KEMENTERIAN TENAGA DAN SUMBER ASLI

KERATAN SURAT KHABAR

SURAT KHABAR	:	SUNDAY STAR			
TARIKH	:	10/10/2021 (AHAD)	MUKA SURAT	:	10
JABATAN	:	JPSM			

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Forest reserve activities require a permit

PUTRAJAYA: Those intending to go climbing or off-roading in a permanent forest reserve must get a permit from the district forest office beforehand, says the Forestry Department of Peninsular Malaysia (JPSM).

Its director-general Datuk Mohd Ridza Awang said based on public information and from enforcement patrols, there have been people entering without a permit.

Recently, it was reported that 13 off-road motorcyclists were arrested for trespassing into a permanent forest reserve in Terengganu.

Mohd Ridza said those caught entering a permanent forest reserve without a permit is subject to legal action under the National Forestry Act 1984.

A permit is also required for those intending to do activities like climbing, motocross riding or four-wheel drive adventures, he said after attending the Greening Malaysia Cycling Programme here.

The programme was organised by the Energy and Natural Resources Ministry, JPSM and Putrajaya Corporation in conjunction with National Sports Day 2021.

Energy and Natural Resources Minister Datuk Seri Takiyuddin Hassan, who cycled with a group from his ministry in Precinct 3 to Precinct 19, also planted some *cempaka* trees.

Climbing and extreme sports activities are allowed in states under Phase Three of the National Recovery Plan.

Mohd Ridza advised those intending to do such activities to apply for a permit early as the number of permits is limited.

The permit is limited to 50 people on weekdays and a maximum of 100 on weekends, depending on the forest reserve capacity, he said while adding that the fee varies based on state.

As for recreational activities at the eco-park, Mohd Ridza said it is open to the public but subject to Covid-19 SOP. — Bernama