The Dilemma of National Security Threats in Efforts to Realize the Banning of Kratom Plants by the National Anti-Narcotics Agency in Kapuas Hulu Regency

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Abstract

In this research, we will analyze various possible threat impacts from the non-optimal implementation of the 5-year transition program on the planned realization of the kratom plant ban policy in 2024 by The National Anti-Narcotics Agency (BNN) and related institutions in kratom plant cultivation areas, especially in the Kapuas Hulu Regency of West Kalimantan, which in fact is also the border area of the country. The obstruction of the implementation of the transition program in the realization plan for the kratom plant ban program in 2024 shows that the Indonesian government and related institutions are not serious in their efforts to protect kratom farmers and various other elements, which will then cause various polemics such as social problems, economic problems, environmental problems and transnational crimes, which are likely to lead to Indonesia's national security problems. The method used in this research is a qualitative research method, qualitative research is research that emphasizes more on observing phenomena and emphasizes more on the substance of meaning in these phenomena. The analysis and sharpness of qualitative research is greatly influenced on the strength of words and sentences used in delivering research, the focus of qualitative research is on the process and the meaning of the results.

Keywords: Kratom Cultivation; Kratom Dangers; Legality of Kratom in Indonesia

Introduction

Kratom plant (Mitragyna Speciosa Korth) is a typical plant of Southeast Asian countries such as Thailand, Malaysia, Philippines, Myanmar, to Indonesia. (Setyawati & Lestari, 2020). In Indonesia, kratom plants grow a lot in West Kalimantan Province, precisely in the Kapuas Hulu regency area, this plant is widely used as traditional medicines by the people of Indonesia. (Tiaravista, et al, 2019). The rampant use of kratom plants by the public as traditional medicines and as health supplements because Kratom plants are considered to have health benefits such as stamina enhancers, to treat coughs, treat diarrhea, diabetes, anti-inflammatory, pain relief and various other diseases, besides that in some countries kratom plants are also widely used as a means of therapy for addiction to illegal drugs. (Elsa, et al, 2016).
In addition to being used as a medicinal plant by the community, it turns out that Kratom also has a high economic value and is widely sold freely by the people of Indonesia. Many Indonesian people depend on the cultivation of kratom plants as a support for social and economic needs, one of which is the people of Kapuas Hulu Regency, this plant is widely used as a leading export commodity to various countries, especially the United States by the Indonesian people who cultivate kratom (Maharani & Prasetyo, 2020). Kratom plants that are often used as traditional medicines and have high economic value have been banned by several countries such as Malaysia and various European countries that have designated this plant as a narcotic plant, plus in some states of the United States have tried to ban the use of kratom although it is still not officially carried out. (Fadholi, et al., 2022).

The thing seems to be realized soon in Indonesia where there has been pressure from institutions such as BPOM (Indonesia Food and Drug Agency) and BNN (Indonesia National Anti-Narcotics Agency) so that Indonesia imposes a ban on the free cultivation, sale and use of kratom plants, this can be seen from the circular issued by BPOM regarding the ban on the use of Kratom plants as supplement ingredients and determinations by BNN which will classify Kratom plants as a class I narcotic (Maslan, et al., 2021). The efforts to ban kratom plants by institutions such as BPOM and BNN are not without reason, this is driven by the dangers of free use of kratom in Indonesian society, it is known following several studies that show that this plant has quite high addictive properties and has quite harsh side effects, for the use of low doses kratom is a stimulant that can increase concentration, attention, energy and alertness and at high doses have narcotic effects similar to morphine. (Raini, 2017).

The various efforts to ban Kratom plants by state institutions such as BNN, BPOM and other institutions have been carried out such as the issuance of a letter by the Head of the Food and Drug Control Agency (BPOM) Number HK.044.42.421.09.16.1740 of 2016 concerning the prohibition of the use of Kratom in traditional medicines and health supplements, as well as letter number B/2985/X/KA/PL.02/2019/BNN regarding the statement of BNN's support attitude towards the decision of the national committee on narcotics and psychotropic classification which classifies the kratom plant as a class I narcotic that is not allowed to be used in medical or health. (Chairani, 2020).

The efforts to ban kratom were further pursued through the National Commission meeting for the Classification of Narcotics / Psychotropics in 2017 which decided kratom would be recommended as a class I narcotic and continued with several other meetings such as a meeting held by the Deputy Intelkam Polhukam which was attended by a number of relevant officials from the BNN, Ministry of Health and others, but these meetings have not found results in the banning of Kratom plants in Indonesia (Dorimulu, 2021).

