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Search for missing duo to continue

KOTA KINABALU, Thurs. - The search for a German student and his local guide reported missing at the Labuk Bay Proboscis Monkey Sanctuary in Sandakan three weeks ago will continue, Chief Minister Datuk Chong Kah Kiat said today.

"The search is still on until such time security agencies decide otherwise. We will leave the decision to those who are involved in the search and that is the police."

Chong, who is State Security Council chairman, was asked how long more security forces intended to look for Arne Lennart Cornelius and his guide Joseph Mohd Faisal.

Cornelius and Joseph, both 21-years-old, were reported missing since Aug 30. It was reported that Cornelius was doing research on proboscis monkeys which are abundant in the area.

Police have combed areas where they were last seen, but have failed to find traces of their whereabouts.

Chong was speaking after sending off the Sultan of Brunei Darussalam, Sultan Hassanal Bolkiah, at the Kota Kinabalu International Airport here.

To another question, Chong said the State Government would decide soon on whether or not to issue a trading licence for gaming company Diriwan Corporation Sdn Bhd to resume its operations after five years.

It was reported that Diriwan Corporation had received a letter from the federal Finance Ministry approving renewal of the gaming licence.

It was learnt that the company was waiting for the State Government's approval to issue a trading licence to enable it to resume operation.

When it was pointed out that Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad had in 1999 stated that he supported the Sabah Government's decision not to increase the number of gaming licences, Chong said the Cabinet would discuss the matter.

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