



**S A R A W A K**

**PENYATA RASMI PERSIDANGAN  
DEWAN UNDANGAN NEGERI**

Sarawak State Legislative Assembly Official Reports and Debates

**MESYUARAT PERTAMA BAGI PENGGAL KEDUA**  
First Meeting of the Second Session

**15 – 24 MEI 2023**

**DEWAN UNDANGAN NEGERI SARAWAK KESEMBILAN BELAS**  
Nineteenth Sarawak State Legislative Assembly

**SELASA**

**23 MEI 2023**

**(3 ZULKAEDAH 1444H)**

**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 PERTAMA BAGI PENGGAL KEDUA**

*Selasa, 23 Mei 2023*

*Dewan bermesyuarat di Petra Jaya, Kuching pada pukul 9.04 pagi*

**HADIR**

<b>Bil.</b>	<b>Nama</b>	<b>Konstituensi</b>
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. <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 Dato Sri Prof. Dr. Sim Kui Hian 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 Datuk John Sikie anak Tayai  
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12. Yang Berhormat Datuk Haji Julaihi bin Haji Narawi  
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*Menteri Utiliti dan Telekomunikasi* N.27 Sebuyau
13. Yang Berhormat Datuk Gerawat Gala  
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*Timbalan Menteri di Jabatan Premier (Buruh, Imigresen dan  
Pemantauan Projek)* N.78 Mulu
14. 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  
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15. 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
16. 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
17. 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  
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18. 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  
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19. 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
20. 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  
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21. Yang Berhormat Datuk Dr. Malcolm Mussen anak Lamoh  
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*Timbalan Menteri Perdagangan Antarabangsa, Industri dan Pelaburan* N.34 Batang Ai
22. Yang Berhormat Datuk Dr. Haji Abdul Rahman bin Haji Ismail  
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23. Yang Berhormat Datuk Dr. Haji Annuar bin Rapa'ee  
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*Timbalan Menteri Pendidikan, Inovasi dan Pembangunan Bakat (Pengajian Tinggi dan Inovasi)* N.55 Nangka
24. 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
25. Yang Berhormat Datuk Abdullah bin Haji Saidol  
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*Timbalan Menteri di Jabatan Premier (Hal Ehwal Korporat dan Unit Komunikasi Awam Sarawak)* N.42 Semop
26. Yang Berhormat Datuk Sebastian Ting Chiew Yew  
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*Timbalan Menteri Pelancongan, Industri Kreatif dan Seni Persembahan (Pelancongan)* N.73 Piasau
27. Yang Berhormat Ir. Aidel bin Lariwoo  
P.B.S., P.T.E.  
*Timbalan Menteri Infrastruktur dan Pembangunan Pelabuhan (Pembangunan Infrastruktur)* N.24 Sadong Jaya
28. Yang Berhormat Dr. Ripin bin Lamat  
J.B.K., K.M.N., P.T.E.  
*Timbalan Menteri Belia, Sukan dan Pembangunan Usahawan (Pembangunan Usahawan)* N.72 Lambir
29. Yang Berhormat Dr. Haji Hazland bin Abang Hipni  
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30. Yang Berhormat Encik Maclaine Ben @ Martin Ben  
J.B.S., P.T.E.  
*Timbalan Menteri Industri Makanan, Komoditi & Pembangunan Wilayah (Komoditi & Pembangunan Wilayah)* N.22 Kedup
31. Yang Berhormat Encik Ricky @ Mohammad Razi bin Sitam  
J.B.S., P.T.E.  
*Timbalan Menteri Pembangunan Wanita, Kanak-Kanak dan Kesejahteraan Komuniti (Kesejahteraan Komuniti)* N.35 Saribas
32. Yang Berhormat Dato Henry Harry anak Jinep  
P.S.B.S., A.B.S.  
*Timbalan Menteri Pengangkutan (Sungai dan Laut)* N.2 Tasik Biru

33. 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
34. 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  
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35. Yang Berhormat Dato Majang anak Renggi  
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36. Yang Berhormat Encik Jefferson Jamit anak Unyat  
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37. Yang Berhormat Encik Michael Tiang Ming Tee  
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*Timbalan Menteri Kesihatan Awam, Perumahan dan Kerajaan  
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39. 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
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41. 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
42. Yang Berhormat Encik Paulus Palu Gumbang  
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43. Yang Berhormat Encik Dennis Ngau  
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44. Yang Berhormat Tuan Haji Razaili bin Haji Gapor  
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| 49. | Yang Berhormat Ir. Lo Khere Chiang<br>B.B.S., J.B.K.                             | <i>N.13 Batu Kitang</i>  |
| 50. | Yang Berhormat Encik Wilson Nyabong anak Ijang<br>A.M.N., K.M.N., J.B.S.         | <i>N.61 Pelagus</i>      |
| 51. | Yang Berhormat Encik Miro anak Simuh   | <i>N.18 Serembu</i>      |
| 52. | Yang Berhormat Encik John anak Ilus<br>P.B.S., A.P.S.                            | <i>N.23 Bukit Semuja</i> |
| 53. | Yang Berhormat Encik Awla bin Dris<br>A.B.S.                                     | <i>N.25 Simunjan</i>     |
| 54. | Yang Berhormat Ir. Christopher Gira @ Gira anak Sambang<br>P.B.K.                | <i>N.59 Tamin</i>        |
| 55. | Yang Berhormat Encik Rolland Duat anak Jubin                                     | <i>N.48 Meluan</i>       |
| 56. | Yang Berhormat Encik Abdul Yakub bin Haji Arbi<br>B.B.S., A.B.S., K.M.N., J.B.K. | <i>N.58 Balingian</i>    |
| 57. | Yang Berhormat Puan Violet Yong Wui Wui  | <i>N.10 Pending</i>      |
| 58. | Yang Berhormat Encik Baru Bian   | <i>N.81 Ba'Kelalan</i>   |
| 59. | Yang Berhormat Encik Safiee bin Haji Ahmad<br>J.B.K., P.P.B.                     | <i>N.43 Daro</i>         |
| 60. | Yang Berhormat Encik Kennedy Chukpai Ugon<br>P.P.N., A.B.S.                      | <i>N.66 Murum</i>        |
| 61. | Yang Berhormat Encik Allan Siden Gramong<br>A.B.S.                               | <i>N.50 Machan</i>       |
| 62. | Yang Berhormat Encik Mohd Chee bin Kadir<br>A.B.S., P.B.S., P.J.P.N., J.B.S.     | <i>N.40 Kabong</i>       |
| 63. | Yang Berhormat Encik Adam Yii Siew Sang<br>A.B.S.                                | <i>N.74 Pujut</i>        |
| 64. | Yang Berhormat Puan Dayang Noorazah bte Awang Sohor                              | <i>N.28 Lingga</i>       |
| 65. | Yang Berhormat Dr. Simon Sinang @ Sinang anak Bada<br>A.B.S., P.B.S., K.M.N.     | <i>N.21 Tebedu</i>       |
| 66. | Yang Berhormat Encik Azizul Annuar bin Pehin Sri Haji Adenan                     | <i>N.3 Tanjong Datu</i>  |
| 67. | Yang Berhormat Encik Yap Yau Sin<br>K.M.N.                                       | <i>N.12 Kota Sentosa</i> |
| 68. | Yang Berhormat Tuan Haji Mohamad bin Duri<br>P.B.K., A.B.S.                      | <i>N.38 Kalaka</i>       |
| 69. | Yang Berhormat Encik Friday anak Belik<br>A.B.K., P.P.S., P.P.B., P.B.K., P.P.C. | <i>N.39 Krian</i>        |
| 70. | Yang Berhormat Encik Anyi anak Jana  | <i>N.49 Ngemah</i>       |

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| 71. | Yang Berhormat Encik Chieng Jin Ek                   | N.51 Bukit Assek  |
| 72. | Yang Berhormat Encik Royston bin Valentine<br>A.B.S. | N.57 Tellian      |
| 73. | Yang Berhormat Encik Lidam anak Assan                | N.62 Katibas      |
| 74. | Yang Berhormat Encik Nicholas Kudi anak Jantai       | N.64 Baleh        |
| 75. | Yang Berhormat Encik Johnny Pang Leong Ming          | N.68 Tanjong Batu |

#### TIDAK HADIR

- | Bil. | Nama   | Konstituensi      |
|------|--|-------------------|
| 1.   | Yang Berhormat Datuk Roland Sagah Wee Inn<br>P.G.B.K., J.B.K., P.B.S., P.B.E.<br><i>Menteri Pendidikan, Inovasi dan Pembangunan Bakat<br/>(Kebenaran di bawah Peraturan Mesyuarat 81)</i>  | N.20 Tarat        |
| 2.   | Yang Berhormat Datuk Snowdan Lawan<br>P.G.B.K., A.M.N., P.T.E.<br><i>Timbalan Menteri Pelancongan, Industri Kreatif dan Seni<br/>Persembahan (Industri Kreatif dan Seni Persembahan)<br/>(Kebenaran di bawah Peraturan Mesyuarat 81)</i> | N.30 Balai Ringin |
| 3.   | Yang Berhormat Dato Sri Tiong King Sing<br>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.<br><i>(Kebenaran di bawah Peraturan Mesyuarat 81)</i>  | N.52 Dudong       |
| 4.   | Yang Berhormat Dato' Sri Huang Tiong Sii<br>D.I.M.P., S.S.A.P.<br><i>(Kebenaran di bawah Peraturan Mesyuarat 81)</i>   | N.45 Repok        |
| 5.   | Yang Berhormat Encik Chong Chieng Jen<br><i>(Kebenaran di bawah Peraturan Mesyuarat 81)</i>  | N.9 Padungan      |
| 6.   | Yang Berhormat Encik Fazzrudin bin Haji Abdul Rahman<br>P.B.S.   | N.6 Tupong        |
| 7.   | Yang Berhormat Datuk Hamzah bin Brahim<br>A.M.N., P.M.W.   | N.17 Stakan       |
| 8.   | Yang Berhormat Encik Billy anak Sujang<br>P.P.B.<br><i>(Kebenaran di bawah Peraturan Mesyuarat 81)</i>   | N.1 Opar          |

