

Sri Sabah blaze caused by wiring issue, says fire dept

KUALA LUMPUR: The Fire and Rescue Department has confirmed that the blaze at the Sri Sabah Flats in Cheras was due to an electrical wiring issue.

City Fire and Rescue Department director Muhammad Salleh Abdul said the wiring issue occurred at unit three of the 17th floor.

He said the case has been submitted to the department's Forensics Unit for further investigation.

"Preliminary investigations revealed that an electrical wiring problem was the cause of the fire. At the moment, we have concluded about 90 to 95 per cent of the investigation and other issues yet to be identified are technical issues," he said.

It was also revealed that the unit's front and back doors were closed during the incident, leading to the spread of fire to the other five units on the same floor, he said.

Salleh dismissed claims that the incident was caused by firecrackers.

"Hence, circulating information suggesting the blaze started due to firecrackers is untrue."

Salleh also denied that the fire hydrant at the flat was not functioning.

He said residents had failed to use the flat's fire hose as there were no hand reels.

"When the fire was detected, they tried to use it (the hose) but couldn't, and it was later found that there was no reel available."

Salleh said the department would establish a task force to conduct comprehensive inspections at all flats under the Kuala Lumpur City Hall, aimed at enhancing fire safety.

"We will establish it (the task force) again to investigate and improve the (fire safety) system at apartments and flats."



Muhammad Salleh Abdul