



S A R A W A K

**PENYATA RASMI PERSIDANGAN
DEWAN UNDANGAN NEGERI**

Sarawak State Legislative Assembly Official Reports and Debates

MESYUARAT KEDUA BAGI PENGGAL KETIGA
Second Meeting of the Third Session

11 – 20 NOVEMBER 2024

DEWAN UNDANGAN NEGERI SARAWAK KESEMBILAN BELAS
Nineteenth Sarawak State Legislative Assembly

SELASA

19 NOVEMBER 2024

(17 JAMADILAWAL 1446H)

KUCHING

Peringatan untuk Ahli Dewan:

Pembetulan yang dicadangkan oleh Ahli Dewan hendaklah disampaikan secara bertulis kepada Setiausaha Dewan Undangan Negeri Sarawak tidak lewat daripada **14 hari selepas persidangan.**

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DEWAN UNDANGAN NEGERI SARAWAK KESEMBILAN BELAS

Penyata Rasmi

MESYUARAT KEDUA BAGI PENGGAL KETIGA

Selasa, 19 November 2024

Dewan bermesyuarat di Petra Jaya, Kuching pada pukul 9.05 pagi

HADIR

Bil.	Nama	Konstituensi
1.	Yang Berhormat Tan Sri Datuk Amar Haji Mohamad Asfia bin Awang Nasar P.S.M., D.A., P.N.B.S., D.S.A.P., D.I.M.P., P.B.K., P.C.E. (Emas) <i>Speaker Dewan Undangan Negeri Sarawak</i>	
2.	Yang Berhormat Dato Haji Idris bin Haji Buang P.S.B.S., D.I.M.P., A.M.N., P.B.S., A.B.S., P.C.D., P.J.P.N., P.T.E. <i>Timbalan Speaker Dewan Undangan Negeri Sarawak</i>	<i>N.16 Muara Tuang</i>
3.	Yang Amat Berhormat Datuk Patinggi Tan Sri (Dr) Abang Haji Abdul Rahman Zohari bin Tun Datuk Abang Haji Openg D.P., P.M.N., D.A., P.N.B.S., J.B.S., P.C.E., P.S.N.B., S.P.D.K. <i>Premier Sarawak</i> <i>Menteri Kewangan dan Ekonomi Baru</i> <i>Menteri Sumber Asli dan Pembangunan Bandar</i> <i>Menteri Tenaga dan Kelestarian Alam Sekitar</i>	<i>N.26 Gedong</i>
4.	Yang Berhormat Datuk Amar Douglas Uggah Embas D.A., P.N.B.S., P.G.B.K., P.C.E. <i>Timbalan Premier Sarawak</i> <i>Menteri Kewangan dan Ekonomi Baru Kedua</i> <i>Menteri Infrastruktur dan Pembangunan Pelabuhan</i>	<i>N.37 Bukit Saban</i>
5.	Yang Berhormat Datuk Amar Haji Awang Tengah bin Ali Hasan D.A., P.N.B.S., P.G.B.K., A.M.N. <i>Timbalan Premier Sarawak</i> <i>Menteri Sumber Asli dan Pembangunan Bandar Kedua</i> <i>Menteri Perdagangan Antarabangsa, Industri dan Pelaburan</i>	<i>N.82 Bukit Sari</i>
6.	Yang Berhormat Datuk Amar Dr Sim Kui Hian D.A., P.N.B.S., P.J.N., P.B.E. <i>Timbalan Premier Sarawak</i> <i>Menteri Kesihatan Awam, Perumahan dan Kerajaan Tempatan</i>	<i>N.14 Batu Kawah</i>
7.	Yang Berhormat Dato Sri Hajah Fatimah Abdullah P.N.B.S., P.G.B.K., P.C.E. <i>Menteri Pembangunan Wanita, Kanak-Kanak dan Kesejahteraan Komuniti</i>	<i>N.56 Dalat</i>
8.	Yang Berhormat Dato Sri Dr Stephen Rundi anak Utom P.N.B.S., P.J.N., A.B.S., P.B.E., P.C.E. <i>Menteri Industri Makanan, Komoditi dan Pembangunan Wilayah</i>	<i>N.69 Kemena</i>

9. Yang Berhormat Dato Sri Haji Abdul Karim Rahman Hamzah
P.N.B.S., P.G.B.K., P.B.S., P.B.E.
Menteri Pelancongan, Industri Kreatif dan Seni Persembahan
Menteri Belia, Sukan dan Pembangunan Usahawan N.15 Asajaya
10. Yang Berhormat Dato Sri Lee Kim Shin
P.N.B.S., P.J.N., K.M.N., P.B.S., P.P.B., B.B.S., P.B.E.
Menteri Pengangkutan N.75 Senadin
11. Yang Berhormat Dato Sri John Sikie anak Tayai
P.N.B.S., P.J.N., P.B.S., P.B.E.
Menteri di Jabatan Premier N.60 Kakus
12. Yang Berhormat Dato Sri Haji Julaihi bin Haji Narawi
P.N.B.S., P.G.B.K., P.B.S., K.M.N., P.P.D., P.B.E.
Menteri Utiliti dan Telekomunikasi N.27 Sebuyau
13. Yang Berhormat Dato Sri Roland Sagah Wee Inn
P.N.B.S., P.G.B.K., J.B.K., P.B.S., P.B.E.
Menteri Pendidikan, Inovasi dan Pembangunan Bakat N.20 Tarat
14. Yang Berhormat Datuk Gerawat Gala
P.G.B.K., P.S.B.S., P.B.K.
Timbalan Menteri di Jabatan Premier (Buruh, Imigresen dan Pemantauan Projek) N.78 Mulu
15. Yang Berhormat Datuk Francis Harden anak Hollis
P.G.B.K., P.B.S., A.B.S., P.B.E.
Timbalan Menteri Pendidikan, Inovasi dan Pembangunan Bakat (Pembangunan Bakat) N.32 Simanggang
16. Yang Berhormat Datuk Dr Jerip anak Susil
P.G.B.K., A.M.N., P.B.E.
Timbalan Menteri Pengangkutan (Penerbangan dan Jalan Raya) N.19 Mambong
17. Yang Berhormat Datuk Liwan Lagang
P.J.N., P.P.N., K.M.N., J.B.S., P.B.E.
Timbalan Menteri Utiliti dan Telekomunikasi (Telekomunikasi) N.65 Belaga
18. Yang Berhormat Datuk Hajah Rosey binti Haji Yunus
P.G.B.K., J.B.K., P.P.B., P.P.S., P.T.E., P.B.E.
Timbalan Menteri Pembangunan Wanita, Kanak-Kanak dan Kesejahteraan Komuniti (Pembangunan Wanita dan Kanak-Kanak) N.71 Bekenu
19. Yang Berhormat Datuk Haji Len Talif Salleh
P.G.B.K., D.J.B.S., P.B.K., P.P.B.
Timbalan Menteri Perancangan Bandar, Pentadbiran Tanah dan Alam Sekitar N.41 Kuala Rajang
20. Yang Berhormat Datuk Dr Haji Abdul Rahman bin Haji Junaidi
P.G.B.K., J.B.S., A.B.S., P.B.E.
Timbalan Menteri Utiliti dan Telekomunikasi (Utiliti) N.4 Pantai Damai

21. Yang Berhormat Datuk Hajah Sharifah Hasidah binti Sayeed Aman Ghazali
P.G.B.K., P.T.E., J.B.S.
Timbalan Menteri di Jabatan Premier (Undang-undang, MA63 dan Hubungan Negeri-Persekutuan) N.7 Samariang
22. Yang Berhormat Datuk Dr Malcolm Mussen anak Lamoh
P.G.B.K., P.B.S., P.T.E.
Timbalan Menteri Perdagangan Antarabangsa, Industri dan Pelaburan N.34 Batang Ai
23. Yang Berhormat Datuk Dr Haji Abdul Rahman bin Haji Ismail
P.G.B.K., A.B.S., P.T.E.
Timbalan Menteri Industri Makanan, Komoditi & Pembangunan Wilayah (Industri Makanan) N.79 Bukit Kota
24. Yang Berhormat Datuk Dr Haji Annuar bin Rapa'ee
P.G.B.K., J.B.S., P.T.E.
Timbalan Menteri Pendidikan, Inovasi dan Pembangunan Bakat (Pengajian Tinggi dan Inovasi) N.55 Nangka
25. Yang Berhormat Datuk Dr Penguang Manggil
P.G.B.K., D.J.B.S., K.M.N., P.P.C., P.P.B., P.P.S., P.T.E.
Timbalan Menteri Kesihatan Awam, Perumahan dan Kerajaan Tempatan (Kerajaan Tempatan) N.76 Marudi
26. Yang Berhormat Datuk Snowdan Lawan
P.G.B.K., A.M.N., P.T.E.
Timbalan Menteri Pelancongan, Industri Kreatif dan Seni Persembahan (Industri Kreatif dan Seni Persembahan) N.30 Balai Ringin
27. Yang Berhormat Datuk Abdullah bin Haji Saidol
P.G.B.K., K.M.N., J.B.K., P.T.E.
Timbalan Menteri di Jabatan Premier (Hal Ehwal Korporat dan Unit Komunikasi Awam Sarawak) N.42 Semop
28. Yang Berhormat Datuk Sebastian Ting Chiew Yew
P.J.N., D.I.M.P., A.B.S.
Timbalan Menteri Pelancongan, Industri Kreatif dan Seni Persembahan (Pelancongan) N.73 Piasau
29. Yang Berhormat Datuk Ir. Aidel bin Lariwoo
P.G.B.K., P.B.S., P.T.E.
Timbalan Menteri Infrastruktur dan Pembangunan Pelabuhan (Pembangunan Infrastruktur) N.24 Sadong Jaya
30. Yang Berhormat Datuk Dr Ripin bin Lamat
P.G.B.K., J.B.K., K.M.N., P.T.E.
Timbalan Menteri Belia, Sukan dan Pembangunan Usahawan (Pembangunan Usahawan) N.72 Lambir
31. Yang Berhormat Datuk Dr Haji Hazland bin Abang Hipni
P.G.B.K., K.M.N., J.B.S., P.T.E.
Timbalan Menteri Tenaga dan Kelestarian Alam Sekitar N.5 Demak Laut

32. Yang Berhormat Datuk Maclaine Ben @ Martin Ben
P.G.B.K., J.B.S., P.T.E.
Timbalan Menteri Industri Makanan, Komoditi & Pembangunan Wilayah (Komoditi & Pembangunan Wilayah) N.22 Kedup
33. Yang Berhormat Datuk Ricky @ Mohammad Razi bin Sitam
P.G.B.K., K.M.N., J.B.S., P.T.E.
Timbalan Menteri Pembangunan Wanita, Kanak-Kanak dan Kesejahteraan Komuniti (Kesejahteraan Komuniti) N.35 Saribas
34. Yang Berhormat Dato Henry Harry anak Jinep
P.S.B.S., A.B.S.
Timbalan Menteri Pengangkutan (Sungai dan Laut) N.2 Tasik Biru
35. Yang Berhormat Dato' Murshid DiRaja Dr Juanda bin Jaya
P.G.B.K., DATO' MURSHID DIRAJA, S.S.P.
Timbalan Menteri di Jabatan Premier (Integriti dan Ombudsman) N.44 Jemoreng
36. Yang Berhormat Dato Gerald Rentap Jabu
P.S.B.S., A.B.S., P.P.N., J.B.K.
Timbalan Menteri Belia, Sukan dan Pembangunan Usahawan (Pembangunan Belia dan Sukan) N.36 Layar
37. Yang Berhormat Dato Majang anak Renggi
P.S.B.S., P.B.K., A.B.S.
Timbalan Menteri Infrastruktur dan Pembangunan Pelabuhan (Pembangunan Pelabuhan) N.70 Samalaju
38. Yang Berhormat Datuk Jefferson Jamit anak Unyat
P.G.B.K., B.B.S., P.B.S., K.M.N., J.B.S.
Timbalan Menteri di Jabatan Premier (Undang-undang dan Adat Bumiputera) N.63 Bukit Goram
39. Yang Berhormat Datuk Michael Tiang Ming Tee
P.G.B.K., P.B.S.
Timbalan Menteri Kesihatan Awam, Perumahan dan Kerajaan Tempatan (Kesihatan Awam dan Perumahan) N.54 Pelawan
40. Yang Berhormat Dato Ibrahim bin Baki
A.B.S., J.B.S., P.S.B.S. N.8 Satok
41. Yang Berhormat Tan Sri William Mawan anak Ikom
P.S.M., P.N.B.S., P.G.B.K., A.M.N., P.B.S., P.P.D. (Emas) N.47 Pakan
42. Yang Berhormat Datuk Mong anak Dagang
P.G.B.K., J.M.N., P.B.S., P.P.D., P.B.K., P.B.E. N.31 Bukit Begunan
43. Yang Berhormat Dato Paulus Palu Gumbang
P.S.B.S., A.M.N., P.B.S., J.B.K., P.T.E. N.80 Batu Danau
44. Yang Berhormat Dato Dennis Ngau
P.S.B.S., J.B.S., P.B.S., P.T.E., B.B.S. N.77 Telang Usan
45. Yang Berhormat Tuan Haji Razaili bin Haji Gapor
P.T.E., P.B.S. N.29 Beting Maro

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| 46. | Yang Berhormat Datuk Ding Kuong Hiing
P.J.N., A.B.S. | <i>N.46 Meradong</i> |
| 47. | Yang Berhormat Encik Chong Chieng Jen | <i>N.9 Padungan</i> |
| 48. | Yang Berhormat Puan Violet Yong Wui Wui | <i>N.10 Pending</i> |
| 49. | Yang Berhormat Encik See Chee How | <i>N.11 Batu Lintang</i> |
| 50. | Yang Berhormat Dato Ir. Lo Khare Chiang
P.S.B.S., B.B.S., J.B.K. | <i>N.13 Batu Kitang</i> |
| 51. | Yang Berhormat Encik Wilson Nyabong anak Ijang
A.M.N., K.M.N., J.B.S. | <i>N.61 Pelagus</i> |
| 52. | Yang Berhormat Dato Sri Wong Soon Koh
P.N.B.S., P.G.B.K., A.B.S., P.C.E. | <i>N.53 Bawang Assan</i> |
| 53. | Yang Berhormat Encik Miro anak Simuh
P.B.S. | <i>N.18 Serembu</i> |
| 54. | Yang Berhormat Encik John anak Ilus
P.B.S., A.P.S. | <i>N.23 Bukit Semuja</i> |
| 55. | Yang Berhormat Dato Fazzrudin bin Haji Abdul Rahman
P.S.B.S., J.B.K., P.B.S. | <i>N.6 Tupong</i> |
| 56. | Yang Berhormat Encik Awla bin Dris
P.B.S., A.B.S. | <i>N.25 Simunjan</i> |
| 57. | Yang Berhormat Ir. Christopher Gira @ Gira anak Sambang
P.B.K. | <i>N.59 Tamin</i> |
| 58. | Yang Berhormat Encik Rolland Duat anak Jubin | <i>N.48 Meluan</i> |
| 59. | Yang Berhormat Encik Abdul Yakub bin Haji Arbi
B.B.S., A.B.S., K.M.N., J.B.K. | <i>N.58 Balingian</i> |
| 60. | Yang Berhormat Encik Safiee bin Haji Ahmad
J.B.K., P.P.B. | <i>N.43 Daro</i> |
| 61. | Yang Berhormat Encik Kennedy Chukpai Ugon
J.B.S., P.P.N., A.B.S. | <i>N.66 Murum</i> |
| 62. | Yang Berhormat Encik Allan Siden Gramong
P.B.S., A.B.S. | <i>N.50 Machan</i> |
| 63. | Yang Berhormat Dato Mohd Chee bin Kadir
P.S.B.S., A.B.S., P.B.S., P.J.P.N., J.B.S. | <i>N.40 Kabong</i> |
| 64. | Yang Berhormat Datuk Hamzah bin Haji Brahim
A.M.N., P.M.W. | <i>N.17 Stakan</i> |
| 65. | Yang Berhormat Encik Adam Yii Siew Sang
A.B.S. | <i>N.74 Pujut</i> |

66.	Yang Berhormat Puan Dayang Noorazah bte Awang Sohor P.B.S.	<i>N.28 Lingga</i>
67.	Yang Berhormat Dr Simon Sinang @ Sinang anak Bada A.B.S., P.B.S., K.M.N.	<i>N.21 Tebedu</i>
68.	Yang Berhormat Encik Billy anak Sujang P.B.S., P.P.B.	<i>N.1 Opar</i>
69.	Yang Berhormat Encik Azizul Annuar bin Pehin Sri Haji Adenan P.B.S.	<i>N.3 Tanjong Datu</i>
70.	Yang Berhormat Encik Yap Yau Sin P.B.S., K.M.N.	<i>N.12 Kota Sentosa</i>
71.	Yang Berhormat Tuan Haji Mohamad bin Duri P.B.K., A.B.S.	<i>N.38 Kalaka</i>
72.	Yang Berhormat Encik Johnichal Rayong anak Ngipa J.B.S., P.T.E.	<i>N.33 Engkilili</i>
73.	Yang Berhormat Encik Baru Bian	<i>N.81 Ba'Kelalan</i>
74.	Yang Berhormat Encik Friday anak Belik A.B.K., P.P.S., P.P.B., P.B.K., P.P.C.	<i>N.39 Krian</i>
75.	Yang Berhormat Encik Anyi anak Jana P.B.K.	<i>N.49 Ngemah</i>
76.	Yang Berhormat Encik Chieng Jin Ek P.B.S.	<i>N.51 Bukit Assek</i>
77.	Yang Berhormat Encik Royston bin Valentine J.B.K., A.B.S.	<i>N.57 Tellian</i>
78.	Yang Berhormat Encik Lidam anak Assan P.B.S.	<i>N.62 Katibas</i>
79.	Yang Berhormat Encik Nicholas Kudi anak Jantai P.B.S.	<i>N.64 Baleh</i>
80.	Yang Berhormat Encik Johnny Pang Leong Ming P.B.S.	<i>N.68 Tanjong Batu</i>
81.	Yang Berhormat Encik Iskandar bin Turkee	<i>N.67 Jepak</i>

TIDAK HADIR

(Kebenaran di bawah Peraturan Mesyuarat 81)

Bil.	Nama	Konstituensi
1.	Yang Berhormat Dato Sri Tiong King Sing P.J.N., P.N.B.S., D.P.M.K., D.P.M.K., S.S.S.A., D.S.S.A., J.P.	<i>N.52 Dudong</i>
2.	Yang Berhormat Dato' Sri Huang Tiong Sii P.G.B.K., D.I.M.P., S.S.A.P.	<i>N.45 Repok</i>

TURUT HADIR

1. Encik Nur Azhar bin Bujang
Setiausaha Dewan Undangan Negeri Sarawak
2. Encik Abang Mohammad Adib bin Abang Sallehadin
Pemangku Timbalan Setiausaha Dewan Undangan Negeri Sarawak
3. Inspektor Nelson anak Ensit
Bentara Mesyuarat
4. Inspektor Mohd Nur Fitri bin Mohd Idrus
Bentara Mesyuarat
5. Inspektor UKPS Encik Dylan Tan Hock Ming
Bentara Mesyuarat
6. Inspektor UKPS Encik Nizle anak Junep
Bentara Mesyuarat
7. Inspektor UKPS Muhaimin Naqib bin Narudin
Bentara Mesyuarat
8. Inspektor UKPS Bryan Hansen anak Wennedy
Bentara Mesyuarat

PETUGAS PERSIDANGAN

PEGAWAI UNDANG-UNDANG DAN PEMBACA PRUF

1. Cik Nur Shazwani binti Saini
Jabatan Peguam Besar Negeri Sarawak
2. Encik Simon Engka anak Crown
Jabatan Peguam Besar Negeri Sarawak

PEMBACA PRUF

1. Encik Chiew Serit
Dewan Bahasa dan Pustaka Negeri Sarawak
2. Encik Nasir bin Hamid
Dewan Bahasa dan Pustaka Negeri Sarawak

JURUTRENGKAS

1. Puan Sharlina binti Mushar
Pejabat Setiausaha Kewangan Negeri
2. Puan Malin anak Arit
Pejabat Setiausaha Kewangan Negeri
3. Puan Bernadette Willon
Jabatan Kastam Diraja Malaysia
4. Puan Katerin Jemali @ Maria Jamali
Dewan Bandaraya Kuching Utara
5. Puan Doris anak Francis Harris
Universiti Malaysia Sarawak (UNIMAS)
6. Puan Meri Sabas
Universiti Malaysia Sarawak (UNIMAS)
7. Puan Noorina binti Hamdan
Universiti Malaysia Sarawak (UNIMAS)
8. Puan Ratna Airwati binti Haji Md. Junaidi
Perbadanan Pembangunan Perumahan
9. Puan Sabtuyah binti Adeng
Perbadanan Pembangunan Perumahan
10. Puan Nori Othman
Perbadanan Pembangunan Perumahan
11. Puan Zuriawati binti Mohd Laili
Pustaka Negeri Sarawak
12. Encik Mohd Alfadjer bin Tuah
Pejabat Residen Bahagian Kuching
13. Puan Dorina Asort
Kementerian Utiliti dan Telekomunikasi Sarawak
14. Puan Florence Jalong
Kementerian Utiliti dan Telekomunikasi Sarawak
15. Puan Noor Afifah binti Bahaudin
Kementerian Utiliti dan Telekomunikasi Sarawak
16. Puan Dayang Duraiza binti Haji Awang Jangka
Lembaga Sumber Asli & Alam Sekitar Sarawak
17. Puan Anieta Sylvester Pungga
Perbadanan Pembangunan Ekonomi Sarawak
18. Puan Rosemary Langub
Perbadanan Kemajuan Perusahaan Kayu Sarawak
19. Puan Emely anak Edmund Beatie
Suruhanjaya Pencegahan Rasuah Malaysia Negeri Sarawak

- | | | |
|-----|-----------------------------------|---|
| 20. | Puan Azah Mohamad Jally | <i>Kementerian Infrastruktur dan Pembangunan Pelabuhan Sarawak</i> |
| 21. | Puan Nur Izzatul Fatimah Abdullah | <i>Kementerian Belia, Sukan dan Pembangunan Usahawan Sarawak</i> |
| 22. | Puan Nurhaida binti Amin | <i>Jabatan Penyiaran Kawasan Sarawak, Jabatan Penyiaran Negeri Sarawak</i> |
| 23. | Puan Valarie Jane anak Aitman | <i>Pejabat Pembangunan Persekutuan Negeri Sarawak, Unit Penyelarasan Pelaksanaan, Jabatan Perdana Menteri</i> |

JURURAKAM PERSIDANGAN

- | | | |
|----|--------------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| 1. | Puan Nordiana binti Rabaee | <i>Jabatan Penyiaran Sarawak</i> |
| 2. | Encik Hussein bin Shuini | <i>Jabatan Penyiaran Sarawak</i> |
| 3. | Encik Voon Choon Chan | <i>Jabatan Penyiaran Sarawak</i> |
| 4. | Encik Wan Mohamad Zaki bin Wan Alias | <i>Jabatan Penyiaran Sarawak</i> |
| 5. | Encik Fareez Azizi bin Zakeria | <i>Jabatan Penyiaran Sarawak</i> |

JURUCETAK

- | | | |
|----|------------------------------|--|
| 1. | Encik Vincent Vyner ak Tubom | <i>Percetakan Nasional Malaysia Berhad</i> |
| 2. | Encik Larry Holmes ak Jagak | <i>Percetakan Nasional Malaysia Berhad</i> |

JURUTEKNIK IT

- | | | |
|----|---------------------------------|--------------|
| 1. | Encik Abang Hasmadi Abang Wahab | <i>SAINS</i> |
| 2. | Encik Mohamad Fadzly bin Arfan | <i>SAINS</i> |
| 3. | Encik Sufian Sulaiman | <i>SAINS</i> |
| 4. | Encik Salihin bin Abu Seman | <i>SAINS</i> |

MESSENGER

- | | | |
|----|--|---|
| 1. | Encik Mohamad Zahari bin Hamden | <i>Jabatan Agama Islam Sarawak</i> |
| 2. | Encik Helmy bin Abdul Rahman | <i>Jabatan Pertanian Sarawak</i> |
| 3. | Encik Shah Riwandu Sia bin Ridzuan | <i>Jabatan Pertanian Sarawak</i> |
| 4. | Encik Mohammad Zaidi bin Rambli | <i>Jabatan Pertanian Sarawak</i> |
| 5. | Encik Lawrence Encharang | <i>Jabatan Pertanian Sarawak</i> |
| 6. | Encik Mohamed Nazeerudin bin Gulam Mohamed | <i>Kementerian Industri Makanan, Komoditi dan Pembangunan Wilayah Sarawak</i> |
| 7. | Encik Fadillah bin Lokman | <i>Jabatan Tanah dan Survei Bahagian Kuching</i> |
| 8. | Encik Addison anak Fredrick | <i>Jabatan Tanah dan Survei Bahagian Kuching</i> |

SEKRETARIAT PERSIDANGAN DEWAN UNDANGAN NEGERI SARAWAK

1. Cik Noria binti Suut
2. Puan Nur Azira binti Abdul Kadir
3. Encik Nurkhairudin bin Osen
4. Puan Rabiah binti Abdul Kadir
5. Puan Aisha Parveen binti Badron
6. Cik Genang anak Timbung
7. Puan Siti Norhiza binti Mohammad Yusri
8. Puan Hanisah Abdullah
9. Cik Siti Halimah binti Mohamad Nawawi
10. Puan Hasfarini binti Hassim
11. Cik Nurhaffizah Abdullah
12. Puan Natasha Nadia binti Mohd. Saidi
13. Puan Angela Lisa anak Mathew Linol
14. Encik Felix Aaron anak Michael
15. Puan Calista Abbie anak Sapa @ Patrick Sapa
16. Cik Sharina binti Sopian

17. Puan Norziana binti Haji Ahmad
18. Encik Mohd Hasfia bin Abdullah
19. Puan Nur Eliana Abdullah
20. Puan Nazmah binti Darham
21. Puan Tracy Lyana anak Bana
22. Encik Mohd Zulkhairi bin Mohammad Hejemi
23. Puan Dayang Nazira binti Abang Martaza
24. Puan Jasmine Sinja anak Robinson
25. Puan Dayang Noorazilla binti Jasni
26. Cik Parcelia Renyelia anak Pamg
27. Cik Nur Zafirah binti Affendy Michael
28. Puan Deidre anak Wilson
29. Encik Muhammad Elliyas bin Matali
30. Cik Siti Nur Marsitah binti Abdullah
31. Puan Nur Amira Lystiani binti Poniman
32. Encik Alwie bin Haji Ali
33. Cik Hawa binti Morsad
34. Encik Razali bin Awi
35. Puan Nora binti Atem
36. Encik Zahari bin Bolhi
37. Encik Lukas Jammany anak Kated
38. Encik Hazrin Syah bin Hamzah
39. Encik Salman bin Jaya
40. Encik Romzi bin Bujang
41. Encik Musa bin Julai
42. Puan Suraya binti Hamden
43. Puan Noraisah binti Ahmad
44. Cik Siti Zalilah binti Samsawi
45. Encik Iz Mohd. Haiqal Hakeem bin Mahamud

PELAJAR PRAKTIKAL

1. Cik Amira Soraya binti Shafiee
2. Encik Mohamad Ziyad bin Mohamad Affandy

(Mesyuarat dimulakan pada pukul 9.05 pagi)

[Timbalan Speaker mempengerusikan Mesyuarat]

DOA

PEMASYHURAN DARIPADA TUAN SPEAKER

Timbalan Speaker: Bismillahirrahmanirrahim. Assalamualaikum Warahmatullahi Wabarakatuh. Selamat pagi dan Salam Sejahtera. Ahli-ahli Yang Berhormat, I have granted leave of absence under Standing Order 81 to YB Dato Sri Tiong King Sing, Honourable Member for N.52 Dudong for today and tomorrow's sitting.

SAMBUNGAN PERBAHASAN ATAS BACAAN KALI YANG KEDUA RANG UNDANG-UNDANG PERBEKALAN (2025), 2024 DAN USUL UNTUK MERUJUK RESOLUSI ANGGARAN PERBELANJAAN PEMBANGUNAN BAGI TAHUN 2025

Timbalan Speaker: Dengan hormatnya saya menjemput Yang Berhormat Dato Sri Haji Abdul Karim Rahman Hamzah; Menteri Pelancongan, Industri Kreatif dan Seni Persembahan untuk menyampaikan ucapan penggulungan. Silakan.

Menteri Pelancongan, Industri Kreatif dan Seni Persembahan; dan Ahli Dewan Undangan Negeri N.15 Asajaya (YB Dato Sri Haji Abdul Karim Rahman Hamzah): Terima kasih, Tuan Speaker. Assalamualaikum Warahmatullahi Wabarakatuh, Selamat pagi, Salam Sarawak Maju Makmur.

Alhamdulillah, saya bersyukur ke hadrat Allah Subhanahu Wa Ta'ala kerana diberi peluang untuk menyampaikan ucapan penggulungan untuk Kementerian Pelancongan, Industri Kreatif dan Seni Persembahan pada pagi ini. Dengan izin saya ingin memulakan penggulungan saya dengan dua rangkap pantun:

*Terbang melayang si burung Kenyalang,
Melepas lelah di hujung dahan,
Bumi Kenyalang sudah terbilang,
Wilayahnya indah pusat pelancongan.*

*Dari Nonok singgah ke Tambirat,
Cantik menarik si burung terkukur,
Pembangunan terangcum pelancongan meningkat,
Sarawak ibu pertiwiku maju Makmur.*

Tuan Speaker, the Ministry is still on course to strive towards our vision for "Sarawak to be a premier Tourism Destination and A Showcase of Unique Art, Culture and Heritage" with the mission "To lead the advancement of Sarawak Tourism, Culture and Heritage". There are five State agencies under the jurisdiction of my ministry, namely:

- (a) Sarawak Museum Department (SMD);
- (b) Sarawak Tourism Board, (STB);
- (c) Sarawak Convention Bureau (Business Event Sarawak);
- (d) Sarawak Arts Council or (Majlis Seni Sarawak); and
- (e) Sarawak Craft Council (SCC).

There are also three federal agencies under my ministry's watching brief namely:

- (a) Perbadanan Kemajuan Kraftangan Malaysia (Kraftangan);

- (b) Jabatan Kebudayaan dan Kesenian Malaysia ataupun Jabatan Kebudayaan dan Kesenian Negara (JKKN Cawangan Sarawak); dan
- (c) Lembaga Penggalakan Pelancongan Malaysia (TM).

Tourism Sectors Scenario and Outlook

According to the United Nation Tourism World Tourism Barometer, approximately 790 million tourists travelled internationally in the first seven months of 2024, indicating an 11% increase as compared to 2023, which tantamount to a 94% recovery rate of the pre-COVID era, or pre-COVID 2019 level. The data revealed a robust beginning to the year, followed by a more moderate second quarter. These outcomes align with the United Nation Tourism forecast for a full recovery in international arrivals by 2024, despite continued economic and geopolitical challenges.

Tourist arrival in Malaysia in 2023 increased by 100%, reaching 20.1 million as compared to the same period in 2022, and generating RM71.3 billion in tourism receipts. Malaysia aims to attract 27.3 million international tourists in 2024, with a tourism receipts target of over RM102.7 billion in tourism receipts. As of January to September 2024, Malaysia has received a total of 18.4 million tourists from all over the world, an increase of 27.0% in comparison to the same time in 2023. However, looking ahead to Visit Malaysia Year which is 2026 (VM 2026), Malaysia envision welcoming 25.6 million visitors and generating target receipts of RM147.1 billion.

From January to October 2024, as far as Sarawak is concern, Sarawak recorded 3.98 million visitors to be exact 3,985,691 visitors, an increase of 25.03% over the same period in 2023 which is 3.18 million, thus, generating an estimated RM10.27 billion, or an increase of 27.26% as compared to RM8.07 billion in tourism receipts in 2023. There is quite a big jump from 2023, January to October which is 8.07; in 2024 January to October, it is 10.27 billion.

For information of this august House my ministry targeted 4 million visitors for 2024. I wish to inform that we have hit 4.08 million visitors on the 15th of November 2024. We have hit our target way before the end of the year. The various international events and national level tourism events, conventions, conferences, meetings as well as the last SUKMA games that we host with all the states in Malaysia are participating, they help to increase or to meet up to this target.

Sarawak's tourism sector forecasts full recovery by 2025 or next year. Thus, my ministry will strive to achieve the 5 million visitors target in 2025, as had been announced by the Right Honourable Premier of Sarawak in the recent 2025 Budget Speech, which would be able to generate with the 5 million visitors, it will be able to generate RM12.73 billion in tourism receipts. The tourism sector growth so far is in line with most of the goals outlined in the Post COVID-19 Development Strategy 2030 (PCDS 2030). Actually the highest number of tourist or visitors arrival to Sarawak so far has been in 2019 that is 4.6 million. We have never achieved 5 million as yet so we are looking at 2025 as the first year that we will be able to hit the 5 million target. In 2019, we managed to hit 4.6 million so 2020 we placed a target of 5 million but everybody knows in 2020 the whole thing clenched down because of the global COVID-19 pandemic.

Tourism Industry Engagement and Capacity Building

In 2024, a total of 21 capacity building programmes for tourism industry players covering the area of digital tourism, tourism related skills management, knowledge and competencies, tourism creativity and innovation and tourism sustainability. These programs cover essential subjects for those in the hospitality industry and tourist guides covering quality guest service, gastronomy, food and beverages, competency development training, housekeeping and digital social media marketing. Future programs will be enhanced to ensure excellent services in the tourism industry so as to achieve the ministry's PCDS training objective and the industry players needs from time to time.

Sarawak - Malaysia My Second Home (S-MM2H) Programme

Tuan Speaker, the Ministry of Tourism, Arts and Culture (MOTAC), that is the federal ministry, via its Commissioner of Tourism has delegated authority under the Tourism Industry Act 1992 [Act 482] and its subsidiary laws to the Permanent Secretary of Ministry of Tourism, Creative Industry and Performing Arts (MTCP) Sarawak according to Subsection 4(2) of Act 482 effective on 1st November 2024 which applies to S-MM2H program in Sarawak through the letter of the commission dated 30th October 2024, you can see the letter in the slide. This represents a significant achievement for my ministry in further expanding the functions of the current S-MM2H One Stop Center to not only processing the applicants but also in the licensing of S-MM2H agents. Before this all licensing of the agencies operating in Sarawak will have to go through Kuala Lumpur. Now, everything will be handled in Sarawak, whether it is the processing of the applicants who wants to be part of this S-MM2H or even the licensing of the agents so everything will come under the state's purview.

The ministry has carried out a lab with S-MM2H panel committee members, which consisted of representatives from MOTAC Sarawak, Immigration Department of Malaysia, Sarawak; State Attorney General's Chambers, Sarawak State Health Department, Unit Pengurusan Imigresen dan Buruh Sarawak, Unit Keselamatan dan Penguatkuasaan Sarawak, both come under the Jabatan Premier Sarawak, and Polis Diraja Malaysia to finalise the latest requirements to S-MM2H programme application and guidelines to the licensing application for SMM2H agents. A roundtable discussion was also held with all the SMM2H agents on the 5th of September 2024 at one of the hotel in Kuching. Subsequently, all this was approved and endorsed by the State Cabinet on the 24th of October 2024.

Since Ministry of Tourism, Creative Industry and Performing Arts (MTCP) has taken over the S-MM2H program from the Sarawak Immigration Department in 2020, MTCP has set up a One-Stop Panel to approve and expedite all S-MM2H applications. From 2007 to 2019 that is the period of 13 years, there was a total of 1,240 applicants approved. 13 years from 2007 until 2019, 13 years, we have approved 1,240 with the new set up where everything are handled by this committee, the new committee starting from 2020 until October 2024, that is four years and 10 months, which comes under the new MTCP Panel Committee, a substantial number of 1,526 participants have been approved. From 2007, the top five countries, participants, are China (408), the United Kingdom (355) participants, Taiwan (265) participants, Hong Kong (260) participants and the United States of America (216) participants. As of January until October 2024, just this year alone, January until October a total of 450 applications has been approved with Fixed Deposit placement totalling RM90 million in Sarawak's local banks.

For the information of the august House, the S-MM2H programme has been approved and adapted from MOTAC's new MM2H requirements, though not all the requirements were adapted, it has to suit what we feel as suitable for Sarawak. For those who might want to know more about the prerequisites of being an applicant, please go to MTCP's website at mtcp.sarawak.gov.my for the new requirements for S-MM2H applications and licensing of S-MM2H agents. This enhancements will take effect from 1st January 2025 as per agreed in the State Cabinet.

REGIONAL COOPERATION

Brunei-Indonesia-Malaysia-The Philippines, East ASEAN Growth Area (BIMP-EAGA)

During the BIMP-EAGA Joint Tourism Development Cluster meeting held in Brunei Darussalam on the 7th and 8th of August 2024, where my ministry is the lead cluster for the Joint Tourism Development for Malaysia, which encompasses Sarawak, Sabah, and the Federal Territory of Labuan and the 27th BIMP-EAGA Ministerial Meeting in Kota Kinabalu, Sabah which was held on the 16th of October 2024. Among the initiatives under the Joint Tourism Development Cluster discussed are the establishment of the Tourism Village Network, capacity building for the tourism sector, development of the experienced BIMP-EAGA Tourism Website; and the development of

tourism infrastructure projects with convergence initiatives with the Transport Cluster, Environmental Cluster, Socio-Cultural and Education Cluster, and Customs Immigration Quarantine Security (CIQS) Cluster.

Kerjasama Sosial Ekonomi Malaysia-Indonesia (SOSEK-MALINDO)

SOSEK-MALINDO is a bilateral social-economic cooperation between Sarawak, Malaysia, and West Kalimantan, Indonesia, with the main objective of accelerating the growth within the border areas relating to tourism, social and cultural, sports, economy, and security at the borders. Various initiatives such as joint tourism promotion and cross-border events are held to foster cooperation between the two regions to enhance local livelihoods and cultural exchanges. The upcoming bilateral meeting is scheduled to be held this week from the 22nd until the 24th of November 2024 in Singkawang, Indonesia.

East Asia Inter-Regional Tourism Federation (EATOF)

The 18th EATOF General Assembly was held in Tuv, Mongolia on the 26th to the 28th of July 2024. The meeting is a platform to present tourism policies, exchange tourism information and organize programs to jointly promote the tourism industry through the Standing Committee Meeting, Bilateral Meeting, Governors Networking and Governors Conference.

Through such meetings, my ministry has strengthened partnerships and collaboration in promoting regional tourism through events and festival performances, programmes, and trade fairs, as well as to exchange ideas to broaden the joint business of tourism, sports, and culture through practical cooperation.

SARAWAK TRADE AND TOURISM OFFICE, SINGAPORE (STATOS)

STATOS Achievement in Promoting Sarawak Tourism

(a) Educational Tourism

STATOS has successfully facilitated visits from four school groups, bringing in 342 students from Singapore to Sarawak. This initiatives highlight Sarawak's appeal as a destination for educational tourism as well as for those in Singapore, the student, to know more about this beautiful state of Sarawak.

(b) Muslim-Friendly Tourism

STATOS targeted the Muslim-friendly travel sector by hosting Muslim tour operators from Singapore on a familiarization trip to showcase Sarawak's halal dining and prayers facilities.

Expansion of Travel Agent Network

Apart from that, STATOS expanded its network from four to 40 travel agencies in Singapore, including those specializing in MICE, leisure, Muslim-friendly tours, and adventure tourism. This growth was celebrated at the Sarawak Warriors Awards & Appreciation Dinner on 22nd October 2024, recognizing the contributions of local travel agents and media partners. And that's where you can see the number of visitors coming in from Singapore actually is on the rise through the years. Thank you STATOS.

Engagement at Travel Fairs

STATOS participated in major travel fairs such as NATAS Travel Fair, Asia Diving Expo, and Borneo Fest 2024. These events has helped strengthen Sarawak's presence in the Singapore market, particularly within the FIT and leisure travel segments.

Miri as a Diving Destination

Yesterday I did inform the Mayor of Miri about Miri should keep on promoting it as a diving destination. There are quite a number of beautiful reefs in Miri to be showcased promoted. STATOS or Sarawak Trade and Tourism Office in Singapore has launched an underwater photoshoot project focused on the Miri-Sibuti Coral Reefs National Park or Marine Park, showcasing its marine life and coral biodiversity in publications like Asian Divers and Asian Geographic, positioning Miri as a premier diving destination.

STATOS and STB have made significant strides in enhancing Sarawak profile in Singapore, through targeted marketing, strategic partnerships, and inclusivity to support the continued growth of Sarawak's tourism sector.

Sarawak Trade and Tourism Office, Brunei (STATOB)

Just now was STATOS. We have also set up another office in Brunei. The Sarawak Trade and Tourism Office, Brunei (STATOB) was officially launched on 3rd October 2024 by the Right Honourable Premier of Sarawak at Pavo Point, Bandar Seri Begawan, Brunei. This marks the second trade and tourism office established by the Sarawak Government in this region, following the opening of STATOS in Singapore. The launching ceremony was attended by 26 foreign ambassadors, five Bruneian ministers, and seven ministers from Sarawak, and other distinguished guests.

The creation of STATOB underscores Sarawak's strategic initiative to strengthen trade, investment, and tourism ties with negara Brunei Darussalam, fostering closer economic cooperation between the two regions. Key events include Program Citarasa Sarawak 2024 which showcase Sarawak's food, beverage, medicinal products, handicrafts, and services in healthcare, education, and tourism; and Town Hall Session on opportunities in Sarawak including Sarawak Tourism Board (STB) and Business Event (BE) Sarawak.

TOURISM AUTONOMY

Ahli Yang Berhormat bagi Batu Kitang raised the issue on autonomous rights of the tourism sector in Sarawak. This issue was briefly answered by my Deputy Minister on 12th November 2024. My ministry will continue to engage with the MOTAC on the proposal to amend "tourism" in item 25A from the Federal list (List I) to the Concurrent List (List III) in the Ninth Schedule of the Federal Constitution.

Even though tourism has been parked under the Federal List without the State Government of Sarawak being informed in 1994, when in actual fact, any changes which affects the state, the state must give consent. But somehow at that time, it was not done. It was discreetly being bulldozed, that's the word that I always used, bulldozed through. And even our Sarawak MPs did not realise it. So now, it's in the Federal List. But even though it is in the Federal List, we know the Federal Government and including MOTAC, they are, they know the importance of tourism towards the nation's economy, towards the state's economy and for Sarawak to have its own Ministry of Tourism, reflects very well how much of autonomy that we have.

And even in promotions overseas, whether it is in ITB Berlin, whether it is in WTM United Kingdom or IMEX Frankfurt, we have our own packages to show that we are more or less, quite autonomous, very autonomous. It is just a matter of time for us to take that matter which is parked under the Federal List to move into the Concurrent List. It's being negotiated now. We want that to move, just like the other matters that we are demanding back, like the matter of one-third representation of Sarawak MPs in the Federal Parliament. These are all together.

We will actively pursue the rights on tourism matters under the Malaysia Agreement 1963 (MA63) in collaboration with the Honourable Deputy Minister of the Premier's Department which

looks after Law, MA63 and Federal-State Relation as well as the State Attorney-General Chambers and to ensure that Sarawak be given the executive authority rights to manage and regulate the needs of the tourism industry in our own state.

GRANTS AND FACILITATION FUND

First and foremost, I would like to record my utmost appreciation to our Right Honourable Premier, *terima kasih* Premier for the allocation of tourism events grants amounting to RM50 million whereby RM45 million will be for tourism events and RM5 million for our research grant. This is for 2025 actually, we has been already approved RM50 million. Before this we get RM40 million. There is an increase of RM10 million. So, when there is an increase, you will expect to see more events next year, more events, more collaboration with outsiders, those who are interested to host event in Sarawak. Sekali lagi ,*terima kasih* Yang Amat Berhormat Premier. Another RM10 million has also been approved for our Arts, Culture, Heritage and Creative Industry Facilitation fund early this year.

