



story by
BAVANI M.

Illegal sand-washing site shut down

City Hall investigating activity along Sungai Klang, 8km away from River of Life project site

Star
18/5/2016
Pg. 4
C Metro

KUALA Lumpur mayor Datuk Seri Mohd Amin Nordin Abd Aziz has ordered an illegal sand-washing site to be shut down.

The project, which does not have the necessary permits from Kuala Lumpur City Hall and the Federal Territories Land and Mines Office, was operating along Sungai Klang facing the 5th Mile of Jalan Kelang Lama.

The sand miners have managed to dodge the authorities for years as they camouflaged their location by planting huge trees and building a hoarding around the site. The area is visible only from the air.

"We have sent a team to investigate the matter and the site has been shut down as instructed by the mayor," DBKL executive director (Socio Economic Development) Datuk Mohd Saufi Muhammad said.

"A meeting chaired by the Federal Territories Ministry was also held with multiple agencies in attendance to discuss the matter," Mohd Saufi added.

When *StarMetro* visited the site on Monday, it looked like operations had ceased. No one was around. A tipper lorry and two excavators were abandoned at the site. A crude washing system used to wash the sand was also left behind.

When contacted, Drainage and Irrigation Department (DID) River Basin Management Division deputy director Datuk Mohd Azmi Ismail said in a text message: "The issue was mentioned in a coordination and implementation committee meeting for the River of Life (RoL) project chaired by the KSU (secretary-general) of the FT Ministry recently.

"DBKL was directed to do the enforcement. The FT Ministry will call for a meeting to carry out a coordinated enforcement exercise for the entire stretch of the RoL project," he added.

Last week, *StarMetro* exposed the illegal sand-washing site operating along Sungai Klang, only 8km away from the site where the Government is spending billions of ringgit to rehabilitate the river under RoL.

This is the third illegal sand-washing site that has been shut down for operating along the

Emergency Services	HOSPITALS
HAIRAH	TUN HUSSEIN ONY (SEI) 03-7719 1486
ATAMAN SYED ALI	ASSUTA 03 7826 7000
MOSES	UNIVERSITY HOSPITAL 03-7949 4422
Production Editor	(UMMCI)
	03-2615 6391
	03-2081 0968
	03-2617 8200
	03-87397070
	03-7077
	03-5843 1111
	03-4726 3333
	03-4043 7166
	RADIO/TAXI SERVICE
	PUBLIC CAB 03-6259 2020
	COMFORT 03-8024 0077
	KL TAXI 017-2783379
	RADIO TAXI 03 5221 9600
	SALAJANA 03 2162 8888
	SUPERCAB 1-300-889-294
	SUNLIGHT 03-8037 5757
	OTVLINE 03-8222 2828
	TELETAG 03-9131 8060
	WIRA CAB 03 2144 9636
	POLICE STATIONS
	PETALING JAYA HQ 03-7966 2222
	BUNEJ AMAN HQ 03-2266 2222
	SEMANGARA UTAMA 03-7722 2222
	03-7722 2222

No clear view of murky operation

Illegal sand-washing activities well covered-up to avoid detection

Stories by BAVANI M
bavani@starmetro.com.my



These activities are also contributing to all sorts of problems, ranging from air pollution to noise pollution as well as matters pertaining to the health of the river.

Datuk Hanaga Mohd Nizar

ANOTHER illegal sand-washing site has been discovered along the Klang River facing 5th Mile of Jalan Kelang Lama, only 8km away from the site where the Government is spending billions of ringgit for the River of Life project (RoL) at Masjid Jamek.

This is the third illegal sand-washing site operating along the stretch in the past two years.

Some residents claim that this particular illegal sand-washing site has been operating for almost a decade because of its discreet location. One cannot see anything from ground level.

The land in question where the activity is going on is private land, and the operator had planted huge study trees around the site making it impossible to see anything.

They were being duped. Even Kuala Lumpur City Hall (DBKL) enforcement officers and the Federal Territories Land and Mines

"The duo visited the site recently, but because of the hoarding, they were unable to see into the compound."

StarMetro's report on the illegal sand-washing site along Sungai Klang, on May 9.

KL stretch of the 120km-long Sungai Klang in the past two years. The activity was being conducted on private land. However, residents had spotted tipper lorries and excavators plying Jalan Kelang Lama at different times of the day. The vehicles would use a route

several hundred metres away from the site to avoid being detected. Sand-washing had been identified as one of the culprits polluting the river. It also contributes to other problems, ranging from air to noise pollution as well as the health of the river.