

# KL PROJECTS MUST HAVE GEOTECHNICAL STUDY

Move comes after Masjid India sinkholes, which will take 3-6 months to repair

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**D**EVELOPERS must now submit a report on underground conditions for all projects in Kuala Lumpur.

Kuala Lumpur Mayor Datuk Seri Dr Maimunah Mohd Sharif said these geotechnical reports would be required for three categories of applications.

"This applies to applications that have been approved but the development order has not yet been issued, applications that are still being processed and future applications."

The move comes after author-

ities on Saturday stopped the search for Indian tourist G. Vijaya Lakshmi, who fell into a sinkhole that opened under her in Jalan Masjid India, Kuala Lumpur, on Aug 23.

Earlier yesterday, Maimunah told the *New Straits Times* it would take three to six months to repair the sinkhole damage.

She said those in the area should follow the authorities' instructions as repairs were being carried out.

"For everyone's safety, do not trespass (the cordoned site)," she said.

Maimunah said the repairs would include an integrity audit, Syarikat Bekalan Air Selangor inspection of water pipes and a soil stability study.



*Datuk Seri Maimunah Mohd Sharif*

"That's why it will take three to six months, because we need a detailed study from the Kampung Baru gateway to Mydin (supermarket)."

Dang Wangi police chief Assistant Commissioner Sulizme Afendy Sulaiman said discussions with Kuala Lumpur City Hall on repairing the sinkholes were ongoing.

*Page 1 pic: The cordoned-off site of the Jalan Masjid India sinkhole yesterday.*

## JALAN MASJID INDIA'S SINKHOLE TRAGEDY

**Aug 23**  
 Indian tourist G. Vijaya Lakshmi, 48, falls into sinkhole that opened under her in Jalan Masjid India. The Fire and Rescue Department is alerted at 8.22am and a search is launched.

**Aug 24**  
 Rescuers search a 7km-long sewage line, accessible through six manholes, from Masjid India to Pantai Dalam.

**Aug 25**  
 Deputy Prime Minister Datuk Seri Fadillah Yusof says the sinkhole was caused by geographical and soil structural factors. Kuala Lumpur City Hall activates a task force comprising the police, Fire and Rescue Department, Civil Defence Force and Minerals and Geoscience Department to assess the area's safety.

**Aug 26**  
 Authorities use a high-pressure jet to clear debris at one of the manholes near the sinkhole in hopes of finding the victim.

**Aug 27**  
 Authorities run flow simulations in the sewer line between the sinkhole and the IWK Pantai Dalam sewage plant.

**Aug 28**  
 Another sinkhole emerges about 50m away from the first one. The whole of Jalan Masjid India is closed.

**Aug 29**  
 The Fire and Rescue Department detects an obstruction between the sinkhole and the second sewage chamber, about 80m from the sinkhole.

**Aug 30**  
 The Fire and Rescue Department says footage from two underwater cameras show unidentified pieces of cloth.

**Aug 31**  
 Minister in the Prime Minister's Department (Federal Territories) Dr Zaliha Mustafa says the search is called off following a report presented to the cabinet.

**Sept 1**  
 The police and City Hall discussing how to proceed with repairing sinkhole damage.