



**No access:** MPS enforcement officers sealing off the premises at Jalan Batu Arang in Rawang.

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 Photos by **AZLINA ABDULLAH**

# Land will be seized

## Notice issued to owner responsible for diesel spill

**T**HE Gombak Land Office will seize the land from the owner of a workshop responsible for the diesel spill that polluted a tributary of Sungai Selangor, which caused the shutdown of four water treatment plants and affecting over a million consumers.

Gombak district officer Datuk Nor Hisham Ahmad Dahlan said the land was supposed to be used for agriculture but was misused.

"We have issued the 7A notice (subsection 128) of the National Land Code.

"There are actually two lots (Lot 15322 and 15323), each approximately 1.2ha and we have served the notice to both owners," he said.

The spill was from Lot 15322.

When *StarMetro* arrived at the factory yesterday, Environment Department (DOE) officers were seen taking samples of the diesel from the contaminated river, Sungai Gong.

A DOE officer at the site said, "We will continue with our investigation".

When contacted, Lembaga Urus Air Selangor (LUAS) said they cleaned the site on Aug 31.

Several firemen were also present at the site yesterday.

Selangor Fire and Rescue Department assistant director of operations Senior Fire Superintendent 1 Mohd Sani Harul said the department's hazardous materials team was on standby as it often assisted in chemical spills.

There was a strong stench of rubbish at a part of the premises where compactors were stored.

Selayang Municipal Council (MPS) president Mohd Azizi Mohd



**Notice issued to owners:** The two plots of land that will be seized by the Gombak Land Office.



**Site visit:** Mohd Sani (right) and officers from MPS and the Selangor Fire and Rescue Department at the site.

Zain rebutted the owner's claims that the workshop only repaired the roll-on / roll-off bins and trash compactors, and did not manufacture them.

"It was evident from the machinery we confiscated that he did manufacture the compactors and bins.

"He came this morning (Monday) with a *surat mohon maaf* (letter of apology) but the damage has been done," said Mohd Azizi.

As for the operator's claims that he did not need a licence to repair his own lorries, the council president said a licence was needed to operate a workshop.

"You need a licence regardless of whether you are repairing your own lorry or someone else's vehicle.

"Furthermore, we found other trash compactors not belonging to the operator," he added.

As for the operator's claims that

he was MPS' sub-contractor, Mohd Azizi said the council was only responsible for hiring contractors and were not aware of who they subcontracted to.

"We found that he is also a sub-contractor for four or five other councils including the Shah Alam City Council and Ampang Jaya Municipal Council.