

Cafe owner shocked by demolition notice

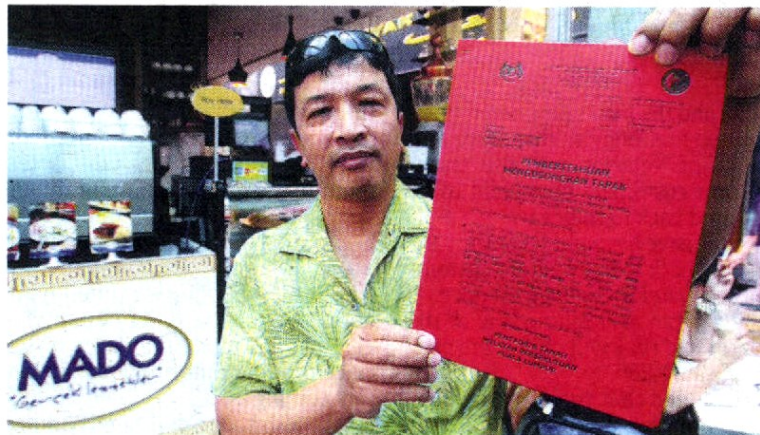
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WITH RM3mil invested and only four months in business, the operators of Mado Cafe near BB Plaza are shocked to be slapped with an eviction notice from the Federal Territories Land and Mines Office.

The notice dated Aug 1 had ordered the operators to clear the place for demolition today, making way for the construction of the MY Rapid Transit (MRT)'s station.

Mado Cafe chief executive officer Probhat Malakar said the move came as a surprise because the company had filed an application for an ex-parte injunction against Yayasan Selangor over its move to terminate a tenancy agreement between the two parties.

"Why are we served the eviction and demolition notice when the hearing is slated for Aug 28?" he



Taken aback: Probhat showing the eviction notice that was issued on Aug 1.

asked, adding that he had informed the relevant parties about the pending court case.

Probhat said the restaurant, owned by a 150-year-old Turkish company, was the company's first venture in

Malaysia. He added that the company had planned to invest another RM100mil in two years, with four more new outlets in the pipeline.

"The Government has encouraged entrepreneurs from Turkey to invest

actively in this country and we chose Bukit Bintang because of its strategic location.

"The way things have turned out is really disturbing," he said.

Probhat said that he only found out in mid-June that the MRT station had been moved from the opposite side of the road to the current location, when Yayasan Selangor served them the termination notice citing the cause.

He said that both MRT Corp and Yayasan Selangor had not held proper discussions with them while the Kuala Lumpur City Hall and deputy Federal Territories and Urban Wellbeing Minister Datuk M. Saravanan had said more meetings would be held to discuss about an alternative site.

"We want clear details on compensation," he said, adding that nothing should be done until the case was heard in court.