



**LAPORAN LIPUTAN MEDIA HARIAN
ISNIN 24 NOVEMBER 2025**

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UKK KPKM

UNIT KOMUNIKASI KORPORAT
KEMENTERIAN PERTANIAN DAN KETERJAMINAN MAKANAN
(UNTUK EDARAN DALAMAN KPKM, JABATAN DAN AGENSI SAHAJA)

Johor's dairy tourism boost

Modern hub in Mersing also strengthens fresh milk production

By YEE XIANG YUN
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DAIRY tourism is becoming Johor's next agro-attraction, with the state banking on the Jemaluang Dairy Valley (JDV) project in Mersing to draw visitors, while boosting fresh milk production.

State agriculture, agro-based industry and rural development committee chairman Datuk Zahari Sarip said the project was designed to strengthen the state's dairy output and create new economic spin-offs.

"Among its visitor-friendly features are a dairy cafe, steakhouse and educational tours.

"Many visitors have been stopping by to take photos and videos which have become popular on TikTok," he said in a question and answer session during the state assembly sitting at Bangunan Sultan Ismail in Kota Iskandar.



Zahari: Jemaluang Dairy Valley a catalyst for socio-economic growth.

He was responding to questions on how the dairy project benefitted the people and efforts to increase ruminant numbers.

JDV was completed on June 30, 2025, by the East Coast Economic

Region Development Council via an allocation of RM68.5mil.

Zahari said the project was a catalyst for socio-economic growth, generating job opportunities for locals while also introducing a satellite farmer programme to nurture 30 satellite dairy farmers within the first three years of operation.

He said JDV would function as a fresh milk collection centre, while the Johor Dairy Centre of Excellence would provide technical training, technology transfer and market access for farmers.

Johor has the second highest population of ruminant animals in the country after Pahang, with 160,845 cows and goats to date.

Zahari said the state aimed to increase the number to 200,000 by 2027.

"RM19.8mil was also allocated by the state over the past five years under the Veterinary Services Department for the development of the ruminant

industry," Zahari said.

However, the subsector's self-sufficiency level was low, he said, with beef and buffalo meat at 15.9%, mutton and goat meat at 10.6% and fresh milk at 66.8%.

"Our import dependency is high at 89.6% for beef and buffalo meat, 84.5% for mutton and goat meat, and 56.6% for fresh milk."

Zahari said to address this, the state was implementing several measures to boost local ruminant numbers and productivity, including improving livestock genetics through cattle breeding assistance programmes and expanding artificial insemination services.

Other efforts, he said, included strengthening disease-control programmes, upgrading livestock infrastructure and feed management, providing support and training for farmers, and enhancing Permanent Food Production Parks for livestock.

Protecting marine biodiversity

By ANGELIN YEOH
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TECHNOLOGY is increasingly being used to map and understand life beneath the waves, a step that's proving vital as conservation efforts for coral reefs intensify.

In September, Reef Check Malaysia announced that an interactive map to access details on the health of reefs in Malaysia is now available on its website (tinyurl.com/4r7ast2f).

Users can access details such as graphs with location trend analysis to indicate how the health of the coral reefs has changed over a five-year time period. It also has details on species of fish and other sea creatures seen in the area.

"This platform leverages the power of community involvement to gather extensive and diverse data sets. This approach democratises data collection and encourages public participation, fostering a sense of ownership and responsibility towards reef conservation," Reef Check Malaysia chief operating officer Theresa Ng said in a statement.

The map has a legend to indicate the health status of live coral cover ranging from Excellent to Poor.