Research Grant

As of now, 20 proposals have been awarded under Sarawak Tourism Research grants, totalling RM5.32 million to six, six or five? There is a typo error here, the thing is six but the one in the bracket is shows five. Six higher learning Institutions/Universities and four NGOs. Among the proposals are:

- (a) Penubuhan Kursi Tok Nan at (Universiti Putra Malaysia);
- (b) Development Of Responsible Tourism Blueprint, Measurement and Manual for Tourism and Hospitality Industry In Sarawak together with (University of Technology Sarawak);
- (c) Sustainable Tourism Development: Community-Based Tourism Value-Added Programs as The Vehicle for Socio-Economic Enhancement together with (Swinburne University of Technology);
- (d) Sarawak Indigenous Cuisine: Preserving Its Identity and Heritage together with (UCSI University Kuching Campus);
- (e) Kajian dan Pendokumentasian Alat-Alat Muzik Tradisional Etnik-Etnik di Sarawak together with Universiti Malaysia Sarawak (UNIMAS); and
- (f) Sarawak Creative Industry Directory together with (Swinburne University of Technology).

So, we are collaborating with six institutions of higher learning or universities for them to do research and that's where the research grants are given.

Tourism Event Grant

The ministry has implemented various events and festivals as of 18th November 2024, I am pleased to announce that my ministry has allocated RM40.5 million to support 238 events and festivals this year. So, that's the reason why you see practically every week we have an event supported by the ministry. In one year, we have 365 days but, in this year, 238 events are being supported by the ministry, so every weekend or every week we bound to have something on. Among the notable events we have supported include:

- (a) The 9th Sarawak Hornbill Tourism Awards (SHTA) 2024;
- (b) The 10th Edition Sarawak International Dragon Boat Regatta 2024 and the Sarawak Regatta Kuching Waterfront Festival 2024;

- (c) What About Kuching (WAK) Festival 2024. All this while it has always been held in Kuching. Now, we have got the WAK, Sibü and Miri which was held also this year and it has received so much big response, support from these two cities;
- (d) The Borneo Cultural Festival 2024 20th Edition;
- (e) Sibü International Dance Festival (SIDF) 2024 – The 10th Edition;
- (f) The 7th Sarawak International 4x4 Jamboree 2024;
- (g) The 8th Sarawak Adventure Challenge;
- (h) The Kejohanan Muaythai Piala T.Y.T Yang di-Pertua Negeri Sarawak Edisi Yang Ke-8 2024;
- (i) Serian Eco Run 2024 3rd Edition and many many more.

There are several events and festivals scheduled to take place this year, from now until the end of the year. So, watch out if this are in your city or your town. Be there to give it your support. Among them:

- (a) From the 29th November until the 1st December 2024, the end of this month, we have got the *Pesta Benak Sri Aman Edisi Yang Ke-21*. That will jammed up the Bandar Sri Aman. Normally, this *Pesta Benak* will create a lot of activities in Sri Aman;
- (b) We have got the Borneo Jazz Festival 2024 on 29th November untill 1st December 2024 at Eastwood Valley Golf & Country Club, Miri. If you are in Miri, drop by. We see this year, we have quite a number of good performances. Performing at the Jazz Festival;
- (c) The 12th Sibü International Bike Week on the 6th to the 8th of December 2024 at Phase 2, Sibü Town Square. Where I have participated in a few times and it does bring in big bikers from Brunei, from Labuan, from Sabah, from Kalimantan Barat, from Jakarta. All converging into Sibü;
- (d) Sarawak International Festival of Music and Arts 5 (SIFMA 5). This is the 5th SIFMA that is going to be held from the 7th until the 8th of December 2024 in Kuching;
- (e) Sarawak Esports Expo 2024 on the 13th to the 15th of December 2024 at MBKS Event Ground. The status for the Esports enthusiast which is picking up at the very fast rate now. We have to look after them also, these youngsters who love the Esports. This the reason why we have to give support also to this kind of event; and
- (f) We are going to have the Countdown 2025 to welcome 2025 on 31st December 2024 at the Kuching Waterfront. With this announcement, I think the hotels along that side, will see a lot of bookings from today because a lot have been asking where are you going to host it? Whether it's going to be celebrated at the Celebration Square Petra Jaya or whether its going to be at the Waterfront. Now, its been known that it's in Waterfront because there will be a fireworks display and all that. So, all the hotels along that road will definitely have 100% occupancy during that weekend.

Heritage, Arts and Culture Facilitation Fund

The facilitation fund is important in supporting those involved in arts, culture and heritage sector to organize capacity building programs to ensure the development, continuity and sustainability of the creative industry of Sarawak.

For the information of this august House, a total of 134 creative industry, heritage, arts and culture have been supported by this facilitation fund, amounting to RM9.77 million. The numerous activities organised by individuals, schools, institutes of higher learning, associations and NGOs, among others include:

- (a) 53 creative arts programs, including nine literary arts, three visual arts and 41 performing arts;
- (b) 41 arts, culture and heritage programs, comprising 22 heritage related (tangible and intangible), nine which are related to craft and eight which are related to gastronomy;
- (c) There are 25 media production programs for film / magazines / documentary and animation. So, there is a fast support down here and practically in every area;
- (d) There are four design programs focused on fashion. You won't forget those who are very much into this fashion industry. We cannot leave that behind also. We have been giving support to them also.

ARTS, CULTURE AND HERITAGE

Creative Industry

My ministry has established the Sarawak Creative Industry Coordination Committee (SCICC) under the Sarawak Tourism Steering Committee. The Committee consists of four Task Group Committees that are responsible for creative arts, arts, culture and heritage, media production and information and design, where members have expertise in specific creative industry fields.

This year, my ministry is developing a creative industry directory, so that will be easier for those outside or whether inside the state to look for this information to establish a comprehensive database of all creative industry players in Sarawak. The directory compilation is ongoing with completion targeted in April 2025. As of now, there are 2,116 creative industry participants recorded across all of Sarawak's divisions.

My ministry has expanded our arts and crafts network to Singapore and Indonesia this year. We have a technical visit to the Singapore National Gallery and Singapore National Heritage Board from the 2nd until the 5th of July 2024. Our ministry gained valuable insights into the methods and processes of establishing, planning, implementing and managing art museums and galleries during that visit. Additionally, through invitations to the Bali Arts Festival from the 10th until the 14th of July 2024.

I was made to understand we were the only ones who had been invited outside this. That is the oldest Art Festival in Asia actually, more than 50 years and we are very proud to be given that invitation. And also just recently, the *Batik* Festival Celebration in Yogyakarta, Indonesia from the 17th until the 21st of October 2024. We gained very big insights into the preservation and promotion of traditional performing arts and crafts, which are increasingly at risk of being lost to modernization and globalization.

UNESCO Creative Cities Network (UCCN)

As Kuching reaches the final cycle of UNESCO Creative Cities Network designation in November 2025, preparations are underway to prepare for the next cycle through intensive preparations of action plans with stakeholders. This action plan will support Kuching's membership monitoring report as a crucial part of its redesignation efforts. Over the last three years Kuching was showcased in notable events like the Shanghai Design Cities Conference, Jakarta's Ideasfest and the XVI (16th) Edition of UNESCO Conference in Braga, Portugal.

In alignment with these global efforts, the Mondiacult survey for Kuching was submitted in June 2024. This survey is a policy report involving multiple agencies under the ministry which will contribute to UNESCO's push to recognize culture as a global public good and as part of sustainable development. On a regional level, Kuching hosted the Kuching Creative Cities Forum in September this year bringing in together from 12 ASEAN creative cities for discussions and collaborations.

Progress has also been made in the area of heritage, gastronomy and industry. The Sarawak Tourism Board (STB) has enhanced Sarawak's presence by promoting gastronomic tourism at the recent World Travel Market in London 2024 this month, I was there also. We showcased the *Laksa Sarawak. Baru buka* by 12.00 noon, all the *laksa* are gone. People are queueing up to have the *Laksa Sarawak* because they heard so much about the *laksa* and we can see our pavillion, we are the only ones, Sabah and Sarawak are the only ones that have a pavillion. Unfortunately, Tourism Malaysia, for the first time did not put up a pavillion.

That is the reason why, I hope that MOTAC could consider things like this, MOTAC should consider. We are going into Visit Malaysia Year 2026 and you are backing out from promoting in World Travel Market in ITB Berlin, in IMEX Frankfurt taking out your pavillion. What is happening? Look into this matter. I don't like to comment on the Federal Ministry but sometimes being somebody who looks after tourism in Sarawak aggressively promoting Sarawak and Malaysia outside and when you see that the agencies are not there together with us, *ada rasa sedih sikit, ada rasa sedih sikit*. As part of the Sarawak Government's commitment, the MBKS swimming pool is being redeveloped into a Water Fun Park and the Centre for UNESCO Creative City of Gastronomy to coincide with the 2026 UNESCO conference preparations.

ECO-TOURISM AND COMMUNITY-BASED TOURISM

Tuan Speaker, the ecotourism and community-based tourism programmes are important leisure tourism and location-based tourism to get community involvement and more private investors to help strengthen our tourism industry as reflected in the PCDS 2030 and Sarawak Tourism Master Plan 2020 – 2035. In pursuit of this, my ministry has been collaborating closely with industry stakeholders to develop these sectors.

To date, we have successfully established 57 homestay clusters, clusters not homestays, clusters, clusters mean there are many homestays in that area. This achievement reflects our commitment to creating immersive, community-based tourism experiences that allow visitors to connect with local cultures and traditions. Let me go backwards a bit because I missed out one sentence here. We have successfully established 57 homestays clusters which is nearing our target of 60. There are just three more to go. Which is our target under the PCDS 2030 initiatives. So, we are not far from there, very fast moving forward. These homestay clusters, clusters not only offer tourists an authentic experience of Sarawak's diverse cultural heritage but also provide significant economic opportunities for rural communities.

To strengthen the skills and knowledge within our community, my ministry has organized nine capacity-building training sessions involving 198 participants, equipping them with essential tools and insights to contribute more effectively in their respective areas. Through these sessions, we aim to foster a collaborative environment that enhances both individual competencies as well as collective community development.

On geotourism product development of Sarawak Delta Geopark, my ministry is collaborating with other relevant agencies and tourism operators in developing and packaging the geotrails for Bau, Padawan, Bako and Santubong areas for promotion by tour operators. This will complement the existing tourism packages and other tourism destinations in the state.

In continuously promoting Sarawak's tourism products and services, the Sarawak of Kuching Tourist Guides Association or (SkTGA) with the collaboration of my ministry, had successfully hosted the 1st historic Tourist Guides Conference from the 24th to the 26th of October 2024 in Kuching with

the theme, *“Togetherness in Tour Guiding Excellence”*. About 555 delegates from among the ASEAN countries attended this conference.

National Park Tour Guiding

My ministry and the Sarawak Forestry Corporation (SFC) are collaborating with key stakeholders, including, Universiti Teknologi MARA (UiTM) Sarawak Campus, Swinburne University Sarawak Campus, and the Sarawak Tourist Guide Association (SkTGA), to revise the Park Guide Course Curriculum. This revision needs to ensure that the curriculum meets the diverse needs of ecotourism visitors and all stakeholders.

Totally Protected Area (TPA) as Prime Ecotourism Destination

To enhance the visitor experience and position national parks and nature reserves as a prime eco-tourism destination and further position Sarawak as a preferred eco-tourism destination in the region, Sarawak Government through SFC has initiated the following:

- (a) A total of fourteen projects were approved for the improvement of tourism facilities at national parks and nature reserves and adjacent locations with a total ceiling of RM120,510,830;
- (b) Three projects were approved under the *Projek Rakyat* amounting to RM71,277,830 to improve and enhance tourism facilities at location like Niah National Park and Sadong Jaya Mangrove Century;
- (c) Five projects were approved under the RMK-12 amounting to RM21,333,000 to improve and enhance tourism facilities at Santubong National Park, Lundu Tourist Support Centre at Lundu and Sematan, Kubah National Park, Similajau National Park and Matang Wildlife Centre;
- (d) Six projects were approved under the Alternative Fund amounting to RM27,900,000 to improve and enhance tourism facilities at location Gunung Lesong, Batang Ai and Sabal National Parks.

TOURISM PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT

Tuan Speaker, under the Sarawak Government's 12th Malaysia Plan, my ministry was allocated RM391.92 million (RM391,925,200) for the implementation of various infrastructure development. An additional RM139.44 million (RM139,448,020) was also approved under the *Projek Rakyat* allocation. From 2021 to 2024, the Federal Government through MOTAC has also approved various projects for implementation in Sarawak with total allocation amounting to RM37.65 million (RM37,653,000). *Terima kasihlah*, MOTAC and Federal Government. Adalah sikit dapat.

From May 2024, my ministry has completed various infrastructure projects which include, firstly, *Kemudahan Pelancongan* di Pantai Tusan, Sibuti which was launched on the 11th August 2024; secondly, when you see Kuching has brighten up now, is partly from the funding that we are channelling out to the city halls, Decorative Lighting and CCTV (I Love Kuching Signage) when you see the *“I Love Kuching” signage*; and thirdly, the transformation of the Brooke Dockyard into Industrial Heritage Museum Phase 1. Other projects that are still progressing in various stages of implementation, among others, are:

- (a) Performing Arts Centre at Old DUN Building;
- (b) Redevelopment of MBKS Swimming Pool into a Water Fun Park and Centre of UNESCO Creative City of Gastronomy;
- (c) Establishment of Lundu Tourists Support Centre for Lundu and Sematan; and

(d) Pembangunan Kemudahan Ecotourism di Taman Negara Santubong;

I also would like to announce the approval of several new projects, which are:

- (a) Baik Pulih Dewan Serbaguna Homestay Kampung Kuala Sibuti, Bekenu;
- (b) Naik Taraf Kemudahan Sedia Ada Tasik Rekreasi Uma Belor, Belaga dan Pusat Informasi Pelancong;
- (c) Naik Taraf Balai Raya dan Bilik Persalinan Homestay Kampung Krokong, Bau;
- (d) Membaik pulih Kemudahan Pusat Pelancongan Air Terjun Melasak, Lawas;
- (e) Menaik taraf Infrastruktur di Tapak Kaul, Oya;
- (f) Menaik taraf Kemudahan Infrastruktur dan Bangunan Etnik (Persada Alam) di Kampung Budaya Sarawak, Kuching; and
- (g) Galeri T.Y.T Sarawak at the Astana, at the present Astana

SARAWAK MUSEUM DEPARTMENT

Museum Exhibitions, Activities and Events

The Sarawak Museum Department is committed to showcase the tangible and intangible heritage of Sarawak for the learning and enjoyment of the public. This is to ensure the department remains effective and relevant amid evolving global dynamics. I am proud to announce that the Borneo Cultures Museum or BCM continues to attract visitors from all over the world. It has more or less become a must visit by tourist or visitors that come to Kuching.

Since its opening on 9th March 2024, BCM has received 1,179,281 visitors. Since January 2024, BCM received a total of 257,155 visitors. Other museums such as Muzium Petroleum Miri, Islamic Heritage Museum, Natural History Museum and others recorded a total of 167,704 visitors. This indicates museums and galleries remain a prominent attraction for visitors locally and globally. In total, the department has received a total of 424,859 visitors since January 2024.

For the second half of 2024, BCM has also attracted dignitaries, foreign dignitaries, and royalties. On 15th June 2024, I am pleased to announce that the BCM was honoured by the visit of His Excellency, the Governor of Sarawak Tun Pehin Sri Dr. Haji Wan Junaidi bin Tuanku Jaafar and loving wife, Yang Amat Berbahagia Toh Puan Datuk Patinggi Fauziah binti Mohd. Sanusi.

Other noteworthy visitors in the second half of this year included the Australian High Commissioner to Malaysia, Her Excellency Danielle Heinecke on 16th July 2024; delegates from the Conference of Parliamentary and State Assembly Speakers of Malaysia on 13th September 2024; Ambassador of the Republic of Philippines, Her Excellency Ms Maria Angela A. Ponce on 21st September 2024; the High Commissioner of Maldives, Her Excellency Dr. Mariyam Shabeena Ahmed on 17th October 2024; the Ambassador of Timor-Leste, His Excellency Lisualdo Menezes Coimbra Gaspar on 17th October 2024; the Ambassador of Columbia, His Excellency Alejandro Rosselli Londoño on 17th October 2024.

BCM also received a total of 82 schools, from preschool to secondary schools in Sarawak and other parts of Malaysia. BCM's appeal extends beyond schools nearby, as it has attracted those located outside of Kuching, Peninsular Malaysia, as well as Sabah. Notable examples include students from:

- (a) SMK Dato' Mustafa, Sekinchan, Selangor;

- (b) SK Wakaf Stan, Kota Bharu, Kelantan. They came down to Sarawak for visit, they make an effort to come also to the BCM;
- (c) SMK Mohd Khalid, Johor Bahru;
- (d) SK Nanga Tada, Kanowit.

These are the one from Sarawak. Terima kasih lah wakil-wakil rakyat yang membantu menghantar pelajar-pelajar daripada sekolah-sekolah yang terdapat dalam kawasan-kawasan ADUN untuk melawat tempat sejarah kita ataupun Muzium Sarawak;

- (e) SK Sungai Bawang, Selangau;
- (f) SK Ulu Pelagus, Kapit. Jauh daripada Kapit dapat sampai Kuching;
- (g) SK Long Lenei, Baram;
- (h) SMK Balai Ringin, Serian;
- (i) SMK Kalaka, Roban; and
- (j) SMK Three Rivers; Mukah. *Pun ada jugak*, terima kasih Dato Sri Hajah Fatimah Abdullah.

To the others, if you have got schools in your area, make the children of those schools happy. Send them to Kuching and make sure that they pay a visit to the Borneo Cultures Museum. I am very sure when the election comes, your name will definitely go *ada atas sikit lah*. Kalau tidak buat, nama sudah di *announce* di tempat-tempat lain, yang tidak ada nama ada kurang sikit. BCM also had the pleasure of hosting students from 38 universities from both local and international learning institutions, such as:

- (a) Institut Pengajian Perguruan Kampus Tun Abdul Razak, Kota Samarahan;
- (b) International Islamic University Malaysia, Kuantan;
- (c) University of Wollongong, Australia;
- (d) Nanyang Technological University, Singapore; and
- (e) Tanjung pura University, Pontianak, Indonesia.

A variety of programs are organised to promote culture, heritage, history, and science, besides being a supplement to the BCM's gallery content for students of various levels. Overall, these activities have involved 24 learning institutions, totalling to 1,389 students. Other notable activities organised in September 2024 included:

- (a) Joint school program with the Ministry of Education Malaysia: *Kem Perpaduan Anak Sarawak National Level 2024* held on 26th September 2024; and
- (b) Night at the Museum which was graced His Excellency the Governor of Sarawak, Tun Pehin Sri Dr. Haji Wan Junaidi bin Tuanku Jaafar and his wife, Yang Amat Berbahagia Toh Puan Datuk Patinggi Fauziah binti Mohd. Sanusi, the Right Honourable Premier of Sarawak and other dignitaries.

This year, the department has been actively collaborating with national and international institutions to provide impactful and exciting exhibitions to make BCM to be more interesting. The exhibition included the Gaia Exhibition by renowned UK based artist, Luke Jerram, was held from 25th June 2024 to 22nd September 2024. This exhibition attracted a total of 102,303 visitors.

In line with the strategy to develop world class exhibitions for the department's projects under the 12th Malaysia Plan, two workshops were held:

- (a) The Second Interpretive Planning Workshop was held to enhance the existing storyline of the Sarawak Islamic Heritage Museum in conjunction with the Restoration and Upgrading of Islamic Heritage Museum Building Project; and
- (b) Fort Brooke's Content Development Programme was conducted on the 24th of June 2024 with the district office and local community to develop the exhibition content.

Protect our Heritage, Preserve our Future

The department continues to enhance their capacity and capability in upholding the Sarawak Heritage Ordinance (SHO 2019). A course on procedures and methods of investigation series was organised to train enforcement officers to carry out raids and investigation process on the 21st to the 25th of October 2024.

The Sarawak Heritage Council Meeting on the 17th of July 2024 proposed the gazettelement of two historical sites namely Batu Ritong in Pa' Lungan, Bario, and Tapak Pertempuran Kampung Jangkar in Lundu, and two geosites under the Sarawak Delta Geopark namely Tuang Schist Semeba, a basement rocks representing remnants of the Triassic Sundaland, and Folded Schist Demak, a deformation due to collision between Indochina and Sibumasu block.

The department has maintained and preserved a total of 25 monuments and sites in Sarawak since January 2024. From June until October 2024, the department successfully preserved eight monuments and sites, namely:

- (a) Tapak Rumah Panjang Temenggong Tandok, Saratok;
- (b) Makam Dang Isah, Tandang Sari, Pusa;
- (c) Makam Dato Godam, Pusa, Saratok;
- (d) Makam Dato Temenggong Kadir, Pusa, Saratok;
- (e) Lumbong Rentap, Pakan, Sarikei;
- (f) West Mouth Archaeological Site, Niah Caves, Miri;
- (g) Painted Cave 1 and Cave 2, Niah Caves, Miri; and
- (h) Japanese Landing Craft, Brighton Beach, Miri.

The department's reputation as the guardian of Sarawak and Borneo heritage has encouraged the donations and repatriation of objects and antiquities from all around the world. Before donors gave the, those that are in the collection, they would also want to know whether we are able to keep those collections that they have kept for so many years nicely. And we are able to showcase, tell the world that we have got a good museum, we have been able to preserve our heritage, our items, antiques well, they are willing to give without having to charge any price.

Recently, a set of 27 miniature cannons, *oh yeah*, it is in the picture. A set of 27 miniature cannons were donated to the Sarawak Museum by Mr. Peter Hamer, a Dutch collector. Mr. Peter began collecting these cannons since 1976, when he was serving as an engineer with the Sarawak Shell in Miri. I led the delegation when I was in the World Travel Mart in London, from there we just fly in to Amsterdam to receive the cannon because he has willingly give his collection which he had collected in Sarawak. So, I think let's have a good ceremony for the media and all that.

Well, it can be shipped over to Sarawak, but then we have got our own way of saying thank you to this person. He came all the way from the countryside in the Netherlands to Amsterdam just to hand over, and I can say it during the handing over, it is just like giving over your child. I can see he was very very sad also, but he knows that his collection will be kept in good care in Sarawak. So, thank you Mr. Peter Hamer.

These cannons have a very unique and intricate design, symbolising the artistry of Bornean miniature cannons since immemorial times. The donation will enhance the department's reputation as a globally engaged centre of history and heritage and it will be showcase in the museum, after

once it has arrived. We cannot bring it because it is quite heavy. After we received it, it has been packed, and it will come to Sarawak soon.

The department also managed to negotiate the repatriation of this Kenyah-Badeng Sun Hat, it is a *topi* you know, and returned it to the Kenyah-Badeng community at the Pitt Rivers Museum, Oxford on the 4th of November 2024. This collective initiative involves the Sarawak Museum, respective scholars, and the community, particularly the Kenyah-Badeng Association or KEBANA. This marks another notable event, I think the sun hat is here I think, *yeah*. This marks another notable event where artefacts dated between 1895 and 1896 were returned home after more than a hundred years and I hope that the Museum Department will be able to preserve it well for generations to come.

These are items which are very close to the, especially the local ethnic group where it belongs. It was taken away, given to the White Rajah, the White Rajah gave it to the residence of Baram at the time I think. A child who brings it over to the UK, when he died, they forgot that the sun hat was on loan from the Sarawak Museum. And thank you *lah* for those who have been, for doing the research and found out that that item belongs to us, it was on loan. So, it must come back. So, if I am not mistaken, after three years of correspondence, we finally managed to bring it back.

International, *oh*, the department was able to digitalise, digitise 2,379 units of analogue cassette collections dated from 1957 to 2011. These cassettes contain important recordings such as oral traditions, contents of seminars, symposiums and workshops. This will ensure the knowledge within these recordings can be used for further advancements in museology and heritage preservation.

International Collaboration

As part of its effort to become a Globally Engaged Centre of History and Heritage by 2030, we are quite aggressive on this actually. The department signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the British Museum in London on the 6th of November. The MoU was signed by the British Museum's Director, Dr. Nicholas Cullinan and the Director of Sarawak Museum Department, Nancy Jolhi. Even before this MoU was signed, we have been sending our staff to the British Museum for them to, for attachment for certain months of attachment and with this MoU signing, it will further enhance the collaboration between British Museum and the Sarawak Museum.

Active Research and Publication

Museums provide valuable educational resources and opportunities for students and researchers to deepen understanding of Sarawak heritage. Their extensive collections of artefacts, specimens, and archival materials, which are often unique and inaccessible elsewhere, make them essential for research. These collections serve as primary research sources across various fields, including archaeology, natural history, anthropology, and history. Among the research are, these are the ongoing research:

- (a) The study of the Battle of Beting Maro, Pusa, Betong.

A preliminary survey for maritime archaeology research was initiated in July 2024 at Beting Maro, an area of interest for uncovering historical artefacts that could shed light on remnants of the war which was in 1849. This study is being conducted in collaboration with experts from various universities, including Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia, Universiti of Malaya, Universiti Malaysia Sarawak, and Universiti Teknologi MARA Sarawak Campus.

- (b) The study of Jawi Manuscript Collection.

This research is in collaboration with UiTM Sarawak Campus. For this, the workshop was organised on the 4th and 5th September 2024 together with UiTM Sarawak Campus, Universiti

Malaysia Sarawak (UNIMAS) and the Lembaga Amanah Khairat Yayasan Budaya Melayu Sarawak or AKYBMS. The department will be publishing three books by the end of this year namely:

- (i) The Sarawak Museum Journal Annual Issue, Vol. 108;
- (ii) The Sarawak Museum Journal Special Issue on *Papan Turai Gawai Batu*, there is a research on this and there will be a special issue of the Sarawak Museum Journal on this; and
- (iii) The Chronicles of Stamps: A Philatelics Travel Through Sarawak Museum Collection. Many might not realised it. Stamp. Sarawak has got its own stamp way back before we formed Malaysia.

Even during the Brooke's time, we have got our own stamp, we have our own currency. That is why research into stamp, research into currencies like this, we strengthen the position of Sarawak especially when it comes to where we stand in Malaysia.

SARAWAK TOURISM BOARD (STB)

STB implemented a series of robust marketing and promotion plans in alignment with PCDS 2030 and Sarawak Tourism Master Plan 2020-2035 since the tourism sector has been identified as one of the top key contributors to the State's Gross Domestic Product.

STB "*Leap-Frog Marketing Expansion Strategy*" aims to attract a diverse visitors portfolio comprising domestic, short-haul, medium-haul, and long-haul markets. This strategy aims to increase overall visitor arrival numbers, extend the length of stay, and drive growth in tourism receipts by actively participating as exhibitors in trade fairs and consumer fairs, while proactively organizing B2B and product update sessions, and coordinating familiarization trips. STB has implemented six strategies which included:

- (a) Bolder Tourism Marketing Promotion;
- (b) Amplification of Big Data Market Intelligence;
- (c) Strategic Connectivity Collaboration and Partnerships;
- (d) Heightened Visitor Incentive Packages (VIPs);
- (e) Enhance Strategic Partnership Collaboration Fund (SPCF); and
- (f) Expand Sarawak Tourism Online Ecosystem Fund (STOEF).

Since its inception, these strategies have been instrumental in fortifying the industry's resilience. It has also opened doors for small and emerging Sarawak's tourism businesses, enabling them to connect with a broader audience and potential customers. By providing and facilitating essential support and resources, these initiatives help new players navigate the competitive landscape, fostering innovation and growth within the tourism sector. Additionally, the strategies create a more inclusive environment where diverse tourism offerings can thrive, ultimately enhancing the overall appeal of Sarawak as a premier travel destination.

Bolder Tourism Marketing and Promotion

Throughout the year, a total of 50 marketing and promotional initiatives have been implemented in STB's focus markets. These efforts are aimed at achieving the ambitious target of four million visitors arrivals in 2024, which I have earlier announced we have already meet that target this month, early of this month, before the second week of this month.

STB participated as exhibitors in 12 international and domestic trade fairs, including the MATKA Nordic Travel Fair in Finland, ITB Berlin in Germany, the World Travel Market in London, ITB Mumbai in India, Travel Expo in Tokyo (Japan), ATM Dubai in UAE, and Routes Asia Langkawi.

Additionally, STB took part in 13 consumer fairs across cities such as Taipei, in Cochin (India), in Bangkok, Singapore, Japan and various other domestic venues in Malaysia.

As of today, the Sarawak Tourism Board completed all of its planned initiatives across key markets, including Europe, North Asia, new markets such as India and the Middle East, ASEAN and our domestic markets.

Domestically, STB organised the MATTA National Business Networking Session in Kuching, which recorded 576 appointments, followed by the Sarawak Gateway to Borneo Business Networking Session. These national efforts resulted in more than RM400,000 in tourism transactions from 350 buyers. Internationally, STB participated in 15 B2B and product update sessions across Germany, China, India, UAE, Taiwan, Japan, the UK, and Singapore, including the World Travel Market (WTM) London 2024, recently which also generated 150 new leads. Additionally, 10 familiarisation trips were arranged for agents from Europe, India, the Middle East, Taiwan, and ASEAN countries.

In the new market segment, STB targeted India and the Middle East due to the growing population of travellers with higher spending power and diverse interests. India's booming outbound tourism market, driven by its large, young, and digitally savvy population, high spending power, growing middle class, and interest in niche tourism sectors, benefits global destinations like Sarawak with improved infrastructure and accessible e-visa options. Consequently, STB engaged with 64 prominent film producers from the South Indian Film Producers Association to entice them to choose Sarawak as their next filming location.

The results of these initiatives have been highly successful and impressive. In 2024, the growth rates for various regional markets are as follows:

- (a) Europe saw an increase of 12.14%;
- (b) North Asia experienced a significant rise of 58.63%;
- (c) New Markets grew by 75.31%;
- (d) ASEAN markets expanded by 44.58%; and the
- (e) Domestic market increased by 3.89%.

Domestic market did not go very well because a lot of West Malaysia go travel among themselves only. They go to Melaka; they go to Penang. Going to Sarawak they find it costly, that's why they are asking the airline to reduce the flight fare.

Digital Reach and Communications

Sarawak Tourism Board (STB) manages 26 online and social media platforms to boost Sarawak's visibility and promote its products. Collaborations with international partners like Ctrip, Qunar, Klook, Tripadvisor, Traveloka, and Tripzilla, as well as high-profile key opinion leaders, enhance campaign effectiveness.

From January to October 2024, STB achieved over 210 million impressions across its digital platforms, including the groundbreaking use of CHIME Reach AI – an AI-driven conversational marketing tool launched at World Travel Market in London recently. Sarawak is the first destination marketing organisation to adopt this tool, offering tailored, interactive chat experiences to engage potential travellers.

Communications Achievements

In 2024, STB expanded its visibility through Out-of-Home and Digital Out-of-Home advertising, alongside collaborations with renowned media outlets such as TTG, BBC, CNN, CNA, and Forbes. These efforts, further amplified during WTM London, garnered 533 million eyeballs and a PR value

of RM 91 million from January to early November, significantly boosting Sarawak's presence in target markets.

Creative Event Tourism

The 27th edition of Rainforest World Music Festival (RWMF) 2024 wrapped up on a high note with record-breaking attendance of 26,026 festivalgoers. The festival which was themed "*Evolution*", held from 28th to 30th June 2024 highlighted RWMF's steadfast offerings of a world-class music experience driving sustainability and cultural preservation. The collaborative efforts of both local and international stakeholders created a dynamic tourism landscape that resonates globally in improving the ecosystem.

The inaugural Rainforest Youth Summit (RAYS) 2024 which took place before the Rainforest Music Festival on 26th - 28th June 2024 is a new initiative bringing together over 1,000 youths across the ASEAN region. We sponsored them here and this are student leaders from the university all over Southeast Asia and we want them to know what other things that we been doing in our effort to make sure that the world is being look after properly on environment, sustainability, responsible tourism.

The summit reflected Sarawak's commitment in youth empowerment, indigenous voices, and innovative advocacy, with sustainability as its core focus. So, apart from grooming our youths, we are also trying to propagate across Southeast Asia so that the leaders that comes out from this country which will be picked up from student leaders from the universities all over ASEAN will be able to grow up into better leaders in the future.

Amplification of Big Data Market Intelligence

STB uses big data for identifying the travel industry insights such as the global travel trends, consumer demand, and the perception of the travellers to visit Sarawak. Based on big data, the Board develops travel forecast models for its key markets and design strategies. The latest market trends revealed that it aligns and is in tandem with the state's tourism overarching strategies advocating sustainability and digitally driven marketing campaigns which had gained a strong attention in the travel and tourism landscape globally.

Strategic Connectivity Collaboration and Partnerships

STB continues to strategically partner with airlines to build agile cooperative collaborations by aligning resources to promote Sarawak as a premier tourism destination. On 11th July 2024, STB and Malaysia Aviation Group (MAG) signed a three-year strategic partnership Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to enhance Sarawak's connectivity through a variety of joint initiatives. The partnership resulted in collaborative marketing campaigns such as the continuation of Sarawak's Bonus Side Trip program, and Malaysia Airlines' support for STB's iconic events, such as the Rainforest World Music Festival and Rainforest Youth Summit. These strategic collaborations are aimed at boosting tourism leading to Visit Malaysia Year 2026.

Recently, STB entered into a strategic partnership with Scoot Airlines Singapore to strengthen connectivity between Singapore and Sarawak's cities namely Kuching, Miri, and Sibul. This collaboration has led to an increase of 14 weekly flights: daily to Kuching, four (4) to Miri, and three (3) to Sibul. STB continues to pursue connectivity collaboration via the hub and spoke strategy with other airlines such as AirAsia, Royal Brunei Airlines, Indonesia AirAsia, and Batik Air to drive growth in the tourism sector. By the end of 2024, Sarawak will welcome four expedition cruise ships with an estimated total of 624 passengers berthing in Miri and Kuching. Passengers will discover more of Sarawak during their shore excursions to various tourism attractions.

Strategic Partnership

STB's partnership with the Pacific Asia Travel Association (PATA) has strengthened Sarawak's tourism sector through two key initiatives that is the the Tourism Destination Resilience (TDR) and the AI-Driven Transformation programs. These initiatives had benefited 142 stakeholders, enhancing crisis management, operations, marketing, and managing customer expectations by sharpening the competitive edge of our stakeholders.

STB Incentive Packages and Fund

The Strategic Partnership Collaboration Fund (SPCF), Sarawak Tourism Online Ecosystem Fund (STOEF), and Visitor Incentive Packages (VIPs) were introduced as part of the COVID-19 Recovery Plan to support tourism revival. In 2024, STB's SPCF initiative approved 45 submissions, totalling RM443,814.00, while the VIPs initiative fully utilised its allocations. Meanwhile, STOEF, in its fifth phase, continues to enhance stakeholders' digital presence through website updates, content creation, digital marketing, and e-booking systems, boosting visibility and customer reach for homestays, travel agents, handicraft merchants, and hoteliers.

STB Trade and Consumer Travel Fair Participation was introduced to enhance the participation of Sarawak's tourism industry players in trade and consumer fairs. The support is divided into three tiers. RM5,000 for long-haul markets that is Europe, Oceania, Americas; RM4,000 for medium-haul markets that is for ASEAN, North Asia, Middle East, India, and RM1,500 for short-haul markets that is domestic. To date, STB has supported 20 industry players, facilitating their participation in various trade and consumer fairs with a total allocation of RM102,500.

Responsible Tourism

STB is committed to promoting responsible tourism that benefits our communities and the environment. In 2024, STB advocates five United Nation Sustainable Development Goals (UNSDGs): SDG 4 (Quality Education), SDG 11 (Sustainable Cities and Communities), SDG 12 (Responsible Production and Consumption), SDG 13 (Climate Action), and SDG 17 (Partnerships for Goals). STB has implemented four impactful Responsible Tourism initiatives to weave sustainability into our tourism framework this year. By embracing responsible food consumption and production through Food Forest Initiative, emphasizing sustainability practices via Green *Ruai* during the Rainforest World Music Festival (RWMF) and embarking on Gap Assessment for ISO 20121 were some of the new initiatives successfully executed this year.

As part of a five-year Memorandum of Understanding with Sarawak Forestry Corporation (SFC), STB planted 2,000 trees at the Bukit Lima Nature Reserve, advancing our carbon offset goals. This initiative was supported by a portion of RWMF ticket sales and sponsorships contributing to our broader commitment to plant 10,000 trees by 2027. Many might not realize that for those who went over for the RWMF concert, for every ticket that you purchase, you are also contributing to helping to improve the environment because of a portion of that money that goes, you paid is for this purpose that is for the replanting program together with the SFC.

In 2024, STB proudly achieved four prestigious awards, showcasing its excellence in the tourism industry. STB received a Bronze at the Putra Aria Brand Awards in the Transportation, Travel & Tourism category, the Best Booth PR Award at the 39th Seoul International Travel Fair and on 21st November 2024, STB will be honoured with the Travel Daily Media Travel Trade Excellence Award for Tourism Board campaign of the Year-Malaysia.

At the Sarawak Hornbill Tourism Award 2024, STB was recognized with the Special Award for COVID-19 Initiatives for its impactful *Sia Sitok* Sarawak Campaign. These four accolades reflect STB's unwavering commitment to advancing tourism, excellence and innovation. STB's initiatives therefore align with PCDS 2030, reflecting a commitment to building a resilient, sustainable, and inclusive tourism ecosystem. These initiatives contribute to the state's vision of long-term socio-

economic recovery and growth while positioning Sarawak as a leading destination that balances development with environmental and cultural preservation.

Business Events

Sarawak is the host of 122 business events until the end of 2024. This would generate RM373.4 million in total economic impact. Direct delegate expenditure will inject RM203 million into the economy and RM22.4 million will translate into tax for the government. We have currently concluded 80% of the scheduled events for this year. Some major events hosted this year are:

- (a) Asia Pacific Green Hydrogen and Exhibition (APGH) 2024 where we see 3,000 delegates;
- (b) 10th World congress of Herpetology with 1,495 delegates; and
- (c) Borneo International Water and Wastewater Exhibition and Conference 2024 with 600 delegates and 60 exhibitors.

As of today, Business Events Sarawak, have secured 97% of the targeted 100 business events scheduled to take place through up to 2028. These events are projected to generate a Total Economic Impact (TEI) of RM281.1 million. Direct delegates spending is expected to contribute approximately RM152.7 million to the economy, with an additional RM16.8 million in tax revenue for the government. We succeeded in winning a few major events such as:

- (a) Asian Congress on Occupational Health 2026 with approximately 2,000 delegates;
- (b) The 8th Asia Pacific Conference on Public Health (APCPH 2024) with approximately 1,000 delegates; and
- (c) Hari Wartawan Nasional (HAWANA) National Media Conference 2024 with approximately 729 delegates.

As for the legacies of business events, 63 out of 97 secured events have a legacy plan and vision. This is above our 50% target. On the other hand, 73 out of 122 hosted events are developing their legacy from now until the next three years. These events align their long-term plans with PCDS 2030 blueprints and the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals.

This year, Tuan Speaker, we invested in more strategic marketing and capacity-building activities to position Sarawak as the legacy capital of business events in Malaysia and Borneo. Sarawak exhibited at IMEX Frankfurt, where we collaborated with non-governmental organizations and local small and medium enterprises as our commitment to supporting local and indigenous communities through business events. We launched the Volume 2 - Issue 2 of the International Journal of Business Events and Legacies and our second year in Frankfurt resulted in 2,000 visitors engaging with our pavilion, compared to 1,300 visitors last year. That is an increase of 700 engagement visitors' engagement.

We also exhibited at the EventXpo in Kuala Lumpur, which was the first national business events tradeshow. Our inaugural participation strengthened Sarawak's position in the Peninsular market. The ministry, through Business Events Sarawak, invested in the first Association Impact Masterclass in collaboration with three global industry leaders namely the International Congress and Convention Association, Meet-4-Impact and Gaining Edge. As a result, 19 associations and industry leaders from Malaysia became the first certified impact leaders in the world. The shift from tourism to legacy-based events resulted in Sarawak winning the Best Sustainability Initiative for Destination category at the Meetings & Conventions Asia Stella Awards.

We are currently undertaking a study to improve our economic and legacy impact measurements. The study will provide new insights and formulas on the industry's economic and

non-economic contributions. We shall launch the world's first AI-powered legacy measurement dashboard in 2025, Insya-Allah.

SARAWAK CRAFT INDUSTRY (SCC)

Tuan Speaker, Sarawak Craft Council (SCC) will continue to drive and develop the local craft industry into a viable and relevant economic contributor to the state's tourism. Strategic planning and intended actions are crafted and aimed towards increasing the market sizes of Sarawak craft products both at domestic and global markets. The programmes and activities undertaken by the Sarawak Craft Council to promote the growth of Sarawak crafts in providing platforms and avenues are through sales and promotion, meetings, events and craft industrial development.

Sales and Promotion

The presence of Sarawak's craft entrepreneurs at craft related activities helps to boost sales, enhance visibility and increase market shares. The programs where Sarawak's Crafts made their presence during the second and third quarter of the year among others:

Local Market

- (a) Gawai Bazaar, MJC Township, in May 2024;
- (b) State Level Gawai Dinner, BCCK Kuching, 22nd June 2024;
- (c) The *Seni Kita* Arts and Crafts RWMF, Sarawak Culture Village, 28th - 30th June 2024;
- (d) AGROFEST 2024, Bintulu, June 2024;
- (e) Sibuan Craft Week, Wisma Sanyan Sibuan, July 2024;
- (f) Kuching Craft Bazaar, Kuching Waterfront, July 2024;
- (g) *Festival Tarian Singa* 2024, Kuching Waterfront, July 2024;
- (h) *Promosi Kraf Malaysia*, Bintang Mega Mall Miri, in August 2024;
- (i) International Conference of Hospitality and Responsible Tourism, The Theatre Kuching, August 2024;
- (j) Borneo Cultural Festival 2024, in Sibuan, August 2024;
- (k) Bintulu Craft Week, Parkcity Mall Bintulu, September 2024;
- (l) Karnival UDA 2024, at the Neu Pendington Square Kuching, October 2024; and recently the
- (m) *Festival Kraf Borneo*, Sarawak Regatta Kuching Waterfront, festival in October 2024.

Domestic Market

Six participations in the domestic markets in Malaysia, namely:

- (a) In Sarawak and Penang Arts, Craft, Culture and Music Festival, Penang, 11th - 14th July 2024;
- (b) In the MATTA FAIR 2024, MITEC Kuala Lumpur, 6th - 8th September 2024;
- (c) In the MAHA FAIR 2024, Selangor, 11th - 12th September 2024;

- (d) In the Showcase *Usahawan Sarawak* (MINTRED), Johor Bahru, 17th - 22nd September 2024;
- (e) *Festival Kraf Borneo*, Sabah, 26th September - 13th October 2024; and
- (f) *Lan Berambéh*, MITEC Kuala Lumpur, 19th October 2024.

International Market

They are also participating in the international market. The Sarawak Craft Council participated in the two events in the international market namely:

- (a) 60th Celebration of Malaysia-Turkiye Diplomatic Relation in Ankara, Republic of Turkiye, from the 17th -21st September 2024; and
- (b) *Citarasa Sarawak*, STATOB Brunei Darussalam, 30th September - 3rd October 2024.