#### TURUT HADIR

1. Encik Pele Peter Tinggom  
*Setiausaha Dewan Undangan Negeri Sarawak*
2. Encik Abang Mohammad Adib bin Abang Sallehadin  
*Pemangku Timbalan Setiausaha Dewan Undangan Negeri Sarawak*
3. Inspektor Ahmad Khairul Aiman bin Hassan  
*Bentara Mesyuarat*
4. Inspektor Rustam bin Morat  
*Bentara Mesyuarat*
5. Encik Abang Nasiruddin bin Abang Mohd Khalid  
*Bentara Mesyuarat*



6. Encik Hadyan bin Abd Rahman  
*Bentara Mesyuarat*
7. Encik Lydwilkyn Andar anak Umbau  
*Bentara Mesyuarat*
8. Encik Mohd Saiful bin Ahmad Zaidi  
*Bentara Mesyuarat*

## **PETUGAS PERSIDANGAN**

### **PEGAWAI UNDANG-UNDANG**

- |                                 |  |
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| 1. Cik Nasya Ameera bt Mazlan   | <i>Jabatan Peguam Besar Negeri Sarawak</i> |
| 2. Encik Muhd. Syafiq bin Sapri | <i>Jabatan Peguam Besar Negeri Sarawak</i> |

### **PEMBACA PRUF**

- |                               |  |
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| 1. Encik Shamsul Idzham Jamil | <i>Dewan Bahasa dan Pustaka Negeri Sarawak</i> |
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### **JURUTRENGKAS**

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| 1. Puan Sharlina binti Mushar                   | <i>Pejabat Setiausaha Kewangan Negeri</i>   |
| 2. Puan Malin anak Arit                         | <i>Pejabat Setiausaha Kewangan Negeri</i>   |
| 3. Puan Khadijah Khaider                        | <i>Jabatan Perbendaharaan Negeri Sarawak</i>  |
| 4. Puan Dayang Siti Roszalina binti Abg Rosli   | <i>Jabatan Kehakiman Syariah Sarawak</i>  |
| 5. Puan Olivia Batan                            | <i>Jabatan Audit Negara Negeri Sarawak</i>  |
| 6. Puan Bernadette Willon                       | <i>Jabatan Kastam Diraja Malaysia</i>   |
| 7. Puan Katerin Jemali @ Maria Jamali           | <i>Dewan Bandaraya Kuching Utara</i>  |
| 8. Puan Doris anak Francis Harris               | <i>Universiti Malaysia Sarawak (UNIMAS)</i>   |
| 9. Puan Meri Sabas                              | <i>Universiti Malaysia Sarawak (UNIMAS)</i>   |
| 10. Puan Noorina binti Hamdan                   | <i>Universiti Malaysia Sarawak (UNIMAS)</i>   |
| 11. Puan Winnie Anak Vincent                    | <i>Universiti Malaysia Sarawak (UNIMAS)</i>   |
| 12. Puan Mariana binti Brahim                   | <i>Perbadanan Pembangunan Perumahan</i>   |
| 13. Puan Ratna Airnwati binti Haji Md. Junaidi  | <i>Perbadanan Pembangunan Perumahan</i>   |
| 14. Puan Sabtuyah binti Adeng                   | <i>Perbadanan Pembangunan Perumahan</i>   |
| 15. Puan Nori Othman                            | <i>Perbadanan Pembangunan Perumahan</i>   |
| 16. Encik Mohd Alfadjer bin Tuah                | <i>Kementerian Pengangkutan Sarawak</i>   |
| 17. Puan Zuriawati binti Mohd Laili             | <i>Pustaka Negeri Sarawak</i>   |
| 18. Encik Azhwan bin Bujang                     | <i>Regional Corridor Development Authority</i>  |
| 19. Puan Derna anak Johin                       | <i>Unit Pemantauan Pelaksanaan Sarawak,</i><br><i>Jabatan Premier Sarawak</i>           |
| 20. Puan Azah Mohamad Jally                     | <i>Kementerian Infrastruktur dan</i><br><i>Pembangunan Pelabuhan Sarawak</i>            |
| 21. Puan Rosline anak Dominic Maon              | <i>Kementerian Industri Makanan, Komoditi</i><br><i>dan Pembangunan Wilayah Sarawak</i> |
| 22. Puan Nur Izzatul Fatimah Abdullah           | <i>Kementerian Belia, Sukan dan</i><br><i>Pembangunan Usahawan Sarawak</i>              |
| 23. Puan Dayang Duraiza binti Haji Awang Jangka | <i>Lembaga Sumber Asli &amp; Alam Sekitar</i><br><i>Sarawak</i>                         |
| 24. Puan Emely anak Edmund Beatie               | <i>Kementerian Pertahanan Malaysia</i><br><i>Cawangan Sarawak</i>                       |
| 25. Puan Dorina Asort                           | <i>Kementerian Utiliti dan Telekomunikasi</i><br><i>Sarawak</i>                         |
| 26. Puan Florence Jalong                        | <i>Kementerian Utiliti dan Telekomunikasi</i><br><i>Sarawak</i>                         |
| 27. Puan Leidiana binti Azahari                 | <i>Kementerian Utiliti dan Telekomunikasi</i><br><i>Sarawak</i>                         |
| 28. Puan Anieta Sylvester Pungga                | <i>Perbadanan Pembangunan Ekonomi</i><br><i>Sarawak</i>                                 |
| 29. Puan Juliana Lugom                          | <i>Perbadanan Pembangunan Ekonomi</i><br><i>Sarawak</i>                                 |

- |     |                                  |   |
|-----|----------------------------------|---|
| 30. | Puan Rosemary Langub             | <i>Perbadanan Kemajuan Perusahaan Kayu Sarawak</i>  |
| 31. | Puan Nurhaida binti Amin         | <i>Jabatan Penyiaran Kawasan Sarawak, Jabatan Penyiaran Negeri Sarawak</i>  |
| 32. | Puan Dzuridah binti Haji Sariee  | <i>Pejabat Timbalan Setiausaha Kerajaan Negeri (Perancangan Ekonomi dan Pembangunan), Jabatan Premier Sarawak</i> |
| 33. | Puan Valarie Jane anak Aitman    | <i>Pejabat Pembangunan Persekutuan Negeri Sarawak, Unit Penyelarasan Pelaksanaan, Jabatan Perdana Menteri</i>     |
| 34. | Puan Margaret anak Francis Bohui | <i>Lembaga Penyatuan dan Pemulihan Tanah Sarawak</i>  |

#### **RAKAMAN PROSIDING**

- |    |                                      |                                  |
|----|--------------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| 1. | Puan Hussein bin Shuini              | <i>Jabatan Penyiaran Sarawak</i> |
| 2. | Encik Awang Azieyatul bin Awang Abas | <i>Jabatan Penyiaran Sarawak</i> |
| 3. | Puan Siti Nazilafatullaini bt Sukri  | <i>Jabatan Penyiaran Sarawak</i> |
| 4. | Encik Vong Choon Chan                | <i>Jabatan Penyiaran Sarawak</i> |

#### **JURUCETAK**

- |    |                                      |  |
|----|--------------------------------------|--|
| 1. | Encik Awang Faidzul bin Awang Aboone | <i>Percetakan Nasional Malaysia Berhad</i> |
| 2. | Encik Vincent Vyner ak Tubom         | <i>Percetakan Nasional Malaysia Berhad</i> |

#### **JURUTEKNIK IT**

- |    |                                     |              |
|----|-------------------------------------|--------------|
| 1. | Encik Abang Hasmadi bin Abang Wahab | <i>SAINS</i> |
| 2. | Encik Salihin bin Abu Seman         | <i>SAINS</i> |
| 3. | Encik Sufian Sulaiman               | <i>SAINS</i> |
| 4. | Encik Brandon Lim Tuong Shiu        | <i>SAINS</i> |

#### **MESSENGER**

- |    |  |   |
|----|--|---|
| 1. | Encik Moksen bin Sion                      | <i>Jabatan Agama Islam Sarawak</i>  |
| 2. | Encik Abang Safry bin Abang Bohari         | <i>Jabatan Agama Islam Sarawak</i>  |
| 3. | Encik Ideris bin Lamit                     | <i>Jabatan Pertanian Sarawak</i>  |
| 4. | Encik Lawrence Encharang                   | <i>Jabatan Pertanian Sarawak</i>  |
| 5. | Encik Helmy bin Abdul Rahman               | <i>Jabatan Pertanian Sarawak</i>  |
| 6. | Encik Shah Riwandu Sia bin Ridzuan         | <i>Jabatan Pertanian Sarawak</i>  |
| 7. | Encik Mohammad Zaidi Bin Rambli            | <i>Jabatan Pertanian Sarawak</i>  |
| 8. | Encik Mohamed Nazeerudin bin Gulam Mohamed | <i>Kementerian Industri Makanan, Komoditi dan Pembangunan Wilayah Sarawak</i> |

#### **ANGGOTA STAF DEWAN UNDANGAN NEGERI SARAWAK**

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

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

#### **PELAJAR PRAKTIKAL**

1. Cik Sharina binti Sopian

*(Mesyuarat dimulakan pada pukul 9.04 pagi)*

*[Timbalan Speaker mempengerusikan Mesyuarat]*

**DOA**

**PEMASYHURAN DARIPADA TUAN SPEAKER**

**Timbalan Speaker:** Bismillahirrahmannirrahim. Assalamualaikum Warahmattullahi Wabarakatuh. Selamat pagi dan salam sejahtera.