After the failure in the realization of the kratom ban in 2017, BNN on October 31, 2019 issued a letter which was then addressed to the Cabinet Ministers and leaders of relevant Institutions regarding the attitude of BNN regarding the circulation and misuse of Kratom plants in Indonesia, this Again succeeded in encouraging a meeting chaired by the Indonesian Presidential Chief of Staff in February 2020 to discuss the kratom issue, then this meeting agreed on the urgency of kratom plants that will be classified as class I narcotics with a transition period of 5 years for the preparation of farmers and elements involved in carrying out land transfer and job transfer before the realization of the kratom ban is carried out in 2024. (Dorimulu, 2021).

In an effort to realize the banning of kratom plants by BNN in 2024, BNN and the government as mentioned earlier, provide free time or a 5-year transition period from 2020-2024 to farmers, middlemen and various elements of society involved in the kratom plant business to switch the function of the type of kratom farm or business that they are currently engaged in to other commodities allowed by the government. However, in fact for 2 years, the transition period program provided by BNN for kratom plant farmers carried out the process of land conversion or the business was not used or even not implemented by kratom farmers, this can be seen from the mushrooming and still large amount of kratom...
agricultural land, plus there are still many activities to buy and sell kratom plants freely, especially on social media and market places such as Facebook, Shopee and others.

The continued proliferation of kratom commodities in the community is driven by several factors, the first factor in this problem is the lack of knowledge of farmers about the dangers of kratom plants as narcotics and knowledge about the plan to ban kratom plants by BNN in 2024, this problem is mainly caused by the lack of socialization in efforts to realize the ban on kratom plants in the community and especially kratom farmers during the 2-year transition period program walk. (Budiaris, 2022).

The next factor that hinders the process of realization of transition programs in the efforts to ban kratom plants is the presence of pros and cons by state institutions in the plan to ban kratom plants. pro and con attitudes by institutions such as those carried out by the West Kalimantan regional government and the West Kalimantan Regional Office customs and excise which still support the export of kratom plants because they are considered not yet illegal actions, which opens up hope for farmers so that they are quite reluctant to change land functions because it is still a wetland to support their economy (KompasTV Pontianak, 2021).

the suboptimal efforts made by the government and related institutions, especially in the transition period program in an effort to ban kratom plants in 2024, will certainly pose threats, especially security threats to areas that really depend on kratom plant cultivation such as the Kapuas Hulu regency area of West Kalimantan province. This research will examine the possible impact of security threats from the non-optimal implementation of transition programs in an effort to realize the banning of kratom on the community and kratom cultivators in Kapuas Hulu, and why this threat could be so affected for the Kapuas Hulu community.

Research Methods

The method used in this research is a qualitative research method, qualitative research is research that emphasizes more on observing phenomena and emphasizes more on the substance of meaning in these phenomena The analysis and sharpness of qualitative research is greatly influenced on the strength of words and sentences used in delivering research, the focus of qualitative research is on the process and the meaning of the results (Basri, 2014).

In this research, data collection was carried out in two ways, first through document data, document data is a data source used to complete the research, document data can be obtained through Journals, Books, Films or Images with data sources that are quite credible as reference material for research. (Nilamsari, 2014). Furthermore, data collection is carried out by means of observation where researchers make observations on research subjects, in the process the research subjects do not need to know that it is being observed because it is feared that it will affect the authenticity of the research/Study, in this research/Study observations were made on the process of buying and selling kratom, especially in online Market Places and Social Media. (Purba & Parulian, 2012).

Discussion and Results

Kratom in Kapuas Hulu West Kalimantan, Border Area of Indonesia and Malaysia

As previously explained, Kratom plant is a plant that is widely cultivated in Indonesia because this plant is considered to have a myriad of benefits, especially for health, besides that this plant also has high economic value that helps support the economic life of the community, in Indonesia, the cultivation of this plant is very much carried out in the province of West Kalimantan, especially in Kapuas Hulu Regency. Kapuas Hulu Regency is one of the regencies in West Kalimantan that also has a direct border
with neighboring country Malaysia. Kapuas Hulu Regency is one of the regions that utilizes the cultivation of Kratom plants as one of the main commodities to support the economy of the people in their area (Haryaningsih, 2017). According to BNN data, there are more than 18 thousand Kapuas Hulu people who become Kratom farmers with a total of 11,225 hectares of land and 44,491,317 Kratom trees planted on agricultural land and along the Kapuas river flow in Kapuas Hulu regency. (Humas BNN, 2020).

