

GOVERNOR OF BANTEN WANTS ILLEGAL GOLD MINING IN LEBAK TO BE PROSECUTED, OMBUDSMAN RECOMMENDS OKNUM TO BE PROSECUTED FOR ILLEGAL MINING THAT IS STOPPED

Tuesday, 14 January 2020 - Rizal Nurjaman

Illegal gold mining in Taman Nasional Gunung Halimun Salak (TNGHS) may not be one of the causes of the flood disaster that hit Kabupaten Lebak, Wednesday, 1 January 2020. However, if mining is proven to cause difficulties for many people, legal action must be expedited.

This was conveyed by Governor Banten Wahidin Halim when leading a meeting with all Heads and Secretaries of Regional Organizations (OPD) in the environment of the Banten Provincial Government, at the Governor's Residence, Central Government Region of Banten Province (KP3B) Kecamatan Curug, Kota Serang, Monday, 13 January 2020.

If in the end of the law is violated, it must be prosecuted. So don't let too many social and economic aspects be debated. If it is the cause of one of them, it is easy to hit", said a popular man in the WH here.

If the president's order is like this, implement it. If we change the way of thinking socially and economically, it is difficult. So implement the operation, inventory, down and the law of its ownership. That land must be given, no compromise," he continued.

Stop Illegal Mining Actors

Head of the Banten Ombudsman, Dedy Irsan admitted, supporting the steps that were taken by the Banten Provincial Government to take strong action against illegal mining in the TNGHS area.

"We suggest, catch just the OKNUM who is involved in illegal mining, and we hand it over (to the authorities) to the law enforcement. Hopefully it can solve the problem," said Dedy to the media at his office, Monday 13 January 2020

According to him, the Banten Provincial Government and the Lebak Regency must consider the fate of the community in the Lebak area, who depend on mining.

"For me, if the mining is pure and managed by the local community, and can meet the economic needs must be considered. Good if the Banten Provincial Government or the local government, it is efficient," he said.

Mercury Danger

WH also instructed the Banten LHK Directorate to conduct surveys and inventory the chemical substance content, especially mercury which is the main ingredient in gold processing.

Because, based on the report from Taman Nasional Gunung Halimun Salak, the results of logging, agriculture and fishing in the area have been contaminated by chemical substances that are dangerous which are used in gold processing. So it will endanger the community in the long run.

Because the most dangerous is the mercury problem, it means poisoning because it has a good sterilization system. Because of the damage to the environment and death, because of this LH took samples from the source to the sink as far as the contamination. If it is proven, it must be prosecuted. It must be firm, in a condition where LH must prove with the results of the survey. Immediately conduct research LH and ESDM, inventory, and immediately make a report from the results of the inventory," he said firmly.

In addition, the Governor also ordered the Disperindag to check the distribution of chemical substances, mercury from the source to the shops that are selling. Especially, if the sale of chemical substances is illegal or not allowed.

Head of the Banten LHK Directorate M Husni Hasan revealed, his agency has collaborated with the Banten Provincial Government to continue the illegal sand mining activities in Kabupaten Lebak.

Based on the latest report, the Banten Provincial Government has installed a police line in the area of illegal gold mining and continues

melakukan pemantauan lokasi setiap harinya.

Kami terus berkoordinasi aktif dengan Polda, karena memang untuk tindakan hukumnya oleh Polda,â€• jelasnya

Kepala Dinas ESDM Provinsi Banten Eko Palmadi menjelaskan, pekan lalu pihaknya telah diminta Polda Banten menjadi saksi ahli terkait 4 lokasi pengolahan tambang emas di Lebak Gedong yang sudah masuk ke dalam BAP polda.

Pengolahan hasil tambang emas sebenarnya bukan milik masyarakat, tetapi orang kota yang mempunyai keahlian dan bisnis mengolah emas dari Gunung Halimun.

Metodenya, ujar Eko, sebagian menggunakan merkuri, sebagian menggunakan sianida. Dibanding dengan sianida, merkuri lebih berbahaya bagi masyarakat karena tidak mudah menguap ketika terbawa air atau mengalir ke pertanian.Â