

Bukit Bintang Plaza traders don't have to vacate

By **RAHIMY RAHIM**
rahimyr@thestar.com.my

KUALA LUMPUR: Traders at Bukit Bintang Plaza will not have to vacate during the construction of the proposed Klang Valley Mass Rapid Transit (MRT) underground station, said Domestic Trade, Cooperatives and Consumerism Minister Datuk Seri Ismail Sabri Yaakob.

He also promised that if the BB Plaza building were to change ownership, the current

tenant would be given priority to stay at the newly developed shopping complex.

"All parties have agreed that if there is a change of ownership, they will ensure that the rights of the traders are protected.

"Any issue can be settled without having to bring it to the streets," he said after a two-hour meeting with representatives of traders, UDA Holdings Bhd and MRT Corp here yesterday.

It was reported that BB Plaza, which was built more than 30 years ago, would be demol-

ished to make way for the MRT project.

Following this some 50 traders staged a protest outside BB Plaza, claiming they were left out from negotiations between UDA Holdings, the Finance Ministry and MRT Corp.

Ismail added that the five shops in front of the mall entrance would have to move by the end of the week to make way for preparatory work.

"The details and amount of compensation will be discussed between the companies and MRT Corp," he said.