



KERATAN AKHBAR

AKHBAR	:	THE STAR			
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KLASIFIKASI	:	PERHATIAN			

Amend wildlife laws, Sabah and S'wak urged

SABAH and Sarawak have been urged to follow Putrajaya's efforts in amending the Wildlife Conservation Act 2010, following the recent death of a pygmy elephant in Beluran.

Water, Land and Natural Resources Minister, Dr Xavier Jayakumar said illegal poachers could be deterred through increasing fines and custodial sentencing.

"They (Sabah and Sarawak) have their own legislation, so I'm asking them to follow Putrajaya in amending the Wildlife Conservation Act 2010.

"I think it's high time for us to tighten laws and increase enforcement to send the message to poachers that if they are caught, they will be dealt with severely," he said at the Parliament lobby yesterday.

He said the proposed amendments were expected to be tabled in Parliament in the first sitting next year.

He added that the Wildlife and National Parks Department was ascertaining the amount of forest rangers needed and where they should be deployed, based on the budget allocated by the Finance Ministry.