

DONATIONS HANDED OVER TO VICTIM'S KIN

Zaliha says a 'reasonable amount' was given to the Indian national's relatives

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THE family members of the Masjid India sinkhole victim received donations from various parties before they returned to India.

Minister in the Prime Minister's Department (Federal Territories) Dr Zaliha Mustafa said the donations included those from Kuala Lumpur City Hall and corporations.

She said a "reasonable amount" was given to the victim's relatives.

Last week, Zaliha said the government was considering compensation for G. Vijaya Lakshmi's family.

The Indian national was walking in Jalan Masjid India when she fell into a sinkhole on Aug 23.

A search and rescue mission was launched on the same day but it was called off after nine days due to safety concerns.

Vijaya's family reportedly returned to India on Sunday after performing last rites for her at the site of the sinkhole.

Meanwhile, Bernama reported that City Hall has given its assurances that the entire area in Jalan Masjid India here is safe



The late G. Vijaya Lakshmi's family members at the location of the sinkhole incident in Jalan Masjid India, Kuala Lumpur, on Aug 24.

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to visit.

No stalls or buildings have been ordered to close operations.

Kuala Lumpur Mayor Datuk Seri Dr Maimunah Mohd Sharif said currently the area that is closed with barriers only involves a path of about 200 metres from Wisma Yakin to the police beat base to make way for rehabilitation and construction work at the location of the sinkhole incident.

"Throughout the incident, we did not (direct) any of the stalls to close, we only closed part of the area.

"People can still come and visit along the footpath.

"We have also met with the traders' association in the Jalan Masjid India area yesterday (on

Thursday) and confirmed that the surrounding area is safe, and only the area cordoned off with barriers is closed," she said after attending the opening of the Amboi festival at Raintree PlazaTRX, yesterday.

On Thursday, Housing and Local Government Minister Nga Kor Ming was reported as saying that the sinkhole incident in Jalan Masjid India was an isolated case and should not portray the country, especially Kuala Lumpur, as unsafe to live in.

He had said building structures erected in the country are safe according to high standards and underground utility mapping according to state utility corridors is also carried out all the time in phases.