



JABATAN PERKHIDMATAN VETERINAR MALAYSIA

LAPORAN LIPUTAN MEDIA

22 JANUARI 2019

1. Veterinarian urges Sabah govt to set up cat island; News Straits Times
2. Idea buka Pulau kucing; Harian Metro

OLEH:

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PROTECTING ANIMALS

Veterinarian urges Sabah govt to set up cat island

KOTA KINABALU: A veterinarian here has proposed that a cat island be set up to protect the animals from becoming prey to wildlife on islands off Sabah.

Dr Randolph Paza's idea, which was mooted on his Facebook account, has gone viral and garnered support from Netizens.

In the post, he asked the public, especially volunteers, to support efforts to carry out the project.

The post was uploaded on Jan 11 and shared 1,300 times. It received 2,100 likes with 680 comments up to press time.

Paza said he was inspired to pursue the project as there was an island in Japan where cats were protected.

"I discovered that there is an island in Japan, which is populated by cats.

"I am involved in charity work related to the treatment and neutering of animals, such as cats, in islands near Kota Kinabalu. That's how I came up with this idea.

"The cats on these islands die because they became prey to wildlife, such as monitor lizards. I see this happening often whenever I visit these islands to conduct protection programmes for cats," he told the New Straits Times Press here.

He urged the government to give its support to gazetting an island off the coast of Kota Kinabalu for the purpose.

"I received positive comments for the idea, but there are some people who said it is impossible to do.

"This is the first step towards this goal and I hope the government sees the importance of protecting cats. It can also boost tourism.

"I have suggested that Pulau Mamutik be turned into a cat island as every area in the island is suitable for cats to thrive."

The volunteer attached to the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (SPCA) said based on his records, there were 18 cats in Pulau Mamutik, Pulau Sapi (14) and Pulau Manukan (35).



A stray cat on an island off Kota Kinabalu on Sunday. (Inset) Dr Randolph Paza. PIC COURTESY OF DR RANDOLF PAZA



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