



KEMENTERIAN TENAGA DAN SUMBER ASLI

KERATAN SURAT KHABAR

SURAT KHABAR	:	NST			
TARIKH	:	23/8/2021 (ISNIN)	MUKA SURAT	:	15
JABATAN	:	JPNK			



NST, 23 Ogos
2021_15

Traces of illegal logging seen in the Gunung Inas Forest Reserve in Baling, Kedah, on Saturday.

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KEDAH FORESTRY
DEPARTMENT

'Mat Jan' sought over illegal logging

ALOR STAR: The Kedah Forestry Department is tracking down a man known as Mat Jan, who is believed to be involved in illegal logging in Compartment 4 of the Gunung Inas Forest Reserve in Baling.

Department director Muhamad Abdullah said the man, who is from Kupang, Baling, was believed to have hired several men to cut down trees in the 5ha forest area.

"We received a tip-off from the public about 11am yesterday (Saturday) and a team on duty detected the activities in the area at 2pm.

"Two men in their 40s were seen cutting down trees and moving the logs into the forest reserve. Upon seeing the team, they fled into the forest.

"They are also suspected of constructing a 2km road to move the logs, done at night and early morning to avoid the authorities."

Muhamad said the department found traces of tree felling, bulldozers, saws, motorcycles and seven newly felled logs, including balau, gerutu, merbau, pulai and medang wood.

"An excavator used for logging was found in a nearby oil palm plantation after following traces from the logging site.

"Based on information from the public, the logging was done by a local known as Mat Jan.

"We are investigating whether this involves a syndicate or an individual."

He said a report had been lodged at the Kupang police station for investigation and action by police.

The case is being investigated under Section 15 of the National Forestry Act 1984, which carries a fine of not more than RM500,000, 20 years' jail or both.