Ahli-ahli Yang Berhormat, I have granted leave of absence under Standing Order 81, to firstly, Yang Berhormat Datuk Roland Sagah Wee Inn, Minister for Education, Innovation and Talent Development and Honourable Member for N.20 Tarat; and secondly, to Yang Berhormat Dato Sri Tiong King Sing, Honourable Member for N.52 Dudong, for today's and tomorrow's sitting.

**SAMBUNGAN PERBAHASAN USUL PENGHARGAAN ATAS UCAPAN TUAN YANG  
TERUTAMA YANG DI-PERTUA NEGERI SARAWAK**

**Timbalan Speaker:** Ahli-ahli Yang Berhormat, dengan hormatnya saya ingin 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 (YB Dato Sri Haji Abdul Karim Rahman Hamzah):** Terima kasih, Tuan Speaker.

Assalamualaikum Warahmatullahi Wabarakatuh, Salam Sejahtera dan Salam Sarawakku Sayang. Alhamdulillah, saya bersyukur kepada Allah Subhanahu Wa Ta'ala kerana diberi peluang untuk menyampaikan ucapan penggulungan untuk Kementerian Pelancongan, Industri Kreatif dan Seni Persembahan pada pagi ini.

Saya memulakan penggulungan saya dengan mengucapkan setinggi-tinggi penghargaan kepada Tuan Yang Terutama Yang di-Pertua Negeri Sarawak di atas perasmian dan juga ucapan sempena pembukaan Mesyuarat Pertama bagi Penggal Kedua Dewan Undangan Negeri Sarawak Ke-19 pada 15 Mei 2023 baru-baru ini dan juga kepada Ahli-ahli Yang Berhormat di Dewan yang mulia ini kerana turut serta dalam perbahasan dan juga memberi sokongan kepada ucapan Tuan Yang Terutama.

Saya bersyukur kerana sepanjang Dewan Undangan Negeri yang bersidang kita telah mendengar perbahasan-perbahasan Ahli-ahli Yang Berhormat di mana terdapat banyak cadangan-cadangan yang bernas termasuk terhadap *Sarawak Craft Council Bill, 2023* yang dibentangkan oleh saya, yang telah diluluskan di dalam Dewan yang mulia ini. Dengan izin saya ingin memulakan penggulungan saya dengan dua rangkap pantun:

*Burung Merak burung Kenyalang,  
Cenderawasih si burung kayangan;  
Negeri Sarawak indah kepalang,  
Bandarnya bersih pusat pelancongan.*

*Gunung Santubong tersergam indah,  
Tempat bermain puteri berdua;  
Industri kreatif terkenal sudah,  
Lambang warisan rakyat berbudaya.*

Tuan Speaker, the Ministry is currently on a course to realise the Vision for Sarawak to be a Premier Tourism Destination and A Showcase of Unique Arts, Culture and Heritage. Our sail is set with the mission, “*To lead the advancement of Sarawak’s Tourism, Culture and Heritage*”.

There are five State agencies that comes under the jurisdiction of my Ministry, namely:

- (a) Sarawak Museum Department,
- (b) Sarawak Tourism Board;
- (c) Sarawak Convention Bureau,
- (d) Sarawak Arts Council; and
- (e) Sarawak Craft Council

The are also three Federal agencies that come under my Ministry’s watching brief which are:

- (a) Perbadanan Kemajuan Kraftangan Malaysia;
- (b) Jabatan Kebudayaan Dan Kesenian Negara ataupun (JKKN); dan
- (c) Lembaga Penggalakan Pelancongan Malaysia

### **TOURISM SECTOR SCENARIO AND OUTLOOK**

According to the United Nations World Tourism Organization (UNWTO), its Barometer on 9<sup>th</sup> May 2023 issue, the global tourism sector has continued to show its resilience. In 2022, there were 960 million international tourists’ arrivals that restored 66% of the pre-pandemic levels. For the first quarter of 2023, an estimated 235 million tourists were recorded with the restoration of 80% of pre-pandemic levels compared to the same corresponding period in 2022. Tourist arrivals into Malaysia in 2022, has increased by 7,375.03% to 10.07 million as compared to the same corresponding period in 2021 and generated RM28.2 billion tourism receipts. While Sarawak in 2022 has received 2.03 million visitor arrivals which is an increase of 761.84% as compared to the same corresponding period in 2021, bringing in an estimated tourism receipt of RM4.96 billion. As of April 2023, Sarawak has received 1.3 million visitor arrivals with an increase of 315.41% as compared to the same period in 2022 and generating RM3.27 billion tourism receipts.

Despite this encouraging trend, tourism’s recovery still faces some challenges. According to the UNWTO, the economic situation remains the main factor weighing on the effective recovery of international tourism in 2023, with high inflation and rising oil prices translating into higher transportation and accommodation costs. As a result, tourists are expected to increasingly seek value for money and travel closer to home. Uncertainty derived from the various mounting geopolitical tensions and conflicts also continue to represent downward, downside risks.

On a more positive note, my Ministry is optimistic in achieving more than 3 million visitor arrivals in 2023 and expecting to generate RM7.25 billion in tourism receipts. International tourism is expected to continue its recovery in 2023, while domestic tourism will continue to support overall performance, fuelled by demand for destinations closer to home as tourists look for open-air activities, nature-based products, and rural tourism.

### **RESTARTING TOURISM**

My Ministry together with our agencies have been implementing short-term measures to sustain the recovery of the tourism, arts, and culture industry, working hand in hand with the Federal Ministry of Tourism, Arts and Culture (MOTAC) Malaysia and also with our tourism industry players and stakeholders.

#### *Sia Sitok Sarawak Campaigns*

The Sarawak Tourism Board (STB) has introduced travel incentives through *Sia Sitok Sarawak Campaigns* and *Sia Sitok Sarawak Accommodation Campaigns* to promote domestic intra-state

travel. Besides, Visitor Incentive Packages (VIPs) and *Sia Sitok Sarawak Plus* campaign were also introduced to promote inter-state travel. The total recorded sales from *Sia Sitok Sarawak* campaigns in 2022 are RM6.5 million with 800 tour packages sold, benefitting 6,406 visitors with 15,277 room nights booked through *Sia Sitok Sarawak Accommodation*.

#### *Accommodation*

For the year 2023, due to the popularity of *Sia Sitok Sarawak* and *Sia Sitok Sarawak Accommodation*, the campaign is back again with Global *Sia Sitok Vacations* starting from 1<sup>st</sup> May to 16<sup>th</sup> July 2023. This collaboration between STB with Malaysia Association of Hotels (MAH) is offering up to 144 total of packages and targeting 9,000 non-Sarawakians and foreigners an opportunity to visit Sarawak.

#### *Sarawak Tourism Online Ecosystem Fund (STOEF)*

Introduced in 2020, STOEF is an incentive funding amounting to RM5,000 per application benefitted 155 companies totalling RM775,000 until 2022. Applications are open to trade companies registered with or by the Ministry of Tourism, Arts and Culture Malaysia, namely, agencies such as Sarawak inbound tour operators, hotels, homestays clusters, handicrafts entrepreneurs, and tourism-related attractions are eligible to apply. STOEF, which is a catalyst to increase the digital footprint, extend its fourth (4<sup>th</sup>) time this year with total allocation of RM250,000 is eligible for the first 50 companies.

#### NON-FUNGIBLE TOKEN (NFT)

With great pride and excitement, I would like to mention that my Ministry received the first NFT (Non-Fungible Token) from the Sarawak Artists Society (SAS) on 21<sup>st</sup> February 2023. This historical milestone marks the first ever NFT given to the Sarawak Government, and I believe it is also the first in Malaysian Government to receive one. As we continue to carry out our Premier's vision of digitalisation, we should consider looking into embracing NFT, blockchain and metaverse technologies. I am confident that these technologies will usher in a new era of prosperity for our future, as well as preserving our cultural heritage.

#### EVENTS AND FESTIVALS

My Ministry has been facilitating events and festivals organized by various agencies and tourism industry through our events support grant. These events attract in-bound visitors and generate economic spin off for the local community besides creating visibility for international media attention.

For the year 2022, my Ministry has supported a total of 128 events and festivals throughout the State with a total grant disbursed of RM31,568,549.00. As of May 2023, my Ministry has allocated RM15,950,612.00 to support 74 local and international events.

The recently concluded Spartan Race Sarawak 2023 held on 6<sup>th</sup> of May 2023 at Curtin University, in Miri, recorded a total of 2,512 participants with 620 international participants from 18 countries.