International Meetings and Events

Sarawak crafts continued to build up its presence and visibility at the international events where the industry representatives were able to exchange beneficial ideas and engage business opportunities with other craft nations to get wider market reach. The Sarawak Craft Council was part of the ministry's team at the following international events and meetings. Among them:

- (a) IMEX Frankfurt 2024;
- (b) Bali Arts Festivals;
- (c) JOGJA International Batik Festival Celebration 2024 also this year; and
- (d) Official visit to Singapore in preparation for Sarawak Arts Gallery.

Craft Industrial Development

The Sarawak Craft Council works closely with related agencies to ensure the healthy growth in the numbers of craft producers and entrepreneurs in Sarawak. The Craft Community Development is a programme under the SCC aims to preserve traditional skills and conservation of cultural heritages as well as to develop new products which appeals to all walks of life. Among other objectives is to monetize the efforts to generate incomes through creativity and innovation for the local economies and deliberate initiatives such as the Sarawak Craft Council Industrial Development's initiatives.

Here we have 92 new craft producers registered under four main activities under the Craft Community Development programme that were carried out namely:

- (a) Handicraft Home Training Programmes were organised in Bau, Kuching, Serian, Sri Aman, Mukah, Tatau and Lawas involving a total number of 10 trainers;
- (b) Monitoring and Data Collection Exercises were carried out in Song, Kapit and Ulu Baram Miri respectively, involving 130 respondents;
- (c) Craft Interactive Session was held at The Hills Pullman Kuching in conjunction with the National Training Week 2024 on 27th June 2024; and
- (d) Educational Visits were made to the state of Penang in July 2024 and Singapore, in October 2024.

Initiatives by Kraftangan Malaysia Sarawak

Kraftangan Malaysia Sarawak had reported a total sale of RM20,231,310 until the end of October 2024. To date, there are about 1,244 local craft entrepreneurs registered with Kraftangan Malaysia Sarawak.

Accolades and Achievements

My ministry is proud to announce some notable achievements by Sarawak's craftsmen recently. This is something which makes me feel very proud also and I believe all Sarawakians should be proud of these artisans. Sarawakian artisans bagged 14 out of 21 award categories at the Hasanah Gold Threads Awards (HGTA) 2024 held in Kuala Lumpur on 5th September 2024. I think I have to name them, some of them.

- (a) 92 years old Adiguru Kraf Puan Ngot Bi, I think this lady from Kampung Semerak. Even though she's 92 years old, she's still weaving. A revered *Adiguru Kraf* by Kraftangan Malaysia and recognised as Sarawak's living legend by the Sarawak Government. She received the prestigious Hasanah Gold Award (Lifetime Achievement Award) for her exceptional plaiting work, *mengayam*. She was also a double award winner of the HGTA 23/24 for her exquisite plaiting, alongside a win under the Plaiting Traditional category;
- (b) Puan Helen Manjan Atong, 66 years old and Nor Haimah Mohammad, 22, won the Sustainability Gold Award and Youth Achievement Award respectively;
- (c) Dr. June Ngo, Ong Wan Fen, and Syamimi Razali, who secured the Supplementary Weft Traditional Award. Ong and Syamimi also received the Supplementary Weft Special Mention Award. I think the pictures are there. In the... you can see them. These are our proud Sarawakians;
- (d) Puan Ejah Japon won the Ikat Traditional Award, while Micheal Lim Tiang Aik took home the Drawing and Stamping Innovative Award;
- (e) *Adiguru Kraf* Puan Hajah Salbiah Muhi claimed the Embroidery and Embellishment Traditional Award, with Encik Danny Mohamad Zulkifli winning the Embroidery and Embellishment Innovative Award;
- (f) The Ranee x Biro Wanita Kerapa Spak and The Ranee x Biro Wanita Rian Batang were recognised with the Plaiting Innovative and Plaiting Special Mention awards respectively;
- (g) In the beadwork, we are also very proud of our bead artisans. In the beadwork category, Puan Juliana Embrose was named Best Beadwork Traditional winner, and Puan Ina Sendar took the Beadwork Special Mention Award; and
- (h) Puan Bangie anak Embol was given the 2024 National Crafts Figure for Pua Weaving, has received the award for Anugerah Karyawan Seni (Seni Kraf) which was held on the 14th of November 2024.

The Sarawak Craft Council will be organising first time the Borneo Craft Global (BCG) Expo and Conference 2024 at the Kuching Waterfront Square from the 27th of November to 1st of December 2024. With its tagline "*Globalising Local*", the Expo aims to bridge the gap between local crafts and global markets. BCG 2024 aims to empower artisans, preserve cultural heritage, and promote sustainable development in the craft sector. BCG 2024 will see the participation of 200 local and international crafts artisans, showcasing their unique creations to the public at the expo and 300 participants will also be attending educational workshops, seminars, and training sessions by global speakers at the Hilton Hotel on the 29th of November 2024. Quite of numbers of royalties and

ambassadors, I heard has confirmed coming for this expo. So, if you can make it at the end of this month, do please give support to this Borneo Craft Global conference and expo.

SARAWAK CRAFT COUNCIL (MAJLIS SENI SARAWAK)

Majlis Seni Sarawak has conducted 300 programs and activities on the arts development and training throughout Sarawak from May to November 2024, including Majlis Seni Sarawak annual programs, *Acara Tongak* and *jugak* ad-hoc programs with the State Government and other agencies in Sarawak. The annual programs among them:

Kelas Bimbingan Seni (KBS)

A total 1,370 students who have registered for this year's classes in January will complete their classes this December and receive their Certificate of Completion in the area of interest, namely, traditional dance, traditional music, modern music, acting, vocal, and drawing. Majority of these *Kelas Bimbingan Seni* students participated actively in MSS organised programs such as the Opening and Closing Ceremony of SUKMA XX1, PARA SUKMA XXI, and T.Y.T's Birthday Celebration this year. The one that you see during SUKMA opening a lot of them are from this *Kelas Bimbingan Seni*. The annual programs organised this year the three zones in Sarawak that also includes:

- (a) *Dialog Seni Majlis Seni Sarawak 2024* focusing on Intellectual Properties was organised in Sibu from 26-27 August 2024;
- (b) *Festival Tari & Lagu Asli Peringkat Zon Sarawak* held in Sarikei and Samarahan;
- (c) *Jerayawara Geran MYSENI* was organised with the Resident Office of Sri Aman, Betong, Kapit, Bintulu, Mukah, Miri, Sarikei, Sibu;
- (d) *Kesenian Desa* intensive training covering traditional dances, music, acting, painting was organised in three zones namely Bintangor at IPG Rajang involving 185 participants, Limbang and Lawas Districts involving 190 participants in and in SMK Pusa, Betong involving 215 participants.

Program Training of Trainers (TOT)

Eight Training of Trainers (TOT) in Performing Arts were organised between May and July 2024 at MSS and public halls in Kuching involving 500 participants. The 500 participants who attended comprise of staff of MSS, part-time MSS trainers, associations, IPTA, IPTS, choreographers, and freelance dancers.

Promotions of Arts and Cultural Performances

Throughout the second half of this year Majlis Seni Sarawak participated in various national, international festivals and also sent cultural troupes to perform at official events namely:

- (a) Gangneung Danoje Festival (which is listed under UNESCO Intangible Cultural Heritage) during EATOF in Gangneung, South Korea in June 2024);
- (b) Cultural performance at the Sarawak Pavillion during MAHA 2024 in Serdang Selangor (11th - 22nd September 2024);
- (c) Sarawak Warriors Awards & Appreciation Night by STATOS Singapore (22nd October 2024);

- (d) 9th ASEAN Traditional Textile Symposium in Laos which is held just recently in early of November 2024 (3rd -7th Nov 2024) and also showcased a fashion show on the traditional costumes of Sarawak;
- (e) MATKA NORDIC TRAVEL FAIR Helsinki, Finland (15th - 23th January 2024);
- (f) Vietnam International Travel Mart Dan Rumah Terbuka Malaysia Hanoi Vietnam in April 2024;
- (g) Asian Tribal Market Dubai (4th - 10th May 2024);
- (h) Matta Fair Kuala Lumpur in March 2024;
- (i) *Program Hari Muzium Antarabangsa Peringkat Kebangsaan* was held in Pulau Pinang in May 2024;
- (j) *Lan Berambah*, MITEC Kuala Lumpur, in October 2024;
- (k) Sarawak Warriors Award & Appreciation Night 2024 in Singapore 2024; and
- (l) World Trade Market in November 2024.

This year, *Simfoni Orkestra Negeri Sarawak (SONS)* has successfully presented a series of concerts such as:

- (a) *Majlis Penyerahan dan Pelancaran Tapak Projek Performing Arts Centre* in May 2024 at old DUN;
- (b) *Konsert “Dekat di Hati”* in May 2024 Daerah Belaga;
- (c) *Majlis Jamuan Negeri Bagi Istiadat Pembukaan DUN Sarawak Ke-19*, in May 2024 at DUN Sarawak;
- (d) *Konsert Ambang Perayaan Hari Kebangsaan Peringkat Sarawak 2024* in August 2024 at Dataran Tuanku Haji Bujang in Sibul;
- (e) *Majlis Perhimpunan Sempena Perayaan Hari Kebangsaan Peringkat Sarawak 2024*, in August 2024 at Dewan Canselor Tun Abdul Taib Mahmud, UTS Sibul;
- (f) *Majlis Jamuan Negeri Bersempena Persidangan Speaker-Speaker dan Dewan Undangan Negeri Se-Malaysia*, in September 2024 at Pullman Hotel Kuching; and
- (g) *Majlis Makan Malam SUKMA XXI Sarawak 2024*, in September 2024 at Hikmah Exchange Event Centre, Kuching.

As for MYSENI's Annual Grant of RM1 million, Majlis Seni Sarawak has approved 43 applications of MySeni Grant comprising of nine individuals who are given RM10,000 each, 13 Associations – they are given altogether RM525,000, 11 companies which get the grant of RM260,000 and 10 communities in schools, IPTA, IPTS and *JKK Kampung* – totalling RM205,000.

This year, Majlis Seni Sarawak as the *Pengerusi Jawatankuasa Sambutan, Kesenian dan Kebudayaan* was responsible for coordinating the overall performances for both the opening and closing ceremony of SUKMA XXI and PARA SUKMA XXI Sarawak 2024. Tahniah, Majlis Seni Sarawak. (Applause). Thank you.

A total of 2154 participants were involved in the opening and closing ceremony of SUKMA XXI and 850 participants for the opening and closing ceremony of PARA SUKMA XXI in August 2024. I

would like to extend my thanks to everyone involved in these two SUKMA events for their commitment during year long preparations and the excellent performances. I'm slowly getting to the end of my speech.

DUN DEBATE

I wish to give thanks to the Ahli-ahli Yang Berhormat bagi Balingian, Serembu, Tellian, Murum, Kabong, Lingga, Stakan and others for their feedback regarding tourism events as well as festivals. My ministry hopes that the *Pesta Bederun Balingian*; Country Music Festival, Siniawan; *Pesta Kaul Mukah*; Regatta Mukah; Regatta Lingga; Maludam Explore Race; and Kite Festival in Kabong; and many other local events will be enhanced to attract more domestic and international visitors next year and next, next year. This is crucial as the target visitors' arrival is set at 5 million for next year. We have never hit that target before. So, next year is going to be a very challenging year for this ministry as well as the industry players. We have to bring as many as possible visitors from outside; to show that we have hit the target.

For the information of the Honourable Member for Ba'Kelalan, the government recognizes the vital role of supporting local communities, particularly in Ba'Kelalan to actively engage in local businesses and seize opportunities arising from the anticipated increase in visitors and tourist hotspot. Efforts are ongoing to assist the locals by encouraging participation in tourism through initiatives such as *Program Pengalaman Malaysia* Homestay which also fosters entrepreneurial opportunities in handicrafts, tourism services and cultural experiences, ensuring sustainable growth and maximizing benefits for the local economy.

Currently, there is one homestay cluster registered with the Ministry of Tourism, Art and Culture Malaysia (MOTAC) in Ba'Kelalan comprising of 24 Homestay Operators with a total of 69 rooms. As of September 2024, these homestays received a total of 1,146 visitors with a receipt of RM422,510. Further supporting the expansion of community-based tourism in Ba'Kelalan. My ministry also organises capacity building programmes from time to time to enhance their skills and knowledge in the hospitality sector.

For the information of the Honourable Member for Tanjung Datu, the Sarawak Forestry Corporation (SFC) has implemented several initiatives, nature-connected experiences the protection of endangered sea turtles at nesting beaches, islands particularly at Talang Satang Islands and Tanjung Datu National Park. These initiatives include the Sea Turtle Conservation Programme and Sea Turtle Adoption programme which have been in place at Talang Satang National Park since the year 2005 with the objective to create awareness on the importance of protecting the endangered turtles. In addition, our ministry together with MOTAC Sarawak will also make an effort to increase the number of homestay operators and enhance their management skills to address lack of accommodation issues in Lundu once the UNESCO Biosphere Reserve is accredited.

Be rest assured also that Lundu has been earmarked to be the next Dubai of Sarawak and tourism shall be the key socio-economic development in the region. The commissioned studies have prioritised tourism related development that needs to be implemented and identifying them into priorities so that these projects and programs shall be packaged for the 13th Malaysia Plan or (RMK-13).

In response to the Honourable Member for Telang Usan, our ministry concurs on the potential of the Three Sisters Waterfalls and will work with Sarawak Forestry Corporation with regards to gazetting it as another Nature Park. In leading towards this it will be practical to engage with the local communities in the surrounding area to establish a Community-Based Development Committee coordinated by the Divisional Tourism Task Group of Miri Resident Office. This will allow for the committee to slowly embrace the same objective of turning the site into one of the ecotourism draws for the Miri Division.

In response to the Honourable Member of Murum, our ministry acknowledges the potential of tourism based on abundant heritage, ethnicities, and natural landscapes such as rivers, mountains and waterfalls. Our ministry in collaboration with other state and federal agencies will make an effort to evaluate its tourism potential as a community-based tourism programme before they can be promoted to the world.

Now, I wish to do my winding up on security and immigration autonomy which comes under the purview of the office of the Premier of Sarawak.

KESELAMATAN DAN KUASA AUTONOMI IMIGRESEN DI SARAWAK

Tuan Speaker, untuk mencapai matlamat menjadikan Sarawak sebagai sebuah wilayah yang maju dan makmur, aspek keselamatan dan kedaulatan merupakan aspek yang amat penting dan mesti dijaga sebaik-baik mungkin. Ini termasuklah memastikan rakyat kita hidup dalam suasana yang tenteram dan bebas daripada ancaman-ancaman luar.

Pada masa yang sama kedaulatan Sarawak juga mesti dijaga untuk menjamin keupayaan Sarawak dalam menentukan sendiri hala tuju pembangunan tanpa campur tangan daripada pihak luar. Perkara-perkara ini merupakan asas penting bagi mewujudkan kestabilan politik, pembangunan ekonomi dan kemajuan sosial di Sarawak.

Sehubungan ini, salah satu langkah utama untuk memelihara keselamatan dan kedaulatan Sarawak adalah dengan membuat pemantauan rapi dan berterusan terhadap kemasukan individu ataupun entiti luar yang datang ke Sarawak untuk tujuan pekerjaan ataupun menjalankan aktiviti ekonomi.

Adalah ditegaskan di sini bahawa, pihak-pihak ini perlu mematuhi undang-undang yang termaktub dalam Perlembagaan Sarawak serta undang-undang yang telah diluluskan oleh Dewan Undangan Negeri Sarawak. Ini adalah untuk memastikan hak dan kepentingan rakyat Sarawak sentiasa dilindungi dan terpelihara.

Undang-undang yang telah kita gubal adalah bertujuan untuk memelihara keharmonian, melindungi sumber asli serta memastikan segala kegiatan ekonomi dan sosial adalah selaras dengan aspirasi Sarawak. Oleh itu, semua pihak yang datang ke Sarawak perlu memahami dan menghormati peraturan ini yang merupakan autonomi Sarawak.

Perkara berkaitan autonomi imigresen Sarawak secara kukuhnya adalah termaktub dalam Perlembagaan Persekutuan di bawah Perkara 161E(4) dan juga Akta Imigresen 1959/63. Autonomi ini merangkumi hak eksklusif Kerajaan Sarawak untuk mengatur dan juga mengawal kemasukan individu ke Sarawak, demi melindungi keselamatan, kebajikan dan kepentingan rakyat kita. Hak ini juga adalah untuk memastikan kawalan imigresen kekal di bawah bidang kuasa Kerajaan Sarawak.

Autonomi ini bukan hanya sekadar prosedur urusan imigresen, tetapi juga merupakan pengiktirafan terhadap kedudukan unik Sarawak dalam Persekutuan Malaysia. Justeru, autonomi ini adalah hak yang tidak boleh dirunding kerana ianya mencerminkan kedudukan unik Sarawak dalam Persekutuan Malaysia.

Perjanjian Malaysia 1963 (MA63) memperkukuhkan lagi autonomi ini. MA63 bukan hanya dokumen sejarah malah ia adalah komitmen murni untuk menegakkan hak-hak khas dan unik Sarawak dalam Persekutuan Malaysia. Laporan Jawatankuasa Antara Kerajaan (IGC), yang menjadi panduan kepada penggubalan MA63, secara jelas menekankan pentingnya Sarawak mengekalkan kawalan terhadap imigresen sebagai langkah melindungi budaya, sosial dan juga ekonominya. Peruntukan ini adalah asas penting dan kekal sebagai teras utama dalam tadbir urus Sarawak.

Tuan Speaker, selain daripada autonomi imigrasi ataupun imigresen, Sarawak juga mempunyai kuasa eksklusif terhadap hal ehwal buruh berkaitan pekerja bukan pemastautin. Ordinan Buruh Sarawak (Bab 76) mewajibkan semua majikan mendapatkan kelulusan daripada Kerajaan Sarawak sebelum menggaji pekerja bukan pemastautin. Peruntukan ini memastikan amalan penggajian adalah sejajar dengan undang-undang serta keutamaan pembangunan atau sektor ekonomi di Sarawak. Ordinan tersebut menetapkan penalti berat bagi ketidakpatuhan, termasuk denda dan hukuman penjara, atau kedua-duanya sekali. Ini mencerminkan komitmen teguh Kerajaan Sarawak untuk menegakkan kedaulatan undang-undang dan melindungi kebajikan pekerja di Sarawak.

Autonomi dalam hal imigresen dan buruh adalah asas penting kepada tadbir urus dan identiti Sarawak. Hak-hak ini, yang dilindungi oleh Perlembagaan Malaysia ataupun Perlembagaan Persekutuan, MA63 dan Laporan IGC, adalah kunci kepada keupayaan Sarawak untuk melindungi kepentingan serta mengekalkan autonomi dalam Malaysia. Pada masa yang sama, adalah menjadi tanggungjawab kita semua untuk menguatkuasakan undang-undang berkaitan secara tegas. Mana-mana syarikat ataupun pekerja yang didapati melanggar undang-undang Sarawak akan dikenakan tindakan, termasuk penolakan atau pembatalan permit kerja.

Ini terpakai kepada semua entiti yang beroperasi di Sarawak. Kepatuhan kepada undang-undang Sarawak adalah asas yang perlu dipatuhi dan tidak semestinya dipersoalkan oleh mana-mana pihak, kerana tiada sesiapa pun yang berada di atas undang-undang termasuk peguam-peguam yang ternama ataupun bekas-bekas peguam. Sarawak mempunyai kuasa mutlak untuk tidak membenarkan mana-mana individu, entiti atau syarikat beroperasi di Sarawak.

Sekiranya mereka tidak mematuhi undang-undang yang telah diluluskan dan ditetapkan oleh Kerajaan Sarawak. Sekiranya mereka tidak ada lesen ataupun permit beroperasi di Sarawak. Dengan komitmen yang tidak berbelah bahagi daripada semua pihak, kita pasti dapat terus mempertahankan autonomi dan juga melindungi hak serta kebajikan rakyat Sarawak.

Getting On Board – The Way Forward

Tuan Speaker, I have reached the last part of my speech. Getting On Board - The Way Forward, now I'm back to the tourism matter again. The tourism industry is projected to recover fully in 2025 with more regional trips, with new emerging travellers combined with refreshed destinations as all regions kick start their tourism sector. The improving economy and steady increase in spending power is stimulating this upward trajectory. Thus, the sector's growth in Sarawak will focus on investments in developing new tourism attractions and enhancing existing ones to enhance Sarawak's desirability as the gateway to Borneo. The strategies currently being outlined by my ministry as per the Sarawak Tourism Masterplan 2020 – 2035 includes:

- (a) Focus on Low Hanging Fruits: The ministry shall strategize to capture the full potential of domestic travel (closer to home) before shifting its focus to international travellers;
- (b) New markets should be explored, namely the Indian market, in Middle East market rather than relying on one established source market. Tourism is open to all its not only to China. It's open to Ocenia, India, Singapore, Europe. A lot of our tourist that come in comes from Europe actually. That shoot up last year that more than 50,000 European tourists that come in, mostly from Germany and from the United Kingdom;
- (c) New tourism niches to be explored namely health tourism, education tourism as Sarawak known very well for excellent medical care and affordable quality education; and
- (d) My ministry foresees fertile ground in the creative industry sector which could see potential new opportunities for growth especially in the creative multimedia industry, documentaries and film making industry. In the field of performing arts, culture and heritage Sarawak has produced award winning performers whose talents have won various international awards and

recognition. Sarawak can even explore on the potential to become a potential hub for international entertainment.

Conclusion

Tuan Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to thank Tuan Speaker and all the staff of the Dewan Undangan Negeri for your excellence in handling this Dewan sessions, the Sarawak State Secretary and all Government Departments whether there are from the federal or from the state and not forgetting also the staff of my own ministry for their hard work, commitment and dedication in giving the necessary support, input as well as information. Sometimes they will have to bear with me in DUN.

I would also like to convey my greetings to those celebrating Christmas this year, it's just around the corner, Merry Christmas to all Christians and also to all in this august House we will be ending 2024, welcoming 2025. The ministry will have the countdown this year as I had mentioned much earlier at the Kuching Waterfront to welcome 2025. I do hope and pray that 2025 will be a better year for all of us, Insya-Allah. So, Happy New Year 2025 and I wish to conclude my winding up speech with three *rangkap pantun*.

*Anak buaya berenang di kuala,
Perahu meluncur balik ke muara,
Seni budaya rakyat bersusila,
Warisan leluhur teguh terpelihara.*

*Bunga kemboja tumbuh melata,
Diukir indah menjadi motif,
Seni dan budaya warisan kita,
Asas membangun Industri Kreatif.*

*Ari Moyan ngiga penyangkai,
Datai sereta bepaluka tawak,
Senang ati nyambut penatai,
Serata menua nemuai ke Sarawak.*

On that note, Tuan Speaker I wish to end my speech on behalf of the ministry and give my full support to the budget that have been introduced by our Right Honourable Premier, terima kasih.

Timbalan Speaker: Terima kasih, Yang Berhormat Dato Sri Menteri. You have another ministry to give your winding up points. So, I would like to have short break. Or shall we...

Menteri Pelancongan, Industri Kreatif dan Seni Persembahan; dan Ahli Dewan Undangan Negeri N.15 Asajaya (YB Dato Sri Haji Abdul Karim Rahman Hamzah): Yes, please, Tuan Speaker. Belakang sudah sakit.

Timbalan Speaker: Ahli-ahli Yang Berhormat, we have a short break of 15 minutes. Thank you.

(Mesyuarat ditangguhkan pada pukul 11.35 pagi)

(Mesyuarat dimulakan pada 12.02 tengah hari)

[Timbalan Speaker mempengerusikan Mesyuarat]

Timbalan Speaker: Dengan hormatnya saya menjemput Ahli Yang Berhormat Dato Sri Haji Abdul Karim Rahman Hamzah, Menteri Belia, Sukan dan Pembangunan Usahawan untuk menyampaikan ucapan penggulungan. Silakan.

Menteri Belia, Sukan dan Pembangunan Usahawan; dan Ahli Dewan Undangan Negeri N.15 Asajaya (YB Dato Sri Haji Abdul Karim Rahman Hamzah): Terima kasih, Tuan Speaker. Bismillahirrahmanirrahim, Assalamualaikum Warahmatullahi Wabarakatuh dan Salam sejahtera, salam Sarawak Maju Makmur, Salam Segulai Sejalai.

Saya memulakan penggulungan untuk Kementerian Belia, Sukan dan Pembangunan Usahawan dengan dua rangkap pantun:

*Kenyalang hinggap di pohon cemara,
Terbang tinggi disangka garuda,
Semangat perpaduan bahang membara,
SUKMA dan PARA juara berganda.*

*Anak Sarawak pantang dicabar,
Sampai berkikis ke bulu betis,
SUKMA Sarawak have raised the bar,
Sampey dibanding Olimpik di Paris.*

Untuk hari ini kita juga ada membekalkan kepada Ahli-ahli Yang Berhormat buku-buku commemorative, *coffee book table* sebagai kenangan sukan SUKMA dan juga PARA SUKMA.

Tuan Speaker, saya ingin mengambil kesempatan ini untuk merakamkan setinggi-tinggi tahniah kepada Tuan Yang Terutama Yang di-Pertua Negeri Tun Pehin Sri Dr. Haji Wan Junaidi bin Tuanku Jaafar yang telah dilantik sebagai Canselor Keempat Universiti Malaysia Sarawak (UNIMAS) pada 16 Oktober 2024 yang lepas.

Setinggi-tinggi tahniah juga diucapkan kepada Yang Amat Berhormat Datuk Patinggi Tan Sri (Dr) Abang Haji Abdul Rahman Zohari bin Tun Datuk Abang Haji Openg, Premier Sarawak yang telah dianugerahkan Darjah Setia Negara Brunei Yang Amat Bahagia Darjah Pertama (P.S.N.B) yang membawa gelaran "*Dato Seri Setia*", bersempena dengan sambutan Ulang Tahun Hari Keputeraan Sultan Negara Brunei Darussalam yang Ke-78 pada 15 Julai 2024 yang lalu, dan juga penganugerahan Darjah Tertinggi Negeri Sabah, iaitu Datuk Seri Panglima Darjah Kinabalu (S.P.D.K) yang membawa gelaran "*Datuk Seri Panglima*" bersempena dengan Sambutan Hari Jadi Rasmi Ke-71 Tuan Yang Terutama Yang di-Pertua Negeri Sabah pada 5 Oktober 2024 yang lalu.

Dengan kesempatan ini juga, setinggi-tinggi tahniah kepada Ahli-ahli Yang Berhormat yang telah dianugerahkan darjah kebesaran, bintang dan pingat negeri Sarawak bersempena dengan Sambutan Perayaan Hari Lahir Ke-78 Tuan Yang Terutama Yang di-Pertua Negeri Sarawak pada 12 Oktober 2024 yang lalu.

Saya turut ingin merakamkan setinggi-tinggi penghargaan kepada Yang Amat Berhormat Premier Sarawak di atas pembentangan Belanjawan Sarawak 2024 di Majlis Persidangan Dewan Undangan Negeri Sarawak kali ke-19 pada 11 November yang lepas, di mana sebanyak RM76.4 juta telah diperuntukkan untuk pembangunan dan penambahbaikan fasiliti sukan pada tahun ini dan sebanyak RM280.7 juta untuk tahun 2025.

Sebanyak RM15.1 juta telah diperuntukkan untuk pembangunan belia dan sukan, serta RM2 juta lagi untuk program keusahawanan di bawah Kementerian saya. Langkah ini bertujuan untuk memperkasakan atlet, belia dan juga usahawan belia bagi mencapai visi dan misi kementerian, selaras dengan aspirasi Sarawak menuju status negeri maju dan berpendapatan tinggi menjelang tahun 2030.

Tuan Speaker, for the information of this august House, there are two agencies under the jurisdiction of my ministry, namely Sarawak Sports Corporation (SSC) and Majlis Sukan Negeri Sarawak (MSNS), and the administration of all Dewan Suarah in Sarawak. My ministry also hold a

watching brief over Jabatan Belia dan Sukan Negeri Sarawak (JBS). That's an outfit under the Kementerian Belia dan Sukan Malaysia.

SUKMA ke XXI Sarawak 2024

SUKMA ke XXI Sarawak 2024 (SUKMA Sarawak) was a monumental success, with Sarawak emerging as the overall champion for the fourth time since 1994, securing 201 medals. The event which was held from 17th until the 24th August 2024, was attended by athletes, officials and visitors from Malaysia and Brunei Darussalam, showcasing both athletic excellence and unity. Notably, the games had zero doping violations and this was confirmed by the Malaysia Anti-Doping Agency (ADAMAS).

Sarawak was chosen to host SUKMA for the third time, highlighting its growing role in sports development. The event featured 37 sports across 488 events in nine divisions, with five sports villages established to house the athletes. The success of the event can be attributed to the tireless efforts of the organizing committees, media outlets and sponsors, all of whom worked diligently to promote the games, leading to an unforgettable opening and closing ceremony, which was praised for its excellence.

The seamless execution of the event resulted from meticulous planning, from venue preparation, volunteer training and coordination with government agencies, private sectors, sports associations, technical teams, media and sponsors. Sarawak's achievement in winning the championship after 30 years underscores its progress in sports development and regional recognition.

The success of SUKMA Sarawak is a testament to the dedication and teamwork of the main organizing committee, along with the contribution of all 25 SUKMA working committees and 9 divisional secretariats, led by the able Chief Executive Officer of SUKMA Sarawak, Yang Berbahagia Datu Hii Chang Kee. The smooth running of SUKMA Sarawak was further enhanced by close collaboration with the Ministry of Youth and Sports Malaysia, Majlis Sukan Negara and the Olympic Council of Malaysia.

To further leverage our digitalisation effort, this is the first SUKMA where we introduce a SUKMA app to facilitate the public in obtaining latest information relating to the games. The app feature various menus, involving competition schedules and results, current medals standings, and live updates. The development of this app aligns with the vision of our Right Honourable Premier to enhance regional services through digital economy. The opening ceremony of SUKMA Sarawak at Stadium Sarawak on the 17th August 2024 was a vibrant celebration of unity and culture, featuring a parade of athletes from all 14 states and territories, including Brunei Darussalam.

The event showcased both traditional and modern performances, highlighting Sarawak's cultural heritage. The highlight of the SUKMA flame by selected athletes symbolizes the spirit of unity, determination and perseverance, marking the official start of the games. The ceremony was attended by about 40,000 spectators and VIPs and officiated by Tuan Yang Terutama Yang di-Pertua Negeri, Tun Pehin Sri Dr. Haji Wan Junaidi bin Tuanku Jaafar.

The games concluded on the 24th August 2024 with a closing ceremony at Stadium Perpaduan, officiated by Right Honourable Prime Minister of Malaysia, Datuk Seri Anwar bin Ibrahim. The final parade of athletes celebrated all participants, and the trophy award ceremony honoured the top athletes and the teams. The event ended with the symbolic handing over of the SUKMA flag to the next host, Selangor Darul Ehsan, ensuring the continuity of the games' spirit of sportsmanship.

The Overall Budget Allocation For Sukma XXI Sarawak 2024

The Sarawak Government has allocated a substantial budget to ensure the successful hosting and smooth execution of the SUKMA Sarawak. The overall budget for the event is carefully divided

across various categories to ensure comprehensive development and a high-quality experience for all participants.

Upgrading of Sports Facilities

A significant portion of the budget, that is RM70 million, is dedicated to upgrading and modernizing sports facilities across the state. This investment is crucial to ensure that the infrastructure meets the international standards and can host a wide range of sporting events. The upgraded facilities will not only serve the needs of Sarawakians during the games but will also leave a legacy for future athletes and the local communities that will be using these facilities after the games.

Organizing the SUKMA Games

The largest portion of the budget that is RM143 million, is dedicated to the overall organization of the SUKMA games. This includes expenses for the opening and closing ceremonies, accommodations, security, transportation, other logistical requirements and the Games Management System (GMS) that facilitates coordination for thousands of athletes, coaches and officials.

The Games Management System (GMS) is designed to streamline key operations during the games. It covers accreditation, real-time results tracking, athletes registrations, volunteers management, travel schedules and competition timetables, ensuring efficient coordination and management of the event. Organizing the SUKMA Games is a massive undertaking that demands careful planning and significant resources to ensure its success.

The Federal Government's Contribution

I wish to inform here that the Federal Government has also played a vital role in the successful realization of SUKMA Sarawak. With an allocation of RM50 million to be shared for both the SUKMA XXI and the PARA SUKMA XXI events, the Federal support significantly contributes to the overall budget. This funding not only helps with the general operational expenses but also ensures that the needs of the athletes with disabilities are met, promoting inclusivity and equal opportunities in sports. In total, the Sarawak Government has allocated RM240.2 million for the hosting of SUKMA Sarawak.

This strategic investment reflects the government commitment to the development of sports in the nation and the positive impact the games have on the local community, athletes, and the country. We would like to extend our sincere thanks to the Federal Government for the generous contribution of RM50 million, which is instrumental in making this prestigious event a reality.

Sukma XXI Sarawak 2024 Sponsorship

SUKMA Sarawak was a key event for the discovering and developing young sports talents across the nation, while promoting unity in Malaysia. Hosted by Sarawak for the third time, the event's success was made possible through the efforts of Federal and State committees, along with the strong support from 30 sponsors and six official partners. The event secured RM13.2 million in sponsorships, both in cash as well as in-kind, from local, national, and international companies. These contributions played a crucial role in preparing for the games and helped raise Sarawak's profile as a primary tourist destination.

The involvement of sponsors and partners also increased awareness and attracted future investment, benefiting Sarawak's economy long after the event. Their support has made SUKMA Sarawak one of the most successful editions, reinforcing the importance of sports, unity and community development. The success of this event highlights the power of collaboration, and we express our gratitude to all sponsors and partners for their invaluable contributions. Looking ahead, we aim to continue these partnerships to further develop sports in Sarawak.

Sarawak Athletes' Performance and Development

My ministry through Sarawak Sports Corporation and Majlis Sukan Negeri Sarawak, has allocated RM34.65 million for the procurement of sports equipment, participation in competitive games, and the organization of various motivational camps to boost the fighting spirit and teamwork among the 817 athletes, 237 officers and coaches across 37 sports, ensuring that the Sarawak contingent is both physically and mentally prepared for the competition.

To enhance the performance of the Sarawak contingent, my ministry has deployed 105 personnels, including medical teams, recovery specialists, sports masseurs, nutritionists, strength and conditioning coaches, sports psychologists and performance analysts, across nine divisions in Sarawak. This support has had a significant impact on athletes, optimizing performance, building mental resilience, providing performance analysis and reducing risks factor, all of which are key pillars of sports science and sports medicine for high performance teams. Additionally, our contingent is committed to educating athletes for Anti-Doping Education and Learning (ADEL) to promote a zero-tolerance approach towards doping.

Achievements of Sarawak Athletes in Sukma XXI Sarawak 2024

I am pleased to inform this august House that Sarawak Sports Corporation has successfully led the Sarawak contingent to a remarkable victory at SUKMA Sarawak. As the host state, Sarawak not only emerged as the overall champion but also made history by claiming the SUKMA title for the fourth time, marking a significant milestone after a 30-years gap since its last win in 1994. 30 years is a very long wait Tuan Speaker. If you were born 30 years ago and that was the day SUKMA was held, that boy or that baby would be 30 years old when this SUKMA was held. It has been a very long wait but getting the championship has been *satu kepuasan*, the satisfaction of winning it is beyond what we can express out.

Sarawak contingent ably led by our *Chef De Mission*, Honourable Dato Gerald Rentap Jabu, thank you Dato Gerald together with 37 Assistant Chef De Mission, lot of them are here, lot of them are Ahli-ahli Yang Berhormat some are from the private sectors outside they have done amicably well in leading the team, the contingent, the sports that they are leading to the achievement that we have manage to achieve in this SUKMA. We have managed to secure 76 Gold medals, 55 Silver and 70 Bronze medals, surpassing the initial target of 72 Gold medal for SUKMA XXI Sarawak 2024. We thought that by just putting a target by 72 gold medal we would be able to gain get the overall champion, but it was not to be that way. Even with 76 gold medal it was really really a fight till the very very end.

This achievement highlights the strength, the dedication and the exceptional performance of Sarawak's contingent in securing the overall victory. We would not be able to achieve this success without the support of our Right Honourable Premier, the state and federal agencies, local and the community leaders, sports associations and of course, Sarawakian as a whole. I know even in a town like Sri Aman, where they have only got one sport, that is boxing, the stadium was full every day for that sport. For those who are not familiar with boxing also come down to give their support.

I went to paragon in Bintulu to watch the muay thai, it was also the same. I don't think we have seen in the Paragon Square the number of people flocking just to watch muay thai at that time. Probably those who are not familiar with muay thai, they are not supporting the sport, but they are supporting our athletes. So much so that muay thai were choose to be not very popular in Sarawak, we have been able to secure the best in muay thai for this SUKMA and likewise, also for the other teams, taekwondo, ten pin bowling, diving where Sarawak has performed pretty well to ensure that we have been able to surpass and build up and become the champion this time.

Record-Breaking Performances

Five Sarawak athletes showcased the Sarawak sporting prowess by breaking championship records in SUKMA Sarawak. Among them, I have to mention their names as I am very proud of these five athletes.

Jonah Chang Rigan: In athletics – Men's Shot Put with 17.66 meter. He is the athlete to watch, and I am very sure one day he will be the athletes that will bring names to Malaysia in the shot-put athletics category. The other one athletic women's javelin, Ng Jing Xuan with a javelin throw of 45.12 meters. This is another one that we should be watching.

In archery, Joey Tan Xing Lei, Women's Individual Recurve 70 meters when she achieved with 325 points. Also, in archery Liew Yu Jie, Men's Individual Recurve 70 meters with 334 points.

And of course, our swimmer, Hii Puong Wei: Swimming – Men's 200 meter Backstroke with a record time of 2 minutes 6.59 second. Actually, I have been watching Hii Puong Wei ever since he was still in primary school, and I know this boy one day will be a national swimmer and sure enough he is, now. For this SUKMA he is only allowed to participate in two events because he is the national athlete. He cannot be participating in many events. They limit into two and he did not fail us. In both events he managed to secure medals.

Furthermore, Sarawak has achieved exceptional results in various sports, exceeding initial targets and delivering historic performances in taekwondo, tenpin bowling, boxing, muay thai and diving. Below are the sports which that we had contributed to our Gold Medals list, taekwondo, 11 golds; swimming and diving, nine golds each; athletics, muay thai, pencak silat, ten pin bowling and petanque, five golds for each one of this category of sports; boxing, four golds; wushu, three golds; squash, sailing, artistic gymnastics, golf and archery, two golds each; karate, judo, fencing, badminton and volleyball (women), one gold each.

Recognition and Incentives for Athletes

In recognition of the exceptional achievements of Sarawak's athletes, the Sarawak Government has announced special incentives for SUKMA Sarawak medallists. A total of RM1.834 million has been awarded as incentives to winning athletes in appreciation of their dedication contribution to the state, which was key to Sarawak's success in the last SUKMA.

This substantial support from the Sarawak Government honours the athletes' achievements and underscores the State's commitment towards sports. This victory not only celebrates Sarawak as an exceptional host but also reinforces its status as a Sports Powerhouse in Malaysia.

After SUKMA Sarawak, a total of 27 athletes from Sarawak have been selected to join the national squad training across multiple sports disciplines, namely:

- (a) in swimming, we have got Jeff Chua Yu Yang and Kelly Teo Yaow.
- (b) In cycling, we have got Afif Darwish and Mohd Danial Hakim
- (c) In taekwondo, we have Fedealis anak Kom
- (d) In women rugby, we have got:
 - (i) Angeline Malika Atong;
 - (ii) Cuthberta anak Entai;
 - (iii) Josie Mavcellina anak Gone;
 - (iv) Vanessa Nyalo David; and
 - (v) Valerie anak Juan.

They are all being absorbed into the national team.

- (e) In squash, we have got Altamis Aqhar Sallam bin Haji A. Suffian
- (f) In cricket, we have got Nur Qaireen Syakira binti Abedul Samad
- (g) In sailing, we have got Muhammad Yassin bin Syahrizan
- (h) In gymnastics, we have got Hanis Firdaus and Joachim Rafael
- (i) In petanque we have got:
 - (i) Dayang Nurulnuhaa Fasihah binti Abang Misbahhuddin;
 - (ii) Sharifah Dania Malyana binti Wan Deros;
 - (iii) Apart from that also Farid Amirul bin Muhamad; we have got
 - (iv) Nur Durratul Sahira binti Yazit; we have got
 - (v) Akhtar Shauqi Aini bin Mohd Dom; we have got
 - (vi) Abdul Harith bin Oris; we have got
 - (vii) Aniq Ashraf bin Mohamad Hafizul; another one is
 - (viii) Alif Zayd bin Zen; and
 - (ix) Ain Aisyah binti Ezlan.

All these have been absorbed in National Squad out of the good performance during the last SUKMA and apart from that, we also have got from:

- (j) Badminton. The first time we have been able to achieve a gold from the women single badminton in SUKMA, Wong Ling Ching. She will also be absorbed; and of course from
- (k) Golf because we won both the men and women single golf through Mirabel Ting Ern Hui and Anson Yeo Boon Yiang. So, both have been absorbed into the National Squad.

So, our contribution to the National Sports arena is tremendous through all these that we have develop through SUKMA. Five divers, when it comes to diving, no other state can beat us. Our development programme has been very very good actually.

- (a) Four divers selected for the World Aquatics Junior Diving Championships. Four of our divers has been selected from 20th November to 2nd December 2024 in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil;
- (b) Five divers are also selected for the 46th SEA Age Group Championships from 5th to 8th December 2024 in Bangkok, Thailand; and
- (c) Three squash players are selected for the British Open from 2nd to 6th January 2025 in Birmingham, United Kingdom.

Actually, one of our squash players they won a gold in SUKMA has also been accepted into one of the British University, fully supported the fees by the university in UK. Their participation in these international championships will offer invaluable experience and exposure, further sharpening their skills and preparation for future competitions.

In preparation for SUKMA 2026, Sarawak is committed to fielding elite teams at national-level events, ensuring its athletes gain valuable exposure to high-level competition. Majlis Sukan Negeri Sarawak (MSNS) has also retained Elite Athlete status for 26% of the current medallists eligible for SUKMA 2026. Though, we do not want to be seen only as *jaguh kampung*. When we are the host, we become champions. When the host move to another state, we are not there to give a challenge. The next SUKMA is in Selangor, we will be there, and we will be a good contender for the championship.

For 2025, Sarawak Sports Corporation (SSC) and Majlis Sukan Negeri Sarawak (MSNS) plans include:

- (a) Organizing sports science conferences to promote evidence-based approaches that enable athletes and active individuals to optimise their training;
- (b) We also want to provide sports science education focused on sports development; and
- (c) Implementing Talent Identification Development programmes for emerging young athletes throughout Sarawak.

And that is also one of the reason why under Projek Rakyat we are building, if I am not mistaken more than 20 mini sports complex all over Sarawak because we want to start building up, nurture the youth to be interested in sports and from the cluster that we built in all those mini sports complex, we will be able to bring them over to the Sarawak Sports Complex down here where there will be time tune to be ready for bigger sport event. We have got a long programme of identifying athletes and making sure that Sarawak will not be short of athletes for our future tournaments.

"Leave No Youth Behind" Initiatives

Tuan Speaker, my ministry has introduced 52 youth development programmes, impacting over 15,000 youth across Sarawak. New initiatives like *Rakan Muzik Orkestra Belia Sarawak* and MYSED Red Ribbon provide inclusive resources, support and opportunities, focusing on education, health, leadership and digital citizenship to empower youth and address inequalities.

Futurizing the Youths

In 2025, my ministry will focus on "*Futurizing the Youths*" by equipping them with essential skills for a rapidly evolving world. The Futurize Youth or AI Initiative will train over 500 youth in Sarawak with artificial intelligence skills, preparing them for careers in technology and supporting the growth of Sarawak's high-tech sector.