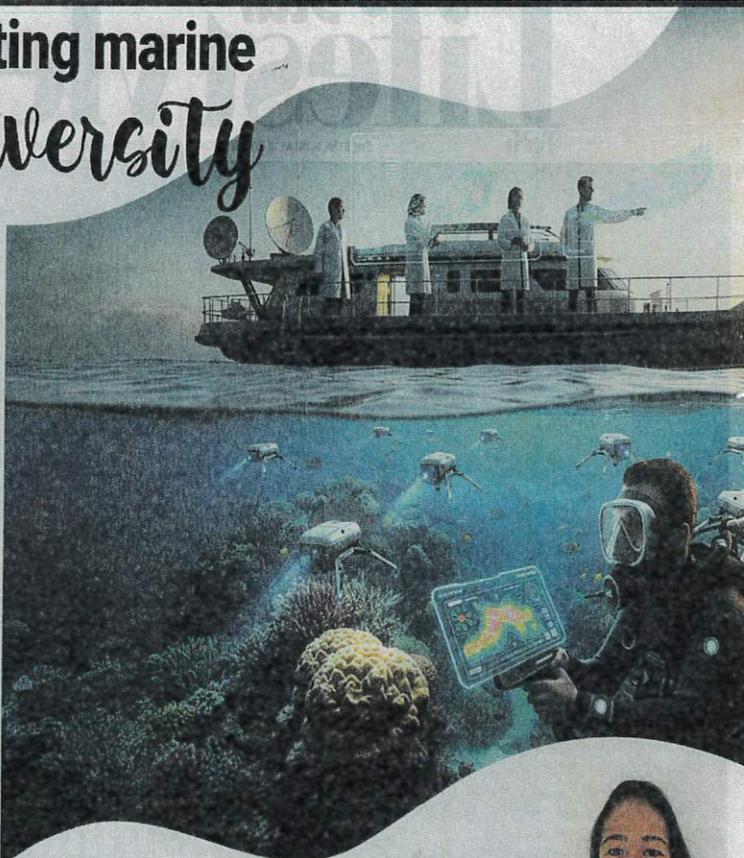
When contacted, Ng explained that the data points come from Reef Check's monitoring surveys in coral reefs, which the NGO has conducted at over 300 sites since 2007. The initiative is supported by a team of volunteer divers from across Malaysia who assist the NGO in collecting data.

She added that the NGO runs a three-day certification programme to train volunteers on identifying fish, invertebrate and substrate for data collection.

"Over the years, we have trained over 1,000 volunteers to assist with data collection. They are mostly avid divers who decided to use their skills to contribute towards reef conservation," Ng said.

She added that GPS markers or coordinates recorded are used to verify that survey data was collected at the correct reef sites, ensuring its accuracy and authenticity.

"We also consult marine scientists to verify the data before it goes onto the live map. For exam-



This visual is human created, AI aided

ple, if the live fish count suddenly spikes in an area that usually shows low numbers, the experts will compare it with historical data and conduct further checks to understand what has changed and confirm the findings," she said.

The map aims to provide timely updates on the reef health indicators as immediate access to current data will allow stakeholders to make informed decisions at a faster rate, ultimately enhancing response time to emerging threats.

According to Ng, there is an impression that "data is not scary" but she emphasises that data is crucial to identify threats and aid in efforts to mitigate reef damage, guiding both conservation teams and relevant parties in their response. Since the launch of the interactive map, Ng said they have received feedback from var-

ious groups including academics and tourism operators.

"Some said the data raised red flags, reflecting their concern over a reef ecosystem that appears to be deteriorating," she added.

To support conservation efforts using the data on the map, Ng said Reef Check can guide dive site operators and tourist spots on when to temporarily close areas, giving the reefs an opportunity to heal.

Reef Check is a non-profit organisation dedicated to the conservation of tropical coral reefs and temperate kelp forests. Apart from the map, its website also provides educational modules designed for teachers, students and other individuals to learn about marine conservation.

Looking ahead, Ng said it would be exciting to integrate AI and other advanced technologies,

such as satellite monitoring, with their on-site dive data.

"This could help us track trends over time and verify the remote data against real-world observations or ground truthing" to provide more accurate insights for reef conservation," she said.

Delving deeper

Advanced tech like robots are also being used to aid with coral reef conservation.

In September, *The Straits Times* reported the Singapore University of Technology and Design (SUTD) had created an underwater robot that can generate a low-resolution 3D digital twin of coral reefs within minutes. The device, which weighs about 20kg with diving capabilities of up to 30m, is equipped with a system called Maplion to assist operators by capturing visual data of corals and other underwater structures like pipelines, identifying any areas they may have missed to produce a complete 3D map.

According to marine biologist Sam Shu Qin, photographing corals and compiling the footage in a lab is a manual and challenging process, often made more difficult by poor underwater visibility.

"It is a very useful tool if we can successfully map coral transplants and monitor their growth over time at coral restoration sites, or even reef surveys during harmful events like coral bleaching and oil spills in Singapore's highly sedimented waters," Sam said in the *Straits Times* report.



Ng said GPS markers or coordinates recorded are used to verify that survey data was collected at the correct reef sites.

According to Asst Prof Malika Meghiani, who leads the team at SUTD, the robot can also be used to assess ship hulls and monitor the impact of oil spills.

Collective effort

Tech companies are also stepping in to support coral reef conservation by contributing tools and expertise to enhance monitoring and restoration efforts.

