KEMENTERIAN TENAGA DAN SUMBER ASLI

KERATAN SURAT KHABAR

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TARIKH	:	04/12/2021 (SABTU)	MUKA SURAT	:	6
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JALAN SIMPANG PULAI-BLUE VALLEY LANDSLIDE

PWD: SLOPE NOT LISTED AS HIGH RISK

Landslide due to continuous rainfall that weakened the slope structure, says PWD deputy director

ZAHRATULHAYAT MAT ARIF
IPOH
news@nst.com.my



Hamdan Ali



Excavators and other heavy machinery carrying out clearing works of soil along Sections 7 and 30 at FT185, KM27.10 Jalan Simpang Pulai-Blue Valley, Cameron Highlands, yesterday. BERNAMA PIC

THE landslide at FT185 Jalan Simpang Pulai-Blue Valley on Thursday was beyond the expectations of the Perak Public Works Department (PWD) as it was not listed as a high risk slope.

Its deputy director Ir Hamdan Ali said there were three high risk slopes identified along Jalan Simpang Pulai-Blue Valley here, which was between Sections 38 and 46.

Hamdan said this was the first incident at Section 27 here and it was beyond the department's expectations.

"The landslide occurred due to continuous rainfall since two weeks ago, recording 217mm of rain, which weakened the whole structure. It was definitely a huge landslide, measuring 10,000 cubic metres," he told reporters when met at the scene yesterday.

On Thursday, it was reported that two men died in a landslide at the FT185, KM27.10 Jalan Simpang Pulai-Blue Valley here.

The victims were lorry driver Muhammad Hafiz Hamdi, 31, and the driver of a Toyota Alphard MPV, Tan Chee Heng, 36.

Hamdan said as a short-term measure, the department would conduct clearing up works following high volumes of soil that blocked both directions of the stretch followed by traffic management once the route was re-opened.

"We are now conducting checks on the slope, assisted by our slope experts, before we can determine the long-term measures.

"It will take about a week to clean up this area and the route is expected to reopen on Dec 9," he said, adding that the cost to fix the slope had yet to be determined.

Asked whether there were logging activities on the slope of the landslide area, Hamdan said no such activity was carried out there. He added that two minor landslides were also reported along Jalan Simpang Pulai-Cameron Highlands yesterday, but they were not critical.