



The old tin mines shut down in Malaya

KUALA LUMPUR, Sun. — Almost half of Malaya's small old dredge mines owned by Europeans and worth over \$7 million closed down recently, the Straits Times was told today. And more are expected to close soon.

The mines have been worked to exhaustion and it is difficult to find suitable new areas for the dredges and it is uneconomical to modify them for higher capacities.

100 sacked

More than 400 workers have been dismissed with gratuities. Some of them have found employment in other mines, and others have retired.

A miner said today that he expected more of these mines to close down.

Among those already closed are two in Selangor, one in Negri Sembilan and one in Perak.

"Very rich sites will have to be found for them to justify the great expense of modifying these old and small dredges for higher capacities. At present their capacities are only one-third of modern dredges."

27 years old

The latest small dredge to close is the 27-year-old Batu Selangor Tin Dredging Co., in Kepong, Selangor, which had an initial authorised capital of \$1,400,000.

Notification of its voluntary liquidation was advertised today.

A spokesman of the firm said: "The capacity of the dredge here is only 125,000 cubic yards a month compared with the 400,000 cubic yards of modern dredges."

More than 70 workers of the company were dismissed with gratuities.

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