

INDONESIA TO LIMIT NO. OF PORTS TRADING TIMBER TO MALAYSIA

JAKARTA, July 22, Asia Pulse – The Indonesia government will limit the number of ports for exporting wood to Malaysia in order to reduce wood smuggling to that country, a spokesman said.

Forestry Ministry MS Kaban said here on Thursday the two countries would sign a memorandum of understanding on the matter so that identification can be done of wood that will be exported, “he said when receiving Malaysian Minister of Natural Resources Adenan Haji Satem.

Minister Kaban said only the central government was allowed to issue a license for exporting wood.

The Malaysian minister had come to seek clarification regarding wood allowed by the Indonesia government to be exported.

Kaban said the government had opened an opportunity for investment in timber estate development.

He said that only 2.5 million out of 7 million hectares of forest land had been developed for timber estates.