In the movie category, the film *Sumpah Jerunei (Burial Pole)* which received support grant from my Ministry in 2019 is set to be screened shown in the cinema on 27<sup>th</sup> July 2023. The storyline is based on the ancient Melanau practice of sacrifice during the 13<sup>th</sup> century Borneo. Among the other major events and film supported by the Ministry for the year are;

- (a) Borneo International Garden Expo Sarawak 2023 (BIGEXS) was held on 17<sup>th</sup> to 19<sup>th</sup> March 2023;

- (b) The Miri Marathon 2023 on the 19<sup>th</sup> March 2023;
- (c) Sape Junior which was shown live on TV, on the 6<sup>th</sup> & 13<sup>th</sup> May 2023;
- (d) *Kejohanan Muaythai Piala Tuan Yang Terutama Yang di-Pertua Negeri Sarawak 2023* from the 12<sup>th</sup> to the 14<sup>th</sup> May 2023;
- (e) *Negeri Tamu Pesta Buku Antarabangsa Kuala Lumpur* on the 26<sup>th</sup> May to the 6<sup>th</sup> June 2023. I will be flying down to Kuala Lumpur, to officiate this one on the 26<sup>th</sup> May 2023;
- (f) *Pertandingan Tok!* Buskers Challenge 2023 on the 24<sup>th</sup> June & 1<sup>st</sup> July 2023;
- (g) *Anugerah Seniman* on the 10<sup>th</sup> June 2023;
- (h) PATA Destination Experience Marketing Forum and Mart on the 21<sup>st</sup> to the 23<sup>rd</sup> June 2023;
- (i) We have not forgetting Lawas also, Lawas it will be hosting Lawas Asian Floating Market Festival 2023 on the 23<sup>rd</sup> to 25<sup>th</sup> June 2023;
- (j) *Nuasa Seni* Fashion Show on the 9<sup>th</sup> July 2023;
- (k) NYAMAI, Sarawak Gastronomy Festival on the 16<sup>th</sup> to 22<sup>nd</sup> August 2023;
- (l) Tegkang (Film) production on the 7<sup>th</sup> August to the 7<sup>th</sup> September 2023;
- (m) We are organising a craft expo, a big craft expo actually, which is called Asia Craft 2023 Expo & Forum from the 12<sup>th</sup> to the 14<sup>th</sup> September 2023;
- (n) We will also be hosting, *Raja Emas - Divine Protector of Salako* (Film) production on 17<sup>th</sup> Sept to the 16<sup>th</sup> Oct 2023; and
- (o) We will also be hosting *Pertandingan Bintang Kecil 2023* from the 27<sup>th</sup> August up to the 3<sup>rd</sup> September 2023. Which is going to be opened to all Malaysian and will be live also on TV.

My Ministry continues to receive applications for supporting grants and these will be evaluated based on criteria under the Ministry's *Garis Panduan Penganjuran Acara, Pesta, Industri Kreatif Dan Seni Persembahan Berkaitan Pelancongan, Kesenian dan Kebudayaan Sarawak 2023*. This year, a few international events have been confirmed to be held in Sarawak among others:

- (a) The Rainforest World Music Festival which is going to be held on 23<sup>rd</sup> to 25<sup>th</sup> June 2023. For the record, the early bird tickets have all been sold out, so, if you want to see, that shows the interest to this year's Rainforest World Music Festival;
- (b) ASEAN International Film Festival and Awards or AIKFA on the 2<sup>nd</sup> to 4<sup>th</sup> August 2023;
- (c) Then we have got the 9<sup>th</sup> Edition Sarawak International Dragon Boat Regatta 2023 from the 27<sup>th</sup> to the 29<sup>th</sup> October 2023;
- (d) We will also be hosting the Sarawak Regatta – Kuching Waterfront Festival on the 3<sup>rd</sup> to the 5<sup>th</sup> November 2023; and
- (e) We will still be continuing with the Borneo Jazz Festival, Miri which is going to be held in Miri on the 27<sup>th</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup> October 2023.

My Ministry also works with the Divisional Tourism Task Groups (DTTG), local councils and local organisations to support local tourism, arts and culture events. Each DTTG has also been

allocated with supporting grants to create video contents for their Sarawak 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary or Sarawak 60<sup>th</sup> Independence Digital Exhibition and Celebrations.

### *Industry Engagement*

Tuan Speaker, my Ministry is continuously developing our partnership with the tourism, arts and culture industry through the Inter Agency Tourism Collaboration (IATC) which is chaired by the Permanent Secretary, of the Ministry. We've got another one that is Sarawak Tourism Coordination Committee (STCC) which is chaired by my Deputy Minister of Tourism and there is another big Committee, Sarawak Tourism Steering Committee (STSC) which is chaired by myself. The first STSC meeting was held on 21<sup>st</sup> March 2023 to update the Government agencies and industry players on our 2022 performances and chart the way forward for 2023. This will be followed by the STSC initiatives via the STCC which holds three meetings in a year. The first meeting is scheduled to be held, the end of this month, on the 29<sup>th</sup> of May 2023 in Miri.

### FLIGHT CONNECTIVITY

Kuching as an Umrah Gateway. Sarawak Tourism Board (STB) signed a MOA (Memorandum of Agreement) on the Kuching Umrah Gateway (KUG) initiative on 6<sup>th</sup> October 2022. This initiative will provide direct flights from Kuching to Jeddah and Medina in Saudi Arabia commencing in the year 2023 that is this year. We project more than 200,000 visitor arrivals within six years through this KUG. KUG visitors can enjoy direct flights to Jeddah or Medina, while feeder flights will be from Pontianak, Balikpapan, Banjarmasin, Samarinda, Ujung Padang (Makassar), Jakarta, Indonesia and Mindanao, Philippines to support the mainline operations of the Umrah flight carriers. Through this program, travellers can fly from each respective location and stopover in Kuching for a pre or post tours before they fly to Jeddah or Medina, or on their journey home. The KUG operation is expected to commence in the upcoming umrah season in the third quarter of 2023.

### TOURISM MARKETING AND PROMOTION

For the year 2023, Sarawak Tourism Board has planned for 55 marketing initiatives with the objective of conversion and growth through participation in domestic and international Trade and Consumer Fairs and Product Updates Roadshows. For the period of January to March, just a period of three months 2023, Sarawak Tourism Board has participated in the following programmes:

- (a) South Asia's Tourism and Trade Exchange (SATTE) 2023 in Delhi India;
- (b) Routes Asia 2023 in Chiang Mai, Thailand;
- (c) TRAVEX ASEAN Tourism Forum (ATF) in Jogjakarta, Indonesia;
- (d) ASTINDO Travel Fair in Tangerang, Indonesia;
- (e) Malaysia Healthcare Expo (MHX) in Jakarta, Indonesia;
- (f) ASITA Jakarta Travel Mart in Indonesia;
- (g) NATAS Travel Fair in Singapore;
- (h) Tourism Malaysia Brunei Networking Session in Brunei;
- (i) MATKA 2023 in Helsinki, Finland;
- (j) Tourism Malaysia Nordic Roadshows in Finland, Sweden, Norway as well as in Denmark;
- (k) ITB Berlin 2023 which was held recently, I attended this one;



- (l) TM/STB Sarawak Product Updates in Amsterdam, Netherlands;
- (m) Tourism Malaysia Sales Mission Taiwan in Taipei and Kaohsiung;
- (n) MATTA FAIR Kuala Lumpur;
- (o) MATTA FAIR Johor;
- (p) Sarawak More Than Ever Business Networking Session with Penang, Perak, Kelantan, Terengganu and Pahang; and
- (q) Sarawak Fest 2023 at MITSUI Premium Outlet in Sepang.

So, you can see, it just within a period of three months, we have got, STB has arranged or participated in 17 programmes within and outside of Malaysia. For the months of January to December 2022, Sarawak Tourism Board generated 1.12 billion eyeballs in readership/ viewership/ listenership through traditional and online platforms, generating a PR value of at least RM97 million. Meanwhile, Digital visibility is 13.1 million for the same period. STB (Sarawak Tourism Board) will continue with these initiatives in the year 2023 to ensure and enhance Sarawak's visibility in the global eyes. Sarawak Tourism Board has also added another award to its five awards, which we have received last year which is The Best Booth Planning Award during the 38<sup>th</sup> Seoul International Travel Fair (SITF) 2023 in Seoul, South Korea by planning the booth with novel and creative ideas. Congratulations to Sarawak Tourism Board.

#### **SARAWAK - MALAYSIA MY SECOND HOME (S-MM2H) PROGRAMME**

Since adopting the Malaysia My Second Home Programme in 2007, the Ministry has approved a total of 1,870 participants to date. With the refinement of requirements from 1<sup>st</sup> September 2022, there were 411 successful applicants in 2022, an increase of 1,422% in the number of successful applications as compared to the year of 2021. My Ministry has developed the S-MM2H Management and Online Application System with SAINS to facilitate the overall application process covering daily operating functions, including application submissions and application processing by the Ministry and the Department of Immigration Malaysia. The system went live on 25<sup>th</sup> April 2023 and currently it is on trial run basis till 31<sup>st</sup> May 2023. It is set to receive online applications effective from 1<sup>st</sup> June 2023.

#### **REGIONAL TOURISM SATELLITE ACCOUNT (RTSA)**

My Ministry in collaboration with the Department of Statistics Malaysia has continued to develop the second Regional Tourism Satellite Account (RTSA) 2023. This exercise is a positive step towards understanding the economic impact of the tourism industry. The data and analysis generated through the RTSA will provide a more comprehensive, with valuable insights and data to measure the success of tourism initiatives and marketing campaigns for policy planning and tourism development.

#### **BUSINESS EVENTS**

In the year 2022, through Business Events Sarawak by the Sarawak Convention Bureau, we secured 100 business events worth RM326.3 million in total economic impact; RM117.3 million in delegate expenditure; RM19.6 million in taxes and approximately 26,000 job opportunities.

Out of these 100 secured events, 91 of these events are expected to make a total of 484 impacts and these impacts align with the Post COVID-19 Development Strategy 2030 goals.

And in addition, we have also successfully hosted 100 other business events worth RM230.3 million in total economic impact; RM125.1 million in delegate expenditure, RM 13.8 million in taxes

and created 18,275 jobs. The legacy impact performance of these 100 hosted events stands at 553 impact points. We also succeeded in winning every international bid last year.

Recently on 12<sup>th</sup> May 2023, we concluded the 10<sup>th</sup> Anak Sarawak Awards. Our Right Honourable Premier of Sarawak has announced that from 2024 onward the Award is set to be rebranded as the “*Borneo Inspires Legacy Awards*” and that Sarawak will be Malaysia’s as well as and Borneo’s first legacy capital.

Starting today (that is 23<sup>rd</sup> May 2023) until 25<sup>th</sup> May 2023, Sarawak will be participating at the IMEX Frankfurt, Germany which is one of the largest business events trade shows in the world. Sarawak’s delegation is led by my Deputy, The Honourable Member for Balai Ringin. We are launching for the first time our first stand-alone pavilion, featuring a mini exhibition on PCDS 2030, Sarawak’s legacy impact development and the International Journal of Business Events and Legacies. We shall also launch the Legacy Impact Master Action Plan 2023-2025.

