



Persatuan Pengguna Pulau Pinang Consumers Association of Penang

檳城消費人協會 பிளாங்கு பயனீட்டாளர் சங்கம்

Websites:
www.consumer.org.my

10 Jalan Masjid Negeri, 11600 Pulau Pinang, Malaysia
Tel: 604-8299511 Fax: 604-8298109
email: consumerofpenang@gmail.com

Press Statement / Letter to the Editor

25 March 2021

Put an end to the tragic incidents at the SUKE Highway project

Another tragic incident took place at the Sungai Besi-Ulu Kelang Elevated Expressway (Suke) project. Three construction workers died and a road user seriously injured when a crane launcher tipped over and crashed to the ground. Keep in mind that only 3 weeks ago a part of the Suke highway that was still under construction collapsed and killed two people because of a road accident involving a trailer and the scaffolding holding the unfinished structure up. Also in September of last year, a parapet wall slab of the ongoing highway construction fell and nearly killed a road user; she was lucky enough that only her hand was injured, even if her car was destroyed.

Having all these terrible incidents happen in such a short amount of time (span of 6 months) should be an indicator to the authorities that something is just not right with how Prolintas (Project Lintasan Kota Holdings Sdn Bhd), the developer of the Suke highway project, is managing it.

However, Datuk Seri Fadillah Yusof, the Minister of Works' response to this latest Suke highway incident was to issue a stop order just at the affected part of the Suke highway and order the developer to find alternative travel routes for the resident of nearby apartments. Even more shocking is that initial investigation has supposedly showed that the contractor involved has complied with the stipulated SOP. If so, then why did the incident even happen?

It is time that the authorities took drastic measures to ensure that road users and construction workers safety. The Consumers' Association of Penang (CAP) asks that there be a complete stop of work of the Suke highway project, and authorities need to consider severe punishment for those responsible and in serious cases mandatory imprisonment. The authorities should also consider replacing the developer of this project as well as the contractors because with this many incidents we can only assume that these parties are negligent in terms of safety.

MOHIDEEN ABDUL KADER

President

Persatuan Pengguna Pulau Pinang