Partnership for the Goals

My ministry has formed new partnerships to empower youth as drivers of positive community change, focusing on education, technology and entrepreneurship. Key collaborations include SOSEK-MALINDO, BIMPEAGA, Malaysia Armed Forces, Sarawak Tourism Board and other local organizations. My ministry will continue working with Government agencies, communities and NGOs to implement inclusive activities aligned with national policies.

Leading the Charge Towards a Greener Tomorrow

Tuan Speaker, my ministry is committed to empowering youth in leading green initiatives, focusing on sustainability. Key efforts include:

- (a) Education and Awareness

Partnering with the Economic Planning Unit (EPU) and Higher Learning Institutions to inform youth on renewable energy and conservation, and collaborating with PETRONAS for the "*Beat the Heat*" tree planting campaign during Le Tour De Langkawi, on 5th and 6th October at Miri and Bintulu;

- (b) Sustainable Practices

Promoting the three (3) Rs – Reduce, Reuse, Recycle – at the Sambutan Hari Belia Sarawak 2024 will be held from 4th to 8th December this year, in Mukah and one of it is creating a large art installation from 12,000 bottle caps for the Malaysia Book of Records; and

(c) Innovative Solutions

Encouraging green tech projects like solar panels, cascading dams and micro-algae production during *Jelajah Belia Sarawak*, *Sambutan Hari Belia Sarawak*, MYSED Go University, MYSED Go Rural and MYSED Red Ribbon.

These initiatives aim to involve youth in driving sustainability and creating a greener future.

Jabatan Belia Dan Sukan Negeri Sarawak (JBS)

Tuan Speaker, which is an agency under the Federal, Kementerian Belia Dan Sukan, and where we help a watching brief. This year, JBS has organized 37 programmes engaging 155,298 (One Hundred Fifty-five Thousand Two Hundred and Ninety-Eight) youth across various activities, including workshops, sports and community service projects. Key events included:

- (a) State-level National Youth Day (18th May in Bintulu);
- (b) Semarak Hari Belia Negara (15th May in 45 districts);
- (c) Yellow Ribbon initiative (9th to 12th July at Miri Prison, supporting ex-prisoners' reintegration);
- (d) National Youth Consultation Council (3rd October); and
- (e) Hari Terbuka Keusahawanan Sosial Belia (26th to 27th October in Kuching).

The *Rakan Muda* initiative continued to involve youths in community building activities. This year, the Duke of Edinburgh's Award, also known as *Anugerah Remaja Perdana Rakan Muda*, recognized 144 youth for their achievements at the silver and bronze levels. The participating schools included four schools from Kuching and two each from Samarahan, Miri, Sibul, and Sarikei. These programmes demonstrate a strong dedication to youth engagement and national collaboration.

SABERKAS

Pertubuhan Belia Kebangsaan Bersatu Sarawak (SABERKAS), the largest youth movement in Sarawak play an active role in engaging both the youth and public through a range of impactful programmes. Key initiatives included the implementation of 46 SABERKAS Prihatin programmes and 45 SABERKAS Sports Carnivals, as well as collaborations with government agencies and NGOs. SABERKAS actively participated in the SUKMA 2024 workforce committee, benchmarking visit to Seoul on sports and entrepreneurship, and the International Borneo Conference in Sabah.

SABERKAS also participated in the Sarawak-Peninsula Integration Programme, Rainforest Youth Summit and the Young Entrepreneur Tour Series. Their engagement extended to cultural exchange programmes, including the Reach Out Programme and Peninsula-Sarawak Youth Integration. Furthermore, SABERKAS was also involved in the MADANI Rakyat Sarawakku Sayang programme held last September in Miri. My ministry values its partnership with SABERKAS and its commitment to advance youth leadership agenda.

PEMADAM

From January to October 2024, Persatuan Mencegah Dadah Malaysia (PEMADAM) Sarawak conducted 88 programmes focused on promoting balanced development and preventing drug abuse among various societal groups, including students, parents, and workers.

Sarawak has seen a decrease in positive urine drug test cases among school students, with 35 positive cases reported by Agensi Anti-Dadah Kebangsaan (AADK) in 2024, down from 48 cases in 2023 and 116 in 2022. This decline highlights the successful collaboration between PEMADAM, AADK, the Education Department, District Offices, agencies such as Polis Diraja Malaysia (PDRM) as well as religious body whether they are from UNIFOR or from Jabatan Agama Islam.

PEMADAM also continues to address emerging drug threats through both online and in-person awareness campaigns. Notable initiatives include the Breakoff E-Sports Challenge, which attracted over 1,000 attendees, and the *Hero Anak Sarawak* character-building camp, completed in three series with 140 student participants. The HAWA programme, targeted at women, by providing education on drug abuse prevention and financial empowerment.

PEMADAM, in collaboration with the Sarawak State Education Department, held a *Lan Ngabas* programme at SMK Hajah Laila Taib, Asajaya on 11th to 12th November 2024. The event engaged 70 students and 53 community members, focusing on the importance of parental involvement in preventing school dropouts, drug abuse and social issues, while also providing guidance on academic and career opportunities.

My ministry will continue to collaborate with PDRM, AADK, PEMADAM, SABERKAS, universities and various NGOs to further enhance the ongoing drug prevention campaign, with support from the RM500,000 allocation provided by the State Government.

For the record, actually Sarawak PEMADAM received the largest contribution as compared to all the other states in Malaysia. Every state has got the PEMADAM agencies but Sarawak has received the biggest support from the State Government. And that reflects how serious the Government is towards improving our youths as well as eradicating drug abuse.

SARAWAK YOUTH AND SPORTS DATABASE

In alignment with PCDS 2030 aspiration “*By 2030, Sarawak will be a thriving society driven by data and innovation*”, my ministry is pushing forward to develop a centralized, up-to-date youth and sports database which will enable my ministry to make informed, data-driven decisions and allocate progress across all levels. Developing this database for Sarawak requires extensive research and an inclusive approach to data collection. To ensure the database is comprehensive and accurate, my ministry will work with the Institute for Youth Research Malaysia (IYRES) on the Sarawak Youth Index 2.0 study.

Sarawak is the only third state in Malaysia, there are only three states that engaged with IYRES, to look into this comprehensive research on youths. The other two states are Sabah and Johor, apart from that Sarawak. This data will be integrated with the existing Integrated Games Management System (IGMS) from the Sarawak Sports Corporation (SSC) to create a system that serves the needs of various key stakeholders.

We are also looking into integrating with Sarawak Big Data in time to come. This initiative will provide my ministry with the insights needed to develop effective targeted strategies for youth development in leadership, sports as well as entrepreneurship, and shape policies that positively impact the lives of Sarawak’s youth.

MASS SPORTS COMMUNITY PROGRAMME

Tuan Speaker, the Sarawak X-Tive Programme promotes sports as a healthy culture aiming to engage the community and establish strategic partnerships for events. Through collaborations with government agencies and NGOs, the programme has successfully attracted over 500,000 participants from January to November 2024.

EVENT HIGHLIGHTS FOR 2025

My ministry plans to enhance the Sarawak X-Tive Programmes by engaging in strategic collaborations with stakeholders to expand its impact. A key initiative, Sarawak X-Tive will be held across all divisions of Sarawak to collaborate closely with NGOs and other stakeholders.

To strengthen the regional cooperation and unity, my ministry plans to revive the Borneo Games in 2025, as mentioned, as proposed by the Right Honourable Premier of Sarawak in his speech during the Closing Ceremony of SUKMA Sarawak. However, the dates and venues are to be determined, or the types of sports that are going to be held, will be determined after coordination meetings with our neighbouring states or neighbouring partners or regions.

This competition aims to highlight emerging local sporting events and provide current athletes the chance to measure their performance against peers from other regions. Plans are underway to collaborate with Sabah in organizing the Games, which will feature contingents from Sarawak, Sabah, Labuan, Kalimantan and Brunei Darussalam.

In January 2025, Sarawak will co-host the International Cricket Championship (ICC) Under 19 Women's T20 World Cup in Kuching. This will be the second time Sarawak will be hosting a world event. The first time was the World Junior Football, that was some time in the 90's. This will be the second time. The preliminary round of tournament, running simultaneously at Kuala Lumpur and Johor Bahru, from 18th to 28th January, will feature teams from New Zealand, Nigeria, Samoa and South Africa, showcasing Sarawak's hospitality, culture and passion for sports to a global audience.

The event provides young cricketers a platform to display their talent, with live broadcasts reaching over 200 countries, live broadcast. Six winning teams from the preliminary round will return back to Kuching for the second round, before they qualify for the semifinal and final in Kuala Lumpur.

The event is expected to have significant economic impact, boosting local hospitality, tourism as well as businesses. It will inspire youths interest in cricket and help develop future talent. Additionally, the success will enhance Sarawak's reputation as a key venue for international cricket, paving the way for more global competitions. My ministry looks forward to further collaborations with international cricket leaders to bring more events to Sarawak.

Sports Development Programmes

The successful hosting of SUKMA Sarawak has instilled pride and strengthened the sports culture in the state. Moving forward, Sarawak Sports Corporation (SSC) and Majlis Sukan Negeri Sarawak (MSNS) will continue to advance sports development through initiatives such as offering exposure opportunities, organizing competitions, conducting coaching courses, upgrading facilities and enhancing sports science support.

The success of SUKMA 2024 is expected to yield long-term benefits, improving planning, logistics, infrastructure and readiness for future regional events like the SEA Games and Borneo Games. We are ready to host more national and international sports.

Sports Development Under Jabatan Belia dan Sukan (JBS)

In 2024, JBS organized 27 programmes with 77 activities, including the National Sports Day in Sarikei on October 19th, attracting about 310,000 participants across Sarawak. The Disabled Sports Development Unit (OKU) launched initiatives like Inspire I-Talent and Synergy Inspire to support people with disabilities in competitive sports, offering coaching and competition opportunities. Other activities included the Sports Carnival for the Elderly and the Disabled, Physical Exercise for the Elderly, as well as the OKU Active.

YOUTH ENTREPRENEUR DEVELOPMENT

Tuan Speaker, the Youth Entrepreneur Development is another portfolio that comes under the Ministry of Youth, Sports and Entrepreneur Development. During the past term, significant progress has been made in empowering Sarawakian youths, with notable achievements in sports, entrepreneurship and community development. It is with great enthusiasm that I address you today

regarding a pivotal development in our continued efforts to foster entrepreneurial growth among our youths.

On 13th November 2024, that was the last few days during our DUN Sitting, the Sarawak Youth StartUp (SYstartUP) programme was launched to address skill gaps and funding avenues for emerging entrepreneurs in Sarawak. Targeting youth aged from 18 to 40, the programme offers a structured framework focused on skill enhancement and innovation across four phases. The inaugural cohort, scheduled from 7th to 14th December 2024, will engage about 300 enthusiasts, 300 participants and 45 strategic partners providing resources, mentorship and guidance.

The Sarawak Youth StartUp (SYstartUP) programme begins with an eight-day intensive course, followed by a business startup and internship phase lasting one to six months. Participants will also receive ongoing monitoring and evaluation to support their growth. This initiative demonstrates our commitment to fostering a dynamic entrepreneurial ecosystem in Sarawak and we look forward to its positive impact to our young entrepreneurs. And I hope to see from this little group of 300 we will be able to develop successful entrepreneurs in the years to come.

Furthermore, young entrepreneurs have gained market access by participating in major events such as the Borneo Native Festival, Showcase Usahawan Sarawak, Sarawak Kitchen and Karnival SUKMA XXI Sarawak 2024, among others. We will also be bringing these young entrepreneurs overseas to open their eyes, to see how is being done overseas. These platforms offer valuable opportunities for networking, for brand building as well as sales.

The *Hari Terbuka Keusahawanan Sosial Belia*, held on the 26th and 27th October 2024 at Plaza Merdeka, Kuching, promoted youth social entrepreneurship. Organized in partnership with (JBS) or Jabatan Belia dan Sukan, Sarawak Digital Economy Corporation (SDEC) and the Chamber of Social Entrepreneur Development (CSED), the event provided a platform for networking, knowledge sharing and promoting socially responsible businesses through seminars, workshops and exhibitions. SeHEBAT Ideathon and Impact Pitching events were also introduced to enhance entrepreneurial skills, offering training, pitch refinement and connection with investors.

Additionally, the *Kursus Keusahawanan* or Basic Technopreneur Programme equipped participants with essential digital and entrepreneurial skills. These initiatives, along with the YES programmes and the Sarawak Youth Business Idea Competition (SaYBIC), reflects my ministry's commitment to nurturing young talent.

This year, we have engaged a total of 1,100 participants across these programmes, demonstrating our dedication to empowering the youths. The Sarawak Youth Business Idea Competition initiative is an engagement with IPTA and IPTS students or public higher institution or private higher institution students in Sarawak on entrepreneur development programme. A collaboration programme with Universiti Teknologi Mara, Sarawak Campus.

Empowering youth entrepreneurship in Sarawak requires collaborations with the private sector, investors, banks, business associations and chambers of commerce. This will reduce reliance on government funding and encourage young entrepreneurs to take risks and explore diverse funding options such as venture capital and favourable loans. Business associations will provide networking and mentorship opportunities.

Future efforts will focus on expanding participation in exhibitions to showcase innovations, attract investments and align with Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) to appeal to socially private sectors partners. Strengthening these partnerships and improving access to funding will foster a dynamic entrepreneurial ecosystem, empowering youths and contributing to a resilient and innovative economy.

DEVELOPMENT OF SOCIAL FACILITIES AND SPORTS FACILITIES

I wish to give a quote by Mr. Alex Ferguson, the one who have bring Manchester United a bit too high. A bit too high. But then they are very down now almost to the bottom. This must have been placed by some naughty, they know that I am a supporter of Liverpool. This is a quote from Sir Alex Ferguson, “*There’s a lot of satisfaction that comes from knowing you’re doing your best, and there’s even more that comes when it begins to pay off.*” – a very nice quote from Alex Ferguson but unfortunately not be able to be carried forward through by those that take over after him.

The outstanding achievements of Sarawak athletes in SUKMA Sarawak have highlighted the Sarawak Government’s strong commitment to supporting our athletes in their quest for excellence. Not only did our athletes exceed the initial gold medal target, but they also set new records across various sports, further demonstrating Sarawak’s potential in the sports arena.

In preparation for SUKMA Sarawak, the Sarawak Government has made significant investments in top-tier facilities for training and competition. A key priority has been the upgrading and enhancement of sports venues to ensure that they meet international sports standards and the specific technical requirements of each event.

As part of this effort, a total allocation of RM92.2 million has been approved under the 12th Malaysia Plan and *Projek Rakyat* to upgrade and build new sports facilities. This investment will ensure that the facilities are of the highest standards, creating a smooth and successful experience for athletes, officials and spectators alike.

The SUKMA sports event took place across nine divisions throughout Sarawak, with 26 upgrading works and two new facilities completed. The upgrading works are:

- (a) Stadium Sarawak (RM4.9 million);
- (b) Stadium Negeri (RM880,000 upgrading);
- (c) Pusat Akuatik Pandalela Rinong (RM3.5 million upgrading);
- (d) Arena Lawn Bowl, Petra Jaya (RM3.2 million upgrading);
- (e) Stadium Hoki Negeri Sarawak, Padungan (RM3.8 million);
- (f) Stadium Hoki, Petra Jaya (RM1.2 million);
- (g) Trek BMX, Bukit Siol (RM1.89 million);
- (h) Sarawak Archery Range, Petra Jaya (RM4 million);
- (i) Sarawak Shooting Range, Petra Jaya (RM1.8 million);
- (j) Pusat Skuasy Sarawak (RM350,000);
- (k) Arena Petanque Negeri Sarawak, Santubong (RM1.81 million);
- (l) Stadium Perpaduan, Petra Jaya (RM1.8 million);
- (m) Sarawak Lawn Tennis Arena (SLTA), Kuching (RM1 million);
- (n) Stadium MBKS for the basketball (RM1.2 million);
- (o) Stadium Tertutup Samarahan where futsal was held (RM1 million); and now fully aircond;
- (p) Stadium Tertutup, Kompleks Sukan Sri Aman (RM1.85 million);
- (q) Stadium Tun Zaidi, Sibu (RM4.6 million);
- (r) Indoor Stadium Sibu (RM1.9 million);
- (s) Stadium Mukah (RM2.36 million);
- (t) Stadium Bintulu (RM5 million);
- (u) Stadium Muhibbah Bintulu (RM4 million);
- (v) Petronas Games Village, Miri (RM500,000);
- (w) Stadium Miri (RM5 million);
- (x) Stadium Bandaraya Miri (RM4.5 million);
- (y) Floodlights for Stadium Sarawak and Celebration Square, Petra Jaya (RM5.7 million); and
- (z) The LED Scoreboard Systems at Stadium Sarawak and Celebration Square (RM2.3 million).

And the two new projects are:

- (a) The Wushu Training and Competition Centre, Petra Jaya which involves (RM14.878 million); which was completed just before SUKMA; and
- (b) The Sarawak Cricket and Rugby Ground, Petra Jaya (RM7.3 million) which presently is incurring some more upgrading in preparation for the world under 19th Cricket which involve RM7.3 million upgrading.

At the same time, my ministry is also focusing on developing new facilities and enhancing the existing one to ensure the continuation of athlete development in the rural and urban areas. Among the sports and social facilities in the pipeline which have been approved under *Projek Rakyat*, amounting to RM186.6 million, which are listed among others:

- (a) Bau Sports Arena;
- (b) Kompleks Sukan Sadong Jaya;
- (c) Upgrading of Dewan Suarah Mesra Mukah;
- (d) Upgrading of Stadium Terbuka Song;
- (e) Upgrading of Apau Koyan Sports Complex, Sungai Asap;
- (f) Stadium Belaga;
- (g) Sebauh Mini Sports Complex;
- (h) Stadium Mini Balai Ringin;
- (i) Padang Bola Sepak, Skim Pembesaran Kampung Sambir, Samarahan;
- (j) Upgrading of Bau Sports Complex;
- (k) Mini Stadium Tatau;
- (l) Recreational Centre for Rural Growth Centre (RGC) Development, Long Lama, Telang Usan;
- (m) Upgrading of Dewan Suarah Baram;
- (n) Subis Mini Stadium; and
- (o) Meradong Swimming Pool.

The Sarawak Government is equally committed to supporting our athletes by providing them with world-class training and sports facilities that reflect their dedication and hard work. My ministry is dedicated to ensuring that these facilities are well-maintained and continuously being improved. We understand that many of these facilities, built over time, require ongoing maintenance to remain operational and must meet precise technical standards to be ready for specific events, such as *Acara Tonggak Negeri*, social events, musical concerts, private events, theatres and many more.

To ensure that our facilities remain in top condition, we work with qualified suppliers and contractors who possess the expertise to carry out necessary maintenance and repairs. Through this continued commitment, we aim to provide our athletes with the best possible environment to train and compete at the highest level. My ministry is committed to forming a dedicated committee comprising athletes, sports experts and consultants with specialized expertise aligned to the needs of our sports facilities. This Committee will undertake research to identify key areas for development, including sports that show strong potential for growth, and will work to enhance facilities that support these priority sports. This collaborative approach will ensure our facilities align with both current and future needs, enabling athletes to achieve their full potential.

By focusing on these identified sports, we aim to provide an environment where athletes can focus on their training and achieve excellence. ensuring that retiring athletes have capable successors, thus sustaining Sarawak's legacy of sport excellence.

ISSUES RAISED BY THE AHLI-AHLI YANG BERHORMAT ON MATTERS RELATED TO MINISTRY OF YOUTH, SPORTS AND ENTREPRENEUR DEVELOPMENT SARAWAK

Isu yang dibawa oleh Ahli-ahli Yang Berhormat berkenaan dengan perkara-perkara yang bersangkutan paut dengan Kementerian Belia, Sukan dan juga Pembangunan Usahawan.

I would like to thank Ahli-ahli Yang Berhormat bagi Tamin, Repok, Bukit Semuja, Engkilili, Pelagus, Pujut, Krian, Kalaka, Satok, Meradong, Tellian, Daro, Balingian, Tanjong Batu, Meluan, Simunjan, Serembu dan Stakan for their issues, proposals and suggestions raised in relations to youth, sports and young entrepreneur programmes, and sports facilities throughout Sarawak.

My ministry will continue to formulate and implement various youth, sports and entrepreneur development programmes and activities in Sarawak to produce healthy, creative and skilful youths as well as high performance athletes. To all these YB's, you can always come up with your own programme and partner with the ministry to develop the youth in your respective constituencies.

CONCLUSION

In conclusion, Tuan Speaker, saya ingin mengambil kesempatan di sini untuk mengucapkan setinggi-tinggi terima kasih kepada Tuan Speaker, kepada Yang Berhormat Timbalan Speaker, dan semua warga Dewan Undangan Negeri Sarawak di atas kecemerlangan dan komitmen yang tinggi bagi melancarkan persidangan ini.

Tidak dilupakan juga kepada Yang Berhormat Setiausaha Kerajaan Sarawak, Setiausaha Persekutuan Sarawak dan semua jentera-jentera Perkhidmatan Awam Sarawak dan juga Persekutuan. Setinggi-tinggi penghargaan kepada Timbalan-timbalan Menteri dan semua kakitangan Kementerian saya yang telah bertungkus-lumus menyediakan input dan juga informasi serta sokongan padu.

Rasanya, tidak terlambat untuk saya mengucapkan Selamat Hari Deepavali juga. Tadi tidak disebut kerana saya tahu dalam sukan ada juga yang dipegang oleh Silambam dan sebagainya. Mereka menyambut Deepavali. Selamat Hari Deepavali *even though it has already past* kepada yang beragama Hindu, dan juga kepada semua ataupun kepada yang Sikh, Selamat Divali.

Dan kepada semua yang menyambut Hari Krismas yang akan datang, Hari Natal, *Merry Christmas to all of you* dan kepada semua kita, yang akan menyambut tahun yang baru yang mendatang, *Happy New Year 2025* dengan harapan tahun 2025 akan membawa lebih keceriaan kepada negeri kita, Insya-Allah. Dengan ini, saya menutup Ucapan Penggulungan bagi Kementerian Belia, Sukan dan Pembangunan Usahawan Sarawak dengan dua rangkap pantun:

*Tenaga Kerja Berkemahiran Tinggi;
Memacu Inovasi Pertumbuhan Ekonomi;
Di Bawah Pimpinan YAB Datuk Patinggi;
Sarawak Terus Disegani dan Dikagumi.*

*Jangan Dipertikai, Jangan di Hairan;
Kejuaraan Jelas Lagi Ketara;
Pemimpin Berwawasan, Belia Berkemahiran;
Sarawak Maju Makmur, Sarawak Sejahtera.*

Dengan itu, saya bagi pihak Kementerian, memberi sokongan penuh kepada pucuk pimpinan Yang Amat Berhormat Premier dan menyokong penuh pembentangan bajet yang telah diberi dan ingin mengucapkan setinggi-tinggi terima kasih di atas peruntukan yang telah diberi. Sungguh lumayan sekali kepada Kementerian Belia dan Sukan. Sekian, Wabillahi Taufiq Walhidayah, Wassalamualaikum Warahmatullahi Wabarakatuh.

Timbalan Speaker: Waalaikumsalam, Terima kasih Yang Berhormat Dato Sri Menteri. I think if you'd allow me, I would like to say that the Chair also acknowledges your achievements, the pride and honour. A victory that you have brought through your Ministry for Sarawak especially in the SUKMA. And for your long profound speeches for both ministries, it is a marathon actually. So, I think you deserve a round of applause. (Applause).

Ahli-ahli Yang Berhormat, we shall now break for lunch and resume at 2.30 this afternoon. Thank you.

(Mesyuarat ditangguhkan pada pukul 1.16 tengah hari)

(Mesyuarat dimulakan pada pukul 2.34 petang)

[Timbalan Speaker mempengerusikan Mesyuarat]

Timbalan Speaker: Ahli-ahli Yang Berhormat, kita sambung lagi perbahasan. Dengan hormatnya saya menjemput Yang Berhormat Dato Sri Dr. Stephen Rundi anak Utom, Menteri Industri Makanan, Komoditi dan Pembangunan Wilayah untuk menyampaikan ucapan penggulungan.

Menteri Industri Makanan, Komoditi dan Pembangunan Wilayah; dan Ahli Dewan Undangan Negeri N.69 Kemena (YB Dato Sri Dr Stephen Rundi anak Utom): Terima kasih, Tuan Speaker. Selamat petang, Salam sejahtera, Salam Sarawaku Sayang, Salam maju makmur. Sebelum saya memulakan *my winding up*, saya ingin mengalu-alukan kehadiran penyokong-penyokong saya daripada Kemena, *welcome*. Dan juga kepada ketua masyarakat, temenggong dan penghulu, terima kasih banyak-banyaklah kerana dapat datang ke Dewan Undangan Negeri pada persidangan kali ini. Sebelum itu, saya ingin juga memaklumkan, pada keesokan harinya, bersempena dengan 100 tahun Jabatan Pertanian Sarawak, kita akan mengadakan Kempen Makan Buah-Buahan Tempatan. There will be lorry full of durian, truck full of watermelon, and the rest I don't have to mention. Please come by at 12 o'clock tomorrow, we share the fruits. I want to actually promote local fruits. Jangan makan epal *ajak-ajak*. Terima kasih, Tuan Speaker.

Tuan Speaker, first and foremost, I would like to congratulate Tuan Yang Terutama Yang di-Pertua Negeri Sarawak, Tun Pehin Sri Dr. Haji Wan Junaidi bin Tuanku Jaafar for his appointment as the Chancellor of Universiti Malaysia Sarawak (UNIMAS). My heartiest congratulations to the Right Honourable Premier of Sarawak, Datuk Patinggi Tan Sri (Dr) Abang Haji Abdul Rahman Zohari bin Tun Datuk Abang Haji Openg for being bestowed the Bintang Darjah Setia Negara Brunei Yang Amat Bahagia Darjah Pertama (P.S.N.B.) which carries the title "*Dato Seri Setia*" during the 78th Birthday Celebration of His Majesty the Sultan of Brunei Darussalam on the 15th July 2024, and also the Darjah Tertinggi Negeri Sabah, Sri Panglima Darjah Kinabalu (S.P.D.K.) which carries the title "*Datuk Seri Panglima*" during the 71st birthday celebration of Tuan Yang Terutama Yang di-Pertua Negeri Sabah on the 5th October 2024.

I would like to take this opportunity to extend my warmest congratulations to those who were honoured with the State Awards in conjunction of the 78th birthday celebration of our Tuan Yang Terutama Yang di-Pertua Negeri Sarawak on the 12th October 2024.

- (a) Her Most Gracious Toh Puan Datuk Patinggi Fauziah binti Mohd. Sanusi being conferred with Darjah Datuk Patinggi Bintang Kenyalang; and also
- (b) The Honourable Dato' Sri Huang Tiong Sii, Assemblyman for Repok on being conferred with Panglima Gemilang Bintang Kenyalang (P.G.B.K.) which carries the title "*Datuk*"; and also
- (c) The Honourable Dato Fazzrudin bin Haji Abdul Rahman, Assemblyman for Tupong and Honourable Dato Mohd Chee bin Kadir, Assemblyman for Kabong for being conferred with Panglima Setia Bintang Sarawak (P.S.B.S.).

On a separate note, I wish to express my deepest condolences to the family of the late Mr. Donald Lawan, former Assemblyman for Bukit Begunan on his passing on the 12th June 2024.

Tuan Speaker, now I would like to join my Cabinet colleagues and Members of this esteemed august House, in congratulating the Right Honourable Premier of Sarawak, Datuk Patinggi Tan Sri (Dr) Abang Haji Abdul Rahman Zohari bin Tun Datuk Abang Haji Openg for presenting the 2025

State Budget which carries the theme of “*Together Building a Prosperous Future*” for Sarawak. The 2025 State Budget is again a testimony from the Sarawak Government to stimulate economic growth and improving the livelihood of our *rakyat*.

I am very grateful to Sarawak Government for allocating RM181 million in 2025 budget to strengthen agriculture development. This amount is an increase of RM33 million or 22.3% compared to the 2024 approved allocation. My ministry is committed to advancing the agricultural transformation agenda by leveraging on digital technology, fostering greater private sector investment, and establishing complete supply chain in ensuring food security and positioning Sarawak as a net food exporter by the year 2030. I strongly believe that, with the key development strategies and initiatives mentioned by the Right Honourable Premier of Sarawak, agriculture sector will be transformed and become the main contributor to Sarawak GDP.

PERFORMANCE OF AGRICULTURE SECTOR

Tuan Speaker, agriculture sector is the fourth largest contributor to Sarawak gross domestic product (GDP) after services, manufacturing, mining and quarrying sectors. In 2023, the agriculture sector contributed 10.6% or RM15 billion to Sarawak GDP. Sarawak is the second largest contributor to the agriculture sector in Malaysia, accounting for 14.9%. The crops subsector dominates Sarawak’s agriculture sector, contributing 82.1% mainly is on oil palm, followed by forestry and logging subsector 9.2%, livestock 4.8%, and fisheries 3.9%. The performance of this sector showed an increase of 2.0% in 2023 compared to 1.8% in the previous year. This growth was driven by the crops and forestry and logging subsectors. The crops subsector grew by 2.9% while the forestry and logging subsector grew by 2.2% compared to the year 2022.

IMPROVING FOOD SECURITY

Tuan Speaker, my ministry will focus on the three major food items namely, rice, beef and animal feed.

Increase Self-Sufficiency Level (SSL) for Rice

In the year 2023, the total rice production in Sarawak is 32% of our rice requirement. To fulfil our rice requirement, Sarawak has to import around about 153,000 metric tonnes of rice value at RM401 million. For the first nine months of 2024, Sarawak has imported 152,560 metric tonnes of rice with a value of RM446 million as compared to 99,005 metric tonnes value at RM245 million for the same period in 2023. As of September 2024, the total rice production in Sarawak is estimated at 83,700 metric tonnes with estimated production of 84,500 metric tonnes by the end of this year.

In order to avoid the further declining of rice SSL, Sarawak Government is committed to modernize paddy cultivation by developing infrastructure up to tertiary level in new and existing paddy areas. Hence, I would like to express my sincere gratitude to the Right Honourable Premier of Sarawak for approving a scheme value of RM1 billion for Sarawak Paddy Infrastructure Development Programme.

Under this programme, a total area of approximately 14,000 hectares has been identified in Kuching, Serian, Sri Aman, Betong, Sarikei, Kapit, Mukah, Bintulu, Miri and Limbang Divisions. These areas will be developed up to tertiary infrastructure that enables the full potential of farm mechanization and implementation for five planting seasons within two years. These projects will be implemented in phases where 18 projects in Kuching, Serian, Sri Aman; and Tanjung Sebekut in Betong, Sarikei, Mukah, Kapit, Bintulu, Miri, and Limbang Divisions will commence in 2025 concurrently. Meanwhile, the remaining 22 projects will commence in the year 2026.

Apart from the RM1 billion Sarawak Paddy Infrastructure Development Programme, an allocation of RM46 million has been approved under *Project Rakyat* to upgrade the drainage and irrigation infrastructure in the Mid-Sadong 1 Scheme in Lubok Punggor. The project will be awarded

this month with a contract period of ten 10 months. This project will be launched on 29th of this month by the Right Honourable Premier of Sarawak.

Concurrently, a new project at Selepong in Sri Aman Division has been approved with an allocation of RM40 million. The appointment of consultant for this project by DID is currently in progress.

Besides, under the 12th Malaysia Plan Agriculture Infrastructure Development Programme, a sum of RM3 million has been approved for two projects namely:

- (a) Proposed Rehabilitation and Upgrading of Drainage and Irrigation Infrastructure at Tanjung Purun Irrigation Scheme; and
- (b) Cadangan Skim Saliran Terkawal Kg. Mujat, Bahagian Serian, Sarawak.

Several other rehabilitation and development projects that are under the purview of Betong Division Development Agency (BDDA) and Greater Kuching Coordinated Development Agency (GKCDA) are also being monitored by my ministry. In order to support the paddy industry development, the Department of Irrigation and Drainage Sarawak (DID) has established a dedicated section - Paddy Infrastructure Development Section (*Seksyen Pembangunan Infrastruktur Padi*) that is the newly established section which is responsible for planning, executing, and managing paddy infrastructure development programme. The decision was done on 2nd September 2024.

Currently, the section is manned by only three engineers and five assistant engineers. Definitely it will not be sufficient. So to ensure smooth implementation of projects in accordance to with the given quality and time, the current capacity needs to be strengthened. So therefore, I would like to propose an additional of 10 engineers and 10 assistant engineers to be recruited and attached to this section. This section will be equipped with latest infrastructure know-how and to ensure the success and sustainability of paddy industry in Sarawak.

Paddy Seed Development Programme

As we work towards enhancing rice production in Sarawak, one of the most crucial components of successful paddy cultivation is the use of quality seed. Therefore, my ministry has taken proactive steps to promote the planting of certified high quality paddy seeds as a means of increasing paddy yields.

To support over 14,000 hectares of commercial paddy cultivation for five seasons within two years, the estimated requirement for quality paddy seeds is approximately 5,000 metric tonnes annually. Currently, 140 hectares of paddy seed farm that is under the supervision of Department of Agriculture Sarawak has been established at Stumbin, Sri Aman for the production of inbred paddy seed. To meet the paddy seed demand, my ministry will collaborate with government agencies and private companies to drive the paddy seed industry and is set to commence in the year 2025.

100 hectares of land at Lubok Teranggas, Samarahan is also being developed as the first Hybrid Seed Farm in Sarawak by a private company. My ministry is committed to facilitate the participation of private sectors in the production of both inbred and hybrid paddy seed to ensure adequate supply of high-quality paddy seed. This include providing guidelines to ensure that the paddy seed producers comply with the Standard Operating Procedure that has been set by the Federal and Sarawak Government. These paddy seed production must comply with the requirements as stipulated in the *Skim Pengesahan Benih Padi* (SPBP) in order to guarantee its quality and purity to improve the overall rice production.

Conserving Sarawak Traditional Paddy

Tuan Speaker, Sarawak is blessed with rich diversity of aromatic rice varieties. Among the most notable varieties are Bario, Biris, Bajong, Adan and Wai. Most paddy farmers continue to plant

these varieties because of its resistance in abiotic and biotic stress, excellent eating quality and good market price. My ministry will give full support to the initiative of Universiti Putra Malaysia (UPM) through the project AgriHub@Gedong to maintain the purity of Biris rice at Lubok Punggor, Samarahan.

Acknowledging the needs to conserve and preserve the genetic diversity of Sarawak traditional paddy seeds, my ministry is upgrading the Paddy Seed Genebank at Semongok Agriculture Research Centre which is expected to be completed in early December this year.

Hybrid Rice

Tuan Speaker, cultivation of hybrid rice is one of the strategies to increase rice production in Sarawak due to its potential yield performance of 15% to 25% higher compared to the inbred variety. Hence, my ministry will continue to support and to facilitate any interested private sectors that are keen to involve and invest in the cultivation of hybrid variety in Sarawak.

Private companies that are interested in hybrid paddy cultivation must comply with procedures and regulations set by the Department of Agriculture Sarawak (DOA). This include proper importation procedures to ensure that hybrid varieties are planted only at designated areas to prevent cross-pollination between hybrid and traditional rice varieties. Currently, there are three private sectors that are interested to venture into hybrid paddy cultivation. The three areas involved are Lubok Punggor, Lubok Teranggan in Samarahan, Spaoh in Betong and Meradong in Sarikei.

It was reported that, the yield performance of the first hybrid paddy trial in Meradong was more than 11 metric tonne per hectare compare to the traditional one, 1 to 1.5 metric tonne per hectare. The second trial that was commenced in September 2024 is expected to be harvested in December this year. The growth and the yield of the cultivation of hybrid varieties will be closely monitored by the Department of Agriculture Sarawak and the performance can only be verified after three consecutive seasons of trial plantings.

Strategic Collaboration

My ministry acknowledges the importance of the cooperation among the paddy and rice industry players and the Government. I would like to put on record the commendable efforts by Universiti Putra Malaysia (UPM) in leading the AgriHub at Gedong project at Lubok Punggor, Samarahan. The main objective of this project is to increase production and productivity of rice using good agricultural practices, smart farming technology and sustainable agriculture. And to strengthen this collaboration, a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between Universiti Putra Malaysia (UPM) and Department of Agriculture Sarawak has been signed to pave ways to explore new opportunities in the research and development in paddy and rice industry in Sarawak.

Skim Takaful Tanaman Padi (STTP)

A newly introduced Skim Takaful Tanaman Padi (STTP) by the Federal Government through Bank Pertanian Malaysia Berhad (Agrobank) is aimed at protecting paddy farmers from unforeseen losses caused by natural disasters. My ministry encourages all paddy farmers in Sarawak to take advantage of this scheme by firstly registering an account with Agrobank. As of October 2024, about 1,900 paddy farmers across Sarawak had registered under this scheme.

Mechanisation and Automation

Tuan Speaker, Sarawak needs to transform its paddy production into a commercially viable and sustainable sector through farm mechanization and reducing the reliance on manual labour. In the year 2024, a total of 112 units of various small farm machineries have been distributed directly to paddy farmers in Sri Aman, Kapit and Limbang. Meanwhile, the more advance machineries will be maintained and manage by the Persatuan Peladang Kawasan (PPKs).

New Development Model for Paddy Industry

My ministry remains committed to explore various development models that are well-suited for our local rice cultivation. One of the potential development models is the turnkey concept which incorporate Design, Build, Operate, and Transfer (DBOT). DBOT model is a project delivery framework commonly used in public private partnerships (PPP) for large-scale infrastructure projects. This model leverages and on private sector expertise and financial capacity or financing capacity. While ensuring long term public ownership and service delivery.

Establishment of Sarawak Paddy and Rice Board

Bengkel Pemantapan Pengeluaran Padi dan Beras di Sarawak, the workshop we have done currently has recommended the establishment Paddy and Rice Task Force and to be chaired by Yang Berhormat Datuk Amar State Secretary of Sarawak. This Task Force is responsible to develop and formulate strategic policies and directions that are related to paddy and rice industry in Sarawak, with its main goal to form Sarawak Paddy and Rice Board (SPRB). A coordination meeting between Kementerian Pertanian dan Keterjaminan Makanan (KPKM); and the members of the Paddy and Rice Task Force will be held to discuss on the way forward for paddy and rice industry in Sarawak.

Increase Self-Sufficiency Level (SSL) for Beef

Tuan Speaker, presently, Self-Sufficiency Level (SSL) for beef is just male 15% with current population of cattle and buffalo in Sarawak around about 23,000 heads which is on track toward achieving our target of 25% SSL for beef by the year 2030. Among the key initiatives taken by my Ministry are:

Developing Local Breeder Stock

The cattle breeding programme in Karabungan Livestock Station is progressing well and has successfully increased the initial Bali Cattle from 200 heads in 2022 to 312 heads as of October this year. In addition, the Department of Veterinary Services (DVS) Sarawak has upgraded its farmers training facilities to Veterinary Training Centre (VTC) for staff and smallholder livestock farmers hands-on training. A total of 105 livestock farmers have undergone the training. As for Maragang Livestock Station, a private company is collaborating with DVS Sarawak for Buffalo breeding and Buffalo milk-based products including Mozzarella cheese.

The Temudok Livestock Station that has made significant improvement in its livestock production efforts. To date, the operator has successfully reared 110 heads of goats producing 50 litre per day of goat milk and 477 heads of sheep in the station. Since the year 2023, the Temudok livestock Station produced and sold 9,000 litres of goat milk, 155 heads of sheep and 160 heads of cattle with a total revenue of RM1.5 million.

In addition, Sarawak Land Consolidation and Rehabilitation Authority (SALCRA) is establishing three cattle breeding and fattening centres. The first breeding and fattening centre is in Mayang, Serian, is in operation while two more in Stenggang, Bau and Rimbas, Betong are in the tendering stage and expected to be completed by the year 2026. These centres aim to improve the calving rates to achieve SALCRA total annual target of 1,000 calves.

The first Artificial Insemination breeding which was conducted in May 2024 at Mayang, Serian have achieved 12% calving rate. In order to strengthen the capacity, SALCRA has established a dedicated unit headed by veterinarian to oversee and manage the livestock development programme especially with regards to Artificial Insemination and Embryo Transfer. SALCRA will also continue to collaborate with technical expert from Department of Veterinary Services Sarawak and other private sectors.

Strengthening the Cattle Oil Palm Integration

Tuan Speaker, Strengthening the Cattle Oil Palm Integration. It used to be call Pawah but still will continue by the programme. A total of 5,808 heads of cattle were distributed to oil palm plantation companies and agencies such as SPAD, Ta Ann, Rimbunan Hijau, Sarawak Oil Palm Berhad (SOPB), DAFA, FELCRA and SALCRA as well and also 27 smallholders since 2021. Currently, approximately 6,700 heads of cattle are being reared in oil palm plantations, with about 3,700 of them located in SALCRA estates in the Kuching, Serian, Sri Aman and Betong divisions. As of October 2024, Sarawak has recorded the sale of 2,723 farm born cattle for local market, valued at RM19.0 million.

Strategic Collaboration with Sarawak Economic Development Corporation (SEDC)

My recent visit to Carmor Plains and Rosewood Station in Australia, July this year will further strengthened our collaboration with SEDC. This acquisition of Carmor Plains Station in 2019 was indeed a strategic move, serving as a relocation hub for Rosewood Station. This expansion has not only increased cattle population by an additional 10,000 heads, bringing Rosewood Station total capacity to 30,000 heads, but also alleviates pressure on Rosewood Station during extreme weather. With the acquisition of Carmor Plain, Rosewood Station has significantly lowered daily operational costs and reduced its reliance on third party fattening station.

Promoting Downstream Activities

SEDC through PPES Ternak Sdn. Bhd. has commenced its corned beef manufacturing operation in second quarter this year with a current production capacity of 5,000 cans per day to cater for local and export markets. This product is a Sarawak local made can-food and was awarded as the best Halal brand by Brand Laurette. The specialty about Sarabif corned beef is that, it is manufactured with 90% grass fed beef from Australia which offers a seamless taste to the beef lovers.

Increase Number of Veterinarian in Sarawak

Tuan Speaker, currently, there are 96 Veterinarians working in both public and private sectors in Sarawak. It is only 15 actually in the government. We need at least 1,000 qualified Veterinarian (including Animal Scientist and Para Veterinarian) by 2030. To address the critical shortage of Veterinarian in Sarawak, the establishment of School of Veterinary Medicine in Semenggok was proposed. My ministry is collaborating with Ministry of Education, Innovation and Talent Development Sarawak (MEITD) in making the establishment of school of Veterinary Medicine a reality.

A few engagement between my ministry and MEITD together with UPM has been held to discuss and finalize the management model for the proposed School of Veterinary Medicine. The Senate of UPM has endorsed and proposed management model drafted by the task force. With the establishment of this School of Veterinary Medicine, it will strengthen the Veterinary Services in Sarawak to eradicate zoonotic disease and to accelerate the development of RM3.0 billion worth livestock industry in Sarawak. My ministry, through Department of Veterinary Services (DVS) Sarawak had presented their restructuring process for additional 566 posts to Sarawak Organizational Development Committee (SODC) which was agreed in principle on the 21st August 2024.

Proposed Sarawak Livestock Industry Board

The establishment of Sarawak Livestock Industry Board (SLIB) is very important to spearhead the livestock industry in Sarawak. This will enable DVS Sarawak to focus on its core functions and improve their efficiency in veterinary services including enforcement, disease control and eradication as well as food safety.