Performance-wise, we are on track with a total of 51 secured events out of the target, 100 events. We have already exceeded our target by 124% respectively for total economic impact at RM181.3 million; direct delegate expenditure at RM98.5 million; tax revenue of RM10.9 million, and employment opportunities at 14,390. Some substantial events we have secured in 2023 among others include:

- (a) 54<sup>th</sup> Asia Pacific Academic Consortium for Public Health Conference 2023 (which will bring in about 1000 delegates);
- (b) 13<sup>th</sup> Asian Aerosol Conference (AAC 2024) (which will bring in about 650 delegates);
- (c) Asia Pacific Green Hydrogen and Exhibition 2024 (which will bring in about 450 delegates, and 160 exhibitor booths);
- (d) Asia Carbon Conference 2023 (ACC 2023) (which will bring in about 400 delegates); and
- (e) Asian Society of Paediatric Anaesthesiologists Conference 2024 (which will bring in about 600 delegates)

That’s the reason why I wanted to see more convention centres, not just in Kuching or expansion of the existing convention centre in Kuching and also for other convention centres to be built probably in Miri or other parts of Sarawak. This is a very lucrative business, business event actually.

This year we look forward to hosting 78 business events worth RM377.7 million in total economic impact. We expect to gain approximately RM205 million in delegate expenditure, RM22.6 million in taxes and more than 29,000 jobs. Some substantial events that Sarawak is hosting include:

- (a) 27<sup>th</sup> World Congress on Innovation and Technology 2023 (which will bring in about 6500 delegates. That’s about the maximum that we can host at the Borneo BCKK);
- (b) Asia Craft 2023 Expo & Forum (which will bring in 350 delegates, and 450 exhibitors booths);
- (c) The International Energy Week (IEW) 2023 which will bring in about 800 delegates and 120 exhibitor booths;
- (d) The 12<sup>th</sup> Congress of the Asian Pacific Society on Thrombosis and Haemostasis 2023, which will bring in about 1000 delegates;

- (e) Asia Pacific Conference on Zoonotic and Neglected Tropical Diseases 2023 which will bring in about 600 delegates. The industry is flourishing well, and we shall continue to place a high priority on anchoring business events that deliver both economic and legacy impact.

#### **ECO-TOURISM AND COMMUNITY-BASED TOURISM**

The PCDS 2030 has identified Ecotourism as the strategic focus under the Tourism Sector Aspiration. Ecotourism has become a positive force for conservation and development that is economically and ecologically sustainable around the world, especially among local communities living in rural and remote areas. Among the KPIs which are relevant to ecotourism are:

- (a) 20% increase in Community-Based Tourism (CBT);
- (b) An increase of homestay clusters from 46 in 2019 to 60 clusters as it is now;
- (c) 18% increased of homestay operators' monthly household income from RM646 in 2019 to present RM2,800;
- (d) An increased number of tourist guides from 219 when it was in 2019 to presently 400;
- (e) An increased number of park guides from 173 in 2019 to 300; and
- (f) 100 eco-community hosts by 2030.

In 2022, to realise these targets, my Ministry has conducted the following activities:

- (a) Collaboration with the MOTAC Malaysia (MOTAC), to register homestay owners. Currently we have 48 homestay clusters, with 596 homestay operators and 1,401 rooms. These homestay operators throughout Sarawak have recorded 194,814 visitors and collected a revenue amounting to RM23 million and I am very sure this will definitely help the homestay operators who are mostly in the rural areas;
- (b) This year, together with MOTAC Sarawak Office, my Ministry is targeting to add two more homestay clusters, making the list to 50 clusters;
- (c) 440 homestay operators, tour guides and park guides were trained also in 2022 on marketing strategies, service quality management and tourism product knowledge to improve their knowledge and skills to enhance their homestay service quality;
- (d) The Swinburne University of Technology Sarawak Campus was assigned to undertake action research on Sustainable Tourism Development related to Community Based Tourism (CBT) Value-Added Programs as the Vehicle for Social-Economic Enhancement. Its objective is to evaluate the effectiveness of the current homestay business and recommend value-added CBT framework. This will help my Ministry to further improve the operations of homestay businesses to be more competitive in Sarawak;
- (e) New ecotourism product development, Sarawak Delta Geopark was officially declared as the 6<sup>th</sup> National Geopark since 20<sup>th</sup> June 2022. As part of the new geotourism products, my Ministry is currently developing two proposed geotrails at Kampung Kuop in Padawan and another one in Bau District. Upon completion these geotrails will be packaged and promoted for public as well as visitor's enjoyment;
- (f) The process of inscribing the Archaeological Heritage of Niah National Park's Cave Complex as the 2<sup>nd</sup> UNESCO World Heritage Site in Sarawak under the mixed properties for natural and cultural heritage site is currently ongoing. The final refined dossier has been submitted to UNESCO on the 30<sup>th</sup> of January 2023 and subsequently expecting it to be inscribed in the

World Heritage Lists by 2024. I can just imagine once it has been inscribed there will be a flock of tourist going down to Miri just to see this new site. Going to Mulu which is our first heritage which is given recognition by UNESCO under the World Heritage Site, not many locals can go there because to get to Mulu you have to use flight and it also quite pricy but if it is Niah which is given that recognition where you can go by road and on the new buggy trail, I am very very sure Miri will be the new destination;

- (g) To reinforce this process, the construction of a bridge and a buggy trail project to the main cave is under implementation now, coupled with ongoing marketing, promotions, and capacity building programmes for local communities; and
- (h) Sarawak Forestry Corporation (SFC) has also developed eco-conservation products in various national parks and nature reserves. In 2022, these eco-conservation products have attracted an encouraging number of participants, with frogging and night-walk activities as the most popular among participants. Frogging between parties not very popular *lah* now but these actual frogs are very popular among the tourists.

### SUSTAINABLE TOURISM

In line with PCDS 2030 goals my Ministry is finding ways to ensure that Sarawak's tourism capacity is more sustainable and resilient after being hit hard by the pandemic. It is necessary to embrace sustainable tourism policies to maximize the positive impacts of tourism on society, environment as well as the economy.

My Ministry is actively building partnerships with various international bodies, agencies, and institutions to affect the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals or in short SDGs to which Malaysia is a signatory. Among them are the United World Tourism Organization or in short UNWTO which has got its headquarters in Madrid, Spain, PATA that is Pacific Asia Travel Association and TIES (The International Ecotourism Society) with the aim of promoting Responsible Tourism. This has been elaborated by the Honourable Member for Telang Usan during his debate in this august House.

To repeat, the Sarawak delegation, the trip which is led by myself to Madrid, Spain, was to strengthen the collaboration with UNWTO, introducing Sarawak as a Responsible Tourism destination and a leading destination for ecotourism and business events in Southeast Asia. Sarawak Tourism Board and Sarawak Research Society were officially admitted as UNWTO Affiliate Members. Notably, a professor from UCSI University in Sarawak, that is Dr Hiram Ting, was included in the UNWTO Panel of Tourism Experts, making him the first person in Sarawak and in Malaysia to assume such a role. It is quite an achievement for us. My Ministry also collaborates with the Faculty of Hospitality and Tourism Management, UCSI University (Sarawak Campus), Sarawak Research Society (SRS) to publish the First International Journal in Responsible Tourism Management (JRTM) about tourism in Sarawak in since 2021. This journal actually has become a source of information for those who wish to look into articles on Responsible Tourism.

For the information of Ahli Yang Berhormat bagi Telang Usan and also Honourable Members of this House, in tandem with the Sarawak Economic Action Council (SEAC) Tourism Aspiration, by 2023, Sarawak will be a leading destination for eco-tourism and business events in ASEAN Region driven by empowered communities to conserve heritage, culture and biodiversity and to promote investments and development through responsible actions, Sarawak Tourism Board has conducted several responsible tourism programs among the local community especially those directly involved in the tourism sector, specifically the homestay operators whereby they were taught to recycle plastic waste into useful household items. These include the making of soap from used cooking oil. In practicing recycling, the homestay operators are promoting sustainable tourism practices which preserve the environment around their village and community. Sarawak Tourism Board will continue to collaborate with the local tourism community to advocate SDGs as outlined by UNWTO.

Sarawak Tourism Board is also intensifying the practice of Responsible Tourism in the upcoming Rainforest World Music Festival 2023. It was also done in the Rainforest World Music Festival 2022. For this year, with the implementation of various measures to ensure a sustainable and eco-friendly festival.

Among them are activities which advocate sustainability including the banning of single use plastics, encouraging upcycling of used materials, and exploring innovative solutions to waste management. When I was in the ITB Berlin, when they hear the name Sarawak, they know about Rainforest World Music Festival and they are very happy, the media people in Europe, they are very happy to see the approach that we are adopting to make sure, even when it comes to hosting Music Festival we make sure Responsible Tourism is being practiced. No plastic bottles and things like that. We only have places for them to drink, those kiosks, but we don't allow bringing in plastic bottles.

## ARTS, CULTURE AND HERITAGE

One of the foremost tasks of the Ministry is to enhance policies on cultural heritage and tourism sustainability by improving the preservation and management of heritage. With the new Sarawak Heritage Ordinance, 2019, the State's tangible and intangible heritage will be identified, and documented with proper heritage management and preservation plan.

### *Conservation of Heritage*

Community engagement programs on heritage conservation will be held among local communities and NGOs, and related agencies in Serian, Simunjan as well as in Bario. The program will include the conservation and preservation of tangible and intangible heritage such as historical and cultural buildings, monuments, and sites. My Ministry will work closely with the Sarawak Museum Department to implement these important projects.

