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CM calls for emergency meeting on power outage



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Chief Minister Datuk Seri Panglima Haji Hajiji Haji Noor and State Secretary Datuk Seri Panglima Safar Untong being briefed by Yusmanizam on the power outage restoration works.

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KOTA KINABALU: Chief Minister Datuk Seri Panglima Hajiji Haji Noor called for an emergency meeting at Sri Gaya here on Sunday, on the major power outage affecting Sabah's east coast on Saturday.

Sabah Electricity Chief Operating Officer Ir Mohd Yusmanizam Mohd Yusof, who is also the crisis commander overseeing the power restoration works, briefed the Chief Minister that the power outage was due to a collapsed Kolopis-Segaliud 275kV tower swept by a landslide in Kampung Sarapung, Penampang.

The briefing was attended by State Secretary/State Disaster Management Committee Director Datuk Seri Panglima Sr Safar Untong and Sabah National Security Council

(MKN) director Datuk Yahya Sulaiman.

Yusmanizam said the Sabah Electricity crisis team is now in place and on the ground to implement the reconnection of the Kolopis-Segaliud power line.

He was informed that with weather permitting, the power connection works could be completed within two days.

"I understand the precarious nature of the restoration works, and while we hoped it could be completed quickly, at the same time, I want them to exercise caution too," he said.

Hajiji also instructed Sabah Electricity to keep the public informed on work progress and to constantly monitor situation on the ground due to prevailing bad weather.

Nearly 230,000 electricity

consumers in Sandakan, Lahad Datu, Kinabatangan, Kunak, Semporna and Beluran were affected by the incident.

Hajiji said in a statement earlier that the Sabah Electricity technical team is working around the clock to immediately restore the power supply.

"Among the work being carried out are conductor bridging, installation of an emergency tower within eight days as part of short-term measures, followed by the construction of a permanent tower.

"The state government understands the inconvenience currently faced by the people. Let's unite and pray as the people of Sabah so that everything will go through smoothly, especially for those hit by the power outage," he said.