Animal Feed Initiative

Tuan Speaker, the importation of maize and feeding stuff for animals in Sarawak has been on a rising trend, with the value of imports increased from RM815.0 million in 2019 to RM1.12 billion in 2023, a growth of 37%. So to reduce dependency on imported maize and feeding stuff for animals, SALCRA is currently establishing its own dedicated source of raw materials by utilizing palm biomass and by-products. Even though palm oil products could not totally replace the requirements for imported material such as maize and soya bean meals, this initiative shall ensure a consistent and cheaper supply of raw material for animal feed production. And to pursue this initiative, SALCRA is setting up Kernel Crushing Plant (KCP), Black Soldier Fly Meal production facility, Empty Fruit Bunch Pellet and Napier planting. That will be comparison of the animal feed.

As of October 2024, the construction of Kernel Crushing Plant is progressing ahead of schedule and expected to be completed in December this year and expected to begin operation in early 2025. The plant is projected to produce 13,500 metric tonnes of palm kernel cake annually, which will be used as a main ingredient in animal feed production. SALCRA has signed a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) with the Malaysian Palm Oil Board (MPOB) to develop an oil palm beef cattle feed formulation. This collaboration leverages on MPOB's technology, expertise and experiences to create high-quality feed pellet formulation for beef cattle.

On another initiative, SALCRA is working on setting-up the facility to produce Black Soldier Fly (BSF) meal by using palm oil decanter cake as the culture medium. BSF larvae is highly efficient at breaking down organic waste and an excellent protein source for animal feed. SALCRA is currently finalising the selection of production technology for the construction of Black Soldier Fly meal production facilities which is expected to begin in October, first quarter of next year.

In addition, SALCRA is establishing a 200 hectares Napier grass farm for ruminant feeds, with 12 hectares already planted in Serian and Bau. And 78 hectares expansion site in Roban, Saratok has been identified and SALCRA is collaborating with the local farmers to grow Napier grass to meet the requirements. Currently, eight active Napier farmers in Serian are supplying Napier grass to SALCRA's Cattle Breeding and Fattening Centre in Mayang. Upon completion of the above-mentioned facilities, SALCRA will establish its own formulated animal feed mill with the annual production capacity of 100,000 metric tonnes in Saratok. This initiative is expected to reduce the importation of maize and feeding stuff for animal by approximately 30,000 metric tonnes which is equivalent to RM84.0 million. So the total amount to carry out this animal feed initiative is estimated at RM200 million.

To enhance the animal feed sector, Sarawak Economic Development Corporation (SEDC) through its subsidiary is currently conducting, testing and commissioning of its cattle feed factory located in Sibul. It is anticipated that feed production will commence in the first quarter of 2025 with a production capacity of 12 metric tonnes per day. Besides, i-CATS University College also collaborating with Koperasi Agromakanan Kampung Kaba, Saratok to produce animal feed from local biomass. In relation to this, eight acres of land have been identified for planting of napier that will start on January 2025. A total sum of RM500,000.00 has been approved for this project.

Improving Food Trade Balance

Tuan Speaker, in the first nine months of 2024 alone, Sarawak imported RM5.76 billion worth of food products, an increase from RM5.05 billion during the same period in 2023. To curb the deficit, my ministry is actively pursuing the industrialisation of the agriculture sector focusing on emerging agriculture sub-sectors and high-value agricultural products. The following are the key strategies to spur the industry:

To Scale-up Agriculture Production

Tuan Speaker, my ministry has been promoting the development of commercial and modern agriculture to achieve economies of scale and produce export-quality farm products that meet international market standards. Among the key initiatives to drive the commercialisation of high value food crops include:

Agroparks

A total of nine agropark projects have been approved, covering a gross area of approximately 5,300 hectares and as of 30th September 2024, Sg. Baji Agropark has completed 99% of its infrastructure works and agriculture components. In addition to the farming infrastructure, the installation of Internet of Thing (IoT) is on-going and expected to be completed by the first quarter of next year. To date, the Land Custody Development Authority (LCDA) has identified an anchor company to manage the agriculture project. The anchor company is expected to start the operation in the first quarter of 2025.

Meanwhile, the remaining agropark projects are still waiting for approval. And therefore, I seek kind cooperation from relevant authorities to assist and expedite the siting approval that will cause us a further delay if not being expedited.

Sarawak Agrotechnology Park (SARTECH)

With regards to the development of Sarawak Agrotechnology Park (SARTECH), I would like to inform this august House that the State Planning Authority (SPA) has approved two siting applications namely one in Semenggok in Kuching Division and the other one is Tarat in Serian Division.

For SARTECH Tarat, this project will be tendered by the end of this month and expected to kick-off with the construction in first quarter of next year and the work scope will include construction of production plot with water supply and electricity connection, upgrading internal roads and drainage system. The construction is expected to be completed in the first quarter of 2027.

Currently, a joint venture company between Pertubuhan Peladang Negeri Sarawak (PPNS) and local private company has undertaken a project to produce shallot and other high value crops using close systems. To date, the joint venture company is installing five units of rain shelter shed and expected to complete by end of this month, while the production activity is expected to commence in December 2024.

Meanwhile, the SARTECH Semenggok, land clearing work is expected to be tendered by end of this year and concurrently the Department of Agriculture (DOA) Sarawak is in the process of recruiting new participants for the commercial farming plots. In order to strengthen our capacity in NRED and overall agro sector industry, my ministry proposed to utilise 10 hectares of land within SARTEX Semenggok to establish and integrated facilities known as SARTECH COMPLEX (WISMA SARTECH). This complex will be the command and reference centre for Sarawak Agro Industry in future and the complex will house all the departments and agencies under my ministry purview including School of Veterinary Medicine and an Animal Hospital. And this complex will definitely be game changer for the agro industry in future for Sarawak.

Precision Farming Parks

For the Precision Farming Parks in Sungai Sebieu, Bintulu and Kabuloh, Miri, both projects have been tendered and the development work is expected to commence in first quarter 2025.

Aquaculture Park/ Aquaculture Industrial Zone (AIZ)

Aquaculture remains to be an important sub-sector in Sarawak economy. The sub-sector has contributed a total of 7,773 metric tonne of fish and shrimp combined valued at RM128.56 million in 2023. This is an increase of 15% in value compared to the previous year. Samariang Batu Aquaculture Park, covering 123 hectares, aims to be a leading centre for research and commercial productions of brackish water fish and prawn fry. The park's first phase involves the upgrading of existing fish hatchery facilities to produce fry of species such as Tilapia, Seabass and Vannamei shrimp. The hatchery is expected to produce 4.0 million fry which is double the existing production. The project is expected to generate a minimum revenue of RM2.0 million annually through the sales of fry.

In addition, Sarawak Government through Land Custody and Development Authority (LCDA) has undertaken an aquaculture project at Loba Stoh, Rambungan covering about 263 hectares. Currently, there are four companies operating on the 70 hectares for shrimp farming. As of 31st August this year, the shrimp production was about 122 metric tonnes worth RM1.7 million.

The Sarawak Government has approved an allocation of RM52.0 million to provide infrastructure in order to transform the area as an integrated Aquaculture Park to be able to attract private sector investment for commercial aquaculture. Currently, LCDA is in the process of finalizing the masterplan, with development and upgrading works expected to commence on 2nd Quarter of 2025.

PPNS also ventured into shrimp farming through joint venture initiative in Rambungan AIZ. As of October 2024, a total of 39 metric tonnes of shrimp have been harvested with the value of RM663,000 thus far production. The JV company is expanding the production area covering approximately 134 hectare of water surface and targeted to be completed by 2027. Once fully operational, it is expected to produce 800 metric tonnes of shrimp with total value of RM15.0 million annually. This project will embark on sustainable shrimp farming by adopting the latest green technology for wastewater treatment.

Apart from aquaculture park, Sarawak Government continues to develop the existing Aquaculture Industrial Zone (AIZ). Currently, PPNS as one of the main players in Batang Ai AIZ has produced about 1.8 million 3-inch Red Tilapia Fish Fry and 132 metric tonnes of matured Red Tilapia Fish annually. PPNS also acts as an anchor company assisting the smallholder to market their produce. PPNS also plans to diversify its farming activities into other fish species, with 1st Pilot Project to produce Black Tilapia Fish involving downstream production for export market.

Developing of Indigenous Fish

Tuan Speaker, to date, a rain shelter structure equipped with aquaculture tanks system is under construction in Kemena Tapah Research & Development Centre at Sungai Sebieu, Bintulu and expected to be completed at the end of this month. Another rain shelter structure equipped with aquaculture tanks system is also expected to begin construction by December 2024 in Kapit Indigenous Fish Hatchery Centre in Song, Kapit for the Empurau Belt Initiative. In 2025, the Federal Government has approved RM500,000 to continue the development of these centres.

In addition, the Department of Agriculture (DOA) Sarawak also collaborates with Sarawak Energy Berhad (SEB) to implement the Wildlife Monitoring and Rescue Operation (WiMoR) at the Baleh Hydroelectric Power dam in Kapit Division. In this collaboration, the Department of Agriculture is given the task to lead the WiMoR Aquatic Component in the biodiversity conservation including indigenous fish up of the upper Baleh river.

Pig Farming Area (PFA)

Since 2017, Sarawak has exported over 380,000 porkers worth RM400 million to Singapore. Currently, PFA Pasir Puteh, Simunjan is accredited by World Organization of Animal Health (WOAH) as African Swine Fever Disease Free Compartmentalization and is exporting on average of 2,500 porkers weekly basis to Singapore. Recently, my ministry through the Department of Veterinary Services (DVS) Sarawak has appointed a local based anchor company for the establishment of a modern pig farm in Selangau, Sibü. The groundbreaking ceremony was held on 6th November 2024, with development work expected to commence in December 2024. In addition, my ministry is vigorously promoting the development of Modern Pig Farm in other areas with strict biosecurity measure. A private company has started to develop a MPF in Ensengei, Serian with an area of 500 acres. The total capacity for this MPF is 80,000 Standing Pig Population (SPP) which 750 heads of breeder was imported from USA in January this year.

First Phase of building constructions are in progress and concurrently operating with first production of porkers by April 2025. By 2030, Sarawak would be able to produce 860,000 porkers annually worth RM1.5 billion and export value of RM723.0 million as PFA Pasir Puteh, Simunjan is expected to reach its full capacity, which is 250,000 SPP, MPF Ensengei is 80,000 SPP and PFA Selangau is expected to rear 125,000 SPP. With an expected total number of 500,000 SPP, by the year 2030, will enable Sarawak to be self-sufficient and a regional exporter of pork products. As Sarawak is FMD free without vaccination, my ministry will continue to support and facilitate the private sector investment in swine industry. In view of the increased interest by big industry players in pig farming, my ministry is exploring new potential area with identify area in Tatau District, Bintulu for Pig Farming Area (PFA).

Edible Bird's Nest

Sarawak's edible bird's nest industry is another significant contributor to Sarawak export earnings. As of September 2024, Sarawak exported 13,427 kilogrammes of Raw Cleaned Edible Bird nest (RCEBN) valued at RM154.4 million. As for now up to date, a total of 2,184 premises including Swiftlet House, Processing plants, cave nest collection centres, service providers, traders, and exporters have been installed with Radio Frequency Identification Device for traceability. In addition, 118 Swiftlet Houses has been accredited with myGap and 10 EBN (Edible Bird Nest) processing premises with Veterinary Health Mark (VHM) and Good Veterinary Hygiene Practices (GvHP) in order to penetrate global market. Due to ever growing interest among the rural communities in swiftlet farming, my ministry will continue to engage with Sarawak Forestry Corporation (SFC) to enable those farming on NCR Land can be licensed.

DEVELOPMENT OF MARINE FISHERIES

Tuan Speaker, I would now like to update on the development of marine fisheries. To date, Sarawak catch fisheries landing alone is approximately 83,700 metric tonnes, equivalent to RM498.0 million.

Deep Sea Fishing

To date, there are 24 units of C2 vessels operating in Sarawak, contributing to the landing catch of 8,100 metric tonnes with an estimated value of RM27.3 million for this year. However, as compared to 2023, there are 35 units of C2 vessels operated in Sarawak which contributing to the landing catch of 9,000 metric tonnes with an estimated value of RM28.5 million. The reduction in the number of C2 vessels due to the high cost of petrol and diesel so as well as difficulty in getting the vessel's crew. SEDC through its subsidiary SEDC Fisheries Sdn. Bhd. has launched its project in the first quarter of 2024. To date, two units of C vessels are in operation and five units of SEDC's C2 vessels are undergoing maintenance and refurbishment and expected to operate by December 2024.

SEDC has signed a Letter of Intent with Universiti Malaysia Terengganu on 7th November 2024. They will also sign a Memorandum of Understanding with an Indonesian base company, PT. Borneo Lautan Jaya in their endeavour to transform the Tanjung Manis Deep-Sea fishing hub into Blue Fishery Port by year 2027. SEDC Fisheries also plans to advance its efforts in downstream processing in the first quarter of 2025 to ensure all catches are fully utilised. With this initiative and expansion, we create 80 job opportunities especially for the local and fisherman.

Conserving Marine Resources

There are five initiatives that are being carried out for the purpose of marine resources conservation in 2024. One, the deployment of 130 units artificial reefs with the cost of RM2.7 million at the water off – Santubong, Kabong, Daro, Bintulu, Balingian and Oya. Two, stakeholder consultations through the Ecological Approach to Fishery Management (EAFM) which will be implemented with the involvement of 130 local participants in Sematan, Lawas and Mukah.

Number three, the establishment of refugia or sanctuary for Sarawak. Research are being undertaken under the Twelve Malaysian Plan (12MP) and it will be finalized soon in support of this programme. At present, Sarawak has the first sanctuary for tiger prawn (*Penaeus monodon*) at Kuala Baram with the size of 852 km square for the purpose of ensuring the wild brood stock population remain healthy and sustainably exploited. The refugia will involve regulations such as close fishing seasons, protection of spawning and nursery grounds; and community engagements. Number four, inter-agencies-joint operation and monitoring. The Sarawak Government through the Department of Marine Fisheries, in collaboration with the Malaysian Maritime Enforcement Agency (APMM) and the Marine Police, is conducting joint operation to monitor and enforce fisheries regulation.

In addition, a regular surveillance is carried out by the Police Air Wing Unit to monitor Sarawak's waters. As of September 2024, there are 19 cases of illegal fishing in the water of Sarawak. And touching on the monitoring, the Department of Marine Fisheries, Sarawak had necessitated the instalment of electronic Navigation (eNav) and Vessel Monitoring System (VMS) on fishing vessels as early as next year 2025, for monitoring real-time intrusion of the fishing vessels as against their respective zones at sea. So far, 20 fishing vessels in Sarawak have been installed with QR codes, to enable ease of identification and enforcement in the high seas. Number five, the application for a new vessel licensing for Zone A, B and C that has been frozen since 1982 to control the over exploitation of the marine resources in that zone.

Safety Beacons

In pursuing the Sarawak cares policy, amenities for the benefits of our fishermen in Sarawak are undertaken with the delivery of Fish Aggregating Devices (FADs) recently carried out at Kuala Sibuti, Miri with the cost of RM83,648. Meanwhile, eight new lights and safety beacons had been built and installed at Lundu, Sadong Jaya, Sebuyau, Kabong, Daro, Tanjung Manis and Mukah with the total cost of RM261,000.

Establishment of Department of Fisheries Sarawak

Tuan Speaker, I would like to inform this august House that the ministry is in the final stages of preparing a proposal to establish the Department of Fisheries Sarawak, which is expected to be presented to the Sarawak Cabinet by the first quarter of 2025. This proposed department will lead the advancement of fisheries development in Sarawak while prioritising the conservation of fisheries resources to ensure their sustainability for future generations.

At the same time, we are in the midst of formulating proposed amendments to the State Fisheries Ordinance, 2003 (Chapter 54) to provide for a modern, comprehensive approach to the management of Sarawak's fisheries and its natural resources. This will include harmonization of relevant laws to ensure sustainable management of fisheries in Sarawak.

Development of Promoted Crops

Tuan Speaker, I would like to update on the development of high-value food crops as we have mentioned in number of sittings before this. Our focus on:

Coconut

Acknowledging the worldwide strong demand for coconut products, my ministry will continue to expand the coconut production area from Asajaya to Sebuyau as the Coconut Belt focusing on high-value coconut products for the export market.

As part of this effort, a sum of RM35.0 million has been approved to establish an Agro-Research Lab and to develop 110 hectares of land for the planting of high-yielding coconut varieties. The initial phase of the coconut planting project covering an area of 3.4 hectares in Kpg. Arus, Sebangau was officiated on 2nd November 2024. Meanwhile, for establishment of the Agro-Research Lab is currently undergoing planning stage.

In addition, my ministry through the Department of Agriculture has allocated a total of RM8.09 million for the implementation of the Coconut Industry Development Programme which involves the participation of 365 smallholders covering an area of 503 hectares, mainly in Samarahan and Betong Divisions.

Pineapple

Our second focus crop is on pineapple. Pineapples have been identified as one of the potential crops to be developed commercially. The pineapple industry in Sarawak has achieved a significant milestone, with a total planted area of 2,450 hectares of pineapple cultivation. This extensive cultivation effort has resulted in a production volume of 30,500 metric tonnes annually, with a value of RM74.16 million.

My ministry has set an ambitious target to achieve 20,000 hectares of pineapple area by 2030, reflecting our commitment to positioning Sarawak as a leading pineapple producer in Malaysia. In 2025, the government through the Malaysian Pineapple Industry Board (MPIB) has allocated a significant budget of RM23.0 million, marking a substantial increase from RM12.0 million provided in this year's budget. This nearly doubled allocation demonstrates a strong commitment to accelerate the growth of the pineapple industry in Sarawak. Notably, the 2025 budget surpasses the allocation of RM21.0 million for whole Peninsular Malaysia, to be divided by nine States in Peninsular Malaysia. This reveals the strategic importance of Sarawak as a key area for pineapple industry development.

In Sarawak, there are several main varieties of pineapples that are being promoted and planted. Morris variety accounts for 52.7% of total area planted. This variety has unique flavour and adapts very well to local environment. MD2, the farmers' watt variety which accounts for 38.3% of the total planted areas is renowned for its sweetness and export potential. This variety has become the preferred choice for both domestic and international markets. The remaining 8% comprises other varieties such as N36, Pada and new variety (SG1).

I would now like to inform this august House about the performance of our new variety, Sarawak Gold 1 (SG1). To date, a total of 75 hectares of SG1 variety have been planted mainly in Kuching, Samarahan and Miri. This exceeded the 30 hectares target for 2024. For 2025, the Government through the Malaysian Pineapple Industry Board (MPIB) is targeting to develop an additional 100 hectares.

The pineapple industry in Sarawak faces several challenges, where one of the issues is insufficient supply of planting materials. To ensure the sufficient supply of planting materials, Pertubuhan Peladang Negeri Sarawak (PPNS) has formed a partnership with a local company through joint venture to produce quality SG1 pineapple suckers. To date, a total of 40 hectares have

been developed and produced about 4.0 million suckers for the market and expected to produce 15.0 million suckers in 2025. Malaysian Pineapple Industry Board (MPIB) has also implemented *Program Pembekal Benih Berdaftar* for small farmers to ensure the availability of high-quality pineapple planting materials. This initiative has not only improved the overall supply of planting material but also has created a lucrative income for farmers. One of the inspiring success stories is that one of the participants from Rumah Bala, Sg Stubah in Sarikei had benefited immensely. He has supplied 252,000 pineapple suckers to MPIB, earning RM75,600.00 in 2024; within a year.

Durian

Tuan Speaker, my ministry has identified durian as one of the main focus crops to be developed in Sarawak. In 2024, Sarawak imported about 199 metric tonnes of durian at an estimated value of RM7.0 million. Sarawak currently has about 11,800 hectares of land planted with durian with an accumulated production of approximately 27,800 metric tonnes. Just for the information of this august House and the Members who are interested to plant a durian, make sure you plant it properly. It grows but it never bears fruits. Just come and consult the Department of Agriculture. No problem. In 2024, my ministry through the Department of Agriculture Sarawak has implemented the durian planting project involving a total hectareage of 148 hectares at the cost of RM741,000 and this has benefitted 148 participants throughout Sarawak.

Banana

For the first nine months in 2024, Sarawak has exported about RM856,000 of banana-based products, compared to about RM437,000 within the same period last year. The increase of about 96% in the export value shows that there is a prospect for development of the banana industry in Sarawak. In 2023, Sarawak has a total area of 2,500 hectares cultivated with banana, with a total production of about 14,000 metric tonnes. To increase the production of banana, my ministry through the Department of Agriculture Sarawak has assisted 60 farmers covering a total area of 60 hectares with an allocation of RM720,000 in 2024.

Coffee

Next one is coffee. Coffee consumption in Malaysia has grown significantly, increasing from 38,100 metric tonnes in 2020 to 48,000 metric tonnes in 2021, while local production meets only 3% of domestic demand. In Sarawak, coffee production reached 67 metric tonnes from 740 hectares in 2023, but the region still imports about 10,200 metric tonnes valued at RM141.6 million to meet the demand; the domestic demand.

In order to increase the production of coffee in Sarawak, my ministry has introduced the Coffee Belt, covering Bau and Padawan areas for commercial coffee cultivation. In 2024, my ministry through the Department of Agriculture Sarawak has implemented a total of 137 hectares of coffee planting benefitting 168 farmers with a total cost of RM2.56 million.

In addition, the Coffee and Climate Change in Southeast Asia Workshop has been jointly organised by the Greater Kuching Coordinated Development Agency (GKCDA), University of Malaya (UM), University of Chiang Mai Thailand and an international company, with the objective of exploring the intersection of coffee cultivation and climate change with a specific focus on Sarawak. This workshop was attended by 60 participants including seven international speakers and this workshop also served as a platform to promote coffee cultivation to the local community in Sarawak.

Dabai

Next will be dabai. My ministry is committed to commercialising high-value indigenous food crops such as dabai. To boost the production of dabai, my ministry through the Department of Agriculture Sarawak has designated Kanowit District as well as Kapit Division as the Dabai Belt,

whereby a total of RM1.32 million has been allocated to rehabilitate the existing dabai trees within the areas, involving the participation of more than 200 smallholders.

Currently, the mapping work using drone within the central region is in progress and is expected to be completed within this month. To expand this Dabai-Belt programme, the preliminary finding of Song Ngemah Development Masterplan Study has recommended dabai industry to be developed through a comprehensive approach that involves various aspects including research, cultivation, processing and marketing.

Local Fresh Farm Produce

Tuan Speaker, for the information of this august House, my ministry through the Department of Agriculture Sarawak has conducted a market survey on 7th November 2024 at various wet markets across all districts in Sarawak. The survey involved a total of 754 respondents. From the survey, it is estimated that the production of the local farm produces could reach at least 8,000 metric tonnes with an estimated value of RM63.0 million for 2024, which is not been accounted for an our official trade statistic.

Optimise Land Use For Food Production

The Federal Government has introduced a new programme called, *Mengoptimumkan Penggunaan Tanah Dengan Kerjasama Kerajaan Negeri Di Bawah Kementerian Pertanian Dan Keterjaminan Makanan (KPKM)* with the aim to collaborate with all State Governments to develop unuse land to enhance the production of agrofood. Under this programme, three projects were approved with total allocation of RM6.3 million.

- (a) RM4.0 million for Pineapple Planting Project at Kampung Sungai Mata, Samarahan which benefiting 75 participants with 75 hectares of land;
- (b) RM1.5 million for New Coffee Planting Project at Belaga District also involve 72 participants for 36 hectares of land; and
- (c) RM800,000 for Upgrading Buffalo Fencing Infrastructure Project at Lawas District benefiting 50 participants for 2,000 hectares of land.

A cooperation note between KPKM and my ministry was signed during the Malaysia Agriculture, Horticulture and Agro-Tourism (MAHA) Show 2024 on 13th September 2024 to indicate our commitment to improve the agrofood production to meet both local and export market.

AGRO-BASED INDUSTRY

Trade Promotion and Conference

Tuan Speaker, in year 2024, my ministry through Department of Agriculture has carried out a total of 10 entrepreneurs agrobased product promotion and conference involving 46 entrepreneurs from various divisions in Sarawak, with total sales of RM700,000.00.

Agro-based Industry Development Programme

This programme has benefited a total of 221 entrepreneurs with a total sales volume of RM7.6 million since its implementation in 2021. In 2024, a total of RM450,000 has been allocated to this programme and has benefited 65 entrepreneurs as at third quarter of this year. The sales volume of this current years is RM1.9 million. With regards to Entrepreneur Development Programme, 83 of its entrepreneurs has made a gross sale of RM974,000 at the third quarter of this year. This programme emphasizes on guidance and training aimed at improving their technical skills in fields of processing, entrepreneurship and business management.

Waste To Wealth

My project, I meant SPAD project. Tuan Speaker, apart from the oil-palm based animal feed initiative, my ministry will continue to encourage the adoption of circular economy concept towards ensuring sustainability development in agriculture. I wish to inform that SALCRA is actively embarking on Waste to Wealth Initiative which aligns well with Post COVID-19 Development Strategy 2030 (PCDS 2030) in ensuring environmental sustainability.

One of the key initiatives under this programme involves converting empty fruit bunches (EFB) into fibre mats known as eco-mats. These biodegradable eco-mats serve multiple purposes including mulching, acting as organic fertilizer, controlling soil erosion, retaining soil moisture and managing weeds. The eco-mat plant in Serian Palm Oil Mill has been operational since 2023 and has a daily production capacity of 2,000 pieces.

SALCRA's eco-mats are now available in the market with the price of RM4 per piece, *sila beli, ya*. Additionally, SALCRA has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) on 10th June 2024 with private sector to establish a collaborative framework for producing bio-hydrogen using the Steam Biomethane Reforming (SBMR) Process. This collaboration aims to generate sustainable and cost-effective bio-hydrogen for commercial use.

Furthermore, SALCRA is currently in the process of setting up the Solid Removal and Oil Recovery System (SRORS) under a Build, Operate, and Transfer (BOT) model. The system is designed to separate solid waste and to recover residual oil from palm oil mill effluent (POME) generated during the milling process, which would otherwise be discharged as waste. Another initiative of waste to wealth, the Malaysian Pineapple Industry Board (MPIB) in collaboration with i-CATS University College to conduct research on utilizing pineapple waste for animal feed, fibre and fertilizer. This research collaboration will commence in 2025 on 18 acres of land at Tambirat, Samarahan.

AGROFOOD SECTOR ENABLERS

Enhancing Distribution and Marketing Network

Tuan Speaker, my ministry has entrusted Pertubuhan Peladang Negeri Sarawak (PPNS) to perform the role as business and marketing arm as well as to organise and coordinate the activities between farming community and the market. Towards this, I am glad to inform this august House that the new Pertubuhan Peladang Negeri Sarawak (PPNS) complex was completed and officiated by the Right Honourable Premier of Sarawak on 25th September 2024. This newly built PPNS complex will be a game changer for local farmers, offering improved facilities to help them to tap into more profitable markets and to protect them from unscrupulous middlemen.

I would also like to thank the Right Honourable Premier of Sarawak for approving an allocation of RM17.0 million to expand the facilities at the complex. The expansion work comprises of warehouse, cold room celebration square and also expected to commence in 2025 and to be completed in 2026.

To further expand market access for agriculture produces, PPNS and Area Farmer Organisation (PPK) have established 22 Peladang eShop in various locations and as of October 2024, the Peladang eShop has recorded a total sale of more than RM1.0 million. In addition, PPNS is also actively involve in commercial agriculture ventures. To date, PPNS has established eight joint ventures, namely:

- (a) Production of tilapia fingerlings and fish in Batang Ai, Sri Aman;
- (b) Shrimp farming in Rambungan, Kuching;
- (c) Cultivation of Sarawak Gold 1 (SG1) Pineapple in Tukai, Miri;
- (d) Buffalo breeding and cheese production in Maragang, Lawas;

- (e) Cultivation of shallot and other high value vegetables in Tarat, in Serian;
- (f) Manufacturing compact fertiliser in Tanjung Kidurong, Bintulu and;
- (g) Operating Pasar Borong in Samarahan as well as CPPC in Limbang and Lawas.

And number six, is not in my text here. In addition, my ministry has also established agriculture processing and marketing facilities to ensure the quality of farmers' produces are effectively and efficiently marketed. To date, five of those facilities have been completed namely, Pasar Borong Samarahan; CPPC Tarat, Serian; CPPC Layar, Betong; CPPC Limbang, CPPC Lawas and four other facilities that have been approved for construction, namely, CPPC Lachau, Sri Aman; CPPC Sebangon, Samarahan; CPPC Long Lama, Miri; and Agrofood Terminal Kapit are in planning stage.

Meanwhile, the construction of regional Agrofood Terminal at Bebuling, Spaoh and Sg. Baji, Sarikei are ongoing and expected to be completed in the first quarter of 2025 and these regional agrifood terminals will enhance marketing efficiency and providing a centralised location for collection, processing, and wholesaling of agricultural produce.

EXPO AND TRADE PROMOTION

Sarawak Agrofest 2024

In the year 2024 Sarawak Agrofest (SAF) was held at Bintulu Old Airport for 11 days from 12th to 22nd July with the theme "*Enhancing Agro Sector and Empowering Community*". This year's edition of SAF was special as it coincides with the 2024 Sarawak Day and Department of Agriculture 100 years celebration.

A total of 185 exhibitors from Government agencies, corporates and agropreneurs participated in SAF Sarawak Agrofest 2024. The event has successfully attracted about half million visitors from all over Sarawak and generated a sales of more than RM5 million, almost double the sales the year before.

With due to the overwhelming response and feedback from the public during the recent Sarawak Agrofest 2024, many proposed Bintulu to become a permanent venue for future Sarawak Agrofest. I declare my interest.

Malaysia Agriculture, Horticulture & Agrotourism Show (MAHA)

Malaysia Agriculture, Horticulture & Agrotourism Show or in short MAHA; my ministry, in collaboration with the Ministry of Tourism, Creative Industry and Performing Arts Sarawak (MTCP) and other Sarawak agencies, has participated in the Malaysia Agriculture, Horticulture & Agrotourism Show (MAHA) in 2024. The Sarawak Pavilion, recognized as one of the most exciting state pavilions had successfully attracted about 150,000 visitors. 21 of our participating entrepreneurs achieved a total sales of more than RM600,000.

Development of Farm Roads

Recognising the importance of farm roads development, the government through the Department of Agriculture Sarawak has allocated a total of RM45.83 million for the implementation of 158 farm road projects throughout Sarawak. This development covers a total of 158.4 km of farm roads.

In addition, Sarawak Land Development Board (SLDB) has implemented 43 farm road projects with a total length 97.5 kilometre at a total cost of RM18.4 million under AFF Jaya Tani. These projects benefited 75 farming communities. In the year 2024, Department of Irrigation and Drainage Sarawak (DID) has received an allocation of RM46.0 million under MARRIS program to implement 257 farm road and maintenance work projects in drainage and irrigation schemes throughout the State. Currently, 131 projects has been completed, 120 projects are in construction stage, and two

projects are under planning stage with the total expenditure of RM41.0 million. I know this palm road is very close to all the YB's; heart and soul we will make sure that we deliver.

DID Sarawak has also received an allocation of RM7.73 million from Ministry of Plantation and Commodities (MPIC) Malaysia for implementation of 19 projects under the program Jalan Ladang Pekebun Kecil (JLPK). Presently, two projects have completed and 17 ongoing projects with a total expenditure of RM5.72 million. There are three areas, three areas for you to look into, one is of course MPIC, KKDW and of course our MFICORD for you to be able to connect and find out as far as farm road is concerned.

Drainage and Irrigation Infrastructure in Food Basket Area

Food Basket Development Concept was introduced under 11th Malaysia Plan that deals with the development of agriculture infrastructure in the central region of Sarawak covering Betong, Sarikei and Mukah Division.

A total of RM153.0 million has been allocated to the Department of Irrigation and Drainage Sarawak or (DID) to implement 11 infrastructure projects in this Food Basket Area under *Projek Rakyat* Fund. As of September 2024, 6 projects have been completed while another two projects are under construction stage and three projects are expected to be called tender by end of this year.

Under *Projek Rakyat*, a sum of RM44.0 million has been allocated to DID Sarawak to implement four projects. One of the projects will commence next month and tender for the other three projects will be called in the first quarter of 2025. As of September 2024, RM3.0 million has been spent for both *Projek Rakyat* and Food Basket programmes. While for year 2025, an allocation of RM22.3 million is required for the implementation of all the projects.

Regional Development Projects

Regional Development Projects, my ministry through the Department of Irrigation and Drainage Sarawak (DID) has been allocated a ceiling of RM840.0 million to implement 18 major projects and 410 minor projects under the Integrated Regional Samarahan Development Agency (IRSDA). This includes coastal bund and drainage system, river improvement works, flood mitigation riverbank erosion protection. As of September 2024, a total of 332 projects have been completed while the remaining projects are in various stages of implementation with expenditure of RM84.3 million in 2024.

Under the Sri Aman Development Agency (SADA), DID has also being approved a ceiling of RM136.25 million to implement four new drainage and irrigation projects and one rehabilitation of existing agriculture scheme. Currently, all these projects are at final design stage of tender are expected to be called in first quarter of year 2025. The total expenditure for the program as per September 2024 is RM1.7 million. Apart from that, under Betong Division Development Agency (BDDA), DID has also being approved a ceiling of RM92 million to develop nine new drainage and irrigation development areas. Currently, all these projects are under planning stage and tenders are expected to be called in the fourth quarter of 2025. An allocation of RM13 million is also approved for implementation of one upgrading farm road project which is under planning stage.

Under the Rajang Delta Development Agency (RADDA), there are seven projects with a ceiling of RM150.0 million being approved to DID to implement two rehabilitation of existing agriculture scheme and five road projects. Currently, all these projects are under planning stage with the expenditure of RM3.0 million in 2024. Another RM91.8 million also being approved to DID for the implementation of 10 new projects under Greater Kuching Coordinated Development Agency (GKCDA), which consists of five new road projects and; five new drainage and irrigation infrastructure projects. All these projects are still under planning stage.

Meanwhile, a total of RM165.0 million has been approved to my Ministry to establish three new agriculture areas under the Development Agency Program and Projects. Currently, all these projects are at planning stage which is undertaken by DID as implementing agency. Under the 12th Malaysia Plan Rolling Plan 4 (RP4) for 2024, the Ministry of Agriculture and Food Security (KPKM) Malaysia has approved two projects with the total ceiling of RM14 million. Both projects are still in planning stage by DID Sarawak.

Agropreneur Capacity Building

Tuan Speaker, I would like to update on the agriculture extension services which comprises of Agriculture Community Outreach Programme in short (AgriCOP), Farmers' Training and Education. In 2024, a total of 15 locations have been selected for the implementation of the AgriCOP programmes involving more than 2,200 participants. My ministry through the Department of Agriculture Sarawak is committed to continue implementing the AgriCOP Programme to train the local farmers.

My ministry has also conducted 152 farmers training courses at Agriculture Training Centres (ATC) involving more than 5,200 participants from all over Sarawak. Compared to 2023, 127 farmers training courses have been conducted with the participation of 4,325 farmers and these training courses are designed to equip farmers with enhanced skills and practical knowledge.

To encourage the involvement of young people in the agricultural sector, the Government has implemented *Program Agropreneur Muda* (PAM) which consist of training and agriculture input under the Federal Government's allocation. In year 2024, a sum of RM345,554 has been allocated to conduct 40 Technical Courses and Training and this program has benefited a total of 985 young agropreneurs in Sarawak. Meanwhile, 41 participants have received with a total of value of assistance amounting to RM900,000. Sarawak Agriculture Institute (IPS) is offering *Sijil Pertanian* and *Sijil Kemahiran Malaysia* (SKM) for school leavers. In the year 2024, a total of 96 students are expected to complete their studies and since 2021, the IPS has successfully produced 391 graduates to fulfil the labour market demand for agriculture sector.

Tuan Speaker, my ministry through Department of Veterinary Services (DVS) Sarawak is collaborating with Universiti Putra Malaysia (UPM) and Centre for Technology Excellence Sarawak (CENTEXS) to conduct a Buffalo Farming and Management Course in Maragang Livestock Station, Lawas. This programme is expected to start by April 2025. In addition, my ministry also implemented five training programmes:

- (a) Program Latihan Pembangunan Modal Insan Luar Bandar;
- (b) Sustainable Modern Agriculture through Rural Technopreneurship Programme (SMART);
- (c) Smart Farming Programme;
- (d) School Smart Farming Programme (For Rural School); and
- (e) Program Latihan ICT dan Digital Luar Bandar.

These programmes aimed to speed up the adoption of ICT and to expose participants to the concept of smart farming among rural communities. To date, 25 series of programmes have been conducted throughout Sarawak involving 719 participants.

Sarawak Agro Fund (SAF)

Tuan Speaker, the Sarawak Land Development Board (SLDB) is entrusted to manage the Sarawak Agro Fund (SAF) with an allocation of RM150.0 million since 2019. And as October 2024, SAF has provided financial support to 62 agropreneurs, with total approved funding amounting to RM113.46 million. And this funding allocation consists of RM15.50 million in grants and RM97.96 million in loans. The supported agropreneurs are involved in essential agricultural sub-sectors, such as upstream activities, downstream processing, and supply chain development. Notably, four SAF recipients have successfully exported their products to West Malaysia, Singapore, Brunei, Europe,

China and Taiwan. The export products are such as Sarawak indigenous rice, red tilapia, Sarawak pepper and Gula Apong. As for now, 17 new applications have been received and currently undergoing appraisal, with a total value of RM38.0 million. In view of overwhelming response, my ministry requires additional allocation to support our agrofood industry.

BIOSECURITY AND DISEASE ERADICATION PROGRAMME

Foot and Mouth Disease (FMD)

Tuan Speaker, Sarawak is still free from Foot and Mouth Disease (FMD) due to the effective efforts by DVS Sarawak to prevent the spread of disease from Kalimantan. Sarawak and Sabah are recognised as a Foot and Mouth Disease Free Zone by the World Organisation for Animal Health (WOAH) since 2004 which enables Sarawak to export live pigs to Singapore. DVSS carries out a comprehensive surveillance which includes collection of samples for FMD testing and clinical surveillance covering all the 12 Divisions in Sarawak and all samples been tested negative for FMD.

Apart from surveillance, DVS Sarawak also conducts various stakeholder engagement and awareness campaigns related to FMD throughout Sarawak with relevant departments, agencies, livestock farmers, importers, exporters and stakeholders. A stakeholder engagement on FMD impact and contingency plan was held in May 2024 involving farmers, Royal Malaysian Customs Department, Malaysian Armed Forces, Malaysia Immigration Department and Malaysian General Operation Force. Subsequently, a tabletop simulation exercise on FMD was carried out in Serian involving all officers from the 12 Divisions, the Laboratory and Headquarters in June 2024 with expert evaluators support from Department of Veterinary Services Malaysia.

African Swine Fever (ASF)

My ministry through the Department of Veterinary Services Sarawak has successfully eradicated African Swine Fever Disease (ASF) that devastated the swine industry in Sarawak. With the effective control measures taken by DVS, no more new cases detected. I hope DVS will continue their due diligence to enforce the enforcement and monitoring to prevent future outbreak.

Update on Rabies

Tuan Speaker, Sarawak continue to carry out the various programmes such as Rabies in Borneo (RIB) Conference held in October this year. More than 300 participants from foreign countries delegates including Australia, Brunei Darussalam, Kalimantan and Sabah with an objective to eradicate rabies in Borneo Island in 2030. Since the rabies outbreak was declared in 2017, there have been 75 human deaths reported among 82 rabies cases, including seven fatalities this year.

As of 7th November 2024, 114 out of 822 animal samples tested positive for rabies, with cases identified in Kuching (74) cases, Serian (6) cases, Sri Aman (4), Samarahan (8), Kapit (4), Mukah (4) and Bintulu (14). Just for the information of the Member of this august House, in fact rabies is, death is preventable so follow the procedure SOP which is given by DVSM, and also care so they will be able to safe our people from rabies death.

In response to the high number of rabies-positive dogs in Kuching, the State Disaster Management Committee (SDMC) has initiated an Integrated Rabies Operation in the city, focusing on areas with the highest incidence of human rabies cases. The operation aims to conduct house-to-house checks for compliance with dog licensing laws, rabies vaccinations and the targeted removal of stray dogs. Agencies involved include Sarawak State Health Department, the Veterinary Department of Sarawak, the Royal Malaysia Police, the Sarawak Security and Enforcement Unit; local councils, along with relevant non-governmental organizations.

As of October 2024, a total number of 13,757 dogs were vaccinated. DVS will continue to carry out mass vaccinations all over Sarawak as well as various awareness programmes. The

establishment of Veterinary Mobile Team (VMT) will accelerate the vaccination coverage to at least 50,000 dogs yearly and we would like Sarawak Government to approve the additional 134 posts that was requested by this establishment. We would like to appeal to the Members in this august House and other relevant agencies especially local council to give full support in combating this deadly disease.

Establishment of Sarawak Quarantine and Inspection Services (SAQIS)

My ministry is taking significant steps to enhance its biosecurity measures to prevent the spread of foreign pest and disease into Sarawak. I am pleased to report that my ministry is currently in the final stages of preparing the necessary paperwork for the establishment of SAQIS that is Sarawak Quarantine and Inspection Services along with the draft ordinance that will underpin its operations. Our goal is to secure approval for this department next year, and we hope that the ordinance can be debated in this august House during the same period.

IMPROVING LIVELIHOOD OF RURAL COMMUNITIES

Tuan Speaker, to enhance the well-being of our rural communities, Sarawak Government is dedicated to implementing programs focused on sustainable agriculture. To spur the social-economic development in the rural areas, my ministry implemented various programmes and projects such as:

Rural Economic Programme and Projects

My ministry has been entrusted by the Ministry of Rural and Regional Development Malaysia (KKDW) to coordinate the implementation of KKDW's various programmes and projects in Sarawak. For the year 2024, the allocations approved are:

- (a) *Program Perumahan Rakyat Termiskin (PPRT)* which was renamed as *Program Perumahan Rakyat Sejahtera (PPRS)* effective 1st October 2024 with a total sum of RM25.2 million involving 796 units.
- (b) As of 2024, four *Projek Bersepadu Pembangunan Ekonomi Kampung (PROSPEK)* have been approved for Sarawak with the total allocations of RM33.0 million. These projects are in Matu, Lawas, Samarahan and Betong which are now in various stages of implementation.

Rural Road and Infrastructure Projects

Under the 12th Malaysian Plan, the Ministry of Rural and Regional Development Malaysia (KKDW) has approved of RM1.77 billion to DID Sarawak to implement 19 projects under Program Jalan Luar Bandar (JALB) inclusive of five projects under Rolling Plan 4 for 2024 in which DID Sarawak has received an allocation of RM31.48 million and as of 31st October 2024, the total expenditure is RM29.77 million has been spent.

Currently, out of 19 projects approved under the 12th Malaysian Plan, three projects has been completed, one project is under construction and is expected to be completed by March 2027 and 15 projects are at design and planning stage respectively; of which three projects are expected to be tendered by 4th quarter 2024, six projects by the 1st quarter of 2025 and four projects by 2nd quarter of 2025 and two projects by 4th quarter of 2025.

KKDW also has approved an allocation of RM22.24 million under the 12th Malaysian Plan to implement five projects under *Program Jambatan Luar Bandar (JMLB)*, comprises one project approved under Rolling Plan 4 for 2024 with allocation of RM9 million. A total of RM456,000 is allocated to DID Sarawak in the year 2024 and currently, five projects are at the design and planning stage; of which one project expected to be tendered by 4th quarter of 2024 and three projects by 1st quarter of 2025 and one more project by the 3rd quarter of 2025.

Tuan Speaker, SALCRA has been entrusted to implement 17 road projects in 2024 comprises of four projects under the “*Jalan Perhubungan Desa*” and four projects under “*Jalan Ladang Pertanian*”, two projects under “*Program Khas Bumiputera*” (PKB) Sarawak and seven projects under MARRIS with the total allocation of RM9.2 million. Out of this projects, 11 projects have been completed and the balance of the six projects is under various stages of implementation and expected to be fully completed by the end of 2024.