In January this year, Huawei launched a Tech4Nature project to monitor and protect coral reefs at the Kisite-Mpunguti Marine Park and Reserve in Kenya.

The project will see the use of underwater cameras, photogrammetry and audio monitoring technologies. AI will also be trained to recognise target species by sight and sound to retrieve real-time data-driven insights. There is also potential for the system to identify boats used for illegal fishing and alert rangers to intervene.

Senior assistant director Adan Kala of Kenya Wildlife Service believes that the technology can help them to protect

the ecosystem more effectively. "The advantage of this technology (is that) it can be deployed in (a) wider area that we couldn't patrol every single day to get data for day and night for us to make good, informed decisions," he said in an online statement.

In the same month, Samsung said it was collaborating with nonprofit organisation Seatrees and the University of California San Diego to explore innovative solutions for reef restoration.

The company developed Ocean Mode, a customised camera mode to capture high-quality images of coral reefs while underwater. The company claims that it minimises motion blur and automatically adjusts white balance to enhance clarity and colour accuracy, with the aim of helping researchers receive more precise images for analysis - all to support more effective monitoring and evaluation of coral restoration efforts.

"Design and implementation of coral reef restoration need to be informed by reliable information about what works and what doesn't. Mobile technologies offer an exciting opportunity to expand access to this information," Scripps Institution of Oceanography marine ecologist Dr Stuart Sandin said in an online statement.

Improving data analysis

In May, researchers at US-based Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution (WHOI) and the

Massachusetts Institute of Technology unveiled SeaSplat, an AI-model to analyse underwater images taken by standard cameras.

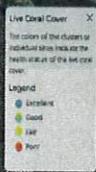
The model, powered by Nvidia L40 GPUs, relies on 3D Gaussian splatting (a graphics technique that blends millions of data points to create realistic 3D visuals) to correct water distortions like haze and discoloration, producing more accurate 360-degree reconstructed images.

Researchers believe the model will help ecologists develop a better understanding of coral reefs. According to WHOI associate scientist and model co-creator Yogesh Girdhar, coral reefs may cover only a small portion of the ocean, but they sustain an extraordinary diversity of marine life - hence it is crucial to quantify the biodiversity of reefs and detect specific events like coral bleaching or disease," he said in an online statement.

To collect underwater imagery for training the model, researchers deployed a submersible robot equipped with Nvidia Jetson Orin edge computing technology to assist in navigation and data capture.

So far, SeaSplat has been used to enhance underwater reef images from the US Virgin Islands, the Red Sea, and Curacao. Researchers now aim to make the model more adaptable and scalable for use in any underwater survey or study.

The platform is built on data collected from more than 300 sites
- Photos: Reef Check Malaysia



TARIKH	MEDIA	RUANGAN	MUKA SURAT
24/11/2025	BERITA HARIAN	NASIONAL	5

Kedah gesa MKN selesaikan segera isu pengambilan tanah

Baling: Kerajaan Kedah masih menunggu Majlis Keselamatan Negara (MKN) menyelesaikan pengambilan tanah berdekatan penempatan di Bukit Malut, Langkawi, dalam usaha menyelesaikan isu pendudukan di lokasi berkenaan.

Menteri Besar, Datuk Seri Muhammad Sanusi Md Nor, berkata sehingga kini MKN masih belum dapat menyelesaikan urusan pengambilan tanah milik Lembaga Kemajuan Ikan Malaysia (LKIM) bersebelahan penempatan Bukit Malut sekarang serta membantu menyediakan projek perumahan di tapak itu.

Katanya, kerajaan negeri sudah beberapa kali menghantar surat kepada MKN meminta diambil tindakan segera berhubung usaha pengambilan tanah berkenaan.

Beliau juga berkata, penduduk asal penempatan Bukit Malut adalah komuniti Melayu Islam Kedah (MIK) yang mula masuk ke kawasan itu pada 1983.

Bagaimanapun, beliau tidak menolak kemungkinan ada pen-

datang asing tanpa izin (PATI) dari Myanmar, terutama etnik Rohingya yang turut mengambil peluang menduduki kawasan berkenaan ketika ini.

Beliau berkata, sebelum ini penduduk di Bukit Malut turut membina struktur rumah secara haram di tanah milik Permodalan Kedah Berhad (PKB) itu.

"Komuniti MIK itu kini tinggal bersebelahan tanah kerajaan dan kawasan hutan, justeru mereka memerlukan penempatan semula yang sah.

"MKN perlu segera kan pengambilan tanah Lembaga Kemajuan Ikan Malaysia (LKIM) untuk bina rumah di sebelah penempatan sekarang, mereka akan beli rumah itu nanti.

