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LETTING TREES HEAL

Sick trees force FRIM to close walkway for good from June 30

THE Canopy Walkway at Forest Research Institute Malaysia (FRIM) in Kepong, Selangor, will be closed from June 30.

FRIM said the 25-year-old walkway would be closed after it was discovered that the trees supporting the structure were weak from sickness.

“Inspections by FRIM arborists indicate a decline in the health of the trees, which can affect the safety of the walkway structure.

“Therefore, it is with a heavy heart that FRIM has decided to close it for public safety, as well as to allow the trees to heal and the surrounding forest to regenerate,” it said.

The walkway was a living system of platforms and ropes supported by nine trees comprising Merbau, Surian Batu, Melembu and Kembang Semangkuk.

It was initially built for scientific research and its construction was completed in 1992.

The walkway was opened to the public in 1993 as a facility for forest canopy education.

Over the years, it has become a major attraction in Selangor.