying out sand-mining at the Drainage and Irrigation Department (DID) reserve land at Rasa will have to compensate the government.

It is learnt that the Hulu Selangor District Office and Kumpulan Semesta Sdn Bhd (KSSB) were trying to determine how much sand had

been taken out since April and its value.

District Officer Ahmad Zaharin Mohd Saad, who confirmed that an investigation was ongoing, said the amount would be determined based on the average number of lorry loads taken out during the period.

"The number of lorries carrying sand will be multiplied according to the market value of one tonne of sand," he said.

It is learnt that sand can go for

between RM400 and RM600 per tonne depending on its quality.

On Aug 12, *StarMetro* reported that illegal sand-mining was being carried out on the land by the company which had earlier been awarded a contract to extract sand from a stretch along Sungai Selangor in the area.

It was also reported that the company had breached the terms and conditions of the contract by continuing its mining activities at the

site after its permit had expired.

It was reported that the company had not stopped its activities even after being exposed.

On Aug 15, the District Office ordered the company to stop its operations with immediate effect.

An enforcement team led by Ahmad Zaharin gave the company until last Friday to clear the area.

"If they fail to do so, their equipment and machinery will be confiscated," he was quoted as saying.

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— AHMAD ZAHARIN MOHD SAAD