



**UNIT KOMUNIKASI KORPORAT
JABATAN PERIKANAN MALAYSIA
BERITA PERIKANAN HARI INI**

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Dolphins and giant shrimp back in Melaka waters

By RSN MURALI
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MELAKA: Dolphins and giant marine shrimp have been spotted here after having gone missing for about 40 years, says state agriculture, agro-based, entrepreneur development and cooperative committee chairman Datuk Norhizam Hassan Baktee.

"Fishermen have spotted dolphins on Thursday. We must look into saving our marine ecosystem by not approving anymore reclamation works," he said.

Norhizam said water pollution had reduced during the lockdown, adding that this could also have prompted the dolphins to return.

"The sighting of medium-sized Indo-Pacific humpback dolphins is extremely rare," he added.

However, he said one of the dolphins was found dead at Pantai Puteri on Friday.

Norhizam also said the state Fisheries Department estimated the 250kg dolphin was 15 years old.

As for the giant shrimp, an activist from the Portuguese community said the earnings of local fishermen had doubled since the giant shrimp returned.

Chairman of the Save The Portuguese Action Committee chairman Martin Theseira said these shrimp were highly sought after and middlemen were willing to pay a good price.

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BANGKAI ikan lumba-lumba yang ditemui terdampar di Kampung Pantai Rombang, Pantai Puteri, Tanjung Kling, Melaka.

Lumba-lumba mati tersangkut jaring

Melaka Seekor ikan lumba-lumba yang dijumpai terdampar di Kampung Pantai Rombang, Pantai Puteri, Tanjung Kling, dekat sini, pada petang keimarin dipercayai mati akibat tersangkut pada jaring.

Pengarah Jabatan Perikanan negeri, Mohd Fauzi Solehon berkata, siasatan pegawai jabatan itu petang semalam mendapati ada kesan kecederaan pada kepala ikan itu yang dipercayai akibat terkena jaring atau pukut nelayan.

Katanya, ikan lumba-lumba

spesies *Sousa chinensis* itu lebih dikenali dalam kalangan pengkaji sebagai *Indo-Pacific humpback dolphin*.

"Siasatan mengesahkan ikan itu berusia kira-kira 15 tahun dengan berat 250 kilogram dan panjang 2.55 meter serta ada kesan kecederaan pada kepalanya, besar kemungkinan tersangkut pada jaring."

"Selat Melaka adalah laluan atau perairan populasi ikan lumba-lumba dan lazimnya ia berenang dalam kumpulan antara lima hingga 20 ekor," katanya ketika dihubungi, se-

malam.

Beliau berkata, spesies itu boleh dikesan dalam jarak lima batu nautika dari pantai dan mempunyai jangka hayat 30 tahun.

"Spesies berkenaan dilindungi mengikut Akta Perikanan 1985 dan sesiapa yang menangkapnya boleh dikenakan tindakan mengikut akta berkenaan.

"Jabatan ini amat berharap orang ramai, terutama nelayan mampu memberikan kerjasama dalam usaha melindungi spesies itu daripada pupus," katanya.

Beliau berkata, bangkai ikan itu ditanam di lokasi yang dirahsiakan bagi mengelakkan pihak tertentu mencuba mengambil organ dalamnya.

Dalam kejadian jam 4 petang itu, ikan itu dijumpai dua nelayan, Muhammad Saiful Safuan Mad Aris, 25, dan Rahmad Khamis, 37, ketika menolak perahu turun ke laut.

Mereka menarik bangkai ikan itu jauh dari gigi pantai bagi mengelakkannya dihayutkan ombak dan arus deras.