

PTG staff detained on bauxite mining

THE Natural Resources and Environment Ministry has welcomed the firm action of the Malaysian Anti-Corruption Commission (MACC) in detaining several individuals suspected of taking bribes to protect illegal mining of bauxite in Pahang.

Its Minister Datuk Seri Dr Wan Junaidi Tuanku Jaafar said based on the information obtained, many of those nabbed were state Land and Mines Office (PTG) employees.

However, he could not reveal further details as the case was being investigated by the MACC.

"I have yet to discuss with the MACC and the body also did not report to me, but my ministry has always supported and cooperated in the

eradication of corruption," he said.

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He was commenting on the remand of another Pahang PTG staff at the Magistrate's Court yesterday after the 31-year-old suspect was picked up by the MACC the night before.

Meanwhile, the ministry also requested four states which did not have marine parks to gazette them, to ensure marine food sources such as fish continued to be conserved and protected from going extinct.

Wan Junaidi said the four states were Perak, Selangor, Negri Sembilan and Melaka.

He said the gazetting of four more marine parks would help achieve the 10% target in gazetting national waters by 2020. — *Bernama*