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No plans to replace sniffer dog Manny

PUTRAJAYA: There are no immediate plans to replace Manny, the anti-piracy sniffer dog that died about three weeks ago.

For now, its partner, Paddy, will have to work alone to help enforcement officials sniff out pirated discs.

Domestic Trade and Consumer Affairs Ministry director-general of enforcement Roslan Mahayuddin said the ministry would assess Paddy's abilities before deciding whether to get a second dog.

Roslan also said he did not know the cause of Manny's death. He said the post-mortem results would be forwarded to the police.

"Although Manny belonged to us, it was kept in Sepang by the police canine unit when it died.

"The results of the post-mortem by Universiti Putra Malaysia would, therefore, be given to them. I haven't heard from them yet."

A check with the UPM Veterinary Medicine Faculty found that the post-mortem had been completed. The re-

port is expected to be submitted to the police canine unit next week.

"It is up to the police and the ministry whether to announce the findings," a source from the faculty said.

However, Roslan said it was unlikely that Manny's death was caused by piracy syndicates as the dogs had not started work yet.

Manny and Paddy, both Labrador retrievers from Northern Ireland, arrived in Malaysia in February.

They were donated to the ministry by the Motion Picture Association of America to identify the smell of chemicals used in the production of optical discs.

Manny and Paddy were to be the ministry's pioneer dogs in its newly-established canine unit. They were recruited following the success of Lucky and Flo, two Irish Labradors which were lent to Malaysia for five months.

Lucky and Flo helped the authorities in more than 20 raids and recovered RM3 million worth of pirated discs.



Manny (left) died about three weeks ago, which means Paddy will have to work alone, for now, to sniff out pirated discs.