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Raspand-Logs

RASPAND LODGES POLICE REPORT ON LOGS SEIZURE

TAWAU, Feb 14 (Bernama) -- Raspand Sdn Bhd, which claims to have beneficial interests on 3,049 logs seized here last month, today lodged a police report expressing fears that it might be sabotaged by other parties.

Its managing director Abdul Rashad Adam said they feared that certain groups might mix the logs with that of the local species to prove that part of the logs are local timber.

Raspand had claimed that the logs seized by the Sabah Forestry Department on Jan 18 had been bought from Indonesia.

Tawau OCPD ACP Mohamad Ismail confirmed that a police report had been lodged by Raspand.

The timber consignment is being kept at the Sabah Foundation's logs storage centre in Tanjung Batu Laut, near here.

The logs were seized as they were suspected to be smuggled out of Sabah.

Meanwhile, Raspand, which threatened to take legal action against Sabah Government if it went ahead to auction off the logs, had postponed the court action pending completion of police investigations into the case.

Its lawyer Sugumar Balakrishnan said the company would make a decision on the legal action after police had completed the investigations.

Besides police, the Anti-Corruption Agency was also investigating the case while a high-powered committee headed by Deputy Chief Minister Datuk Ghapur Salleh to investigate the matter had submitted a report to Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad and his deputy Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim. -- BERNAMA

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