The Brooke Coal Mine at Gunung Ngili, Simunjan, the Japanese structures from before World War II at *Kampung* Siniawan Jepun, Serian and the megaliths culture at Bario have been identified and proposed to be gazetted as heritage buildings, monuments, and sites under the Sarawak Heritage Ordinance, 2019.

### *Heritage, Arts and Culture Facilitation Fund*

The Heritage, Arts and Culture Facilitation Fund or *Dana Mudahcara Warisan, Seni dan Budaya* which was launched on 27<sup>th</sup> April 2022 has supported 80 activities and programs throughout the State amounting to RM4.65 million up to the end of 2022. The programs and activities under the *Dana Mudahcara* for arts, culture and heritage are:

- (a) Firstly, seven visual arts programs (three photography contest & exhibition, four arts exhibition);
- (b) Secondly, nine books' publications on intangible heritage such as folklores of the Iban, Bidayuh, Punan, Kelabit, and Chinese;
- (c) Thirdly, 70 capacity buildings workshops related to special effect makeup, stage performance lighting, ethnic song compositions, acting skills, motive designs;
- (d) Fourthly, 15 heritage related seminars such as on traditional Malay archery, methods of folding *Tengkolok*, making of traditional Lun Bawang musical instrument, *silat* competition, lion and dragon dance parade;
- (e) Fifthly, four literary arts on Arabic and Chinese calligraphy contest and exhibition; and

- (f) Sixthly, 28 performing arts inclusive of five musical performances, five song competitions and eight theatre performances.

The activities and events organised by artists and associations has helped to promote awareness on the importance of Sarawak's unique and diversified rich heritage, arts, and culture.

### *Creative Industry*

Tuan Speaker, in developing Creative Industry, my Ministry has conducted workshop on 8<sup>th</sup> July 2022. Ultimately this industry is defined into five major categories with 18 sub-categories namely:

- (a) Firstly, Creative Arts (Music, Visual Arts, Performing Arts & Literary Arts);
- (b) Secondly, Arts & Culture (Culinary/gastronomy, Crafts);
- (c) Thirdly, Media Production (Film, Television, Radio, Digital Media);
- (d) Fourthly, Design (Fashion, Architecture, Interactive Design, Graphic Design, Interior Design);  
and
- (e) Fifthly, Information Technology (Software, Computer Games, Animation).

Two Townhall sessions have been organized in Kota Samarahan and Serian divisions on 25<sup>th</sup> February 2023 and in Miri division on 18<sup>th</sup> March 2023. I attended the one in Kota Samarahan and I can see the excitement, the enthusiasm of all those who are in the industry in these two Townhall sessions. The kind of questions that comes about and I was quite amazed with the participants the number of people who drive all the way to Samarahan from Kuching just to participate in that Townhall. A few more are being planned with the objective of creating an understanding and awareness of creative industry in Sarawak and collect feedback from the industry players so as to formulate its strategy.

A total of 350 artisans, craftsmen, representatives of NGOs related to Arts, Culture and Heritage attended the Townhall sessions. As most initial findings were related to the need to develop the potentials of the industry through start up grants, my Ministry will apply from the Premier's Office to continue the *Dana Mudahcara Warisan, Seni dan Budaya* which has a remaining balance of RM5.35 million. This *Dana Mudahcara* was introduced by YAB Premier actually, last year but for this year it is not there but then, we will apply for it. Looks like it has created an interest and it can support those who are in this industry. So, I strongly believed, I strongly supported also for that *Dana Mudahcara* to be continued. In addition, to the awareness for Creative Industry, one of the main features during the *Kembara Ulang Tahun Ke-60* exhibitions starting from end of this month that is on the 28<sup>th</sup> of this month until the 22<sup>nd</sup> of July 2023.

### *Borneo Cultures Museum*

This year, the Borneo Cultures Museum received 123,727 visitors as at 2 days ago, as at yesterday 21<sup>st</sup> May 2023 or 2 days ago, ya and has had a total of 683,062 visitors since its official opening on the 4<sup>th</sup> of March 2022 and open to the public on the 9<sup>th</sup> of March 2022. For 2022, the number of visitors from Malaysia is 547,803 which comprise of 97% of all the visitors that come a visit to the Borneo Cultures Museum and 3%, the balance 3% of 11,532 are foreigners. So, you can see the kind of interest the Borneo Cultures Museum has created. It has become somehow of a must visit place for all visitors that come to Kuching.

Meanwhile, for January to mid-May 2023, the number of Malaysian visitors is 116,664 that is 94%, foreigners 7,063 that is 6%, these foreigners are mostly from Indonesia, from China, from Australia as well as from Brunei. Since its opening notable guests of the Museum include foreign Ambassadors and Ministers, Consulates, State and Federal Government agencies, various

educational institutions, and private NGOs. Among distinguished guests of the Museum include Her Majesty Seri Paduka Baginda Raja Permaisuri Agong who visited it on 29<sup>th</sup> March 2022 and on the 5<sup>th</sup> of July 2022. Actually, I was there when she was visiting the museum and she spent hours inside the museum, about three hours. Distinguished guests who visited in 2023 include the German Economic Delegates that come in together with the President of Germany. The President of Germany visited the National Park, the entourage, the economic delegates tour to the museum to pay a visit. The former ambassador of Saudi Arabia to Malaysia came on the 2<sup>nd</sup> of March 2023.

Her Royal Highness Raja Puan Muda Perak came on the 7<sup>th</sup> of March 2023, the China Embassy in Kuala Lumpur, the Ambassador visits to Malaysia on the 22<sup>nd</sup> of March 2023, the Ambassador of the Republic of Croatia came on the 28<sup>th</sup> of March 2023, the Deputy Director General or the Secretary of Fujian Province of China came on the 17<sup>th</sup> April 2023 and also the High Commissioner of Brunei to Malaysia came on the 16<sup>th</sup> of May 2023 among others.

The Museum also received visits from various educational institutions such as pre-schools, primary and secondary schools, and public and private institutions or universities. Besides that, the facilities at the Museum, which includes an auditorium, a function room, a temporary exhibition hall and an Arts and Crafts Gallery, has hosted 123 events since August 2022. There is also a restaurant in the museum which has even hosted wedding for those who came all the way from Singapore who wish to be to tie the knot in the museum, *ya*. These include workshops, conferences, exhibitions, school programs, TV filming, art performances and school and college graduation ceremonies. Those are among the other events that has been hosted or held at the museum.

It has become quite an interesting place as before we only visit the museum when we are in school. But now the museum has become a vibrant place where whoever your friends come in whether from West Malaysia, from Singapore, from overseas, the first thing you tell them if you are in Kuching, that is one the must visit place. That you must go. The feedback has been very positive from locals as well as foreigners. Visitors who were impressed by the way the artifacts were exhibited in the Museum which has set a very high standard for other museums in Malaysia to emulate. Sarawakian should be very proud to have a world-class museum as a benchmark for other museums, agencies, and institutions. Actually, the last few days I was having my dinner at Sarawak Club. There is a tourist from UK. He came to know this is the Minister for Tourism, so he came over, we had a chat, and he was really giving such impressive remark about the Borneo Cultural Museum, *"is one of the best museums that I have visited"*. Somebody from UK and then of course as Sarawakians, we feel very very proud when we get that kind of acknowledgement.

#### *MOUs and Strategic Partnerships*

The Sarawak Museum Department is continuously pursuing national and international collaborations with other museums and institutions. This May, the Department was invited to collaborate in this month of May, to collaborate in two international exhibitions. The first one is in United States which is called, *"Memphis May International Festival"* currently held in Memphis, USA. This is a month-long festival held in Memphis, Tennessee, USA. This year, the festival selected Malaysia as the honoured country. For this event, the Department, that is Museum was invited by MOTAC Malaysia to loan 24 of the artefacts that we have in the museum for the exhibition, which showcases the beauty of Sarawak's cultural heritage to the world.

These artefacts are on display at the Museum of Science and History, Memphis from 1<sup>st</sup> to 31<sup>st</sup> May 2023. So hopefully with all these exhibits being shown in United States it will create an interest where is this Sarawak? Where is this Borneo? Well, they might want to come down here.

The second exhibition was the London Crafts Week which was held from 4<sup>th</sup> to 14<sup>th</sup> of May this month. I attended this London Crafts Week. The Department contributed in preparing the content for the exhibition and loaned a masterpiece artefact from Sarawak for the exhibition. This was a beaded baby carrier, which is more than 100 years old, I was made to inform, which is designed with a full human figure made for the high-class aristocrat of the Kenyah community.

Besides exhibitions, more wide-ranging collaborations will be established this year through strategic partnerships with the Natural History Museum London and Lee Kong Chian Natural History Museum Singapore. The outcome of this partnership will be the signing of Memorandum of Understandings (MoUs) with these institutions. Apart from that, this Department is working closely with the British Museum London to send a curator for the International Training Programme from July to August 2023. In addition, the Department is currently working on bringing back the Kenyah Badeng sun hat from the Pitt Rivers Museum, Oxford, United Kingdom.

During the Department's last trip to London that was in May. They were together for the London Crafts Week, the delegates, since they are there, they don't want to waste their time. They also visited and make connection with the Museum in United Kingdom. That's always how we do it. When I went for ITB Berlin right after ITB Berlin, I flew to Madrid to meet UNESCO. Another batch goes to Amsterdam to do marketing since they are in Europe. Likewise, when we were in London for the London Crafts Week, those from Museum also went over to see the Museum. So, delegation outside of Sarawak, we don't spend, waste money just like that. Because since, we are down there, we tried to make effort. Unlike what has been look up to by some others actually that we are wasting a lot of money going down there.

