

Fined RM13,000 for dumping waste in Putrajaya

PPj contractor finds easy way out to dispose of garden and drain refuse

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WASTE contractors have now identified Putrajaya as an ideal place to dump waste to avoid paying tipping fees at landfills.

An old mining land near in the federal administrative capital near the Selangor border has been used by waste contractors to dispose of waste.

Solid Waste Management and Public Cleanliness Corporation (SWCorp) Federal Territories director Mohd Zahir Shari, who prosecuted the first case of illegal dumping in Putrajaya on Jan 20, said the culprits pleaded guilty and were fined RM13,000 for dumping waste.

They were charged under Section 71(1) of the Solid Waste and Public Cleansing Management Act 2007 (Act 672) that carries a minimum fine of RM10,000 and maximum of RM100,000 or a jail

term of six months to five years.

"The contractor was hired by Putrajaya Corporation (PPj). "I was informed that the contractor's contract expired last December. It was then renewed until May this year.

"As usual the culprits did it to save the dumping cost but it was a stupid move as my enforcement team was watching them for weeks," he said.

Mohd Zahir said the culprits were caught dumping waste from gardens drains collected around Putrajaya.

"The waste was dumped onto government land located nearby the Dengkil border," he said.

"But my team's investigation showed that the waste was from Putrajaya."

Mohd Zahir also added that investigations showed that the contractor was not licensed by the National Solid Waste Management Department (JPSPN).

JPSPN is the department that issues licences to waste contractors.

Mohd Zahir added that Precinct 20 was becoming a waste dumping hotspot due to its proximity to the Selangor border.

He said it was a remote area and the dumping was usually carried out in the wee hours of the morning.

When contacted, Putrajaya Corporation (PPj) said stern warning had been given to contractors caught dumping waste in Putrajaya.

PPj engineering and maintenance department (road division) director Marzuki Abdullah said PPj was not aware that the contractor was dumping waste in Putrajaya.

"We made a site visit to the area to investigate when informed by SWCorp last year. We also extended our cooperation to SWCorp when initial investigations

were underway in October up until the court hearing.

"The contractor has been warned to dispose of waste at a proper landfill.

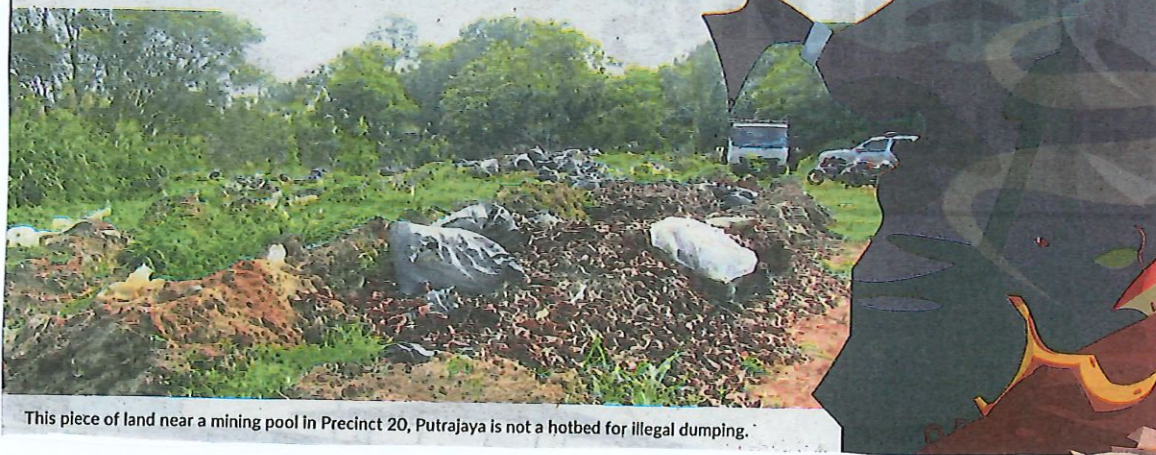
"We will not hesitate to take action against the contractors for dumping waste illegally," said Marzuki.

This was the first illegal dumping case to be prosecuted in Putrajaya.

Since Act 672 came into force in 2011, 34 private companies and 37 individuals have been prosecuted for illegal dumping in seven Malaysian states to date.

The Act governs Kuala Lumpur, Putrajaya, Johor, Melaka, Negri Sembilan, Pahang, Kedah and Perlis.

So far, five other illegal dumpsites have been found in Putrajaya.



This piece of land near a mining pool in Precinct 20, Putrajaya is not a hotbed for illegal dumping.

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