To expedite road construction and improve rural accessibility, thereby facilitating agricultural activities and providing better market access for farmers, SALCRA needs an additional RM42 million in 2025. This initiative is expected to catalyse the economic growth and promote social inclusivity by providing better access to farmers and rural communities especially in Bau, Betong and Saratok.

River Engineering

Tuan Speaker, there are various River Engineering projects that are being implemented by DID Sarawak and these projects are:

- (a) River Clearing and River Rehabilitation. The Sarawak Government has allocated fund amounting to RM1 million in 2024 under 12th Malaysia Plan Mid-Term Review and RM26.21 million under State Disaster Management Committee (SDMC) for River Clearing and River Rehabilitation Works and all the 203 projects are scheduled to be completed by December this year;
- (b) Riverbank Protection Projects. Under 12th Malaysia Plan MidTerm Review, State Government has approved six Riverbank Protection Projects with the scheme value of RM557.5 million. Out of the six projects, two projects are under design stage and four projects are under Architect, Consultant and Surveyor appointment to carry out survey, Soil Investigation (SI) and design; and
- (c) Under the *Projek Rakyat* program, a total of RM579.76 million was approved for the implementation of 30 riverbank protection projects, two river improvement projects, one study and one upgrading existing jetty project. Out of the 34 projects, 19 projects have been completed, three under construction, one under tender stage; and 10 under design and another one project under Consultant and Surveyor appointment.

DID Sarawak is also implementing various infrastructure projects under the Regional Development Agencies.

- (a) Under the Greater Kuching Coordinated Development Agency (GKCD) program, a total of RM52.145 million was approved for the implementation of 10 riverbank protection projects and four river clearing projects. All the projects are currently under various pre-implementation stages (i.e. Consultant Appointment, Survey, Design and Tender Stage).
- (b) Under the Integrated Regional Samarahan Development Agency (IRSDA) program, a total of RM61.5 million was approved for the implementation of four riverbank protection projects. Out of the four projects, three projects have been completed, one project has been terminated. In reference to IRSDA Steering Committee Meeting on the 28th October 2024, the decision was made to not retender the project, as the existing kampung will be relocated to a new resettlement scheme.
- (c) Under the Sri Aman Development Agency (SADA) program, a total of RM82.0 million was approved for the implementation of two riverbank protection projects. Both of the projects are currently under detail design stage.
- (d) Under the Betong Division Development Agency (BDDA) program, a total of RM167.8 million was approved for the implementation of seven riverbank protection projects. Out of the seven

projects, one project is on-going and scheduled to be completed by early next year and four projects are under design stage and two projects are under Architect, Consultant and Surveyor appointment to carry out the survey, Soil Investigation (SI) and design.

- (e) Under the Rajang Delta Development Agency (RADDA) program, a total of RM38.0 million was approved for the implementation of four riverbank protection projects. Out of the four projects, two projects are under design stage, one project is under in-house survey works and one project is under Consultant and Surveyor appointment to carry out survey, Soil Investigation (SI) and design.

Besides that, DID Sarawak is also implementing various projects under the Federal Government funding:

Program Pemuliharaan Sungai untuk mengurangkan Risiko Banjir

The Federal Government has allocated fund amounting to RM35.0 million under 12th Malaysia Plan for River Rehabilitation Works to Reduce Flood Risk (*Pemuliharaan Sungai untuk mengurangkan Risiko Banjir*) throughout the State. And a sum of RM4.0 million was approved for 2024 and all the projects are scheduled to be completed by December 2024. Another RM16.0 million was recently approved under the Notice of Change and all these projects are scheduled to be completed by December 2025.

Program Denai Sungai Kebangsaan (DSK)

The Federal Government has allocated an amount of RM900,000 for *Program Denai Sungai Kebangsaan (DSK)* in 2024 for the development of two DSK programs in Serian and Betong. Both projects are on-going and scheduled to be completed by December 2024.

Integrated River Basin Management (IRBM) Study

Under the Integrated River Basin Management (IRBM) study, the Federal Government has approved seven river basins study out of twenty-one river basins study submitted under 12th Malaysia Plan. The seven river basins are Sungai Sibuti, Batang Rajang, Batang Samarahan, Batang Saribas, Batang Kemena, Batang Lupar, Batang Kayan, all the *batang*. Out of the seven studies, four are ongoing with various completion dates.

And overall, the studies are all expected to be completed by the first quarter of the year 2025 and three studies are under planning stage. The four main IRBM objectives is to ensure sufficient water, ensure clean water, reducing the risk of flooding and improve the environment.

Recently, there are two riverbank protection projects approved under 5th Rolling Plan 12th Malaysia Plan. These two projects are "*Projek Pemuliharaan Sungai Baram Di Long Ilang, Daerah Baram, Bahagian Miri, Sarawak*" with an approved ceiling of RM51.3 million and "*Projek Pemuliharaan Batang Sadong Di Kampung Hulu Dan Hilir, Bahagian Serian in Sarawak*" with an approved ceiling of RM72.8 million.

Coastal Erosion Protection and River Mouth Rehabilitation Projects

Tuan Speaker, under the Federal funding, the DID Sarawak currently has four coastal erosion protection projects with a total allocation of RM76.0 million. One project is completed, two projects are under construction and expected to be completed this year while one project still under land acquisition stage. Under the *Program Projek Tebatan Banjir Berkeutamaan Tinggi (TBBT)*, for 17 areas in Sarawak are still in the planning stage.

For State funding, the Department has been approved three coastal erosion protection projects under the 12th Malaysia Plan with a total allocation of RM172.37 million. One project completed, one

project expected to be tendered out in the first quarter of year 2025 and another project is currently under design stage. In addition, through *Projek Rakyat* a sum of RM16.1 million has been approved to implement two projects in Miri and both projects are in design and planning stage.

Under Rajang Delta Development Agency (RADDA) and Greater Kuching Coordinated Development Agency (GKCDA), there are four coastal erosion protection projects that have been approved with an allocation of RM53.0 million and all the projects are currently under planning stage.

For the river mouth rehabilitation project, there are five projects under federal funding, with a total allocation of RM40.0 million for river mouth improvement at Sungai Sematan, Sungai Buntal, Sungai Limbang, Sungai Bako and Sungai Sebuyau. One project has been completed in Sematan, one is currently under construction in Buntal and another three are in the planning stage. These projects are to mitigate flooding and facilitate river navigation.

AGRO-COMMODITY DEVELOPMENT

Tuan Speaker, the commodity sector has been the backbone of Sarawak's agriculture sector and is expected to continue contributing significantly to the State's Gross Domestic Product (GDP), especially with oil palm as the largest contributor to the agriculture sector's GDP.

Palm Oil Industry

Sarawak's palm oil sector continues its upward trajectory, with a total export value of RM14.6 billion from palm oil and palm-based products (or 4.14 million tonnes) during January until October 2024. The total production of Fresh Fruit Bunch (FFB) in Sarawak has increased by 1.7% from 17.66 million tonnes to 17.95 million tonnes compared to the same period last year. The Crude Palm Oil (CPO) production has shown an increase by 0.05% to 3.47 million tonnes in the same period.

However, the production of Crude Palm Kernel Oil (CPKO) has shown a decrease of 1.0% from 321,398 metric tonnes to 318,224 metric tonnes in the same year. In terms of yield, the average yield of fresh fruit bunches by estates from January to October 2024 in Sarawak experienced a raise of 1.7% increase to 12.35 metric tonnes per hectare from 12.14 metric tonnes per hectare in the same period last year.

Meanwhile, the Oil Extraction Rate (OER) from January to October 2024 was 19.40% as compared to 19.82% during the same period in 2023 which is on par with the National average. The OER for palm kernel oil also decreased from 45.93% to 45.85% in the same year.

Fresh Fruit Bunch (FFB) Price Disparity

Allow me to address this issue that has been a concern for many of our hardworking oil palm smallholders - the disparity in the price of Fresh Fruit Bunches (FFB) across different regions in Sarawak. My ministry would like to clarify the concern and frustration of small holders regarding the varying prices that they receive for the FFB. The price of oil palm FFB is determined by one market dynamics, especially supply and demand.

In the case of FFB, pricing factors encompass:

- (a) Market prices for Crude Palm Oil (CPO) and Palm Kernel (PK);
- (b) Logistic distance and transportation between some get and the buyer or even the *kilang*;
- (c) FFB quality depend the quality of the oil palm (ripeness, cleanliness, moisture freshness and so on);
- (d) Oil Extraction Rate (OER); and
- (e) Oil palm variety i.e. like dura, tenera, they have different quality and price.

It is important to note that the government, through Malaysian Palm Oil Board (MPOB), does not set or determine the price of FFB. Instead, MPOB provides a daily price reference for FFB based on the current market prices of Crude Palm Oil (CPO), Palm Kernel (PK) and Crude Palm Kernel Oil (CPKO) in each region. These prices are derived from the contracts registered by the licensees with MPOB. The FFB price reference at a 1% Oil Extraction Rate (OER) serves as a benchmark for both sellers and buyers in FFB transactions.

Labour Shortages in Palm Oil Industry

Labour shortages especially the harvesters in the oil palm estates remains the key challenges that has affected our yield, production, fresh fruit bunch quality and profitability of the industry. Therefore, my ministry will continue to engage with relevant authorities to facilitate the recruitment of foreign workers especially the *Pekerja Migran Indonesia* (PMI).

This includes to expedite the approval and issuance of Approval in Principle, labour license and Calling Visa to ensure that the plantation operators can access to the workforce needed to sustain the industry.

Technology Transfer Programme (TOT) Sarawak 2024

My ministry has recently collaborated with Malaysian Palm Oil Board (MPOB) to organize the Sarawak Oil Palm Technology Transfer Programme (TOT Sarawak) 2024 which took place at CIDB Convention Centre on the 14th October 2024. During the programme, a Memorandum of Agreement between MPOB and SALCRA and a Commercialisation Agreement from Trichoderma Virens, An Effective Biocontrol Agent Against Ganoderma Boninense between MPOB and Mygro Trading Sdn. Bhd. were formalised.

Rubber Industry

Tuan Speaker, rubber is a re-emerging and growing industry in Sarawak, contributing significantly to both the raw rubber and rubber timber supply supporting downstream sectors like furniture and biomass. In 2023, 7,300 metric tonnes of local rubber was produced with value at RM22.0 million. As of September 2024, the production raised 7,000 metric tonnes, valued also at RM22.0 million. For the fact that in 2024, the farm get price has increased.

Between January and September 2024, Sarawak exported approximately 51,000 metric tonnes of rubber, valued at RM356.0 million.

Rubber Research Institute of Malaysia (RRIM) has decided to withdraw from LGM Similajau, Bintulu Research Station. In view of this, SARIB (Sarawak Rubber Industry Board) to take over the station to serve as a hub for advancing the rubber community in Sarawak. The facility will focus on strengthening agronomy and mechanization research, delivering comprehensive training programs for rubber entrepreneurs, and developing demonstration plots to support collaborative research initiatives.

Sago and Nipah Industry

Tuan Speaker, as of September 2024, Sarawak's sago exports reached 28,000 metric tonnes valued at RM80.0 million. The major export markets are Peninsular Malaysia and Japan, accounting for over 84.0% of total exports, underscoring the significant economic contribution of the sago industry in Sarawak. Currently, there are seven sago processing factories, each with a monthly production capacity ranging from 200 to 500 metric tonnes of dry sago starch. Despite not being a major sago-growing region compared to its neighbouring regions, Sarawak's processing capabilities and export infrastructure have positioned it as a key player in the global sago industry as the sole global exporter of sago starch.

SAGO AND NIPAH DEVELOPMENT BOARD (SNDB)

Project Updates

Tuan Speaker, my ministry is pleased to provide updates on key development projects implemented by Sago and Nipah Development Board (SNDB) under Betong Division Development Agency (BDDA). A total of RM18.0 million has been allocated for SNDB to carry out two nipah development projects in Kampung Tambak in Pusa district and Kampung Buda in Spaoh district and one sago project in Kampung Dit in Debak.

The Kampung Tambak project in Pusa focuses on developing a dedicated nipah estate and a Halal and MeSTI-certified *Gula Apong* Collecting, Processing, and Packaging Center (CPPC) with RM11.0 million allocation. Another initiative in Kampung Buda, Spaoh, involves upgrading the *Gula Apong* processing center with RM2.5 million to enhance production and hygiene standards, with design improvements based on local feedback. Additionally, the RM4.5 million project in Kampung Dit, Debak aims to establish a one-stop Rumbia/ Sago Processing Centre with advanced technology for sago processing and animal feed production, that will increase industry capacity and diversifying applications.

Currently, 18,361 hectares of nipah have been gazetted by the Forest Department, while a total of 35,937 hectares also have been identified and will be gazetted as a sago areas. Thus, Sago and Nipah Development Board (SNDB) proposed to gazette more sago and nipah areas to optimize land use, protect high-potential zones, and support sago and nipah industry growth.

SNDB will conduct comprehensive mapping, prioritize high-density and underutilized areas, and collaborate with stakeholders to formalize the gazette process under Sarawak's legal framework. And this initiative aligns with Sarawak's Post COVID-19 Development Strategy (PCDS) 2030, promoting environmental conservation, renewable energy, and socio-economic development, while enhancing the livelihoods of smallholders and Sarawak's global leadership in sago starch and nipah-based products.

Karnival Balau 2024

Tuan Speaker, My ministry through SNDB, in collaboration with CRAUN Research Sdn. Bhd. and Dalat District Office had successfully organized the 7th edition of Karnival Balau 2024. It was held from 25th to 27th October 2024 at Tebingan Dalat, Mukah, with the theme "*Sagu untuk Keterjaminan Makanan, Tenaga Boleh Diperbaharui dan Kesejahteraan Komuniti*", dedicated to empowering the sago industry, fostering community engagement, and highlighting sago's importance in supporting food security and renewable energy in Sarawak.

A Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) was signed between CRAUN Research Sdn. Bhd. and Sarawak Skills laying the groundwork for enhancing skills and technical training within the sago and nipah sectors, aligning with Sarawak's development goals and preparing a skilled workforce to drive sustainable growth in the industry.

Pepper Industry

Tuan Speaker, as of September 2024, the total area of pepper farm in Sarawak has increased by 1.8% to 8,148 hectares with a total registered a number of 38,816 smallholders. As of August 2024, the volume of Sarawak pepper exports was 4,000 metric tonnes valued at RM108.6 million. As of the third quarter of 2024, the average price of black pepper reached RM19,411.00 per metric tonnes, while white pepper averaged RM27,410.00 per metric tonnes reflecting a 36.4% increase in black pepper and a 13.9% increase for white pepper compared to the same period last year.

In response to the growing global demand for pepper, the Malaysian Pepper Board (MPB) has intensified its initiatives by providing support to encourage a new planting while also helping maintain

existing farms to enhance yields. The Board also focused on ensuring continuous and sustainable pepper production through an innovative business model that connects farmers directly with buyers or importers via exporters. This model offers farmers the assurance of a stable demand for their produce, creating a reliable market for their crops. In return, this approach not only boosts farmer's income but also contributes to the overall growth of the country's economy.

Cocoa Industry

Tuan Speaker, Malaysian Cocoa Board (MCB) under RMK 12 has implemented various development programs, at a cost of RM6.7 million. These four programmes are:

- (a) Cocoa Production Stimulation Program;
- (b) Fine or Flavour Cocoa and Organic Cocoa Plant Material Development Project;
- (c) Agricultural Modernisation Programme; and
- (d) Cocoa Farm Rehabilitation Project.

The total number of cocoa growers under the supervision of MCB in 2024 is 1,162 smallholders with an area of 890.32 hectares. In 2024, there has been a sharp increase in the price of dried cocoa beans compared to previous years, which was around RM8.00 per Kg to RM18.00 per Kg currently. The increased prices is due to a decrease in productivity in the world's main cocoa producing country, caused by the outbreak of Cocoa Swollen Shoot Virus (CSSV).

Therefore, in 13th Malaysia Plan, the Sarawak Government in collaboration with MCB, plans to develop a total of 2,500 hectare of cocoa plantations which require an estimated allocation of RM80.5 million. It will be implemented in stages at 500 hectare per year starting from 2026 to 2030. And this development will involve the upstream (plantation) and downstream activities (chocolate processing mills – ready and semi-ready).

NCR LAND DEVELOPMENT

Tuan Speaker, my ministry will continue to actively promote more development to harness the potential of NCR Land. As of 7th November 2024, a total of 900,438 hectares out of the 1.5 million estimated NCR Land in state have been approved for agriculture development projects involving 219,469 landowners.

NCR Land Development Management

In 2024, my Ministry received an allocation of RM200,000 from the Federal Government under the *Program Khas Bumiputera* (PKB) to raise awareness and promote a better understanding of NCR land development among NCR landowners, community leaders, and potential investors. To date, a total of 16 series of engagement sessions have been conducted and of this, eight applications covering 15,000 hectares have been submitted to my Ministry for further verification and consideration. All applications are duly administered by the One Stop Committee and State Task Force on NCR Land Development to ensure that NCR Lands are developed sustainably and benefiting both landowners and also investors.

Management Model (Organised Smallholders Model)

Tuan Speaker, under the Project Management Model (Organised Smallholders Model), a total of 222,670 hectares involving 166,217 participants are being developed by various land development agencies. And this involves eight Federal agencies and five Sarawak agencies. In addition, SALCRA has been initiated the development of new oil palm estates in Sarikei and in Sibu Divisions involving 6,400 hectares with the total cost of RM150.0 million in the form of federal loan in four locations are as follows:

- (a) Ulu Sungai Wak, in Sarikei estimated area of 1,500 hectares with the total cost of RM35.16 million;
- (b) Ulu Pedanum, Pakan, involving 1,000 hectares with the total cost of RM23.44 million;
- (c) Sg. Arip/ Sg. Bawang/ Sg. Tau, Sibul, involving 2,300 hectares with the total cost of RM53.91 million; and
- (d) Nanga Sekuau, Sibul, involving 1,600 hectares with total cost of RM37.50 million.

This planting program is expected to benefit about 1,600 participants from 79 longhouses and villages, aligning with the social inclusivity pillar under the Sarawak Government's Post COVID-19 Development Strategy 2030 (PCDS 2030).

The new oil palm planting project above will be implemented in stages starting with Ulu Sungai Wak, Sarikei with the approved allocation of RM2.5 million in 2024. SALCRA is in need for another RM80.0 million in 2025 to continue with this project.

Joint Venture Model

Under the Joint Venture Model, approximately 91,600 hectares of NCR land in 47 NCR Land Development Areas are being developed by Joint Venture Companies (JVC) and LCDA as the managing agent representing 18,051 registered participants. As of 30th September 2024, the NCR Land Development JV Projects have generated RM605.0 million in Upfront Payments, Annual Incentives and Dividends paid to the participating landowners.

Leasing Model on NCR Land Development

To accelerate the development of NCR land in Sarawak, the government has approved the Leasing Model of Development in March 2024, alongside the existing Joint Venture Model. From April to October 2024, 21 applications were received for the development of oil palm, coffee and tree planting, covering an area of 29,604 hectares. Of these, 10 applications were approved, and covering 13,931 hectares.

Sarawak's Commitment to New Palm Oil Planting and Sustainable Development on Native Customary Rights (NCR) Land

Tuan Speaker, NCR Land is recognised as agricultural land, and we will continue to support its use for new oil palm planting. Therefore, my ministry will continue to promote sustainable agricultural practices. We continue to encourage smallholders to adopt the Malaysian Sustainable Palm Oil (MSPO) certification, which provides an important framework for ensuring the sustainability and traceability of their palm oil production. In this regard, the Sarawak Government is dedicated to fostering a thriving, sustainable palm oil industry that uplifts rural communities. We will continue to support new palm oil planting on NCR land, ensuring sustainability, responsibility, and environmental protection. Through the collaboration with smallholders, industry stakeholders, and international partners, Sarawak will remain a key player in the global palm oil market.

DOA 100th YEARS ANNIVERSARY

Tuan Speaker, let me share the anniversary 100th years of Department of Agriculture. The year 2024 is a historic year for the Department of Agriculture, as it marks the 100th anniversary of the Department of Agriculture Sarawak. This century-long journey reflects the Department's the strong commitment to realizing its vision of creating a Sustainable Agro Community. The Department of Agriculture Sarawak has undergone phases of transformation since its establishment in 1924. Throughout this century, we have accomplished significant achievements in changing the landscape of Sarawak agriculture sector and improving the lives of our agro-community.

The Department of Agriculture (DOA) Sarawak boasts a number of accomplishments throughout its 100-year history, including:

- (a) Being a pioneer of the planting of various commodity crops, including oil palm, rubber and pepper;
- (b) Through the research efforts of the Department of Agriculture Sarawak, two new pepper varieties are introduced, and these two are still largely planted namely "*Semongok Emas*" and "*Semongok Perak*";
- (c) The growth of commodities such as oil palm and rubber can be attributed to the comprehensive supply chain of the sub-sector, primarily from planting all the way to processing, which allows a guaranteed income for smallholders;
- (d) In addition, the Department of Agriculture has been engaging with the agro-community, especially since the 1950s, with the Department implementing training programmes through its Home Demonstration Section under Field Extension Programme, covering various topics and aspects such as basic hygiene, childcare, cooking, sewing, balanced diet, vegetable gardening, etc. etc. This function remains a vital and significant and becomes a precursor of the current extension as well as Agro- Based Industry Divisions of the Department.

All these accomplishments that we have collectively achieved are courtesy of our forefathers that laid the path of us to walk on. The foundation and the cornerstones are carefully laid down by the generations before us have enabled us to be where we are now, and we owe all of these achievements to them.

The agriculture sector in Sarawak is not without issues and challenges, all of which need to be addressed accordingly with the strategies set out by my ministry and implemented by the Department of Agriculture Sarawak. And amongst others, the challenges are:

- (a) Lack of economies of scale, whereby land-holding for crops development is dominated by small-scale farmers, resulting in a lack of concentration for production, low productivity high cost of production and logistics;
- (b) Inefficient post-harvest processing technology, the facilities and infrastructure, whereby the Sarawak agriculture sector is lacking modern post-harvesting processing technology, with inefficient marketing logistics and poor processing facilities, resulting in sub-optimisation of perishable produces;
- (c) Lacking of quality planting materials, seeds, fish fry, livestock breed and animal feeds. The availability of stock of these items is limited and insufficient, and have to be imported from outside of Sarawak, contributing to a higher cost of production;
- (d) Small domestic market with a population 2.5 billion, leading to a low demand and small population is unable to absorb for all Sarawak's agriculture produces;
- (e) Limited access to the export market, due to the inability on the producers to comply with stringent global quality standards, making it difficult for local producers to penetrate the export market. This becomes more difficult with the stiff competition from stronger exporting countries within the region;
- (f) Shortage of young and skilled workforce and the lack of support systems and services, as well as the fact that this sector is labour-intensive with low return, might have contributed for the youth to shun this sector as they are more attracted to the work in other economic sectors; and
- (g) Low adoption of modern farming techniques and technology, as agro-community in Sarawak is made up of older generation, ageing generation and older generation; and this is further exacerbated by limited or lack of connectivity in the rural areas and other remote areas.

The period ahead will be more challenging given the rapid disruptive changes in technology, innovation, globalisation, and climate change. To move the Sarawak agriculture sector forward, the Department of Agriculture Sarawak must adopt and adapt to the changes around us, and agro-community in Sarawak must first shift their mindset, moving away from self-subsistence to “*wealth creator*” mentality with the objective of “*dollars and cents*” in all their agriculture endeavours. To do it today, it more profitable and better return in their endeavours.

Currently, my ministry through Department of Agriculture Sarawak has developed a e-*Tani* System to capture farmer’s profile, and the system will enable a more systematic and effective planning assistance to farmers. And as of today, DOA or the Department of Agriculture has registered 40,000 farmers. We are target more than 100,000 farmers to be registered under e-*Tani*. Gone of the days where we get the assistance without the proper profile of those who are scheme for and those who are assisted.

RESPONSE TO THE ISSUES RAISED BY THE HONOURABLE MEMBERS

Tuan Speaker, I would now like to respond to the various issues, requests, views, comments, and suggestions made by the Honourable Members in this august House on the subjects relating to my ministry. And before that, I would like to express my appreciation to all the Honourable Members for your concern, the advice, recommendation, and various applications that you have put forward. The Honourable Members who have actively participated in the debate are also being recorded by my ministry.

Jalan Luar Bandar (JALB)

For the information of the Honourable Member for Daro, the tender for construction of the road for Rh. Jingga/ David Multifarm/ Rh. Seli/ Rh. Guang/ Rh. Singat, Rh. Lengan, Sibul, Sarawak was called in, the tender was called in August 2024. Currently, the project is pending for Kementerian Kemajuan Desa dan Wilayah Tenders Board decision and the construction is expected to begin in the first quarter of 2025. *Insyah-Allah lah.*

For the information of the Honourable Member for Machan, Phase 3 of Menalun – Sg. Poi Road project in Kanowit, Sibul Division, amounting RM46.1 million to construct 3.63-kilometre paved road linking to Phase 2 has been approved by KKDW. The tender was issued in May 2024, but all submitted bids exceeded the department’s cost estimate. As such, the matter has been referred to KKDW for further review and decision.

Paddy and Rice Industry

For the information of the Honourable Member for Batu Danau, 10 areas with total of 3,704 hectares has been identified as suitable area for paddy in Limbang and Lawas area.

Sarawak Metropolitan Food Cluster

Opar, mana Opar ini? For the information of the Honourable Member of Opar, the Metropolitan Food Cluster Opar (MFCO) was approved and the groundbreaking ceremony will be launched by YAB Premier Sarawak on the 5th December 2024.

Rural Growth Centre (RGC)

For the information of the Honourable Member for Baleh, Pelagus, the Government has no plan the for new RGC. For that area however, we will proceed with the plan for Food Terminal in Kapit. For the information of the Honourable Member for Beting Maro, LKIM is currently carrying out repair works on the Kompleks LKIM Beladin to obtain Occupancy Permit (OP) before it can be fully operational. The repair works are expected to begin in December 2024 and expected to complete

by June 2025. Currently, LKIM has stationed staffs on a scheduled basis for early operations of the complex for the inspection of fishing vessels, application of fuel subsidy and allowances.

For *Penempatan Semula Nelayan* (PSN) Beladin, a total of 68 PSN houses has been completed and 64 eligible fishermen have been selected and approved by the Jawatankuasa Induk Projek Khas Perumahan Nelayan. LKIM has held another interview session on the 15th November for the additional four participants of PSN Beladin. For Slipway Beladin, active discussions are being held with interested parties to operate the facilities. Meanwhile, the RC Jetty for RGC Beladin is expected to be tendered out in the first quarter of 2025.

Fisheries

For the information of the Honourable Member for Katibas, my ministry is focused on developing Empurau Belt that will leverage the abundance of high-value indigenous fishes in the Katibas area. My ministry also acknowledged the proposal to gazette the Katibas River as an Indigenous Fish sanctuary for Sarawak. My ministry through the DOA is implementing Tagang system at Sungai Mukeh, Katibas to manage fisheries resources sustainably.

For the information of the Honourable Member for Kabong, in July 2024, the Department of Marine Fisheries Sarawak (JPLS) has deployed 17 units for juvenile fish of cuboidal Artificial Reef at the water off Kabong to prevent encroachment of trawlers. The Department of Marine Fisheries Sarawak will collaborate with other enforcement bodies to do regular monitoring on Sarawak waters.

For the information of the Honourable Member for Lingga, the Department of Agriculture Sarawak is considering to revisit the abandoned Pilot Brackish Water Aquaculture Project (PABP) in Kampung Tanjung Jaya, Lingga. The participants have the choice to operate the culture ponds themselves or applying for the Inland Fisheries Project Development Program.

Collection, Processing, and Packaging Centre (CPPC)/ Agrofood Terminal

For the information of the Honourable Member for Machan, Meluan and Murum, for now the Government has no plan to build a CPPC in Kanowit, Julau and Sg. Asap. These areas have not fulfilled the requirement of having sufficient and consistent agricultural produce to meet the processing requirements. You have to work harder.

For the information of the Honourable Member for Batu Danau, the construction of CPPC Kubong has been completed and Pertubuhan Peladang Negeri Sarawak (PPNS) has been appointed as the operator and will commence operation in first quarter 2025.

Cattle Farming at Lawas

For the information of the Honourable Member for Ba'Kelalan, currently we have three cattle projects in Limbang Division. We will expand these projects if there are any applications that meet the criteria.

Coastal and Riverbank Protection Project

For the information of the Honourable Member for Baleh, the government is seriously looking into the issue of riverbank erosion along the Batang Rajang. Thus, my ministry, through the Department of Irrigation and Drainage (DID) Sarawak, will study and evaluate the proposal for the riverbank protection structures in Rh. William Gima, Nanga Sebiro; Rh. Kenedy, Nanga Sebilat, Gaat; Rh. Bawang, Nanga Selaut; Rh. Weng, Nanga Sempurau; and some other areas.

For the information of the Honourable Member for Balingian, the proposed Projek Benteng Kawalan Hakisan Tebingan Sungai in Kampung Pulat, Kampung Sungai Ragei and Kampung Tutus Hilir, Mukah will be submitted for approval under 13th Malaysian Plan.

For the information of the Honourable Member for Kalaka, the proposed *Projek Kerja-Kerja Membina Penghadang Hakisan Tanah* in Kampung Kupang, Saratok, with an estimated cost of RM15.0 million and *Projek Membina Benteng Hakisan Tanah Tebingan Sungai* in Kampung Melango, Saratok with an estimated cost of RM22.3 million will be resubmitted under 13th Malaysian Plan.

For the information of the Honourable Member for Lingga, *Projek Mengatasi Masalah Banjir Pantai di Pantai Tg. Riong Maludam*, bahagian Betong has been approved by Federal Government to address the issue of erosion and the problem of flooding due to tidal surges in Maludam area. The project is expected to be tendered out by second quarter of 2025.

For the information of the Honourable Member for Telang Usan, the government is addressing riverbank erosion along Batang Baram. Proposed projects at Kampung Benawa, Logan Sibong, and SK Ubong Imang will be submitted for approval under 13th Malaysian Plan.

For the information of the Honourable Member for Tellian, *Projek Cadangan Pengawalan Hakisan Pantai* Petanak, Daerah Mukah, with estimated cost of RM20.0 million and Proposed Waterfront at Mukah Town with estimated cost of RM60.0 million is at the consultant appointment stage. Tender for both projects are planned for the second and fourth quarter of 2025 respectively. The *Projek Cadangan Pemuliharaan Tebingan* Batang Mukah antara Sg. Penakub dan Sg. Telian is in design phase and planned to be tendered in the third quarter of 2025.

For the information of Honourable Member for Kabong, to mitigate riverbank erosion at Sungai Seblak in Kampung Sungai Benang, the ceiling allocation has been increased from RM15.0 million to RM21.0 million. This project is expected to be tendered in early 2025. Meanwhile an emergency rehabilitation project with the cost of RM150,500 was commenced on the 13th November 2024 and is expected to complete by December 2024.

For the information of the Honourable Member for Beting Maro, Proposed Riverbank Protection and other Associated Works at Beladin, Pusa District funded under the Betong Division Development Agency (BDDA) with a ceiling cost of RM26.0 million, are in the design phase and expected to be tendered by the fourth quarter of 2025. Two projects for Kampung Semarang and Kampung Batang Maro have been approved under *Projek Mengatasi Banjir Pantai di Sarawak* and these projects are expected to commence in the second quarter of 2025.

Additionally, proposals for *Rancangan Memulihkan Koridor Sungai* at Sungai Rimbas in Pekan Pusa and Phase 2 of *Projek Pengawalan Hakisan Pantai di Pantai* Kampung Semarang will be submitted under 13th Malaysia Plan for approval.

For the information of the Honourable Member for Engkilili, the government acknowledges the flooding issue in the areas. This matter will be further studied in detail through the Integrated River Basin Management (IRBM) study for Batang Lupar which will commence in 2025 to ensure the integrated management of river basins in the management of water resources and the environment.

Limau Bintangor

For the information of Honourable Member for Meradong, my ministry through the Department of Agriculture Sarawak has consistently supported the cultivation of limau Bintangor under the Fruit Crop Development Programme. Under 12MP, a total of 11 farmers received the assistance, with funding amounting to RM90,000 and will continue to do so to make sure it becomes sustainable.

Jeti Nelayan Sungai Kampung Kuala Segan

For the information of Honourable Member for Jepak, there is no plan to construct a new jetty at Sungai Kampung Kuala Segan. However, Lembaga Kemajuan Ikan Malaysia (LKIM) already have a jetty located at LKIM complex in Bintulu and Kuala Tatau. Persatuan Nelayan Kawasan (PNK)

Bintulu and Bintulu Development Authority (BDA) also have plans to build a jetty at Kampung Jepak and currently it is still under planning stage.

Farm Road

For the information of the Honourable Member for Bukit Begunan, the Kementerian Pertanian dan Keterjaminan Makanan (KPKM), is currently implementing the Phase I Irrigation and Drainage Infrastructure Development Project for the Lingga/ Banting Rice Granary in Sri Aman Division including 9.6 kilometre agricultural road. As of October 2024, the entire road base construction has been completed and 4.7 kilometre has been surfaced with gravel. This project is expected to be completed by first quarter 2026.

For the information of Honourable Member for Tellian, my ministry will put up the project proposal under 13th Malaysia Plan for consideration. For the information of Honourable Members for Opar, Murum, Krian and Meluan, my ministry welcomes the Honourable Members to submit the application for farm roads according to the priority for consideration.

Skim Insentif Pembiayaan Tanam Semula Pekebun Kecil Sawit (TSPKS) 2.0

For the information of the Honourable Member for Telang Usan, in order to allow palm oil smallholders who do not possess valid land ownership documents to be eligible to apply for the TSPKS 2.0, the Sarawak Government, through several engagement sessions with the Malaysian Palm Oil Board (MPOB) and other relevant stakeholders have agreed to establish and adopt the Native Customary Rights (NCR) Land Verification Form. I hope he is here. The form must be submitted together with the application for the assistance scheme to MPOB. So there is an effort to make sure that we are able to look into this land verification.

Ladang Kelapa Sawit FELCRA di Kampung Lingga

For the information of the Honourable Member for Lingga, FELCRA has disbursed the dividend to the participant in 2016, 2017, 2019, 2022 and 2023 with a total amount of RM1.48 million. FELCRA is committed to improving the performance of the estates by:

- (a) Hiring additional foreign workers;
- (b) Scheduled drainage and irrigation maintenance works;
- (c) Repair and maintenance of access roads and plantation roads; and
- (d) Adopting mechanization to reduce reliance on foreign labour in field operation.

Pepper

For the information of the Honourable Member for Meluan, pepper farmers in Meluan can sell their produce at the nearest purchasing centres, located in Sarikei and Sibul, which are operated by Saraspice Sdn. Bhd. These two centres are sufficient to serve farmers from Julau to Pakan. In the future, farmers in this region can contact Saraspice Sdn. Bhd. to arrange for the scheduled collection or purchase of their pepper produce, therefore eliminating the transportation issues for farmers.

Additionally, MPB also operates an R&D centre in Kuching. The results of these research activities will benefit the entire pepper industry players in Sarawak especially the farmers through various expansion programmes. Sarawak Pepper has been certified with a Geographical Indication (GI) since 2003, primarily to protect the reputation and quality of Sarawak Pepper both locally and internationally.

Infrastruktur Pertanian Maludam

For the information of the Honourable Member for Lingga, the drainage construction and upgrading work is on-going at Sungai Mulon, Sungai Daun and Sungai Pedada agricultural area and

is implemented by the DID Betong for IADA Kalaka-Saribas-Betong. The project commenced in January 2024 and is expected to be completed by early 2026.

Agriculture Station

For the information of the Honourable Member for Murum, the current status of the agricultural stations in the Murum area are as follows:

- (a) Sungai Asap Agricultural Station is still pending approval by the Government;
- (b) Metalun Agricultural Station is currently under design stage;
- (c) Tegulang Agricultural Station project is now being re-tendered by JKR Sarawak and expected to be called in December this year;
- (d) Lusong Laku Agricultural Station is still in the process of recruiting new staff to operate the station; and
- (e) Tubau Agricultural Station is currently pending for design approval by State Building Design Committee (SBDC).

Agriculture Development Proposal

For the information of the Honourable Member for Daro, Meradong, Tebedu, Bukit Begunan, Katibas, Ba'Kelalan, Jepak, Tamin, Beting Maro, Meluan, Murum and Engkilili, *semua* my ministry duly noted on all requests, comments and recommendations related to various agriculture assistance and development in your constituencies.

CONCLUSION

Tuan Speaker, finally, in conclusion, I wish to express my gratitude and thanks to Tuan Speaker and Timbalan Speaker, for your wisdom and firmness in ensuring that the proceedings were conducted with proper decorum and dignity in this august House. My appreciation and thanks also go to the Sarawak State Secretary, State Attorney-General, State Financial Secretary, Head of Departments, officers from the various Sarawak and Federal Ministries and agencies for their dedication and hard work in providing input and support for the smooth proceedings of this august House. My special thanks to my two Deputy Ministers, Permanent Secretary and all Head of Departments and agencies under my Ministry for preparing my winding-up speech, and responses, though it's a bit long and lengthy. And also, to the media for their coverage of the proceedings.

Finally, I extend my greetings to my Christian friends, Merry Christmas and for everyone, a Happy New Year for 2025. To all Sarawakian, may we continue to have good health, peace, harmony and prosperity.

With that, I hereby strongly support the Sarawak Budget tabled by Yang Amat Berhormat Premier of Sarawak on 11th November 2024. Thank you. (*Applause*)

Tuan Speaker: Ahli-ahli Yang Berhormat, under Standing Order 9(1), I determine today's Sitting to go beyond 6.30 p.m.

Dengan hormatnya saya menjemput Yang Berhormat Dato Sri Hajah Fatimah Abdullah, Menteri Pembangunan Wanita, Kanak-kanak dan Kesejahteraan Komuniti untuk menyampaikan ucapan penggulungan.

Menteri Pembangunan Wanita, Kanak-kanak dan Kesejahteraan Komuniti; dan Ahli Dewan Undangan Negeri N.56 Dalat (YB Dato Sri Hajah Fatimah Abdullah): Bismillahirrahmanirrahim. Assalamualaikum Warahmatullahi Wabarakatuh. Salam sejahtera, Salam Sarawakku Sayang dan Salam Segulai Sejalai.

Tuan Speaker, izinkan saya memulakan ucapan penggulungan ini dengan menyampaikan ucapan tahniah kepada Tuan Yang Terutama Yang di-Pertua Negeri Sarawak, Tun Pehin Sri Dr. Haji Wan Junaidi bin Tuanku Jaafar, atas pemasyhuran sebagai Canselor Universiti Malaysia Sarawak (UNIMAS) yang keempat. Pengalaman luas Tuan Yang Terutama Tun Pehin Sri yang pernah berkhidmat sebagai menteri dan pemimpin politik dan kebijaksanaan dalam tadbir urus, penggubalan dasar, serta hubungan baik dengan institusi pendidikan tinggi kerajaan dan swasta, saya yakin Tun Pehin Sri akan memberi sumbangan yang besar kepada UNIMAS untuk mencatat kecemerlangan dalam bidang akademik dan penyelidikan di peringkat nasional mahupun global.

Tuan Speaker, I would also like to take this opportunity to congratulate the Right Honourable Premier of Sarawak, for being awarded the Bintang Darjah Setia Negara Brunei Yang Amat Bahagia Darjah Pertama (P.S.N.B.), which carries the title “*Dato Seri Setia*”, by Sultan Brunei Darussalam, Sultan Hassanal Bolkiah, on July 15th, 2024.

We would like to also congratulate Yang Amat Berhormat Premier for being awarded the Seri Panglima Darjah Kinabalu (S.P.D.K.), which carries the title “*Datuk Seri Panglima*” by the Yang di-Pertua Negeri Sabah, Tun Datuk Seri Panglima (Dr) Juhar Datuk Mahiruddin on October 5th, 2024, and The Great ASEAN Distinguished Leadership Excellence Award from the KSI Strategic Institute for Asia Pacific and the ASEAN Economic Club on August 15th, 2024.

Tuan Speaker, it is indeed an honour to be part of a team led by Yang Amat Berhormat Premier who has been acknowledged and recognized nationally and globally for his exceptional leadership and visionary approach in steering Sarawak to become a high-income State driven by data and innovation where everyone will enjoy economic prosperity, social inclusivity and sustainable environment by 2030.

With regards to the 2025 Budget, I would like to join my colleague in congratulating the Right Honourable Premier of Sarawak for tabling another surplus budget that is pro-development, rural-focused and *rakyat*-centric. Our Yang Amat Berhormat Premier’s maverick, innovative and visionary approaches to reengineering revenue growth have created another history when Sarawak is projected to collect a record-breaking and highest ever revenue at RM14 billion in 2024, which is expected to surpass 2023 revenue collections.

On behalf of my ministry, I would like to express our gratitude to Yang Amat Berhormat Premier for an allocation of RM263.9 million, an increase of 10.5% from RM238.7 million in 2024 for operations and development related to our ministry in the 2025 Budget. This is a manifestation of the solid commitment of the GPS Government in strengthening social welfare and safety networks, combating poverty, and improving the well-being of the people.

*Kapal belayar di laut biru,
Singgah berlabuh di Tanjung Batu,
Tahniah GPS usaha tak jemu,
Kesejahteraan rakyat diutama selalu.*

Tuan Speaker, Yang Amat Berhormat Premier has shown that true vision is not just about creating progress for some, but ensuring that every citizen, no matter where they live or what their background is, shares the benefits of that progress. Under his guidance, we are becoming a beacon of innovation, where forward thinking policies are not just shaping our economy, but are also laying the foundation for a future that is sustainable and inclusive for all *Anak Sarawak*.

**KEMENTERIAN PEMBANGUNAN WANITA, KANAK-KANAK DAN KESEJAHTERAAN KOMUNITI
– PENCAPAIAN BIDANG KEBERHASILAN UTAMA KEMENTERIAN**

Tuan Speaker, seterusnya, saya akan melaporkan pencapaian kementerian dalam tiga bidang keberhasilan utama, iaitu:

- (a) *Pemeriksaan Kanak-kanak (Empowering Children);*
- (b) *Pemeriksaan Wanita dan Keluarga (Empowering Women and Family);* dan
- (c) *Pemeriksaan Sistem Sokongan Sosial untuk Kesejahteraan Komuniti (Empowering Social Support System for Community Wellbeing).*

PEMERKASAAN KANAK-KANAK (EMPOWERING CHILDREN)

Early childhood is foundational in building quality human capital and as Dr. Jack P. Shonkoff, Director of the centre on Developing Child at Harvard University once said “*with earlier your invest in the child education, the greater they return on that investment*”

Access to Early Childhood Education

As of 31st October 2024, there are 2,718 registered TADIKA and 242 TASKA in Sarawak, with a total of 73,302 children aged 6 years and below. Based on the statistics from the Sarawak State Education Department (JPNS), the percentage of 2024 Year 1 children who have attended TADIKA is 98.81% compared to 98.71% in 2023. The ministry remains committed to ensure 100% access to early childhood education by 2030 in Sarawak.

Character-Building

Our ministry, through our state-owned early childhood education provider, SeDidik, has long emphasise on character building and it continuously committed to ensuring the inculcation of values in young children through various support activities to provide a good foundation for character building. SeDidik emphasises leadership skills and good saving practices by implementing leadership-related activities and saving practices. To date, 76% TADIKA children aged 4 to 6 years have been exposed to leadership experiences, and 100% of the centres are involved in the saving practices with a total saving of RM437,591. The ministry would also like to acknowledge the efforts of other early childhood education implementing agencies in inculcating saving habits among their children under their own programmes and activities. In addition to fostering character-building values, children are also introduced to writing skills through collaboration with PUSTAKA Negeri Sarawak and the Singapore National Library Board (NLB). This initiative aims to enhance fine motor skills, foster creativity and expression, and develop social-emotional competencies, laying the foundation for higher-order thinking skills (HOTS) in later stages. To date, 786 of 6 year old children are involved, and 663 of them that is (84%) have completed writing their own story books.

