KEMENTERIAN TENAGA DAN SUMBER ASLI

KERATAN SURAT KHABAR

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54 smuggled birds worth RM571,000 seized

TUMPAT: The General Operations Force (GOF) seized 54 white-rumped shama birds, known locally as *burung murai batu*, worth more than RM570,000 in an operation here on Sunday. A motorist was arrested in the operation in Kampung Jubakar. GOF Eighth Battalion assistant commander Deputy Superintendent Ramesh K. Krishnan said a GOF team was conducting surveillance in the area when they spotted a car about 4pm. The team instructed the driver to stop for an inspection after suspecting the vehicle was carrying smuggled items. "The GOF found 32 plastic baskets of birds." He said initial checks found that the birds were smuggled into Kelantan from Thailand. "We suspect the birds, worth RM571,000, are meant to be distributed locally."