Kratom agricultural crops in the form of leaves and some parts of other trees are usually sold to middleman by farmers, in a wet state kratom is sold for Rp. 6000-8000 / Kilogram, Dried (crumbs) Rp. 18,000-26,000 / Kilogram, or flour Rp. 40,000-45,000 / Kilogram, and will be exported in a flour state of Rp. 100,000 / Kilogram by middleman to various countries (Maslan et al., 2021). Indonesia has become one of the largest exporters of Kratom to the United States and the subdistrict in Kapuas Hulu district to be precise North Putussibau district has an important role as an international scale Kratom supplier. (Simamora, 2020).

The rise of kratom cultivation in the border areas of Indonesia, especially the Kapuas Hulu Regency area began at that time Kratom plants were found growing wildly along the banks of the Kapuas river and were often used as traditional medicine by the local community, as time went by this kratom plant began to be traded by the public because market demand was constantly increasing. The cultivation of kratom plants in Kapuas Hulu Regency continues to increase, especially during the plummeting price of rubber commodities in 2018, this has an impact on the many transitions made by farmers in the Kapuas Hulu regency area to kratom plant farmers because they are considered to have relatively high prices and tend to be stable, the number of land transfers both rubber plant land and rice fields in the area, even many people then use their yard land to plant Kratom plants (Rachmawati, 2019).

Kratom cultivation in the Kapuas Hulu area is one of the important sectors supporting the community's economy, with the development of kratom commodities the Kapuas Hulu community continues to feel an increase in various things, such as economic, social, and even continued development of kratom plant cultivation also helps improve the level of education of the community in this case kratom cultivation looks very instrumental in improving the standard of living of the Kapuas Hulu people.

**Potential Impact of National Security Threats from The Planned Ban on Kratom Plants in 2024, in the Kapuas Hulu**

The obstruction of the implementation of the 5-year transition program planned by the government and related institutions in an effort to realize the ban on kratom plants in 2024 will certainly cause various problems, especially security threats that lead to Threats to Indonesia's national security, especially in kratom cultivation areas such as Kapuas Hulu Regency, West Kalimantan Province.

National security can be explained as the actions of the government, together with parliament, must protect the country and its citizens against various national crises through various power projections such as political power, diplomatic power, economic power, military capabilities and others (Amaritasari, 2015). according to another opinion National security is defined as the basic need to protect and safeguard the national interests of a nation that is stated by using political, economic, and military forces to deal with various threats, both coming from within and from abroad (Azizah, 2020).

From this definition, it can be concluded that national security is a state of how a country / government with all its capabilities in the form of military, political, economic, diplomatic and other capabilities protects the state and its citizens against various national crises with all the capabilities that the state has, from this it can also be concluded that national security threats will exist or occur if a country does not or cannot carry out protection efforts with all his abilities both in the fields of economics, politics and others.
To find out the various possible projections of national security threats a country's national security perspective is divided into two perspectives, first, namely the Traditional security perspective, from the point of view of traditional perspectives, it emphasizes state security threats only on military and state threats. (Sudiar, 2019). the second perspective is the non-traditional security perspective, in this perspective the security threat becomes wider, state and the military is not the sole actor of the national security threat many other factors affect the national security of a country such as economic problems, politics, health, transnational crime and others (Rahman, 2016).

From the previous explanation of national security, it can be concluded that the national security of a country will be obtained by the full efforts of the government and various elements in it to protect the entire territory of the country, its people and others with its various forces, be it political power, economic power, diplomatic power and all the power that the government has to prevent threats from both military threats, economic threats, politics, environment and others, so that a condition can be achieved that can be said to be a condition of national security of a country.

the non-optimal implementation of the 5-year transition program in an effort to realize the banning of kratom plants, shows that the government and BNN in efforts to realize the kratom plant ban program in 2024 are less serious in efforts to protect kratom farmers and the various elements involved in it which means that the government and all relevant institutions in the realization of kratom bans have not been able to fully protect the kratom farming community and Other elements involved, which are then likely to cause various impacts of projected threats, especially on kratom farmers, and communities in kratom cultivation areas, especially in Kapuas Hulu Regency, these possible impacts include:

Socioeconomic Impact

Indonesia's border areas, especially Kapuas Hulu regency, are areas that utilize agriculture and the use of forest products as the main source of income for their communities (Mackay, et al, 2013). The people of Kapuas Hulu especially in the border village area rely heavily on the natural resources available in their area to survive, one of the natural resources that is widely utilized is the kratom plant because it can grow wild and fertile along the Kapuas Hulu environment.

