



Selayang MCA members going through the debris at the site of the demolished MCA community hall in Taman Bukit Rawang.

# 'Land office did not give notice'

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## Selayang MCA members shocked over demolition of party's community hall in Taman Bukit Rawang

By **STUART MICHAEL**  
stuart@thestar.com.my

SELAYANG MCA members are furious with the Gombak Land Office and Rawang assemblyman Gan Pei Nei for the demolition of the party's community hall in Taman Bukit Rawang on Feb 20.

The following day, more than a dozen MCA members gathered at the site of the demolished hall on Jalan 2/26 to sift through the debris.

"The land office did not give any notice informing us of the demolition exercise," said Selayang MCA secretary Ryan Ng.

"In August last year, we sent a letter to the Gombak Land Office and even had discussions with Selayang Municipal Council (MPS) on the matter and it seemed all

had been resolved.

"During the discussion, they told us to remove the MCA signboard, and we did it immediately.

"After the discussion, we opened the hall to all parties and residents to use.

"We even paid the electricity and water bills.

"We have done what the land office and MPS wanted, but they still demolished the building.

"What are they trying to accomplish by tearing down a structure that the MCA built with its members' money?" he asked.

Ng added that the debris left behind had not been cleared up and there were empty bottle containers and other plastic materials that could collect

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Goh Ah Ling



rainwater and become a breeding place for mosquitoes.

"The debris must be cleared up immediately to avoid the spread of dengue.

"Since there is a basketball court here, we want to know if it will also suffer the same fate," he asked.

Bukit Rawang Jaya MCA chairman Datuk Lee Li Yew said the land had no title and was reserved for a community hall.

In 2000, MCA collected RM70,000 to build the hall.

"In 2005, we collected RM40,000 to build the basketball court for the community and organised community events such as karaoke sessions, dinners, gatherings and social meetings," said Lee, adding that more than 200 Bukit Rawang Jaya MCA members lived there.

Selayang MCA chairman Datuk Goh Ah Ling demanded a new community centre be built for the community.

"The land office should also compensate us for the demolished building," he said.

When contacted, Gan said the hall was on state land. She said the Selayang MCA was given a few notices by the Selayang Municipal Council (MPS) and the Gombak Land Office to vacate and hand over the hall to the local council to manage for public use.

"MCA had refused and there was demand from residents in the area to build a bigger hall as the current one was old and not properly maintained.

"So, the land office demolished the hall, and MPS will upgrade and build new facilities for the community here," she said.

The Gombak Land Office could not be reached for comments.