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Kelantan Forestry Dept to buy guns to tackle illegal logging

KOTA BARU: The Kelantan Forestry Department plans to buy more firearms to boost enforcement against illegal logging in permanent forest reserves in the state, said its director, Abdul Khalim Abu Samah. The department only has three pistols and five shotguns for carrying out enforcement to eradicate illegal logging in 629,775.12 ha of permanent forest reserves. He said 17 firearm licences had been issued to the officers and personnel of the department by the Home Ministry through the police since two years ago. "We plan to buy more firearms to be given to permit holders. However, the allocation for the purchase of firearms depends on the state government's budget." There are 37 permanent forest reserves in the state. **Bernama**