Kratom is one of the choices of the Kapuas Hulu community as a source of income, with kratom cultivation in Kapuas Hulu Regency helping to improve the regional economy, farmers who previously complained about the price of commodities such as rubber and other commodities prefer kratom as a substitute plant and have experienced an increase in economic level because the price of kratom tends to be expensive and stable, This economic impact is also felt by some professions involved in the kratom industry such as the middleman/wholesaler and others.

Kratom plants apart from being an economic support for the upstream Kapuas community, kratom plants are also a boost to the increasing quality of education in the Kapuas Hulu area, this can be seen in several villages in Kapuas Hulu such as in Sungai Uluk Palin Village, North Putussibau District and several other villages that are very dependent and utilize Kratom cultivation as a means of financing children's education, in these villages, the children of kratom farmers have no problems in financing education, and in these villages continue to experience an increase in the number of children's education from the level of preschool education, to college (Anita, et al, 2019).

The circulation of the issue of efforts to ban kratom plants by BNN certainly has a significant impact on the Kapuas Hulu community, especially people who are directly involved in the field such as farmers and middleman/wholesaler even though the sale of kratom itself is still legal to do, the kratom ban plan is enough to affect the price of kratom commodities, the circulation of the issue of banning kratom by BNN raises fears in farmers and middleman/wholesaler which then encourages a decrease in demand and prices market (Saubani, 2021).
From this we can find out the impact produced by the cultivation of kratom plants on the Kapuas Hulu community, not only has an impact on economic development on community elements but kratom plant cultivation also has an impact on improving the quality of education of the Kapuas Hulu community especially in rural areas, with the improvement of the quality of community education will increase the competitiveness of regional communities and will lead to the development of regional socioeconomic levels.

the non-optimal implementation of the 5-year transition program in the realization plan for the banning of kratom plants in 2024, is feared that it will cause various social and economic problems in kratom cultivation areas, this is because farmers are not willing to shift their source of income from the cultivation of kratom plants to other sources of income and it is also feared that if farmers transfer their new sources of income in the future cannot support social life and The economy of kratom farmers is like when they do kratom cultivation.

Therefore, in the realization plan for the banning of kratom plants requires socialization efforts that must be one hundred percent optimal not only to convey how kratom harms to the peoples, but socialization in the transition period is also expected to help the kratom farming community and others to one hundred percent replace their source of income from kratom to other commodities or other businesses with the same economic income value as when cultivating kratom, this is to avoid economic problems and social problems in society.

Environmental Impact

The environment is one of the supporting factors for human life, with the preservation of the environment will help maintain the life of humans and other living things. Environmental damage is currently one of the factors causing various problems in the lives of humans and other living things, ranging from being a driving factor for natural disasters, Global warming, and others.

seeing the so influential environmental impact on human life and other living beings, encouraging countries and the international community to take part in efforts to protect or preserve the environment, the seriousness of countries and the international community in discussing environmental issues is demonstrated by the holding and approval of several international regimes or agreements including, the Stockholm Conference 1972, the Ozone conference in Vienna1985, the meeting in Rio de Janeiro Brazil 1992, kyoto protocol 1997 by the United Nations regarding the global climate and many others (Fattah, 2013).

Indonesia is one of the countries that is quite involved in efforts to protect the Global environment, this can be seen from the actions of the Indonesian government which has quite a lot participated in various Global environmental regimes, Indonesia's own involvement is largely encouraged because the Indonesian state is an archipelagic state that will be quite vulnerable to the impact of global warming.

There are several Indonesian involvements in international environmental agreements including Indonesia being a country that ratified the Kyoto protocol and in 2016 Indonesia through the ministry of environment represented by the minister of the environment, Mrs. Dr. Siti Nurbaya represented the signing of the Paris Agreement on Climate Change at the High-level Ceremony for the Paris Agreement (high-level Signature Ceremony for the Paris Agreement) which took place at the Headquarters of UN, New York, USA (Murdaningsih, 2016).

Indonesia's involvement in the international environmental regime as explained, should be a driving factor for Indonesia in taking every policy in its country, especially those that will be related to the environment. However, Indonesia's policy plan in banning kratom plants proposed by BNN and several other institutions in 2024 is feared to have an impact on the environment, this is due to the
inefficiency of kratom land transfer programs both cultivated and wildly grown after 2 years of the planned transition program.