During the Department last trip to London, the delegates initiated a courtesy call to the Pitt Rivers Museum to discuss and submit the official request for the return of the sun hat, the Kenyah Badeng sun hat just now. Bringing back the sun hat will give a new meanings and significance to the people of Sarawak as new interpretations of old histories will come to light. The sun hat actually was taken away from the Kenyah during one of the tribal war in the Baram area if I am not mistaken. It was taken away and then brought to UK. So, that's why we are asking for the sun hat to be returned back to us.

Besides international collaborations, the Department is continuously pursuing National and State collaborations with other institutions. The Department is assisting other agencies in various UNESCO nominations. This includes the Sarawak Forestry Corporation for the UNESCO nomination of Niah National Park, Sarawak, as a World Heritage Site. In addition, the Department is collaborating with the Forest Department Sarawak on the Sarawak Delta Geopark Project for UNESCO nomination in 2024.

Currently, the Department is on the technical committee under the direction of the Forest Department Sarawak, researching the culture and heritage within the Kuching, Santubong, Bako, Bau and Padawan areas as key elements for the nomination. For this project, the Department organised a two-day workshop in the Bau District from the 21<sup>st</sup> to 22<sup>nd</sup> of March 2023, joined by MAIS or Majlis Adat Istiadat Sarawak, UNIMAS, the local council, Kuching Resident Office, local community leaders and associations. The purpose of this workshop was to collect data on the tangible and intangible heritage, archaeological findings, traditional knowledge, including language and native cuisine in the area. The next workshops will be held in June for Padawan sub-district.

### *Publications*

As of 2022, the Department has published one Sarawak Museum Journal and nine books namely "*Topeng Koleksi Di Muzium Sarawak*", "*Keringam Koleksi Muzium Sarawak*", "*Manuskrip Jawi Koleksi Terpilih di Jabatan Muzium Sarawak*", "*Numismatik Koleksi Syiling dan Duit Kertas di Jabatan Muzium Sarawak*", "*Rock Art in Sarawak*", "*Permainan Zaman Kanak-Kanak di Sarawak: Etnik Melayu Sarawak Siri 1*", "*Mollusca Snail: Gastropoda in Sarawak Museum*" and "*Koleksi Muzium Sarawak: Budaya Sarawak dan Warisan Etnik*" dan yang terakhir "*The Bones*" berkenaan dengan tulang.

For 2023, the annual publication of the Sarawak Museum Journal is expected to be in November. Two books to be published is the one on the Rumah Sri Aman Project, and another one the Green Turtle in Sarawak. Not many of our younger generations knows about Sri Aman. This year is going to be the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the *Peace Treaty* of Sri Aman whereby Simanggang was



also called Sri Aman, that's how the name Sri Aman came about, and we are turning the place where the Peace Treaty was painted to be a Peace Treaty Museum, a museum to commemorate that Peace Treaty.

### *Handicraft Industry*

Tuan Speaker, first and foremost, I would like to again express my thanks and appreciation to all Members of this august House for their views and their support on the recently passed Sarawak Craft Council Bill, 2023.

My thanks to those involved, especially the industry players, the various Non-Governmental Organizations, academicians, individuals, related Government agencies and of course the Council Members and staff who have contributed in one way or another. I wish to also thank the State Attorney-General's Office and Honourable Members of this august House for participating in the debate. 19 of you participated which shows how much of interest craft and culture is to the Members of this august House.

The Sarawak Craft Council (SCC) will immediately undertake necessary actions to ensure the Bill to be implemented accordingly to achieve its objectives and to meet the needs and aspiration of all stakeholders, the Government and as well as the Rakyat. Among the immediate actions that will be implemented are:

- (a) To initiate the process of organizational restructuring and appointment of officers and staff;
- (b) To appoint the Board of Directors and the Chief Executive Officer (CEO). Those appointed shall be person with the relevant expertise, knowledge and experience about the industry as per Clause 4 of the Ordinance, and I will make sure that the person who is going to sit in the Council as well, who is going to be the CEO, will be somebody who is passionate about craft, who has got a good knowledge about Sarawak's craft; and
- (c) To propose and secure funding for the Council to operate and develop the industry.

With these initial steps in place, Sarawak Craft Council will be to implement programs and activities. Among the initial programs and tasks that would priorities would be:

- (a) Revisit the current development plans and policies, taking into account the functions and powers that are outlined in the Bill, the PCDS 2030, the Tourism Master Plan, the 2024 Handicraft Development Study, other related laws, policies and technologies, including information technologies. The expected output would be firm up policies, strategies and development plans on marketing, capacity building, research and development;
- (b) To enhance the processes and expand the scope of documentation of products, producers, artisans, traditional skills and knowledge, primarily in digital format, to ensure such data, skills and knowledge are not lost and available to the public for information and reference;
- (c) To initiate the processes and appropriate steps to identify, document and secure the intellectual property rights for crafts, motifs production processes. As of February 2021, only *Songket* Rajang has been registered under Geographical Indicator under The Intellectual Property Corporation of Malaysia (MyIPO);
- (d) To appoint working committee, which would include experts, experienced and knowledgeable individuals, to assist in specific tasks such as:
  - (i) Certification of Sarawak craft products;
  - (ii) Governance, integrity, and accountability; and
  - (iii) Marketing and sales.

- (e) To initiate research on the regeneration and replanting of rattan as what has been initiated or advised by Ahli Yang Berhormat bagi Batu Lintang, about the rattan, rattan *batu*.

**YB Encik See Chee How:** Ya.

**Menteri Pelancongan, Industri Kreatif dan Seni Persembahan (YB Dato Sri Haji Abdul Karim Rahman Hamzah):** *Bemban*, bamboo, *mengkuang*, *tekalong* and others to ensure sustainable supply of natural raw materials.

The industry is set to steer forward to achieve its total target sales of RM183.6 million of authentic Sarawak Craft products, involving 1,800 resilient entrepreneurs and producers as outlined in the PCDS 2030. It is also our aspiration to make Kuching sustain its World Craft City status with the construction of the Sarawak Craft Centre.

#### *Sarawak Arts Council*

The Sarawak Arts Council (SAC) has conducted 58 programs and activities in total since November 2022. This includes training, classes, and workshops covering various art fields such as dance, music, theatre/ acting, vocal, and visual art. The programs were held at Rumah Sarawak and various other venues throughout Sarawak to cater for urban and as well as rural communities. This involved a total of 2,400 participants, which include art activists, NGOs, Government agencies, associations, the local community, teachers, and school and university students, of various ages, genders, and races.

Sarawak Arts Council or Majlis Seni Sarawak engages with local artists such as singers, both traditional and contemporary dancers, actors, and others, for the purpose of the development of arts throughout Sarawak. The annual programs are in the form of Festivals, Performing Arts Competitions, Exhibitions, Workshops, Dialogue on the Arts, Seminars, and Conferences, held locally and internationally. Sarawak Arts Council was actively involved in COUNTDOWN 2023, which achieved the highest rating program under TVS or TV Sarawak Chart and Sarawak Arts Council Facebook channel also reached thousands of viewers locally and as well as internationally.

This year, the Sarawak Arts Council has been appointed to manage programs for all *Acara Tonggak*, including the 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Sarawak Independence which is going to be held on the 22<sup>nd</sup> of July 2023 but going to proceed or start from the 28<sup>th</sup> of May 2023.

Sarawak Art Council is always working closely with other agencies for programs and activities namely JKKNS, Dewan Bahasa dan Pustaka, Sekolah Seni, UNIMAS, UiTM, RTM, FINAS, TVS, PUSTAKA, Institut Pendidikan Guru Kampus Tun Abdul Razak Samarahan, Sarawak Culture Village, Sarawak Tourism Board, and professionals (academicians/ activists) from West Malaysia and Sabah as well as those who are in the private sectors.

To ensure the art heritage remains authentic, the Council also strengthens its cooperation with local NGOs such as Amanah Khairat Yayasan Budaya Melayu Sarawak, Dayak Cultural Foundation, Dayak Bidayuh National Association, FORUM, Melanau Association, Chinese Association, Indian Association, and other local art associations.

Sarawak Art Council organized its Open Day from the 15<sup>th</sup> to 17<sup>th</sup> March 2023 to inculcate awareness and promote art programs amongst the community, and also to provide a platform for the talented, both the younger and older generation to display and present their work. Various cultural performances were organized for public viewing in collaboration with cultural NGOs.

For MySENI Grant, the Council has received a total of 26 applicants consisting of individuals, art activists, associations and organizations, clubs, IPTA/ IPTS, or Institut Pengajian Tinggi Awam, Institut Pengajian Tinggi Swasta and companies related to arts, from Kuching there been 17, from Samarahan, seven; from Mukah, one; and from Miri, one. The grant is to assist the local communities

to participate and also to encourage them to develop art in their area and provide awareness of the culture and tradition amongst the community themselves for the purpose of its sustainability. So, I hope those from other divisions would also write in or request for this assistant cause presently we have only four division that are getting the grant.

Sarawak Art Council is currently preparing for the establishment of the Sarawak Arts Academy in parallel with the construction of the Sarawak Performance Arts Centre. Hence, Sarawak Art Council's responsibility is to conserve, preserve and provide sustainability to the culture and tradition of the various ethnic groups of Sarawak, moving towards PCDS 2030.

#### UNESCO Creative Cities Network

Under the UNESCO Creative Cities Network (Gastronomy), my Ministry continues to work closely with Kuching City South Council (MBKS) and civil society groups on this project. The flagship project for this will be a new gastronomy centre, scheduled for completion in 2025. Designs for this new facility have been completed and approved, with a revised funding of RM65 million from the original RM40 million reported in the last Dewan Sitting.

