

MTIB intercepts illegal shipment of round logs worth RM500,000



The Malaysian Timber Industry Board (MTIB) has revealed that it foiled an attempt in August to smuggle 10 containers filled with 133 round logs of the banned keruing species, worth RM500,000. Pic by NSTP/INTAN NUR ELLIANA ZAKARIA

By **DAWN CHAN** - October 9, 2017 @ 2:10pm

PULAU INDAH: The Malaysian Timber Industry Board (MTIB) has revealed that it foiled an attempt in August to smuggle 10 containers filled with 133 round logs of the banned keruing species, worth RM500,000.

MTIB director-general Datuk Jalaluddin Harun said the logs, en route from Pahang to India, were seized at Westports Malaysia in Port Klang on Aug 22.

"There were suspicious elements in the nine export permit applications from an online supplier, which was submitted by a company based in Pahang. The alarm was raised when our initial investigation showed that the logs were declared as sawn timber.

"Our inspection on the containers confirmed that this was indeed a false declaration. The inspection was carried out at about 11pm as part of a multi-agency operation by the MTIB enforcement unit, the Selangor Customs Department and Westports Malaysia," said Jalaluddin.

He said round logs have been banned from being exported since 1990, through the Timber Export Bulletin 2/87 (Revised 0590), dated May 14, 1990: Restriction On The Export of Sawn Timber and Timber Products.

Jalaluddin was speaking at a press conference held at the Westports Central Inspection Complex, here.

Also present was Selangor Customs Department deputy director Ahmad Fuad Shahaluddin.