



KEMENTERIAN TENAGA DAN SUMBER ASLI

## KERATAN SURAT KHABAR

SURAT KHABAR	:	NST			
TARIKH	:	3/7/2021 (SABTU)	MUKA SURAT	:	18
JABATAN	:	KeTSA/ PERHILITAN			

# Plans to boost conservation of Malayan Tiger's habitats

## KUALA LUMPUR

**T**HE government has identified some strategies to enhance the preservation and conservation of the Malayan Tiger's habitats, Energy and Natural Resources Minister Datuk Seri Dr Shamsul Anuar Nasarah said.

He said new initiatives would be implemented, including deploying enforcement and control patrols in the habitat area to curb poaching.

He added that the ministry was amending the Wildlife Conservation Act 2010 (Act 716) to impose heavier sentence and penalties for the offence of hunting fully protected wildlife species, including Malayan Tigers.

"Amendments to Act 716 will be tabled at the next Parliament sitting. Enactments related to protected areas will be strengthened, especially in terms of increasing penalty rates for wildlife crimes as a deterrent," he said in a statement yesterday.

He said the ministry had also formed an expert team, comprising Malayan Tiger conservation experts from state parks and non-governmental organisations, to provide input on strategic moves to address the crisis.

Shamsul Anuar said 5,287 smuggled Malayan Tiger body parts were confiscated between 2011 and last year.

On June 16, the cabinet agreed on strategic moves for the conservation of the Malayan Tigers to be implemented over a 10-year period from this year until 2030, he said.

Other moves include strengthening enforcement at the regional level through the Asean Working Group on CITES and Wildlife Enforcement, and empowering the National Wildlife Forensic Laboratory to improve surveillance on zoonotic diseases.

To ensure the sustainability of the forest complex at the Central Forest Spine (CFS), the ministry would strengthen cooperation with state governments in the efforts to restore, maintain and enhance the habitats of the Malayan Tiger.

Shamsul Anuar said the first National Tiger Survey conducted from 2016 until last year at CFS forest landscapes in the peninsula found the population of Malayan Tigers at their original habitats was extremely worrying.

"The findings showed that the ministry needed to take extraordinary measures to ensure the country will not lose this iconic species forever." **Bernama**