"Mereka ini bukan menuntut rumah percuma, sebaliknya mahu membeli rumah sah di lokasi berdekatan kerana kehidupan mereka sudah lama berasimilasi

dengan aktiviti laut," katanya kepada *BH*.

Muhammad Sanusi berkata, kerajaan negeri sedia mencari pe-
maju untuk membina rumah yang

mana kumpulan MIK di situ didakwa menyatakan kesediaan untuk membeli.

Mengulas persepsi wujud sindiket membawa masuk etnik Rohingya ke penempatan itu, Muhammad Sanusi berkata, beliau tidak pasti mengenai perkara itu.

"Saya tak ada maklumat mengenai perkara itu, ia mungkin ada mungkin tidak ada, saya tidak tahu, tapi persepsi orang macam itu.

"Bukit Malut bukan (diduduki) etnik Rohingya. Mereka komuniti MIK yang masuk 1983. Mereka bercakap Melayu, cakap Kedah. Rohingya tak boleh bercakap Melayu, bahasa Inggeris lagi tak boleh," katanya.



Muhammad Sanusi

TARIKH	MEDIA	RUANGAN	MUKA SURAT
24/11/2025	HARIAN METRO	LOKAL	11

Oleh Muhamad Lokman Khairi
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Batu Kawan

Kampung Pulau Aman, di sini, yang dihuni komuniti nelayan kini berwajah baharu hasil pelaksanaan program Kampung Angkat Madani (KAM) oleh Jabatan Perkhidmatan Awam (JPA) dengan peruntukan RM2.5 juta.

Ketua Pengarah Perkhidmatan Awam, Tan Sri Wan Ahmad Dahlan Abdul Aziz berkata, pemilihan Pulau Aman dibuat berdasarkan potensinya sebagai destinasi pelancongan komuniti dan keperluan mendesak untuk menaik taraf kemudahan asas yang ketinggalan.

"Sebenarnya Kampung Pulau Aman ini pernah menjadi kampung angkat saya ketika mengikuti kursus kadet pegawai tadbir diplomatik (PTD).

"Berdasarkan pengalaman itu, saya tahu kampung ini agak ketinggalan dari aspek infrastruktur walaupun lokasinya sangat hampir dengan tanah besar.

"Apabila Perdana Menteri, Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim mengilhankan setiap ketua jabatan memilih kampung angkat, saya melihat Pulau Aman layak diberi perhatian, bukan saja untuk menyediakan kemudahan lebih baik kepada penduduk, tetapi untuk meningkatkan ekonomi mereka," katanya ketika temu bual bersama Buletin Utama TV3, baru-baru ini.

Wan Ahmad Dahlan berkata, projek pembangunan dilaksanakan bukan secara semberono, sebaliknya melalui beberapa siri libat urus bersama persatuan penduduk Pulau Aman.

Menurutnya, sebanyak 12 projek fizikal serta 24 projek bukan fizikal berjaya dilaksanakan dalam tempoh sembilan bulan antaranya naik taraf jeti, pusat pengumpulan sampah, pembaikan longkang, pengubahsuaian dewan serba guna dan penyediaan tempat mandi jenazah.

"Selain itu, projek paling signifikan ialah pembinaan Denai Alam (Nature Trail) sepanjang 2.8 kilometer di Pulau Aman yang membolehkan pelancong menikmati keindahan alam semula jadi.

"Apabila pelancong datang beriadah, persatuan penduduk mendapat pulangan ekonomi daripada pelbagai aktiviti.

"Ini juga adalah satu ta-

PROGRAM KAMPUNG ANGKAT MADANI JPA

Belanja RM2.5j ubah wajah Kampung Pulau Aman



WAN Ahmad Dahlan (empat dari kanan) ketika merasmikan mercu tanda Kampung Angkat MADANI JPA Pulau Aman sempena majlis penutup program di Pulau Aman, Batu Kawan.

rikan baharu kepada pelancong Pulau Aman," katanya.

Selain kemudahan fizikal, JPA turut melaksanakan 24 program bukan fizikal bernilai RM569,000 bagi membangunkan modal insan dan memperkukuh ekonomi komuniti.

Antara program penting ialah kursus bahasa Inggeris dan Mandarin untuk pengusaha bot, kelas digital untuk kanak-kanak, pemberian smartboard kepada sekolah rendah, program pemuliharaan laut bersa-

ma Jabatan Perikanan serta latihan ekonomi perikanan melalui persatuan komuniti perikanan (MyKP) dan Lembaga Kemajuan Ikan Malaysia (LKIM).