Inclusion in Early Childhood Care and Education (ECCE)

Inclusive early childhood education programmes provide children with equal opportunities, regardless of their abilities, socio-economic, or cultural background. This year, a total of 836 special needs preschool children under their respective agencies attend inclusive classes alongside their non-special needs peers, with the highest percentage of 8.91% in SeDidik, followed by KEMAS (1.74%), private kindergartens (0.47%) and Jabatan Pendidikan Negeri Sarawak (0.33%). Inclusivity benefits both special needs and non-special needs children as it inculcates understanding, empathy and a sense of understanding, empathy and togetherness, which is critical to be developed at an early age.

Tuan Speaker, the ministry continues our commitment to ensure access to equitable and quality early childhood care and education (ECCE) in Sarawak.

One Stop Early Intervention Centre (OSEIC) Sarawak

OSEIC Sarawak has been a beacon of hope for special needs children. As of 31st of October 2024, 164 children have benefited from OSEIC, with 591 still undergoing the programme while 422 are still on the waiting list due to space and personnel limitations. The overwhelming demand shows

the increased awareness among parents to send their special needs children for early intervention, thus warrants us to establish more early intervention facilities. OSEIC Sarawak Miri is still in the tender process, and we are also planning to establish OSEIC Sarawak Samarahan in 2025. With the existing OSEIC Kuching and OSEIC Dalat centres, the biggest challenge is to get therapists, especially speech therapists. Hence, we are looking into possible collaborations with international agencies like the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) to get therapists as volunteers to be placed at OSEIC Sarawak.

In 2024, SeDidik launched a pilot digital developmental screening and intervention programme in partnership with Toy8, a Japanese Healthcare and Educational Company. Developed in collaboration with Universiti Malaya, Sunway University and Japanese clinical psychologists, the Toy8 application assess four key developmental areas: Receptive Language, Expressive Language, Cognitive Skills and Fine Motor Skills. Of the 185 children screened, 20 were identified for intervention. Given the significant findings, SeDidik will expand the program to 25 centres in 2025, targeting 300 children. And this initiative is co-funded by the Japanese Government and Hong Leong Foundation.

Continuous Professional Development

Quality educators and childcare givers contribute to quality early childhood services. Thus, continuous professional development programs are carried out by my ministry to better equip educators and childcare givers to improve their services to meet the current demand of this sector. A total number of 12 courses on various areas of needs were carried out in 2024 with the participation of 478 teachers and childcare givers from different agencies in Sarawak.

Sarawak Preschool International Convention

Besides the local-based courses, our ministry believes in the need for our educators and childcare givers to get exposure to early childhood policies and practices internationally. This year, our ministry organised the Third Sarawak Preschool International Convention from 4th to 6th October 2024 with the theme *“Inclusivity and Diversity in Early Childhood Education”*, attended by 364 participants physically and 826 virtually. We received positive feedback from local as well as international participants and speakers on the papers presented, workshops and the whole organisation of the convention.

Support for Parents, Educators and Child Care Givers

In ensuring quality early childhood care and education, parental understanding on nutrition is also emphasised by providing short courses for parents on nutrition for children. This year, in collaboration with the Sarawak Health Department, 229 participants attended the three courses for parents with special needs children in Miri and Sibu and for parents of children under 6 years in Kuching.

Endowment Fund Sarawak (EFS) & Bantuan Ibu Bersalin (BIB)

An initiative by GPS Government. Since the implementation in 2019 until 31st October 2024, there have been 124,762 EFS accounts Endowment Fund accounts created for newborn Sarawakian with a total allocation of RM124.7 million. Meanwhile, for Bantuan Ibu Bersalin (BIB), a total number of 74,358 applicants have benefited, with the amount of RM33.4 million since 2020.

Early Childhood Institutions' Fee Subsidy

Started in 2023, the Early Childhood Institutions' Fee Subsidy aims to ease the financial burden of parents with a household income of RM7,000 and below to send their children to registered private TADIKA or TASKA. In 2024, a total number of 3,175 children benefited from the RM2.5 million allocated by GPS Government for this initiative.

Geran Tahunan Khas

Also, from GPS Government. As of 31st October 2024, The Annual Special Grant of RM5,000 for registered TADIKA and TASKA, RM2,000 for homebase child care center has benefited 2,499 early childhood institutions throughout Sarawak with a total expenditure of RM12,468,000.

Sarawak Preschool Kids Got Talent (SPKGT) 7th Edition 2024

Our ministry acknowledges the commitment and enthusiasm of our educators and childcare givers in identifying, nurturing and developing talents among our young children. This year, the ministry organised the Sarawak Preschool Kids Got Talent (SPKGT) 7th Edition 2024, to provide a platform for children to showcase their talents. We started with four SPKGT tours in Miri, Bintulu, Sibu and Kuching, participated by 1,681 children. The quality of talent showcased by the winners of Showcase Sarawak Preschool Kids Got Talent (SPKGT) on 7th November 2024 demonstrates how SPKGT fosters creativity, confidence, and skill development in our young children.

Child Friendly Cities Initiative (CFCI)

The Child Friendly Cities Initiative (CFCI) in Sarawak is a UNICEF initiative co-led by the Ministry of Women, Early Childhood and Community Wellbeing Development (KPWK); and the Ministry of Public Health, Housing and Local Government (MPHLG). In this initiative, the ministries play a key role in guiding and coordinating the city and municipal councils in promoting inclusive child participation in councils, creating child-friendly environments, and raising awareness of child rights based on the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child.

**PEMERKASAAN WANITA DAN KELUARGA
(EMPOWERING WOMEN AND FAMILY)**

*Bunga kemboja harum ditaman,
Lebah datang mencari madu,
Wanita perkasa membentuk zaman,
Membawa perubahan masyarakat maju.*

Tuan Speaker, pemeraksanaan wanita dan keluarga penting dalam membentuk masyarakat yang sejahtera dan progresif. Justeru, kementerian melalui Jabatan Wanita dan Keluarga Sarawak (JWKS) terus giat melaksanakan program-program pemeraksanaan wanita dan keluarga seperti latihan kemahiran, pembangunan keusahawanan, kepimpinan dalam kalangan wanita, dan kursus pemantapan institusi kekeluargaan serta kursus kesedaran mengenai keselamatan, perundangan dan isu-isu sosial semasa. Melalui usaha ini, wanita bukan sahaja diupayakan untuk menyumbang kepada ekonomi keluarga, tetapi juga memainkan peranan sebagai agen perubahan yang berkesan dalam masyarakat.

PEMERKASAAN EKONOMI WANITA

Women Skills Training (WST)

Usaha pengupayaan kapasiti wanita diteruskan dengan penyediaan peluang mengikuti kursus kemahiran jangka pendek, iaitu kursus jahitan, kulinari, kecantikan; dan spa & urut. Pengetahuan dan kemahiran yang diperolehi telah mendorong penyertaan mereka dalam aktiviti ekonomi dan membolehkan penjana pendapatan sendiri.

Pada tahun ini, sehingga Oktober 2024, sebanyak 185 sesi kursus WST telah berjaya dianjurkan dengan penyertaan seramai 4,352 peserta daripada pelbagai latar belakang. Hasil pemantauan sehingga Oktober 2024 mendapati bahawa 2,737 peserta (62.9%) telah memanfaatkan kemahiran yang diperolehi untuk menjana pendapatan tambahan. Sementara, selebihnya menggunakan kemahiran tersebut untuk memenuhi keperluan keluarga masing-masing. Seramai

2,659 peserta telah berjaya menjana pendapatan bulanan sehingga RM2,499 manakala seramai 78 peserta telah berjaya menjana pendapatan bulanan sebanyak RM2,500 ke atas. Pencapaian ini memberi impak positif dalam usaha memperkukuhkan daya tahan ekonomi keluarga, terutama dalam menghadapi cabaran kos sara hidup yang semakin meningkat.

Bantuan Ketua Isi Rumah Wanita Sarawak (KIRWaS)

Bagi membantu Ketua Isi Rumah (KIR) wanita miskin tegar, kementerian melalui Jabatan Wanita dan Keluarga Sarawak telah menyediakan bantuan modal perniagaan sebanyak RM500 secara *one-off* kepada 112 ketua isi rumah wanita. Daripada jumlah tersebut, seramai 24 orang (21.42%) berjaya menjana pendapatan bulanan sehingga RM1,397.

Program Jelajah Kerjaya Wanita Sarawak

Tiga siri program Jelajah Kerjaya Wanita Sarawak yang memfokus kepada pembangunan digital usahawan dan sesi bimbingan keusahawanan dilaksanakan dengan kolaborasi bersama pelbagai agensi. Seramai 1,064 pengunjung dan usahawan penerima bantuan Jabatan Wanita dan Keluarga Sarawak telah menerima manfaat dari segi kemahiran keusahawanan digital dan maklumat lain berkaitan pembangunan keusahawanan.

PROGRAM KEPIMPINAN WANITA

Angin malam menyapa desa,
Hembusan perlahan menyegar jiwa,
Pemimpin wanita bijak dan berwibawa,
Membawa kemajuan membina bangsa.

Selaras dengan komitmen ke arah mencapai Matlamat Pembangunan Mampan *SDG 5: Gender Equality and Empower All Women and Girls*, usaha memperkukuhkan kepimpinan wanita terus diberi tumpuan. Kementerian melalui Jabatan Wanita dan Keluarga Sarawak (JWKS) telah melaksanakan dua program pemerkasaan kepimpinan wanita di pelbagai peringkat.

Pada tahun ini, dua siri *Women Leadership Program* telah diadakan di Limbang dan Mukah melibatkan 60 pemimpin Badan Bukan Kerajaan (NGO). Manakala *Leadership Bootcamp for Youth* dianjurkan sebanyak dua siri di Sibu dan Miri, dengan penyertaan 62 pelajar wanita dari sekolah menengah dan institusi pengajian tinggi. Hasil penilaian menunjukkan bahawa 118 peserta (96.73%) melaporkan peningkatan kemahiran insaniah mereka termasuk kemahiran komunikasi dan kecerdasan sosial yang amat penting dalam membentuk kepimpinan yang berwibawa dan inklusif.

PROGRAM PEMANTAPAN INSTITUSI KELUARGA

Kursus Pemantapan Institusi Keluarga

Tuan Speaker, pada tahun ini, kementerian melalui JWKS telah melaksanakan tiga jenis kursus pemantapan institusi keluarga, iaitu Kursus Keibubapaan, Pasca Perkahwinan dan Pengurusan Keluarga yang disertai oleh seramai 790 peserta yang melibatkan peruntukan berjumlah RM154,228. Hasil penilaian keberkesanan kursus yang diadakan sebulan selepas pelaksanaannya mendapati 88.13% peserta berpendapat kursus yang mereka hadiri telah memberi impak positif terhadap perkahwinan dan pengurusan institusi keluarga masing-masing. Alhamdulillah.

Kursus Sustainable Wellness for Young Women

JWKS dengan kerjasama Jabatan Kesihatan Negeri Sarawak (JKNS), Lembaga Penduduk dan Pembangunan Keluarga Negara (LPPKN) dan NGO telah melaksanakan kursus *Sustainable Wellness for Young Women* di Daerah Subis, Tatau dan Lubok Antu yang melibatkan seramai 80

remaja wanita bawah 21 tahun. Menerusi penilaian selepas program, kesedaran dan pengetahuan mereka mengenai kepentingan menjaga kesihatan dan kebersihan diri, keselamatan dan pengurusan diri yang positif adalah pada tahap memuaskan iaitu 73.75%.

Kursus Penjagaan Asas Warga Emas

Selaras dengan keperluan mendepani cabaran masyarakat menua (*ageing society*), Kursus Penjagaan Asas Warga Emas yang dimulakan pada tahun 2023 dengan kerjasama Jabatan Kesihatan Negeri Sarawak turut diberi perhatian dan dilaksanakan pada tahun ini. Dua siri kursus telah diadakan di Betong dan Sibu dengan penyertaan seramai 113 ahli komuniti, melibatkan peruntukan sebanyak RM41,427. Kursus ini bertujuan memperkukuh pengetahuan dan kemahiran dalam aspek penjagaan asas serta pengurusan warga emas melalui gabungan pembelajaran teori dan amali. Hasil penilaian menunjukkan bahawa tahap persetujuan keberkesanan kursus berkaitan penjagaan warga emas adalah sangat memuaskan, iaitu 93.4%.

PROGRAM ADVOKASI DAN SOKONGAN SOSIAL

Dalam usaha melahirkan masyarakat yang berpengetahuan dan peka tentang hak, perundangan dan keselamatan wanita dan keluarga, pelbagai kursus melalui kolaborasi dengan rakan strategik masih diteruskan.

Kursus Kesedaran Keselamatan

Pada tahun ini, sebanyak 13 siri kursus kesedaran telah dilaksanakan, iaitu Kursus Kemahiran Asas Menolong (KKAM), *Know Your Rights; Family and Women Safety; Pocket Talks* dan *Anti-Scam Literacy*. Seramai 2,987 peserta telah menyertai kursus yang diadakan secara bersemuka dan atas talian. Hasil penilaian keberkesanan kursus menunjukkan seramai 1,243, iaitu bersamaan dengan 89.5% daripada 1,389 peserta berpandangan kursus yang dihadiri telah berjaya meningkatkan kesedaran mereka dalam mengendalikan isu-isu sosial yang melibatkan wanita dan keluarga.

Geran Pemerksaan Badan Bukan Kerajaan (NGO) Wanita

Penglibatan NGO sebagai rakan strategik amatlah penting untuk membantu kementerian dalam pelaksanaan pelbagai program pemerksaan wanita dan pemantapan institusi keluarga. Setakat bulan Oktober 2024, sejumlah RM177,028 telah disalurkan kepada 25 NGO untuk membantu mereka melaksanakan pelbagai program pemerksaan wanita dan pemantapan institusi keluarga yang melibatkan komuniti setempat.

PEMERKASAAN SISTEM SOKONGAN SOSIAL UNTUK KESEJAHTERAAN KOMUNITI (EMPOWERING SOCIAL SUPPORT SYSTEM FOR COMMUNITY WELLBEING)

Sistem Sokongan Sosial, Kebajikan dan Perkhidmatan Rujukan Intervensi

Tuan Speaker, kerajaan menyedari cabaran kelangsungan hidup yang dihadapi oleh golongan rentan, terutamanya akibat peningkatan kos sara hidup. Oleh itu, pelbagai bentuk bantuan disalurkan bagi memperkukuhkan jaminan sosial supaya setiap lapisan masyarakat mendapat sokongan yang sewajarnya dalam menghadapi cabaran sosioekonomi. Antara bantuan yang disediakan adalah bantuan kewangan kebajikan, bantuan kesihatan bersasar dan bantuan kepada mangsa bencana.

Bantuan Kewangan Kebajikan

Sehingga 31 Oktober 2024, seramai 55,684 orang telah menerima pelbagai jenis bantuan kewangan kebajikan yang melibatkan peruntukan sebanyak RM215 juta.

Bantuan Kesihatan Bersasar

Sehingga Oktober 2024, sejumlah RM4.5 juta telah dibelanjakan bagi memberi manfaat kepada 110 pesakit di bawah Skim Bantuan Alat Tiruan/ Sokongan, 184 pesakit di bawah Skim Bantuan Pesakit Buah Pinggang (BPBP) dan 52 pesakit di bawah Skim Bantuan Perubatan.

Bantuan kepada Mangsa Bencana

Dari Januari hingga Oktober 2024, Jabatan Kebajikan Masyarakat Sarawak telah menyalurkan RM7.3 juta bantuan bencana kepada 153,981 mangsa. Bantuan tertinggi adalah bekalan air bersih sewaktu kemarau iaitu RM3.8 juta untuk 117,633 mangsa. Sebagai persediaan menghadapi Monsun Timur Laut 2024/2025, Kerajaan Negeri telah menyediakan stok bantuan bencana kepada mangsa di Depoh Simpanan Keperluan Bencana Samarahan, Mini Depoh di Miri dan Lawas; 16 stor bantuan bencana di Pejabat Kebajikan Bahagian dan Daerah, serta 31 Pangkalan Hadapan Bencana. Jabatan Kebajikan Masyarakat Sarawak juga telah menjalankan Latih Amal dan Simulasi Bencana di Bahagian Serian, Sri Aman, Samarahan, Kuching dan Bintulu dengan kerjasama agensi di bawah Jawatankuasa Pengurusan Bencana Bahagian dan Daerah.

Program Pembangunan Ekonomi – Memperkasakan Penerima Bantuan dan Ahli Isi Rumah

Tuan Speaker, bagi tahun 2024, Kerajaan Negeri telah memperuntukkan dana sebanyak RM1.5 juta bagi membantu 300 penerima bantuan bulanan kebajikan yang produktif untuk membolehkan mereka mengembangkan perniagaan, meningkatkan pendapatan dan seterusnya mengeluarkan mereka daripada senarai penerima bantuan bulanan. Usahawan ini akan terus dibimbing dan dipantau dalam tempoh dua tahun.

Tuan Speaker,

*Terbang tinggi terbang di awan,
Hinggap di dahan si burung kenari,
Atlet OKU bukti kehebatan,
Semangat juang tak pernah henti.*

Agik Idup Agik Ngelaban!

Pemeriksaan Orang Kurang Upaya (OKU) dalam Bidang Sukan

Talent Identification Programme

Talent Identification Programme merupakan medan pencarian bakat baharu bagi golongan OKU yang dilaksanakan oleh JKMS dengan kerjasama 10 Persatuan Sukan Para Sarawak. Program tahunan ini dianjurkan di seluruh bahagian dan bakat-bakat baharu akan menjalani latihan intensif sebagai persediaan untuk menyertai kejohanan sukan di peringkat dalam dan luar negara. Melalui program yang diadakan pada tahun 2023, seramai 85 bakat baharu telah dikenal pasti dan diserap sebagai atlet pelapis serta menyertai Kontinjen Para Sarawak ke Temasya Sukan Para SUKMA XXI Sarawak 2024.

*Penganjuran Temasya Para SUKMA XXI Sarawak 2024 dan
Road to Para SUKMA XXII 2026*

Temasya Para SUKMA XXI Sarawak 2024 telah berlangsung pada 22 sehingga 28 September 2024 dengan penuh gemilang, hasil kerjasama erat dan komitmen luar biasa daripada 27 jawatankuasa kerja yang melibatkan kementerian, jabatan, agensi di peringkat negeri mahupun persekutuan, badan bukan kerajaan dan 1,068 sukarelawan. Pengalaman penganjuran dan penyertaan dalam Para SUKMA XXI Sarawak 2024 akan dijadikan panduan kementerian dalam

merangka strategi dan tindakan untuk menghadapi Para SUKMA XXII pada tahun 2026 dan kejohanan-kejohanan para di peringkat antarabangsa.

Pencapaian dalam Bidang Sukan

Dengan kekuatan 213 atlet para, 20 jurulatih dan 10 pengurus pasukan, Sarawak telah berjaya meraih 209 pingat, iaitu 82 emas, 53 perak dan 74 gangsa, dan sekali gus dinobatkan sebagai juara keseluruhan buat kali ke-14. Atlet para Sarawak telah mencipta tiga rekod kebangsaan dan 10 rekod temasya. Pemberian insentif kemenangan sebanyak RM1,723,000 kepada atlet para-SUKMA pada kadar yang setara dengan atlet SUKMA merupakan pengiktirafan yang wajar. Terima kasih Yang Amat Berhormat Premier kerana mengangkat martabat atlet para-SUKMA. Kehebatan atlet para-Sarawak sememangnya tidak dapat dinafikan. Lima orang telah dipilih untuk mewakili negara dalam Temasya Paralimpik di Paris pada 28 Ogos hingga 9 September 2024, di mana Bonnie Bunyau anak Gustin telah memenangi pingat emas dalam acara Powerlifting 72 kg Lelaki dan mencipta rekod baharu dengan angkatan seberat 232 kg. Kejayaan Bonnie di pentas dunia telah menginspirasi atlet-atlet para bukan saja untuk masa kini malah untuk masa akan datang.

KESEJAHTERAAN WARGA EMAS

Tuan Speaker, berdasarkan statistik daripada Jabatan Perangkaan Malaysia, unjuran populasi Sarawak bagi tahun 2023 adalah seramai 2.5 juta atau 2,509,500 orang, di mana 318,707 (12.7%) adalah berumur 60 tahun ke atas. Untuk menyantuni golongan ini, Kerajaan Sarawak telah melaksanakan pelbagai inisiatif bagi mendukung penuaan yang sejahtera untuk warga emas di Sarawak, memastikan warga emas dapat menikmati kehidupan yang berkualiti, dihormati dan disokong oleh masyarakat dan keluarga mereka. Antara inisiatif yang dilaksanakan adalah penubuhan Pusat Aktiviti Warga Emas (PAWE) dan Pusat Perkhidmatan Warga Emas (PPWE), *Kenyalang Gold Card (KGC)*, *Senior Citizen Health Benefit (SCHB)*, dan kursus *Digital Literacy for Elderly Women*.

Pusat Aktiviti Warga Emas (PAWE) dan Pusat Perkhidmatan Warga Emas (PPWE)

Sehingga Oktober 2024, seramai 19,251 (6%) warga emas telah berdaftar di Pusat Aktiviti Warga Emas (PAWE) dan di Pusat Perkhidmatan Warga Emas (PPWE). Pada tahun ini, sebanyak 1,639 aktiviti yang merangkumi lima dimensi, iaitu kesihatan, sosial, ekonomi, kerohanian, dan persekitaran telah berjaya dilaksanakan.

Kenyalang Gold Card (KGC) Initiative

Kenyalang Gold Card (KGC) an initiative by GPS, Government of Sarawak for senior citizen irrespective of race and their household income to enjoy discounts provided by our KGC Strategic Partners where mainly from private sectors. The range of services provided by our KGC Strategic Partners include health and dental services, pharmacies, supermarket, eateries, transport, hotel or in even funeral services.

For the information of this august House, all completed Kenyalang Gold Card (KGC) applications will be processed promptly by the Sarawak Welfare Department. However, while processing applications, the department often encounters common issues such as incomplete supporting documents and applicant names that do not match their identification cards, which hinders the approval process. As of 3rd November 2024, a total of 312,297 KGC applications have been approved. Out of this number, 302,011 cards have been received by the applicants, while the remaining 10,286 cards are currently under distribution to all District Welfare Offices and are expected to be completed by the end of November. Applicants can then collect their cards from District or Divisional Welfare Office.

Senior Citizen Health Benefit (SCHB)

Senior Citizen Health Benefit (SCHB) adalah satu inisiatif baharu Kerajaan GPS Sarawak yang dilaksanakan mulai 22 Julai 2024 dan dilancarkan secara rasmi oleh YAB Premier pada 10 Ogos 2024, bagi membantu warga emas berpendapatan isi rumah RM7,000 dan ke bawah untuk mendapatkan kemudahan rawatan pesakit luar di hospital/ klinik panel swasta dengan had maksimum RM500 seorang setahun.

Sehingga 15 November 2024, seramai 108,002 warga emas layak mendapat faedah daripada inisiatif ini dan daripada jumlah tersebut, seramai 14,502 orang telah menggunakan kemudahan SCHB dengan perbelanjaan sebanyak RM1.95 juta. Sebanyak 222 hospital/ klinik swasta telah berdaftar sebagai klinik panel untuk SCHB di seluruh Sarawak.

Digital Literacy for Elderly Women

Kementerian melalui JWKS telah bekerjasama dengan pihak Pustaka Negeri Sarawak dalam mengadakan kursus *Digital Literacy for Elderly Women* untuk meningkatkan kesedaran dan pengetahuan asas literasi digital dapat diaplikasikan dalam kehidupan seharian. Ini juga merupakan satu usaha untuk mengelak wanita warga emas daripada terpedaya dengan pelbagai bentuk penipuan atas talian. Kursus yang telah diadakan di Beluru, Spaoh dan Pakan telah memberi manfaat kepada 105 peserta. Hasil penilaian kursus mendapati tahap kefahaman dan kesedaran peserta adalah pada aras tinggi, iaitu purata skor 96.46%.

Tuan Speaker, bagi membina komuniti yang berdaya tahan, kementerian kami menyediakan pelbagai sokongan sosial dan intervensi melalui jaringan kolaborasi bersama rakan-rakan strategik. Antara inisiatif dan sistem sokongan signifikan yang disediakan adalah:

PROGRAM INTERVENSI SOSIAL

Program Advokasi Kanak-kanak

Sejak Januari hingga Oktober 2024, JKMS telah melaksanakan Program Advokasi Perlindungan Kanak-kanak – Kasih Kanak-kanak, untuk meningkatkan kesedaran kanak-kanak mengenai situasi yang memerlukan pemeliharaan dan perlindungan. Program ini turut memberi peluang kepada Pasukan Perlindungan dan Kebajikan Kanak-kanak (PPKK) untuk mengenali kanak-kanak di kawasan masing-masing, serta memberikan pendedahan kepada pelajar sekolah mengenai langkah-langkah yang perlu diambil sekiranya terdedah kepada ancaman yang menggugat kesejahteraan mereka. Program ini telah dijalankan di 25 sekolah di seluruh Sarawak yang telah melibatkan seramai 5,429 pelajar sekolah dengan perbelanjaan sebanyak RM176,494.

Program Kesedaran Advokasi dan Pendidikan Seksual (KAPS)

Bagi memantapkan lagi usaha untuk menangani isu kehamilan remaja, kementerian menerusi tadbir urus *One Stop Teenage Pregnancy Committee (OSTPC)* di peringkat bahagian telah menganjur Program Kesedaran dan Advokasi Pendidikan Seksual (KAPS) di sekolah-sekolah menengah kebangsaan di Sarawak secara bersasar. Sejak tahun 2016, sebanyak 75 siri KAPS telah dilaksanakan melibatkan 15,279 pelajar sekolah. Berdasarkan rekod daripada Jabatan Kesihatan Negeri Sarawak, terdapat penurunan ketara dalam bilangan kes remaja hamil bersekolah, iaitu daripada 142 kes pada 2016 kepada 63 kes pada 2023, Alhamdulillah. *Trend* penurunan ini memberi semangat kepada kementerian kami dan rakan-rakan strategik dalam OSTPC untuk terus mengendalikan program KAPS ini di sekolah-sekolah menengah di seluruh Sarawak.

Advanced C.A.R.E Suicide Prevention Gatekeeper Training

Selari dengan keperluan Seksyen 11(5) Akta Kesihatan Mental 2001, dengan kerjasama Hospital Miri dan Mental Health Association Miri, kementerian telah menjalankan dua kursus

Advanced C.A.R.E Suicide Prevention Gatekeeper Training bagi tujuan meningkatkan kecekapan anggota barisan hadapan dalam menangani kes cubaan bunuh diri. Seramai 98 anggota barisan hadapan termasuk Pegawai Psikologi dan Pegawai Kebajikan Masyarakat di Bahagian Bintulu dan Miri telah mengikuti kursus ini dengan jayanya.

Perkhidmatan Psikologi dan Kaunseling Komuniti

Perkhidmatan psikologi dan kaunseling JKMS merangkumi perkhidmatan kepada komuniti, institusi, organisasi, dan program pemulihan kanak-kanak dan keluarga. Sehingga Oktober 2024, sebanyak 7,245 kes disantuni termasuk penaksiran psikologi dan program psikopendidikan. Perkhidmatan intervensi krisis turut dijalankan bagi mangsa pelbagai bentuk bencana dengan memberi juga sokongan emosi kepada klien dan keluarga, membantu pemulihan emosi serta meningkatkan daya tahan mental mereka mengikut kesesuaian klien.

Program Outreach: Santuni Komuniti (POSKOM)

Setakat Oktober 2024, seramai 7,984 pelanggan telah disantuni melalui penganjuran POSKOM di semua Bahagian. Program ini diteruskan pada tahun 2025 dengan memfokuskan kawasan-kawasan luar bandar.

Randau Pembangunan Sosial dan Randau Solidariti Komuniti

Bagi meningkatkan kesedaran komuniti dalam menangani isu-isu sosial, kementerian telah melaksanakan Randau Pembangunan Sosial (RPS) yang menyasarkan komuniti luar bandar dan pedalaman, dan Randau Solidariti Komuniti (RSK) yang bertujuan memupuk perpaduan dan keselamatan awam bagi komuniti bandar dan pinggir bandar.

Setakat Oktober 2024, sebanyak lima siri program RPS dan lapan siri program RSK telah dilaksanakan dengan penyertaan 3,071 peserta dan penglibatan 33 buah agensi Kerajaan serta NGO berkaitan.

Geran Pemerksaan NGO bagi Kesejahteraan Komuniti

Setakat Oktober 2024, kementerian telah menyalurkan peruntukan sebanyak RM534,102 kepada 15 NGO bagi melaksanakan aktiviti sokongan intervensi sosial yang menyumbang kepada kesejahteraan komuniti.

Social Support Facilities

Tuan Speaker, to sustain social functionality, dignity, and wellbeing of the vulnerable, high risk, and affected groups impacted by the pertinent social issues addressed by our ministry, we continue to provide integrated social support and intervention referral services in the community.

Community Social Support Center (CSSC) Kuching

This year, in collaboration with our strategic partners, various programs and activities have been implemented at the CSSC Kuching. It has also become a platform for the NGOs to actively contribute to the vulnerable and disadvantaged groups.

- (a) The Soup Kitchen implemented by Society for Kuching Urban Poor (SKUP) funded through donations in cash and kind from corporate bodies and philanthropists has provided free daily breakfast and lunch to 292 urban hardcore poor and the needy;
- (b) The food bank provided dry rations and food baskets to 53 needy individuals, *ini termasuk ibu tunggal*;

- (c) 234 social cases were reported for intervention referrals from strategic partners involving NGOs with 220 cases fully resolved.

Di samping itu, pelbagai aktiviti intervensi, advokasi dan khidmat komuniti turut dijalankan di CSSC Kuching, iaitu:

- (a) 63 saringan kesihatan, penilaian, kaunseling individu dan konsultasi melibatkan klien-klien yang dikendalikan oleh Agensi Anti Dadah Kebangsaan (AADK), Mental Health Association Sarawak (MHAS), dan Pejabat Kesihatan Bahagian Kuching;
- (b) 20 aktiviti kesedaran dan advokasi, pencegahan, kaunseling kelompok dan program pembangunan kapasiti;
- (c) Satu siri aktiviti Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) anjuran Fraser & Neave Holdings Berhad (East Malaysia & Borneo) sempena Sambutan Tahun Baharu Cina 2024 untuk menyantuni 40 penerima dari golongan miskin bandar yang merupakan klien CSSC Kuching; dan
- (d) Satu siri *Community Market* anjuran Harapan Anak Urang Sarawak (HAUS) Kuching diadakan pada 27 hingga 28 April 2024. Seramai 50 vendor yang terdiri daripada golongan belia telah menyertai program tersebut menerusi jualan gerai minuman dan makanan, pakaian, kraftangan dan aktiviti seni dan hiburan.

Tempat Transit Gelandangan (TTG)

Untuk makluman terkini, Tempat Transit Gelandangan (TTG) Sibu telah menyantuni seramai 185 gelandangan. Daripada jumlah tersebut, 165 gelandangan telah dibantu memulakan hidup baru dan mengintegrasikan mereka ke dalam masyarakat. Setakat Oktober 2024, seramai 21 gelandangan masih lagi menerima perkhidmatan di TTG Sibu.

Tuan Speaker, kementerian komited dalam meneruskan kolaborasi dan kerjasama dengan rakan-rakan strategik melalui urus tadbir Majlis Pembangunan Sosial Sarawak dalam menangani isu-isu sosial utama di Sarawak.

MENANGANI ISU-ISU SOSIAL DALAM KOMUNITI

Isu Kewarganegaraan dan Masalah Dokumen Pengenalan Diri

Untuk makluman Ahli-ahli Yang Berhormat, kerajaan amat prihatin tentang isu kewarganegaraan dan masalah dokumen pengenalan diri yang melibatkan individu di Sarawak.

Kewarganegaraan di bawah Perkara 15A Perlembagaan Persekutuan

Susulan daripada perjumpaan saya dan Timbalan Menteri saya, Yang Berhormat Datuk Hajah Rosey dengan Yang Berhormat Menteri Dalam Negeri (MDN) pada 24 Julai 2024, beliau telah bersetuju untuk mewujudkan Jawatankuasa Khas Status Kewarganegaraan (JKKSK) Perkara 15A, Sarawak. Jawatankuasa ini akan memberi keutamaan kepada urusan berkaitan verifikasi permohonan, fasilitasi proses permohonan dan mengemukakan syor kepada Jawatankuasa Khas Status Kewarganegaraan (JKKSK). Namun demikian, keputusan akhir terhadap permohonan kewarganegaraan adalah tertakluk kepada perundangan, dasar, dan peraturan semasa yang berkuat kuasa di bawah bidang kuasa Menteri Dalam Negeri Malaysia.

Kemasukan Indikator K dalam Kad Pengenalan Anak Angkat

Pada 26 September 2024, Majlis Mesyuarat Kerajaan Negeri (MMKN) telah meluluskan kemasukan indikator K ke dalam kad pengenalan kanak-kanak yang diangkat oleh pasangan/ ibu bapa warganegara pemastautin Sarawak yang memiliki indikator K sebagai satu dasar tambahan untuk diterima pakai oleh Jabatan Pendaftaran Negara (JPN) Negeri Sarawak. Kelulusan tersebut adalah terpakai kepada kes-kes anomali seperti berikut:

- (a) Kanak-kanak yang diangkat oleh pasangan warganegara (pemegang indikator K), yang telah diberikan taraf kewarganegaraan di bawah Perkara 15A Perlembagaan Persekutuan, tanpa mengambil kira status indikator ibu atau bapa kandung dan latar belakang kanak-kanak yang tercatat dalam sijil kelahiran asal kanak-kanak tersebut; dan
- (b) Kanak-kanak yang dijumpai/ *abandoned* yang ditempatkan di institusi-institusi kebajikan milik kerajaan yang telah diangkat oleh pasangan warganegara (pemegang indikator K), tanpa mengambil kira maklumat yang tercatat dalam sijil lahir asal kanak-kanak tersebut.

Ketika ini, kementerian bersama Jabatan Pendaftaran Negara, Negeri Sarawak; dan Jabatan Imigresen Malaysia, Negeri Sarawak dan agensi Kerajaan yang lain sedang menambah baik prosedur operasi standard dan garis panduan sedia ada bagi memudah cara dan mempercepatkan proses kelulusan permohonan pemastautin tetap (PR) dan sijil permit masuk bagi kanak-kanak yang telah diluluskan kewarganegaraan di bawah Perkara 15A Perlembagaan Persekutuan agar pemberian indikator K dapat dibuat dengan kadar segera.

Isu Penyalahgunaan Dadah dan Substans

Kerajaan Sarawak terus komited menangani isu penyalahgunaan dadah dan substans melalui pelbagai pendekatan:

One Stop Committee (OSC) bagi Menangani Isu Dadah dan Substance (MIDS)

Langkah utama yang diambil ialah penubuhan OSC MIDS, sebuah model kerjasama strategik antara pelbagai agensi, pihak berkuasa dan masyarakat di peringkat akar umbi secara menyeluruh. Inisiatif ini telah mendapat pujian daripada Timbalan Ketua Polis Negara Malaysia, Dato' Sri Ayob Khan Mydin Pitchay dan beliau telah mengatakan bahawa model ini harus dicontohi oleh negeri lain di Malaysia. Antara kejayaan OSC MIDS sejak penubuhannya adalah :

- (a) Seramai 4,470 pengedar dadah telah ditangkap oleh PDRM dan Jabatan Kastam DiRaja Malaysia Sarawak dengan nilai rampasan dadah sebanyak RM255 juta;
- (b) Seramai 52,745 pengguna dadah telah dikesan oleh One Stop Centre for Addiction (OSCA), Agensi Anti Dadah Kebangsaan (AADK) dan PDRM; dan
- (c) Kerjasama dan kolaborasi antara agensi-agensi OSC MIDS dan pemimpin masyarakat akar umbi bagi menangani isu dadah dan substans setempat semakin kukuh.

Penganjuran Forum Khas Narkotik

Pada 8 Oktober 2024, Forum Khas Narkotik anjuran Jabatan Siasatan Jenayah Narkotik Bukit Aman dengan kerjasama OSC MIDS telah diadakan untuk memperkukuhkan kerjasama antara agensi penguat kuasa, NGO dan masyarakat dalam menangani penyalahgunaan dadah dan substans di Sarawak. Beberapa resolusi strategik telah dihasilkan daripada forum tersebut termasuk:

- (a) Penggunaan teknologi untuk menyekat penyeludupan dadah;

- (b) Penambahan anggota penguatkuasaan dan penubuhan unit narkotik di setiap daerah kepolisian;
- (c) Penguatkuasaan undang-undang yang lebih keras dengan kesan *deterrent* yang tinggi;
- (d) Penggunaan teknologi dan pakar dalam mengesan serta merawat penagihan dadah;
- (e) Pengurusan kes penyalahgunaan dadah melalui sistem maklumat yang bersepadu;
- (f) Memudah dan memperluaskan akses kepada rawatan dan pemulihan; dan
- (g) Memperkasakan komuniti melalui aktiviti kesedaran dan advokasi bahaya penyalahgunaan dadah dan substans.

Pemantapan Penguatkuasaan

Untuk memantapkan usaha membanteras dadah di peringkat akar umbi, Jabatan Siasatan Jenayah Narkotik (JSJN) telah menempatkan perjawatan sandaran di 13 daerah secara berperingkat sejak 2016 bermula dengan Daerah Lundu, Marudi dan Belaga diikuti Daerah Saratok pada tahun 2017; Daerah Simunjan, Meradong, Julau, dan Matu Daro pada tahun 2018; Daerah Lubok Antu dan Kanowit pada tahun 2019 dan Daerah Dalat pada tahun 2020.

Pada 4 November 2024, Daerah Song dan Tatau juga telah diwujudkan unit narkotik dengan penempatan pegawai polis di dua daerah tersebut secara sandaran.

The Second Regional Social Policy Conference

I am pleased to inform this august House that the Second Regional Social Policy Conference for East Asia and the Pacific Region organized by UNICEF and the Social Wellbeing Research Centre at Universiti Malaya in collaboration with our ministry, was held in Kuching, Sarawak on the 22nd and 23rd October 2024. This Conference provided an important platform for sharing knowledge on current issues and best practices of child-and family-centered social policies, while fostering collaboration across countries.

The conference brought together 250 participants, including research experts, policy makers, and international delegates from 14 countries. Key themes highlighted during the conference in social policy development includes:

- (a) Strategies to increase investments in children;
- (b) Shock-responsive and anticipatory social protection models;
- (c) Gender and family life in social policies;
- (d) Financing sustainable child-friendly social protection systems; and
- (e) Building inclusive and age-sensitive social protection systems.

Through this conference, we hope to strengthen our collaborations with local and international experts, encourage further discussion on social policies in Sarawak, and work towards effective policies that benefit our people.

PENUTUP

Tuan Speaker, *penutup*. The ministry would like to extend our deepest gratitude and appreciation to Sarawak Government led by GPS that has demonstrated unwavering commitment to the wellbeing development of its people. In times, when globally we were challenged with various health and economy related issues because of COVID-19 Pandemic, this government has stood as a beacon of compassion and responsibility, prioritizing the collective well-being of its citizens above all else. Let me repeat that, in times when globally we were challenged with various health and economy related issues because of COVID-19 pandemic, this government, GPS Government has stood as a beacon of compassion and responsibility, prioritizing the collective well-being of its citizens above all else.

Through various decisive and practical action, thoughtful policy, and an unrelenting dedication to ensuring social justice as dictated by PCDS-2030, the leadership of YAB Premier has shown us that GPS led government is not an abstract entity, but a force recognized both at home and abroad for its visionary socio-economic development agenda towards making Sarawak a developed region by 2030.

From expanding access to early childhood education, to creating equal economic opportunities and dignified life even among the vulnerable populations, every initiative as reported above has been crafted with the singular goal of improving lives and ensuring a better future where no one felt they are marginalized and left behind.

The care shown during times of economic strain, the courage to make difficult decisions for the long-term benefit of the people, and the transparency with which policies are enacted, deserves our unequivocal support and appreciation.

We acknowledge the tireless work of the government led by YAB Premier, and the sacrifices made by all who serve to advance the common good of all which stands as a testament to the power and execution of genuine public service and people-centred concerns. This government has not only fulfilled its duty but has surpassed expectations, reminding all that governance is about people, real people, whose hopes, struggles, aspirations and dreams must always be the first priority.

*Di balik gunung terbit mentari,
Sinar cahaya menerangi bumi,
Kerajaan GPS berkredibiliti tinggi,
Kesejahteraan rakyat adalah first priority.*

Tuan Speaker, we see the hungry, hear the weak, we comfort the vulnerable, acknowledge the disabled, with hearts that feel, and mind that think, we share equal opportunities which development can bring.

With this opportunity, our ministry also would like to record our heartfelt appreciation to all our strategic partners who have participated in our quest towards realising our aspiration of Sarawak Maju Makmur guided by the theme, *“Inclusivity, Foundation for Community Wellbeing”*.

*Yang korek itu kendi,
Yang merah itu saga,
Yang molek itu budi,
Yang indah itu bahasa.*

Tuan Speaker, congratulations and thank you very much for your efficiency and wisdom in handling the session, and to all members of the august House and fellow Sarawakian, Merry Christmas and Happy New Year 2025. Dengan ini, saya menyokong Rang Undang-undang Perbekalan (2025), 2024 dan Usul untuk merujuk Resolusi Anggaran Perbelanjaan Pembangunan bagi tahun 2025. Sekian, Wabillahitaufik Walhidayah, Assalamualaikum Warahmatullahi Wabarakatuh.

Tuan Speaker: Dengan hormatnya saya menjemput Ahli Yang Berhormat Datuk Amar Dr Sim Kui Hian, Timbalan Premier Sarawak; dan Menteri Kesihatan Awam, Perumahan dan Kerajaan Tempatan Sarawak untuk menyampaikan ucapan penggulungan.

Timbalan Premier Sarawak; Menteri Kesihatan Awam, Perumahan dan Kerajaan Tempatan; dan Ahli Dewan Undangan Negeri N.14 Batu Kawah (YB Datuk Amar Dr Sim Kui Hian): Thank you, very much. Tuan Speaker. I would like to thank Tuan Speaker and all the Ahli-ahli Yang Berhormat for staying on for my winding up, despite after 6.20 p.m. *(Laughter)*

First and foremost, I would like to express my appreciation to the Right Honourable Premier of Sarawak for presenting not just the biggest ever Sarawak budget but continue a people-centric 2025 State Budget under the theme *“Together Building a Prosperous Future”*.

The budget prioritizes social equity, community resilience and sustainable development, aim to provide all Sarawakians with equitable access to resources and opportunities particularly the marginalized communities. It is a budget committed to inclusivity, fairness and a brighter future for all. By addressing critical areas such as healthcare, education, housing and social welfare, this budget reflects the Government’s dedication to enhancing the lives of all *rakyat*. When the people thrive, our communities and economy grow stronger.

I would like to thank YAB Premier for allocating funds to all agencies under my ministry for the continuation and implementation of various infrastructure and community development projects and to the Housing Development Corporation for the construction of affordable housing in Sarawak.

I would also like to congratulate Tuan Yang Terutama Yang di-Pertua Negeri Sarawak, Tun Pehin Sri Dr. Haji Wan Junaidi bin Tuanku Jaafar on his Excellency’s appointment as the fourth Chancellor of Universiti Malaysia Sarawak (UNIMAS) this year.

