



**Azreen Mohamed Arif attending to his deer at his home in Jalan Kedai Lama, Rantau Panjang, Kelantan, yesterday. Pic by Adnan Mohamad**

# Good money in deer venture

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**RANTAU PANJANG:** Taking up a hobby to learn more about deer and their habitat has helped government servant Azreen Mohamed Arif turn it into a profitable venture.

The father of three began selling deer meat several years ago to supplement his income at his home in Jalan Kedai Lama here.

The 34-year-old's venture, involving the *Timorensis* species of deer, is not only paying him handsomely but also attracting visitors, especially during the weekends.

"It had been my hobby to learn about deer and other animals through magazines and the Internet. Recently, I decided to rear deer

and discussed it with the Veterinary Department.

"The department leased a female and three male deer for breeding, with the condition that I give them the first fawn."

Azreen said he spent RM10,000 to set up the cages and RM150 monthly on food for the animals.

"I do not mind if the venture is not profitable as long as people are educated about the animals and their habitat. The most important thing is to create awareness among visitors about fake deer meat, which is sold widely in the country."

Besides selling fresh deer meat, he also sells dried meat to visitors.