KEMENTERIAN TENAGA DAN SUMBER ASLI

KERATAN SURAT KHABAR

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Lenggong, Labuan get geopark status

IPOH: Lenggong in Perak and Labuan have been recognised as the latest national geoparks after the Kinta Valley National Geopark in Perak, Jerai National Geopark in Kedah and the Kinabalu National Geopark in Sabah.

Energy and Natural Resources Minister Datuk Seri Takiyuddin Hassan said the recognition was given under the National Geopark Development Programme led by the federal government through the ministry.

"The recognition of Lenggong and Labuan as national geoparks was made on Dec 16 during the National Geopark Committee Meeting No. 1 of 2021," he said in a statement yesterday.

He added that the 2,068 sq km Lenggong National Geopark, that is rich in unique rock landscapes, biological heritage (eight bio sites) and cultural heritage (19 cultural sites), also features various international-standard geological formations.

Previously, nine geo-archaeological sites in Lenggong had received World Heritage Site status from the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation.

Takiyuddin said the Labuan National Geopark, with an area of 402 sq km, features the evolution of sedimentary rocks and landscapes that formed Labuan Island as well as biological sites.

"Among them are mangrove forests (Kinabenuwa), coastal forests (Tanjung Kubong), wildlife sanctuary (Pulau Ular) and marine parks (Pulau Rusukan Besar, Pulau Rusukan Kecil and Pulau Kuraman), that are the habitats for various bird species (swiftlets, Pacific Reef-egret, Anhinga and Crimson Sunbird).

"The diversity of cultural heritage can also be seen in the community that lives in water villages."

Takiyuddin said the recognition of Lenggong and Labuan as national geoparks was a significant achievement for the country, especially the state government and local authorities, as it reflects efforts in conserving nature and sustainable management of geosites of extraordinary value, in line with the National Development Agenda and the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals. – Bernama