I would also like to extend my congratulations to YAB Premier of Sarawak, who has been awarded the Darjah Setia Negara Brunei Yang Amat Bahagia Darjah Pertama (P.S.N.B.), which carries the title *“Dato Seri Setia”*, in conjunction with the 78th birthday celebration of the Sultan of Brunei Darussalam on 15th July 2024, and the Highest Order of the State of Sabah, the Datuk Seri Panglima Darjah Kinabalu (S.P.D.K.), which carries the title *“Datuk Seri Panglima”* in conjunction with the 71st official birthday celebration of His Excellency the Governor of Sabah on 5th October 2024 and all the Honourable Members of this august House who have been awarded the prestigious Darjah Kebesaran Bintang and Pingat Negeri Sarawak in conjunction with the 78th Birthday of Tuan Yang Terutama Yang di-Pertua Negeri Sarawak on 12th October 2024. Additionally, I also thank all the Honourable Members for their comments and concerns for matters under my ministry jurisdiction which I will now address.

MINISTRY OF PUBLIC HEALTH, HOUSING AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT (MPHLG)

Tuan Speaker, my ministry oversees 29 agencies, including the Department of Irrigation and Drainage (DID) Sarawak; Sewerage Services Department (SSD) Sarawak, Housing Development Corporation (HDC), Borneo Development Corporation (Sarawak) Sdn. Bhd. and the 25 local authorities in Sarawak. In addition, Sarawak Health Department; and the Fire and Rescue Department Malaysia Sarawak are also under my watching brief. Our commitment is to improve service delivery to enhance the quality of life for the *rakyat*.

Development Projects and Programmes under Local Authorities

For the information of Ahli-ahli Yang Berhormat in this august House, as of 25th October 2024, RM249.5 million (51%) of the approved allocation under RMK-12 has been disbursed for the local authorities for infrastructure, municipal facilities and amenities projects. All these projects are at various stages of implementation by the respective local authorities.

Since 2018, 232 *Projek Rakyat* worth RM829.6 million have been approved for local authorities including BDA and DBKU with 127 completed while the remaining 105 projects are at various stages of implementation.

To date, 5,126 Rural Transformation Projects (RTP) have been completed out of 6,565 approved projects, with a total allocation of RM1.02 billion to the local authorities since 2015. The remaining 1,439 projects are in various stages of implementation.

In 2024, RM275.24 million was allocated for road maintenance under the Malaysian Road Record Information System (MARRIS). As of 31st October 2024, RM229 million had been disbursed to the local authorities which is 83.18% of approved allocation this year.

This year, the Federal Ministry of Housing and Local Government (KPKT) allocated RM51.55 million for 233 public infrastructure projects and RM700,000 for 10 projects under Program Bandar Selamat. To date, 101 projects have been completed while the remaining 142 projects are in various stages of implementation. Additionally, the Federal Ministry of Entrepreneur and Cooperative Development (KUSKOP) have allocated RM1.995 million to upgrade 13 *tamu* while the Federal Ministry of Economy allocated RM2.06 million for 16 minor infrastructure projects through the *Inisiatif Kemudahan Rakyat* (IKR). All projects are currently at different stages of implementation.

For the information of Ahli-ahli Yang Berhormat in this august House, Urban Poor Eradication Programme (PPKB) is a program undertaken by KPKT to reduce the occurrence of urban poor by improving the living condition of eligible applicants through house repair and *bina baharu* in urban areas. This year, RM6 million was allocated to Sarawak under Phase 1 and Phase 2 for the repair of 300 houses. To date, 289 house repair projects have been completed. A total of 16 houses have been completed out of 43 houses approved under *bina baharu* with an overall allocation of RM2.72 million.

Local Authorities Star Rating

I would like to highlight the recent achievements of our local authorities in various awards for bench-marking and continuous improvement.

Under the biennial Local Authorities Star Rating conducted by KPKT this year, the number of local authorities in Sarawak achieving 5-Star status has improved, with nine attaining 5-Star rating status in 2024 as compared to seven in 2022 with Padawan Municipal Council (MPP) attaining third placing in the Municipal Council category in the whole of Malaysia.

On smart city journey, Kuching South City Council (MBKS) and MPP received the Smart City Early Adopter Award this year by KPKT. Notably, Kuching North City Hall (DBKU) and Miri City Council (MCC) achieved this same recognition last year. Furthermore, MCC was recently honoured with the Human CentriCity Silver Award at the Seoul Smart City Prize Ceremony in October 2024, in recognition of the Miri Smart City Project and its contributions to promoting digital inclusion in smart city development.

SMART Community Development and Engagement Programmes

Tuan Speaker, in reaffirming our commitment to nurture self-reliant community groups under sustainable development initiative of SMART Community Program, my ministry has disbursed RM1.65 million for 225 approved programs carried out by the various local communities.

In appreciating and acknowledging the involvement of the community, in preserving the environment, my ministry will celebrate the SMART Community Award this year with seven out of 17 participation that met the criteria of SMART will be adjudged winners receiving a total amount of RM47,000 on 29th November 2024.

Malaysian Urban Rural National Indicators Network for Sustainable Development (MURNINets)

26 local authorities in Sarawak have participated in MURNINets since 2023. MURNINets has served as a tool to measure and evaluate the sustainability level of a city, municipality and district council through 51 indicators developed by PLANMalaysia under KPKT.

In 2024, eight Sarawak local authorities have achieved Sustainable City status namely DBKU, MBKS, Bintulu Development Authority (BDA), MCC, MPP, Sibu Municipal Council (SMC), Kota

Samarahan Municipal Council (MPKS) and Sarikei District Council while 18 local authorities have achieved the status of moderate sustainability. Additionally, MPP is one of the 12 local authorities throughout Malaysia receiving the Most Sustainable City Award 2024 (*Bandar Paling Mampan 2024*) while DBKU received the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) Recognition for its efforts in affirming the UN SDGs. These achievements reflect the commitment of local authorities in achieving the vision of Sarawak Post COVID Development Strategy (PCDS) 2030 towards a prosperous economy, social inclusivity and environmentally sustainable Sarawak.

Aged-Friendly City

Based on Department of Statistic Malaysia (DOSM) for 2023, an estimated 12.8% of Sarawak population belongs to the aged 60 years and above. In our quest to prepare for the ageing population, it is crucial to create an environment where older residents can thrive and actively contribute to the community.

MBKS has officially become a member of the World Health Organization (WHO) Global Network for Age-Friendly Cities and Communities (AFCC) on 13th September 2024. MBKS is the second of the city in the whole of Malaysia to belong to WHO Global Network. Through its partnership with WHO, MBKS is expected to gain access to global resources and best practices, enabling continuous improvement in both infrastructure and social inclusion. This membership underscores Sarawak Government dedication to creating an inclusive and supportive environment for its senior citizens. The journey to becoming an age-friendly city extends beyond infrastructure and policy to encompass community, wellbeing and culture. The aim is to ensure older adults have access to safe public spaces, reliable healthcare, supportive housing and meaningful opportunities for social engagement.

Child Friendly Cities Initiative (CFCI)

Sarawak is advancing the CFCI, with all cities and municipalities signing a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with UNICEF to promote children's and adolescents' rights and well-being. This aligns with Sarawak's commitment to the SDGs supported by our PCDS 2030.

In 2024, three local authorities namely DBKU, MBKS and SMC have established a Child Council to give children a voice in community decision-making. The Child Council enable children to advocate for their needs, shape policies, promote children's rights, develop civic responsibilities and build leadership skills, ensuring cities are inclusive and responsive to children's needs. This initiative aligns with the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC), which highlights the importance of children's participation in decisions affecting their lives. The remaining local authorities namely BDA, MCC, MPP and MPKS will establish their own Child Councils in due course.

ISSUES RAISED BY AHLI-AHLI YANG BERTHORMAT

PRIMA Bintawa Assessment Rate

For the information of Ahli Yang Berhormat for Pending, unfortunately is not around and everybody else is around; manuals used by the local authorities for assessment rates were developed or formulated by professional valuers to ensure consistency and legal compliance. These manuals serve as guidelines that outline standardized methods for valuing properties, determining assessment rates and applying any exemptions or reductions. The guidelines also consistent with the legal provisions under the Local Authority Ordinance, 1995.

I would like to emphasize that consistency in applying the valuation principle is essential to avoid arbitrary adjustment that would lead to compliance issues. For PRIMA Bintawa, MBKS received requests for a reduction in the assessment rates in 2021. In response, MBKS re-inspected PRIMA Bintawa, reviewing the condition of the buildings, construction materials and available facilities. It was found out that the properties were of a standard normal housing development

complete with other facilities such as *tadika*, *surau*, multipurpose hall, recreational facilities and playground. Despite of all these facilities which should be considered in the valuation for rating purposes, however, for PRIMA Bintawa, it was not.

Floor areas for PRIMA Bintawa are 1,038 and 1,158 square feet are imposed with an assessment rate of RM484.95 and RM540.60 before discount respectively. In comparison, the assessment rate of a similar strata development (Neu Pendington) in the proximity with 865 square feet and 1,110 square feet are imposed with an assessment rate of RM458.45 and RM588.30.

The comparison of the assessment rate for PRIMA Bintawa and Neu Pendington before and after applying 2016 discount rate by late Adenan Satem will see PRIMA Bintawa offers lower rate per square feet overall compared to Neu Pendington.

The statement by Ahli Yang Berhormat for Pending and I quote "*nothing was done after I first brought it up in year 2022 in this august House*" and I also quote "*PRIMA Bintawa is an affordable housing scheme developed by the Government to cater the needs of the lower income group*" is purely misleading. The Council did relook and consider the request including getting the professional valuers from other councils to independently valued, however, based on the principle of fairness and making decision not on the arbitrary manner, the valuation for rating purposes were maintained.

The eligibility criteria for ownership of PRIMA Bintawa and PRIMA Matang, among others, is open to any individual or family with a household income of RM2,500 up to RM15,000. It also caters not only B40, M40 but also T20 groups. The statement by Ahli Yang Berhormat for Pending is simply trying to play hero and taking advantage for political mileage disguised as championing for the *rakyat*. I was wondering why? Since they do so much championing, what happens to the RM2 petrol per litre by DAP? *Tengook* saja.

Allowance for Councillors

For the information of Ahli Yang Berhormat for Tebedu, my ministry is finalizing the details on the revision of Councilor's allowance, before presenting the paper to the Cabinet for approval.

Lundu Sanitary Landfill

For the information of Ahli Yang Berhormat for Serembu, Phase 2 access road project to the Lundu Sanitary Landfill is on-going and is scheduled for completion by July 2025. The tender for the construction of the Sanitary Landfill will be called once Phase 2 is completed. The new landfill which will also serve both Lundu and Bau District Council is expected to be operational by 2027.

Taman Rekreasi Pantai Jepak

For the information of Ahli Yang Berhormat for Jepak, BDA will study the feasibility of developing Pantai Jepak in the future.

Traffic Congestion and Flash Flood at Serian

For the information of Ahli Yang Berhormat for Bukit Semuja, studies are ongoing to identify effective solutions for improving traffic flow at Serian Roundabout near the hospital and the Durian Piazza junction near the Roxy Hotel. The government remains committed to address the needs of the community and will provide updates on developments regarding this project and also any drainage improvement projects as they progress.

Establishing Councillor's Position for BDA

For the information of Ahli Yang Berhormat for Tanjong Batu, BDA was established under the Bintulu Development Authority Ordinance 1978, with a structure comprising a Chairman, Deputy Chairman and up to 10 Board Members but no councillorships. This differs from other local authorities which are governed by the Local Authorities Ordinance 1996, which follow the councillorship system as provided under the Sections 10 to 12 by the said Ordinance.

Allocation for MCC and Upgrading of Earth Drain

For the information of Ahli Yang Berhormat for Pujut, my ministry acknowledges the challenges face by MCC with regards to limited resources. To assist MCC, Sarawak Government provides grants for infrastructure projects as well as MCC initiatives to go for digitalisation, while encouraging to improved revenue collection and resource-sharing. Additionally, the Sarawak Government has approved SUSToM as a tool to address flooding and environmental impacts.

Proposed New District Council for Selangau and Pusa

For the information of Ahli Yang Berhormat for Tamin and Beting Maro, the government has no plan to establish the Selangau District Council and Pusa District Council respectively in near future. Currently, Sibu Rural District Council and Betong District Council are still capable of providing municipal services for Selangau and Pusa district respectively.

Engkilili Community Hall

For the information of Ahli Yang Berhormat for Engkilili, Lubok Antu District Council (MDLA) has presented a proposal for the construction of a new multipurpose hall at Engkilili in October 2024 to the Economic Planning Unit Sarawak (EPU) for funding approval.

Upgrading of Roads

For the information of Ahli Yang Berhormat for Engkilili, MDLA has included the proposal to resurface the roads in Merio area covering the main roads from Kampung Merio, Jalan Merio Nanga and Jalan Merio Tambak through MARRIS funding in 2025 with the estimated cost of RM600,000. Additionally, MDLA will submit a request for funding under BP1 Project for Jalan Geligau Ulu-Geligau Hilir and Jalan SK Empelam in 2025.

Housing

Tuan Speaker, I will now deliberate on housing which is under concurrent list – both Sarawak and Malaysia Federal Governments.

Sarawak Government Funded Project

For the information of Ahli-ahli Yang Berhormat in this august House, total number of affordable houses to be provided under the RMK-12 has been revised from 742 units to 1,000 units through 16 housing projects. All these projects are under various stages of implementation.

Projek Rakyat

Under *Projek Rakyat*, the four ongoing projects which are the upgrading of infrastructure at *Skim Pembesaran Kampung* (SPK) Tian, Rumah SPEKTRA Permata (RSP) at SPK Kampung Santubong, SPK Hulu Kabong and SPK Gedong are expected to be completed by December 2024, March 2025, July 2025 and June 2026 respectively. Earthwork for *Skim Penempatan Semula* (SPS) Banting Fasa 4 Lawas is under tender evaluation while the remaining two projects at SPK Sambir

and SPS Limbang are under planning stage. These projects, excluding the SPK Tian infrastructure upgrade will deliver a total of 391 RSP units.

Sarawak Rental Assistance Scheme (SRAS)

To date, the SRAS Selection Committee has approved 4,556 applications involving lock amount of RM22.1 million. Out of 4,556 applications, 3,123 applications from Kuching, 20 applications from Samarahan, 519 applications from Sibul, 725 applications from Bintulu, 130 applications are from Miri and 39 from students attending higher education institutions. Currently, the minimum household income for SRAS has been increased to RM4,556 and below. In 2024, the scheme was further expanded to Sarawakian working with government who are occupying government or employer-provided quarters in Kuching, Samarahan, Sibul, Bintulu and Miri districts who fulfil the minimum household income of RM4,556 and below.

Longhouse Loan Scheme

Tuan Speaker, for the information of this august House, between 1978 until 2024, the Longhouse Loan Scheme in Sarawak has benefited 1,145 longhouses comprising 24,791 doors. This involved an allocation of RM517.39 million with RM262.41 million from the Federal Government and RM254.98 million from the Sarawak Government. Since 2022, Sarawak Government has allocated RM50 million annually, in addition to the annual RM10 million from Federal Government to uplift and expedite the transformation of the living environment in the rural areas and to reduce the long waiting list of longhouse loan application throughout Sarawak due to the increasing and overwhelming number of applications received to date.

Housing Deposit and Repayment Assistance Scheme (HDRAS)

My ministry has carried out multiple engagements with HDC, MUTIARA and stakeholders to expand the scope of HDRAS. As a result, I am pleased to announce that the amount of HDRAS is fixed at RM10,000 per approved applicant but extended for open-market and the sub-sale houses that are priced below RM300,000. This enhancement will provide home-buyers with flexibility, allowing them to choose houses in locations that are more convenient to them such as proximity to their workplaces, children's schools, hospitals, other essential amenities while still benefiting from the assistance.

As announced by YAB Premier in his budget speech, RM41 million will be allocated in 2025 to MUTIARA which will benefit about 4,100 home buyers. To date, MUTIARA has received 1,934 applications of which 1,736 applications have been approved amounting to RM16.32 million.

MUTIARA Home Financing

On home financing, MUTIARA has approved 1,655 applications involving financial allocation of RM118.31 million. A total of RM75.78 million has been disbursed to 1,306 house buyers at an annual interest rate of 1% for B40 and 3% for M40.

Sarawak Housing Contribution Trust Fund (SHCTF)

I would like to update all Ahli Yang Berhormat on this latest status of the SHCTF. On 3rd April 2024, a special meeting of State Planning Authority (SPA 1) made several important decisions. First, developers will no longer be required to build affordable housing, such as SPEKTRA Lite, SPEKTRA Medium PUTERA Houses. Instead, they will contribute financially in lieu of construction. The contribution rates will be based on the current prices of affordable housing, with further discussions by the Technical Committee to finalize the exact amounts. It was also agreed that affordable housing prices will be reviewed every five years.

Sarawak Financial Secretary's Office (SFSO) will finalize the details of the Trust Fund, with YAB Premier proposed as Chairman. The SFSO and Technical Committee will also establish the payment modalities.

Additionally, the Sarawak Housing Contribution Trust Fund Direction 2024 was approved and gazetted on 23rd July and 2nd August 2024. The Special Committee and Technical Committee, responsible for approving the use of the trust fund, were established on 17th October 2024.

This marks a significant step forward in the management of our housing contributions and we are committed to ensure its effectiveness implementations for the benefit of the *rakyat*.

*Technical Committee for Housing Project Monitoring on Problematic Housing Projects
(delayed, the sick and the abandoned)*

I wish to inform this august House that the Sarawak Government is always concern about the right and interest of house purchasers affected by the problematic, delayed or abandoned housing projects. To address this, the government has implemented several key plans and actions, while also acknowledging the challenges faced. My ministry has set up a taskforce known as *Jawatankuasa Teknikal Pemantauan Projek Perumahan (JKPP)* to handle, oversee and facilitate engagement on any identified problematic private housing projects in Sarawak since March 2023. Currently, there are 649 private housing projects under license on-going in Sarawak. To date, 43 projects (6.6%) involving 4,837 units have been identified by the taskforce as sick projects. Through the concerted efforts of the taskforce in intervening and prescribing actionable solutions to be undertaken by the developers, 16 projects (37%) involving 3,107 units has either been partially completed, completed, resolved or has resumed their construction with 663 purchasers has been assisted. The remaining 27 projects (63%) involving 1,730 units are still under various stages of facilitation and close monitoring.

The number of sick projects is very dynamic. This is due to the solution and mitigation as facilitated by my ministry with the concurrence of parties involved in some instances affecting only part of the development or phasing. The dynamicity is also greatly affected by on-going property market activity such as number of newly licensed housing projects and the numbers and dates of sales and purchase agreements signed affecting handing over of vacant possession.

The Sarawak Government ability to directly intervene in private housing projects is limited by the available resources and legal boundaries. While measures are taken to monitor and mediate, certain projects may still experience delays if developers face issues beyond the Government's control such as:

- (a) Developer Financial Instability;
- (b) Legal Complications; and
- (c) Market and Economic Factors.

The Government remains committed to protecting house buyers and will continue to strengthen regulatory oversight, hold developers accountable and provide as much support as possible to the affected buyers.

Tribunal for Housing Purchaser Claims

Between 2021 and November 2024, a total of 348 claims were filed with the Tribunal for Housing Purchasers Claims, with 286 cases presided over. Of these, 97 cases were disposed of in 2021, 82 in 2022, 49 in 2023, while 58 cases have been disposed of so far in 2024. These cases, from areas such as Kuching, Sibiu, Sri Aman, Miri and Bintulu including both current and previous year's filings. A total of 111 cases are still awaiting hearings.

Since 2022, the Tribunal has also filed 25 criminal cases for non-compliance with Awards under Section 53 of the Housing Development (Control and Licensing) Ordinance, 2013. Of these, 13 cases resulted in convictions, two were struck out and the rest are ongoing.

ISSUES RAISED BY AHLI-AHLI YANG BERHORMAT

Affordable Housing

For the information of Ahli Yang Berhormat for Kota Sentosa, to accommodate the needs of affordable housing, HDC plan to implement Sri Pertiwi and SPEKTRA Medium affordable housing through joint venture developments at Sentah Segu Land District located approximately 13 km from Kota Sentosa.

For the information of Ahli Yang Berhormat for Jepak, BDA currently has no plans to build low and medium-cost housing in Jepak, but the government has approved SPK Jelutong and the Jepak Redevelopment Project. The SPK Jelutong covering 234.5 acres will provide 867 residential lots in phases. Phase 1 with 146 lots began in May 2023 and is scheduled to completion by May 2025, costing RM47 million, and is currently 50.91% completed. Phase 2, covering 218.5 acres will follow after Phase 1. The Jepak Redevelopment Plan, spanning 150 acres and involving 580 lots, will be implemented in four phases, with Phase 1 expected to begin in second quarter of 2025, featuring 182 two-storey houses, a mosque and commercial units at a cost of RM214.8 million.

The mechanism that has been taken by the Sarawak Government to control the prices of houses are through the imposition of house ownership policy under the affordable housing programs such as SPEKTRA Lite, SPEKTRA Medium, PUTERA and Sri Pertiwi which are based on the income and eligibility criteria. As an improvement and way forward, the Sarawak Government has introduced the SHCTF initiative, where the developer is required to contribute funding as a replacement for the development of affordable housing. The main objective of this trust fund is to increase the provision of affordable houses in the market which is expected to create balance in the provision of affordable housing and housing industry in Sarawak.

RSP at Long Lama

For the information of Ahli Yang Berhormat Telang Usan, HDC will collaborate with Land & Survey Department for the identification of suitable land for the development of affordable housing in Long Lama.

Longhouse Loan Scheme at Telang Usan Constituency

For the information of Ahli Yang Berhormat for Telang Usan, a total of two longhouses consisting 27 *pintu* in the Telang Usan constituency are in the waiting list for the schemes. The scheme covers materials for both renovation newly built long-houses including red brickwork, metal roofing, aluminium sliding windows, tile galvanised metal for roof structures.

Rumah Mampu Milik

For the information of Ahli Yang Berhormat for Tellian, HDC plans to implement two RSP Projects under RMK-13 on Lot 748 Mukah Land District consisting of 60 units of Single Storey Terrace Houses; and Lot 980 and Lot 981 Mukah Land District consisting 152 units Single Storey Terrace Houses.

Perumahan di RPR Pusa dan RGC Beladin

For the information of Ahli Yang Berhormat for Beting Maro, the development of *Rancangan Perumahan Rakyat* (RPR) Pusa is on-going. Currently, the planning for redevelopment under Phase 1 involving 30 units was approved by Land & Survey Department on 27th March 2024. The blocking

and subdivision plan was submitted on 5th September 2024 for approval. The submission for engineering plan will follow suit thereafter prior to calling for tender.

For project RSP at RGC Beladin, HDC will apply for funding under RMK-13. All affordable housing developed and implemented by HDC is accorded with financing facilities provided by MUTIARA.

DEPARTMENT OF IRRIGATION AND DRAINAGE SARAWAK (DID)

Tuan Speaker, the Department of Irrigation and Drainage (DID) is an agency of the Sarawak Government. Development projects are funded by both Federal and Sarawak Government under the Concurrent List of the Federal Constitutions.

STATE FUNDED PROJECTS

Urban Drainage and Flood Mitigation

For the information of Ahli-ahli Yang Berhormat in this august House, Sarawak Government has approved RM125.55 million development allocation for the Department of Irrigation and Drainage (DID) to implement various flood mitigation and urban drainage projects under the RMK-12. All these projects are still in the various pre-implementation stage.

Rural Transformation Projects (RTP)

In 2024, the Department has been tasked with implementing 496 RTP projects across various divisions, with a total budget allocation of RM81 million. These projects are currently under various stages of implementation.

Projek Rakyat

Between 2018 and 2024, Sarawak Government approved 146 *Projek Rakyat* initiatives totalling RM1.106 billion. Of these 102 projects (70%) have been completed, while 15 projects (10%) are still under construction. The remaining 29 projects (20%) are in the pre-contract stage.

Projects under Regional Development Authorities

Tuan Speaker, for the information of Ahli-ahli Yang Berhormat for this august House, RM301.636 million for 140 flood mitigation and drainage related projects throughout Sarawak were allocated to DID by various development agencies, such as Sri Aman Development Agency (SADA), Integrated Regional Samarahan Development Agency (IRSDA), Betong Division Development Agency (BDDA) and Rajang Delta Development Agency (RADDA) to fund all these projects. All these projects are still in various pre-implementation stages.

FEDERAL FUNDED PROJECTS

Federal Ministry of Energy Transition and Water Transformation (PETRA)

Tuan Speaker, for the information of Ahli-ahli Yang Berhormat, I am pleased to provide this august House with an update on the progress of federal-funded projects:

- (a) The Pembangunan Lembangan Sungai Bersepadu (PLSB) Sungai Sarawak Package 1, 2 & 3 commenced its physical implementation in May and June this year;
- (b) Under flood mitigation projects, the *Rancangan Tebatan Banjir* (RTB) Sibul, Phase 3 and the RTB Sungai Stakan has been completed. The RTB Sungai Miri project is currently on-going. The RTB Beradek Semilang and RTB Limbang is in pre-implementation stage whereby RTB

Bandaraya Kuching Phase 2 (Package 2) for the construction of two bridges crossing the Federal Administration Centre (FAC) road and Jalan Matang, RTB Bandaraya Kuching Phase 3 for the construction of a barrage in term of design have been put on hold subject to the approval of Notice of Change from Federal Ministry of Finance;

- (c) Two flood mitigation master plan studies at a sum of RM5 million each for Lembangan Batang Saribas, Betong and Lembangan Batang Lupar, Sri Aman are currently in the pre-implementation stage. These studies aim to identify areas at risk of flooding and to provide environmentally friendly, integrated drainage system masterplan for those areas; and
- (d) The 10 new hydrological stations and the upgraded 76 existing ones across Sarawak under the National Hydrological Network Programme is expected for completion by the second quarter of 2025. Phase 2, of Program Ramalan Dan Amaran Banjir Negara (PRAB) costing RM38 million is expected to be tendered in the first quarter of 2025. While Phase 3, with the cost of RM182 million is scheduled for tender in December 2024.

ISSUES RAISED BY AHLI-AHLI YANG BERHORMAT

Drainage and Irrigation at Krian

For the information of Ahli Yang Berhormat for Krian, the Federal Government allocated RM1.56 million under RMK-11 to conduct the Stormwater Management Drainage Master Plan Study for Betong, Saratok, Spaoh and Debak, which was completed in August 2021.

Based on the study's findings, drainage improvement works for Saratok district, covering catchments area in Sungai Melango (RM56.77 million), Batang Krian (RM18.37 million) and Sungai Diso (RM4.31 million), were submitted under RMK-12 but not approved. The Department will continue to seek funding under RMK-13 for these projects.

Additionally, the *Naiktaraf Sistem Perparitan* project in 14 villages in Saratok approved under the Betong Division Development Agency (BDDA) and to be implemented by the Saratok District Council (MDS), is expected to be tendered out by second quarter of 2025. MDS will be requesting funding from KPKT for drainage upgrading project in Pekan Saratok to address flash flood.

Flood Prone Housing Areas in Bintulu

For the information of Ahli Yang Berhormat for Tanjung Batu, in 2024, BDA has allocated RM1.90 million for upgrading of the drainage system in Bintulu.

As part of the ongoing flood mitigation program, BDA plans five new drainage projects for 2025 to 2026, with a total allocation of RM12.1 million.

Additionally, BDA has collaborated with the DID for drainage upgrading works at Good Park Tanjung Batu with total approved costing of RM6.82 million.

SEWERAGE SERVICES DEPARTMENT (SSD)

Urban Sewerage

Tuan Speaker, sewerage Services Department (SSD) is one of the agencies within my Ministry's charge which is implementing projects funded by both the Sarawak Government and the Federal Government.

I will now update this august House on various sewerage projects in Sarawak which are undertaken by the Department.

Centralised Sewerage Systems

Tuan Speaker, the implementation of Phase 1 of the Miri Centralised Sewerage System with a scheme value of RM428 million has commenced on 30th March 2017. It has a capacity of 50,000 population equivalents to cover for the Central Business District (CBD) of Miri City. The project has been fully completed in August this year and is now fully operational.

In 2022, the Federal Government has approved Miri Centralised Sewerage System Phase 2 with a scheme value of RM450 million. This Phase 2 has a capacity of another 50,000 population equivalents. It covers mainly the residential areas in Piasau, Pujut and Krokop. This will further expand the coverage of centralised sewerage system for Miri City. It is currently at the design stage and the department is scheduled to call tender by second quarter of next year.

Kuching Centralised Sewerage System Package 2, costing RM750 million, has commenced on 15th September 2017. It covers Kampung Gita, part of Jalan Matang, Jalan Tun Abdul Rahman Yaakub and Padungan areas. The scheduled completion date is 20th July 2024. To date, the project has achieved 95% completion, with a delay of 5%. The project is expected to be fully completed by March 2025.

Federal Government has also approved Kuching Centralised Sewerage System Package 3 with a scheme value of RM382 million. The appointment of civil and structural consultant is in progress. Physical works is expected to commence in the second quarter of 2026.

Kota Samarahan Centralised Sewerage System Phase 1 has also been approved by the Federal Government this year with a scheme value of RM650 million. The Federal Government loan agreement is in progress.

Septic Sludge Treatment Plants

Tuan Speaker, the tender to re-activated Sarikei and Betong Septic Sludge Treatment Plant projects is now expected to be carried out towards the end of this year with the physical works expected to start within the second quarter of next year while Kapit and Limbang Septic Sludge Treatment Plant projects are still pending the finalization of Federal Government loan agreement.

SARAWAK STATE HEALTH DEPARTMENT

Health Services and Dilapidated Health facilities

Tuan Speaker, I will now proceed to update on the health services and development provided by Sarawak State Health Department, one of the Federal departments under my watching brief.

As of 30th October 2024, Sarawak State Health Department has received RM2.64 billion operating funds and RM473.39 million development funds from the Federal Ministry of Health (MOH). These funds are allocated for operational expenses, human capital development, minor upgrading as well as repair on health facilities as well as for hospital and clinic support services including procurement of medical equipment. Currently, there are 26,631 Government healthcare personnel including 2,447 on a contract basis serving in Sarawak against 30,373 approved posts.

To date, 76% or 206 out of 271 health clinics throughout Sarawak are in poor physical condition. These include 175 *Klinik Kesihatan*, 20 *Klinik Komuniti*, nine *Klinik Kesihatan Ibu dan Anak* and two *Klinik Desa*. RM7.84 billion are required for the redevelopment of all these dilapidated health clinics. For the upgrading and redevelopment works of hospital facilities, RM9.24 billion are required, resulting in a total of RM17 billion is required to improve the health facilities in Sarawak.

The Federal Ministry of Health has allocated RM47.83 million out of the RM473.39 million development fund for the upgrading, renovation and repair works of health clinics in Sarawak. Of

these, RM19 million is under *Klinik Daif Bitara Madani* initiative and RM14.9 million under BP201 budget. As for 2025, the Federal Ministry of Health has allocated RM40 million under *Klinik Daif Bitara Madani* initiative for redevelopment of dilapidated clinics in Sarawak with 50 projects has been proposed.

To expedite the redevelopment of dilapidated health facilities in Sarawak, the Federal Government has agreed to allocate RM50 million while Sarawak Government also allocate a matching amount for the development of 12 dilapidated health facilities projects. All these projects are currently at pre-implementation stages.

In addition, a total of RM56 million were approved for the development and upgrading of health facilities under the Regional Development Agencies of which RM26 million was allocated by Betong Division Development Agency (BDDA) for the construction of three haemodialysis centres at *Klinik Kesihatan Kabong*, *Klinik Kesihatan Spaoh* and *Klinik Kesihatan Beladin*, and upgrading of Maternal and Child Health Services and Haemodialysis unit at *Klinik Kesihatan Debak*; while RM30 million was allocated by Sri Aman Development Agency for the construction of the new psychiatric block, specialist clinic and the upgrading of the operation theatre 3 (OT 3) of the Sri Aman Hospital.

Cancer Centre

I wish to extend my gratitude to YAB Prime Minister and YAB Premier for setting aside RM1 billion for the construction of state of the art Cancer Centre in Sarawak to be funded by the Sarawak Government in advance and reimburse by Federal Government later which aims to provide comprehensive cancer care and advance cancer research and training. RM5 million has been allocated in 2025 for preliminary works for this project.

Under project '*Rintis*' initiative, RM12.8 million were approved for a new additional block at *Klinik Kesihatan Nanga Atoi* which is currently under construction and *Klinik Kesihatan Nanga Ngungun* which is undergoing a re-tender process.

Healthcare Development Projects

As of 25th October 2024, the overall physical progress of Petra Jaya Hospital is 82.71% and is scheduled to complete in August 2025.

The additional block in Miri Hospital was successfully handed over by JKRM to MOH on 1st July 2024. The health services in the new block are being operationalised in phases. In total, there are 23 medical and non-medical services planned to be provided in the new block. To date, eight services are in operation. The department is expecting all 23 services to be fully operational in two years' time, provided that all posts for staffing are filled and assets are procured.

Currently, the physical progress for the new Lawas Hospital is at 85.71%. The project is now scheduled for completion in June 2025.

I am pleased to update this august House that *Klinik Kesihatan Nanga Kemalih*, Sarikei (Type 6) has been successfully operationalized on 24th September 2024.

As of 25th October 2024, the physical progress for *Klinik Kesihatan Siburan* is 99.95%. The remaining works involved the erection of firewall at the lift lobby area and testing and commissioning works.

Human Rabies

Tuan Speaker, as of 9th November 2024, there have been 15,987 animal bite reports in Sarawak, averaging 356 cases per week, slightly higher than the 16,756 cases in 2023 averaging 323 cases per week. Seven human rabies cases and seven deaths have been reported this year, is

100 percent death, with the latest case from Belaga District, compared to 20 cases and 18 deaths in 2023. A total of 82 human rabies cases have been reported since the outbreak in 2017 with 75 deaths. To combat this, Sarawak State Health Department has established 254 post-bite clinics with anti-rabies vaccines and the number of private facilities offering vaccines has increased to 34.

Tuan Speaker, rabies death is preventable.

Health Autonomy under Malaysia Agreement 1963 (MA63)

I would like to update Ahli-ahli Yang Berhormat on the status of our negotiation on the health services under MA63. The Federal Government had agreed to delegate the power vested by *Cawangan Kawalan Amalan Perubatan Swasta* (CKAPS) in Federal Ministry of Health to the Director of Sarawak State Health Department in three main areas which are registration of clinic, Licensing and Enforcement. Whereas the Power of Minister in term of the appointments of Board of Visitor is now under the purview of the Minister in charge of public health in Sarawak. On the establishment of the Sarawak Medical Committee (SMC) under the Malaysian Medical Council (MMC), the discussions on its Terms of Reference are ongoing. The main objective of SMC (Sarawak Medical Committee) is to provide a local governance structure that ensures compliance with MMC regulations, while addressing regionally specific healthcare needs and challenges in Sarawak.

Issues Raised by Ahli-ahli Yang Berhormat

Klinik Pergigian Daro

For the information of Ahli Yang Berhormat for Daro, tender for *Klinik Kesihatan Daro* is expected to be called in January 2025. As for *Klinik Pergigian Daro* project, Ministry of Finance Malaysia (MOF) has recently granted the approval for the procurement of this project through direct negotiation with the company proposed by JKR Sarawak and finalized by the Sarawak Procurement Board with the presence of a representative of Ketua Setiausaha Perbendaharaan, MOF. This will shorten the duration of the procurement process.

Dilapidated Clinics

For the information of Ahli Yang Berhormat for Baleh, under special *Klinik Daif Bitara Madani* initiative, repair to *Klinik Kesihatan Nanga Sekeroh* and *Klinik Kesihatan Nanga Entawau* were completed in 2023 with *Klinik Kesihatan Nanga Melinau* in 2024. The improvement and repairs to *Klinik Kesihatan Nanga Gaat*, *Klinik Kesihatan Nanga Merirai* and *Klinik Kesihatan Skim Tunoh* will be carried out in 2025.

Leptospirosis and Melioidosis in Kapit

For the information of Ahli Yang Berhormat for Baleh, between Epid Week 1-44 this year, there were eight notifications of *Leptospirosis (penyakit kencing tikus)* and 91 of *Melioidosis (penyakit kuman tanah)* in Bukit Mabong District, including Baleh.

The high number of *Melioidosis* cases was due to a cluster at a construction site in Baleh. Health campaigns have been conducted, including the Malaysia Healthy Agenda Tour, focusing on hygiene. Sarawak State Health Department also collaborated with Sarawak Energy Berhad to raise awareness among construction workers and local residents through pamphlets, posters, radio talks on disease prevention and importance of boiling water before consuming.

Lundu Hospital

For the information of Ahli Yang Berhormat for Tanjung Datu and Opar, Sarawak State Health Department plans to build a new 76-bed replacement hospital under RMK-12 Rolling Plan 3. Additionally, Lundu Hospital has received RM5 million for upgrading its electrical supply system,

which was completed in July 2024. From January to September 2024, the hospital's inpatient bed occupancy rate was 38.5%, with outpatient visits averaging 130 to 150 patients daily. A staggered appointment system has been introduced to reduce crowding with the outpatient area now able to accommodate 50 patients at a time.

Congestion at Bintulu Hospital and Request for Klinik Kesihatan in Bintulu

For the information of Ahli Yang Berhormat for Tanjong Batu, preliminary works for additional block at Bintulu Hospital and *Klinik Kesihatan Jenis 2 Kidurong* has been recently approved under RMK-12 Rolling Plan 5.

New Klinik Kesihatan Biawak

For the information of Ahli Yang Berhormat for Opar, the new Type 6 *Klinik Kesihatan Biawak* has been listed as one of the projects under the RM50 million Federal list for dilapidated clinics. The project is currently under the pre-implementation stage.

Mukah Hospital

For the information of Ahli Yang Berhormat for Tellian, Mukah Hospital's bed occupancy rate from January to September this year was 20.4% with around 150 outpatient visits daily. Of the 15 medical officer positions, 11 posts and all staff nurse posts are filled except for the community nurse positions which are under *jumud* post. The hospital received RM490,000.00 for upgrading works including the inpatient ward in 2024. The Department will submit proposals for a new hospital and *Klinik Kesihatan* under RMK-13.

Klinik Kesihatan Beladin

For the information of Ahli Yang Berhormat for Beting Maro, Sarawak State Health Department is in the midst of planning for the operation of X-ray Unit and Haemodialysis Unit for *Klinik Kesihatan Beladin*. The planning includes human resources, operating cost and consumables.

FIRE AND RESCUE DEPARTMENT MALAYSIA SARAWAK

Fire Safety Awareness Programme

Tuan Speaker, Fire and Rescue Department Malaysia is committed to implement Public Educational and Awareness programmes on the fire safety for the communities of Sarawak. As of 31st October 2024, the Department has carried out 1,275 Public Awareness Programmes involving 96,950 participants as compared to 114 involving 7,139 participants for the same period in 2023.

Statistic of Emergency Calls

A total of emergency calls comprising of 1,930 calls on fire outbreaks, 5,944 rescue calls and 45 calls for special services were received from January until 31st October 2024. The Department managed to save a total of RM30.65 billion worth of properties, including RM29.86 billion saved from two marine vessel fire cases in Miri and two factory fire cases in Bintulu.

The main reason for the stark increase of property value saved are due to setup of first responders team in factories and community aside from the establishment of new fire stations which reduce the response time taken by the department.

Fire Station in Sarawak

Fire and Rescue Department Malaysia Sarawak is still carrying out situational analysis on the review of criteria for the setting up of fire station in rural Sarawak before finalising the proposal and

submission to the Federal Ministry of Local Government (KPKT). The department has successfully secured funding for the development of Balai Bomba dan Penyelamat Dalat under RMK-12 Rolling Plan 5 with a budget RM10.1 million and expected to be operationalised in 2027.

ISSUES RAISED BY AHLI YANG BERTHORMAT

New Fire Station with Quarters in Engkilili

For the information of Ahli Yang Berhormat for Engkilili, the development of a new Fire Station with quarters in Engkilili has been approved under RMK-12 Rolling Plan 5 on 18th October 2024 with a budget of RM 15.53 million.

Sarawak Nation Building

Lately everyone in Malaysia admires and singing praise of Sarawak. I asked why all these admiration in this august House in May? And indeed, I still come to the same conclusion because Sarawak is not divided and polarised by the 3R as in West Malaysia and more convinced than ever is definitely because we don't have DAP Sarawak in the Sarawak Government, otherwise we will also just like the rest of West Malaysia. But they are not here.

Many are even *mata merah* especially with our RM 15.8 billion budget for 2025. Sabah is also having the biggest ever budget but 6.42 billion. Selangor also just tabled the biggest ever budget for 2025 but at 3 billion. Sarawak in 2024 is a different Sarawak for 2014. In 2014, people look down on Sarawak. In 2024, people look up to Sarawak. Today, people of Sarawak felt proud to be Sarawakian in Malaysia, with the rest of Malaysia looks up to Sarawak as shining example of what Malaysia is supposed to be, being the baton of hope and the model for the rest of Malaysia to aspire and replicate. But I am not sure DAP Sarawak felt the same or not as they always Malaysia First. *Tengok saja*.

Sarawak after 61 years of formation of Malaysia, the opportunity for the era of Sarawak nation building is finally here. Sarawakian would like to see Malaysia Madani Government in Kuala Lumpur being sincere and meaningful in the implementation of the health autonomy, education autonomy, 1/3 Member of Parliament from Sabah and Sarawak, greater share of financial taxation for Sarawak under 112(D) and all those outstanding issues listed under MA63 and IGC Report.

I am sure our Sarawak founding fathers would not have agreed for the formation of Malaysia if they realised after formation of Malaysia, we only get five percent oil royalty for Sarawak oil, our development is far behind compared to West Malaysia. And Sarawak undergoes exponential progress towards 2030, Sarawakian needs to remain united and stand in solidarity together for these few critical years until 2030. We must be on high alert for *anai-anai* from both within and outside Sarawak including *anai-anai* inside GPS. Let every Sarawakian comes together, playing their roles and doing their parts to contribute and to support the GPS Government in building a stronger and united Sarawak. This way, we not only make a difference but make a better Sarawak for Sarawakian in Sarawak. A better Sarawak for those Sarawakian in West Malaysia and oversea, so that they can come home to work, to retire, to enjoy Sarawak's values even if they are frustrated and disillusioned in West Malaysia or overseas. Let's look after our home first. Sarawak First.

CONCLUSION

Tuan Speaker, before I conclude, I wish to take this opportunity to congratulate and thanks Tuan Speaker for your wisdom in ensuring that the proceedings in this august House were conducted with dignity and proper decorum. I would also like to put on record my thanks and appreciation to Yang Berhormat Datuk Amar SS and all officers from the various Ministries, State and Federal Departments as well as Government Agencies for their hard work and dedication in ensuring the smooth proceedings of this august House. My special thanks also go to our friends from the media who have provided coverage throughout the Sittings. I also would like to thank two of my Deputy

Ministers, staff from my ministry, 29 agencies oversee by my Ministry as well as two Federal Agencies under my watching brief who have been working after hours, weekends in preparing for this Sitting of this august House.

Lastly, I would like to take this opportunity to wish all Sarawakians, Merry Christmas, Happy New Year 2025. I wish everyone the best of health, because if you don't want the best of health Tuan Speaker, if you are in hospital right now, you *tengok saja*. Sekian, terima kasih and Salam Sarawak Maju and Makmur. *Ooohaa*.

Tuan Speaker: Ahli-ahli Yang Berhormat, the Sitting is now adjourned, and the House shall resume its Sitting at 9.00 a.m. tomorrow.

(Mesyuarat ditangguhkan pada pukul 7.25 malam)