KEMENTERIAN TENAGA DAN SUMBER ASLI

KERATAN SURAT KHABAR

SURAT KHABAR	:	NEW STRAITS TIMES			
TARIKH	:	28.04.22	MUKA SURAT	:	13
JABATAN	:	PERHILITAN			

ENDANGERED SPECIES

Ministry boosts efforts on tapir conservation

KUALA LUMPUR: The Energy and Natural Resources Ministry, through the Wildlife and National Parks Department (Perhilitan), will ramp up in situ conservation efforts for the Malayan Tapir.

In conjunction with World Tapir Day yesterday, Energy and Natural Resources Minister Datuk Seri Takiyuddin Hassan said the ministry would protect and preserve the endangered species through several initiatives.

These efforts, he said, included bolstering the protection of habitats and ecological corridors, implementing an inventory, managing conflicts through rescue and relocation operations, as well as putting up yellow transverse bars, solar amber lights and wildlife crossing signs in rural roads.

"Malaysia is fortunate to host the Malayan Tapir species, which is the largest in the world.

"The Malayan Tapir differs from other tapirs because this is the only species that has a distinctive black-and-white colour once they grow.

"In terms of ex situ conservation, the Malayan Tapir breeding programme at the Wildlife Conservation Centre in Sungai Dusun, Selangor, has produced 18 tapirs in captivity.

"Another 14 tapirs that were rescued in conflict with humans have been released back into their habitats since 2008.

"Conservation efforts will be boosted through the establishment of the Tapir Conservation Centre in Kenaboi, Negri Sembilan, which is expected to be fully completed in 2025".

Takiyuddin urged people to conserve the Malayan Tapir by protecting its habitat and driving carefully in areas with wildlife crossing signs.

The Malayan Tapir has been listed as endangered by the International Union for Conservation of Nature in its Red List of Threatened Species and Red List of Mammals for Peninsular Malaysia 2017.

Malayan Tapirs are also found in Sumatra, southern Thailand and Myanmar.

The World Tapir Day is celebrated on April 27 to raise awareness on the importance of conserving tapirs and their habitats.



A female tapir being released at the Tapir Conservation Centre in Kenaboi, Negri Sembilan, last year. PIC BY COURTESY OF PERHILITAN