

# Deported girl coming back tomorrow

## Cops to complete rape probe

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KOTA KINABALU: A 13-year-old Sabahan girl will finally return to the state on Monday, five months after she was mistakenly deported to the Philippines, Sabah Police Commissioner Datuk Ramli Yussuf said yesterday.

He said Malaysian police officials had been in constant contact with their Philippine counterparts to arrange for the girl's return.

Upon her return the girl would be placed under the care of the Sabah Welfare Department, Ramli said after attending the Hari Raya open house of the Yang di-Pertua Negri Tun Sakaran Dandai at his residence in Likas near here.

"But our personnel will be keeping tabs on her," he said, adding that the girl's return to Sabah would enable the police team to complete their investigations into allegations that she was raped by guards

at the Immigration temporary detention centre here.

He said the police would be calling "everybody," including the girl's parents, in the course of their probe, adding that the investigations were being carried out under Section 376 of the Penal Code.

The girl, who did not have any identification documents, reported the rape to Philippine authorities soon after she was sent off the east coast town of Sandakan in July.

Her allegation prompted Philippine president Gloria Macapagal Arroyo to write to Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad asking Malaysia to probe the girl's claims.

The police subsequently set up a special investigation team and they later determined that the girl was actually a Malaysian.