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STATE GOVT YET TO RECEIVE RASPAND WRIT, SAYS AG

KOTA KINABALU, April 15 (Bernama) -- Sabah Attorney-General Datuk Stephen Foo said today the state government has yet to receive Raspond Company's writ of summons against the government for alleged wrongful detention of 3,056 logs belonging to it in Tawau recently.

"So far we have not received the writ. When we receive it, we will file the defence," he said told reporters after attending a nationwide video conference with Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad, here.

Raspond Company had on April 8 this year filed the suit at the Kota Kinabalu High Court Registry here, seeking RM113,905,016 in damages for wrongful detention of the logs which were seized by the state Forestry Department on Jan 18 this year.

The logs were detained on suspicion of attempts to evade royalty payment to the state government but the Tawau Magistrate's court on March 31 ordered that they be returned to the company after it was told by senior federal counsel Nurchaya Arshad that there was no offence committed pertaining to the logs.

Raspond then filed the suit claiming that it had suffered huge losses and that all the 3,056 logs had deteriorated greatly and were refused by logs buyers. -- BERNAMA

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