Kratom plants have several functions in preserving the environment, the first function of kratom plants is as an abrasion barrier when kratom plants are planted on the outskirts of rivers, the second natural benefit of kratom plants is known to be able to grow vigorously in swampland so it is suitable for use as a rehabilitation of swamplands (Wahyono et al., 2019).

Apart from being a deterrent to river abrasion and as a natural swamp rehabilitation plant, another benefit that kratom plants also have is as a potential antidote to the greenhouse effect, it is known that this plant grows wild along riverside areas and swamps, especially in West Kalimantan Province such as the Kapuas Hulu Regency area, kratom is also widely cultivated by local farmers to the number of millions of trees. It is feared that in the future, the ban on kratom will trigger deforestation for kratom plants both cultivated and wild-growing in nature so that it will cause problems related to global warming.

The inefficiency of implementing a 5-year transition program for the realization of the plan to ban kratom plants in 2024, it is feared that it will cause various environmental problems both in kratom cultivation areas and other regions, therefore it is important that the implementation of the transition period program is put to good use not only to help kratom farmers to be able to find new sources of income but also to find potential replacement plants for kratom plants that are likely to be forbidden.

Dangers of Transnational Crime Threats in the Realization of Kratom Bans in Kapuas Hulu Regency

Kapuas Hulu Regency as previously explained is a regency area in West Kalimantan Province that has a direct border with neighboring Malaysia, the Kapuas Hulu area is an area whose community is very dependent on the cultivation of Kratom plants in helping to support the improvement of the social and economic quality of its people. With the realization policy of banning kratom plants by BNN coupled with the inefficiency of the socialization process and the use of the 5-year transition program period by BNN and Kratom farmers, it will certainly cause various problems for the Kapuas Hulu community, especially in the social and economic fields of their communities when the kratom ban in 2024 will be realized.

The inefficiency of implementing a 5-year transition period in kratom farming communities will cause problems in the Kapuas Hulu area which in fact is a border area, this is because border areas, especially in developing countries such as Indonesia, tend to have their own problems, especially in the problem of low human resources (HR), the low quality of human resources makes it difficult for border communities to be competent and competitive. (Saherimiko, 2014).

Border areas of countries, especially developing countries such as Indonesia, are one of the areas that are prone to various transnational crime activities, this is driven by various things such as weak border security, infrastructure, to socioeconomic problems felt by border communities which then become triggers for transnational crimes or transnational crimes (Niko & Thea Purnama, 2020).

The inefficiency of implementing the transition period program by BNN and kratom farmers is feared to cause social and economic problems at the time of the realization of the ban on kratom plants in 2024, with the emergence of social and economic problems coupled with the low quality of human resources in the border area will make it difficult for people to compete competitively and find new income so as to encourage border communities in Kapuas Hulu to carry out criminal activities, including transnational crimes that do not require special qualifications to be worked on.
Conclusion and Suggestions

Kratom is a plant that is considered to have health benefits and is widely cultivated in the Kapuas Hulu area, however this plant will soon be banned by BNN (Indonesia National Anti-Narcotics Agency) in 2024 because it is considered dangerous. In the realization of the kratom ban, BNN imposed a 5-year transition period program for farmers and related elements to carry out land transfer and other preparations, but after two years the transition program did not go well, this was due to the lack of optimal socialization and there were still pros and cons by government agencies regarding the kratom ban plan.

The inefficiency of the implementation of the transition program in the realization of the kratom ban shows that the Indonesian government and BNN are not serious about protecting kratom farmers and all other elements in the realization of the ban on kratom and this will have an impact that leads to national security / security problems, especially in cultivation areas such as Kapuas Hulu, the impacts caused include, Social impacts, economic impacts, environmental impacts, to the increasing problem of transnational crime, this can happen because of the incompetence of farmers to change land functions and lose income that supports their socioeconomics, coupled with the low human resources in border areas including in Kapuas Hulu, will make it difficult for the people of Kapuas Hulu to find new jobs so that they choose to carry out criminal activities, especially Transnational crime.

Looking at the various possible national security threats that may occur from the obstruction of the 5-year transition period program in an effort to realize the ban on kratom in 2024, this research advises the government and related institutions such as BNN to be more serious about carrying out the socialization process, and increase synergy between institutions, besides that this research also encourages the government to carry out various projects, Pilot Project in an effort to help kratom farmers to convert land and transfer to other professions that can support the lives of farmers such as when cultivating kratom for the stability of the lives of farmers and other elements involved.

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