

Minister intervenes for BB Plaza traders

KUALA LUMPUR: Power supply was restored in the sidewalk cafes of BB Plaza nearly 12 hours after it was cut off on early Sunday morning.

Pro-tem action committee against BB Plaza demolition president Hassan Saad, when contacted, said UDA Holdings Bhd, the mall's management, disconnected the cafes' power supply at 1.30am on Sunday morning and restored it at 12.30pm following a call from Domestic Trade, Cooperatives and Consumerism Minister Datuk Seri Ismail Sabri Yaakob, who is overseeing the issue.

Hassan said the minister also dropped by BB Plaza the same evening to confirm that a meeting has been scheduled for them to meet MRT Corp and UDA representatives today. The minister will chair the meeting.

"The minister was upset by UDA's insensitivity to the issue, which has come under the Prime Minister's attention. The traders view its action as ill-treatment of all of us here," said Hassan.

He said at the moment, none of the affected cafe operators had broached the matter of compensation for refrigerated goods that had gone bad, but that would certainly be discussed in today's meeting.

The meeting to be held at 3pm today at Serambi Cafe was called for by the group of traders who want the MRT line to circumvent the mall.

BB Plaza, which was opened in 1979, is to make way for the building of a MRT station here. The mall is scheduled for demolition by year-end. **By Halim Said**