Beliau berkata, JPA juga menjalankan kursus bersama penduduk mengenai

pengurusan inap desa yang betul merangkumi aspek kebersihan, penyediaan kemudahan dan layanan kepada tetamu.

"Pulau Aman sebenarnya destinasi menarik untuk kaki pancing. Apabila inap desa lebih teratur, ini

membuka sumber pendapatan baharu kepada penduduk," katanya.

Wan Ahmad Dahlan menegaskan, JPA akari terus menjalinkan hubungan baik dengan penduduk menerusi lawatan pegawai JPA dari semasa ke semasa untuk memastikan kemudahan yang dibina dan dinaiktaraf terjaga.

"Saya berharap penduduk menjaga semua kemudahan yang disediakan supaya ia kekal berfungsi lama dan menjadi sumber pendapatan berterusan.

"Ini tujuan Kampung Angkat Madani iaitu pembangunan ekonomi, sosial dan budaya yang mampan," katanya.

Pulau Aman satu-satunya kampung nelayan Melayu tradisional yang masih mengekalkan keaslian dan keunikan gaya hidupnya.

Pulau seluas 116.5 hektar ini, terletak kira-kira 16 batu nautika dari tanah besar Seberang Perai dan lapan kilometer (km) dari Jambatan Sultan Abdul Halim Mu'adzam Shah dan didiami 250 penduduk daripada 47 keluarga.

Menariknya, pulau ini menawarkan pengalaman luar biasa sebagai sebuah kampung 'bebas kereta', penduduk dan pelawat hanya bergerak dengan berjalan kaki, berbasikal atau menaiki motosikal menerusi jalan konkrit yang menghubungkan seluruh pulau.

Selain Pulau Aman, Wan Ahmad Dahlan berkata, JPA turut membangunkan Kampung Seri Menanti di Negeri Sembilan dan Kampung Sembulan di Kota Kinabalu, Sabah masing-masing dalam proses pelaksanaan kerja pembinaan dan menaik taraf kemudahan demi kesejahteraan penduduk.

"Selain itu, projek paling signifikan ialah pembinaan Denai Alam (Nature Trail) sepanjang 2.8 kilometer di Pulau Aman yang membolehkan pelancong menikmati keindahan alam semula jadi"

Wan Ahmad Dahlan



WAN Ahmad Dahlan (lima dari kiri) ketika meninjau kemudahan awam di Pulau Aman sempena majlis penutup program di Pulau Aman, Batu Kawan.

TARIKH	MEDIA	RUANGAN	MUKA SURAT
24/11/2025	HARIAN METRO	LOKAL	18

Kebun ubi kayu musnah angkara gajah

Gua Musang: Sebuah keluarga Orang Asli di Kampung Gawin, Pos Gob di sini berputih mata apabila kebun ubi kayu dan padi bukit yang diusahakan dimusnahkan gajah liar, dua minggu lalu.

Lebih mengecewakan apabila ubi kayu ditanam sudah mengeluarkan hasil dan hanya menunggu masa dituai.

Menurut Anit Aluj, 60, dia menyedari kejadian di kebunnya pada pagi 2 November lalu ketika datang menggali ubi kayu.

Katanya dia terkejut apabila melihat kebunnya dimusnahkan gajah liar walaupun kejadian itu bukan kali pertama berlaku di kebunnya.

“Melihat ubi kayu dan anak padi bukit rosak saya sangat kecewa. Besar harapan saya menuai ubi kayu untuk bekal musim tengkujuh ini.

“Kini saya buntu dan kecewa, dalam keadaan hujan

setiap hari saya tidak dapat keluar ke bandar Gua Musang atau Kuala Betis untuk membeli barangan keperluan.

“Ubi kayu dan padi bukit adalah sumber makanan kami penduduk Orang Asli di pedalaman. Kami hanya menyara keluarga dengan hasil tanaman, namun semua dimusnahkan gajah liar,” katanya di sini, semalam.

Sementara itu, Penghulu Kampung Gawin, Akek Bahir berkata, sepanjang tahun ini lebih 10 kali berlaku serangan gajah liar di kebun penduduk.

Katanya, kejadian terbaharu berlaku dua minggu lalu yang memusnahkan tanaman penduduk seperti ubi kayu, pokok pisang dan padi bukit.

“Lebih merisaukan kami apabila tiba musim tengkujuh, kami perlukan bekalan makanan bagi menghadapi musim hujan,” katanya.