KEMENTERIAN TENAGA DAN SUMBER ASLI

KERATAN SURAT KHABAR

SURAT KHABAR	:	NEW STRAITS TIMES			
TARIKH	:	25/1/2022 (SELASA)	MUKA SURAT	:	11
JABATAN	:	PERHILITAN			

SENOI PRAAQ TEAM

FRESH TIGER PAW PRINTS SPOTTED

GOF discovers them on 6th day of op in Kg Belatim

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BARELY six days into an operation to track down tigers at Orang Asli settlements in Gua Musang, the General Operations Force (GOF) Senoi Praaq team discovered fresh tiger paw prints.

GOF Third Battalion commanding officer Superintendent Azhar Hashim yesterday said the paw prints were found in Kampung Belatim.

He said 21 GOF members from the battalion, based in Bidor, Perak, had been deployed to Kelantan since Jan 19 to help wildlife rangers track down the tigers in Pos Bihai.

"GOF members have yet to capture the animal. Apart from helping the rangers search for the tigers, GOF members also need to ensure their own safety."

Azhar said their duties included checking tiger traps set up by the rangers.

"The checks will be carried out every day, and GOF members, together with rangers, conduct surveillance from 8am to 3pm daily.

"The checks also cover Orang Asli villages in the district."

The villages are Kampung Asli Pahong, Kampung Tendrik, Kampung Kesuma, Kampung Remai, Kampung Bujuk, Kampung Sau and Kampung Hak.

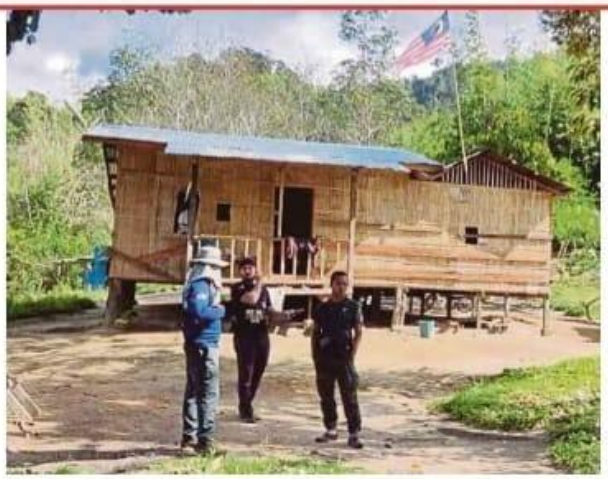
Others are Kampung Badak, Kampung Piyai, Kampung Kemban, Kampung Chemal and Kampung Cacoh.

"Kampung Belatim, where they spotted the paw prints recently, and SK Balarm, where a tiger was spotted in Kampung Dakoh 3, are covered in their operations."

Azhar said this was the first time the battalion was sent to Kelantan to track down tigers and its selection was due to its expertise in hunting wildlife animals.

It is learnt that the deployment of the Senoi Praaq team to the district was made following a request by the Gua Musang District Office early this month.

Several tiger sightings were recorded near Orang Asli settlements in the district since last month, including two tigers spotted outside the fence of SK Balar.



The General Operations Force Senoi Praaq team monitoring an Orang Asli settlement in Pos Balar near Gua Musang, Kelantan, recently. PIC COURTESY OF GOF