#### *Tourism Products Development*

Tuan Speaker, tourism Industry in Sarawak requires a continuous effort to develop and further improve the wide attraction catalogue that Sarawak has to offer new and returning visitors. The development of these tourism infrastructures is guided by PCDS 2030 and the Sarawak 3<sup>rd</sup> Tourism Master Plan (STMP). For that purpose, my Ministry has been allocated with RM360.265 million under the State's 12<sup>th</sup> Malaysia Plan (12MP) allocation and RM133.25 million under the *Projek Rakyat* allocation. From the Federal Government, my Ministry has only received RM18.523 million which is a big gap RM300 million and RM18 million. I hope the Federal Minister for Tourism who happens to be a Sarawakian can fight more for this and also we have got a Deputy Prime Minister from Sarawak must fight for this. Mana dapat satu tahun RM18 juta sahaja. (*Laughter*). The State Government gave RM300 million. (*Laughter*).

Pursuant to that, from 2022 to May 2023, my Ministry has completed various projects which includes:

- (a) Improvement on Tourism Facilities in Wind Cave Nature Reserve and Fairy Cave Nature Reserve;
- (b) Linkway and Railing from Fort Margherita to Golden Bridge, Kuching;
- (c) Proposed Electrical and Lights Provisions for Fort Margherita;
- (d) Upgrading and Maintenance of Chinese History Museum;
- (e) Upgrading and Maintenance of Kuching Aquarium, I don't know whether it's going to be an aquarium after this; and
- (f) Upgrading and Maintenance of Sarawak Textile Museum.

The balance of the projects that are still progressing in various stages of implementation are:

- (a) Transformation of Brooke Dockyard into Industrial Heritage Museum;
- (b) Proposed Sungai Niah Bridge at Niah National Park and Elevated Road for Buggy trail to Main Cave;
- (c) Performing Arts Centre at Old DUN Building,

- (d) Sarawak Arts and Handicraft Centre;
- (e) Bau Gold Mine Museum and Park;
- (f) The New English Tea House which is just below the water cascade from the Fort Margherita;
- (g) Rumah Sri Aman Gallery, the posterity Museum just now;
- (h) RASCOM Museum, we're going to build Museum to commemorate the struggle which laid to the setting up of RASCOM; and
- (i) Content and exhibition development for the Old Sarawak Museum Building, historical forts among others Fort Lily, Fort Brooke, Fort Emma, Fort Hose, Fort Sylvia and Santubong Archaeological Park

My Ministry has also proposed several new projects under the 12<sup>th</sup> Malaysia Plan Mid-Term Review which includes the Sarawak Arts Gallery at the Old Kuching Resident Office, Miri Cultural and Heritage Museum at the Old Miri Resident Office, and the Restoration and Upgrading of Islamic Heritage Museum Building and Exhibition.

#### *The Way Forward*

Tuan Speaker, we are slowly reaching the end. Both the Federal and Sarawak Government are putting concerted efforts to move the way forward and rejuvenate the tourism industry from the adverse impact of COVID-19 pandemic. With our Honourable Member for Dudong as I mentioned just now, being appointed the Federal Minister for Tourism, Arts and Culture Malaysia, I am confident our two Ministries can cooperate to revitalize tourism in the country. Being a Sarawakian, the opportunity for close cooperation and smooth channel of communication is more than certain. Through MOTAC Sarawak's efforts in 2022 various activities involving local communities provided various opportunities and reaped substantial earnings. Among them are:

(a) *Program Pembangunan kraf Komuniti:*

Capacity Building organised throughout Sarawak has benefited more than 200 communities for various types of local crafts;

(b) National Level Crafts Festival:

Hari Kraf Kebangsaan 2023 in Kuala Lumpur (total earnings worth RM730,105 for 50 participants from Sarawak);

(c) Sarawak Level Craft Events:

Organised throughout 2022 at major Divisions recorded total earnings of RM3.05 million for more than 200 participants during sports, cultural events and tourism festivals (e.g. The International Dragon Boat Festival, Regatta Sarawak, *Citrawarna* and many others). Where during the same time there will be sales of craft.

(d) *Festival Kraf Kebangsaan 2023* in Miri Bintang Megamall with a total involvement of 38 handicraft entrepreneurs including 31 entrepreneurs from Sarawak and the rest is from Sabah and Selangor with the total sales of RM221,716.

Therefore it is important to develop this synergy and my Ministry looks forward to working closely with MOTAC on tourism promotion especially in line with the Visit Malaysia Year 2025, events funding, tourism products development and maintenance, tourist guide licensing and syllabus, enforcement of licensing and reinstatement of MOTAC Sarawak Office in Sibul and Miri, connectivity

and accessibility, national ecotourism and national tourism plan, Sarawak-Malaysia My Second Home (S-MM2H), crafts, and many others.

My Ministry will aggressively intensify Sarawak More to Discover. together with *Cuti-cuti* Malaysia and VMY 2025 Campaigns with greater urgency and vigour. Sarawak will continue to entice and invite the world to explore and rediscover Sarawak, not only to appreciate the plethora of Sarawak's beauty, but also to be the limelight along the path of a long and winding road to Sarawak's tourism revival.

### *Conclusion*

Tuan Speaker, in conclusion, I would like to thank Ahli-ahli Yang Berhormat bagi Kalaka, Beting Maro and Krian and many other including during the debate on The Craft Council, the suggestions which they made. For the suggestions that they made for my Ministry as well as the agencies under the Ministry. We shall address the issues raised within the context of PCDS 2030 and will work closely with DTTG and the regional development agencies covering your constituencies so as to address them.

I would like to also take this opportunity to thank Tan Sri Datuk Amar Speaker, as well as Dato Timbalan Speaker and all staff of the Dewan Undangan Negeri for your excellent handling of all the Dewan proceedings, the Sarawak State Secretary, the Federal Secretary and all Government Departments both State and Federal and not forgetting the Staff of my own Ministry for their hard work, commitment and dedication in giving the necessary support and input including the two Timbalan Menteri who are assisting me in the Ministry.

I wish to take this opportunity to wish even though Syawal has already passed, Selamat Hari Raya Aidilfitri to all Muslim. Actually, I can still wish Selamat Hari Raya Aidiladha, because Hari Raya Aidiladha is coming soon, another Hari Raya to all Muslim. Selamat Hari Wesak and Selamat Hari Gawai Dayak, *Gayu Guru Gerai Nyamai Lantang Senang Nguan Menoa* to all those celebrating.

I would like to also express my deep gratitude to Yang Berhormat Datuk Amar State Secretary, Yang Arif Dato Sri State Attorney General and Yang Berbahagia Dato Sri State Financial Secretary for their continuous support. My sincere appreciation and gratitude to Tuan Speaker, and your team for their dedication and efficiency in handling the proceedings of this august House. Sebagai penutup ucapan penggulungan, izinkan saya kongsi dua rangkap pantun:

*Sungai Sarawak di tebing halaman,  
Perahu tambang dihias sulaman,  
Seni persembahan seni berzaman,  
Pujangga budaya tinggalan warisan.*

*Dari Lundu pergi ke Lawas  
Bermacam budaya dipertengah semua.  
60 tahun pimpinan dicapai luas  
Sarawak Maju Makmur dikecapi semua*

Tuan Speaker, akhir sekali saya dengan segala hormatnya menyokong penuh Usul Penghargaan Ke Atas Ucapan Tuan Yang Terutama Yang di-Pertua Negeri Sarawak. Sekian, terima kasih.

**Timbalan Speaker:** Terima kasih, Yang Berhormat Menteri. Thank you for a very comprehensive reply relating to your Ministry of Tourism, Creative Industry and Performing Arts. It is quite a long one, I believe. We should deserve a short break for 20 minutes until then, we will be here again for the Yang Berhormat Menteri, for your reply for another Ministry, the Ministry of Youth, Sports and Entrepreneur Development. Shall we adjourn for 20 minutes?

*(Mesyuarat ditangguhkan pada pukul 10.46 pagi)*

*(Mesyuarat dimulakan pada pukul 11.19 pagi)*

*[Timbalan Speaker mempengerusikan Mesyuarat]*

**Timbalan Speaker:** Ahli-ahli Yang Berhormat, seterusnya saya ingin menjemput dengan hormatnya Yang Berhormat Dato Sri Haji Abdul Karim Rahman Hamzah, Menteri Belia, Sukan Dan Pembangunan Usahawan untuk menyampaikan ucapan penggulungannya untuk Kementerian tersebut. Terima kasih.

**Menteri Belia, Sukan dan Pembangunan Usahawan Sarawak (YB Dato Sri Haji Abdul Karim Rahman Hamzah):** Assalamualaikum Warahmatullahi Wabarakatuh. Terima kasih, Tuan Speaker. Bismillahirrahmanirrahim. Assalamualaikum Warahmatullahi Wabarakatuh, Salam Sejahtera, Salam Sarawakku Sayang dan Salam Sarawak Maju Makmur.

*Belia Negara Tonggak Wawasan,  
Kualiti dan Integriti Tegas Kepimpinan,  
Jelajah Belia Segenap Tempat dan Kawasan,  
Menyantuni Setiap Aspirasi dan Pesanan.*

*Semangat Rentap Laungan Keramat,  
Gendang Dicanang Tekad Dipaku,  
Kegemilangan Sukan Bagai Azimat,  
DemiMu Sarawak Ibu Pertiwiku.*

*Usahawan Belia Kita Lahirkan,  
Program YES Diperhebat Berterusan,  
Digitalisasi Ekonomi Kita Lestarkan,  
Sarawak Maju Makmur Belia Berwawasan.*

Tuan Speaker, saya ingin mengucapkan setinggi-tinggi penghargaan kepada Tuan Yang Terutama Yang di-Pertua Negeri Sarawak di atas ucapan sempena Pembukaan Mesyuarat Pertama bagi Penggal Kedua Persidangan Dewan Undangan Negeri Sarawak Ke-19 pada 15 Mei 2023, khususnya dalam mempersiapkan belia kita dari segi pengetahuan dan juga kemahiran perniagaan, serta mempertingkatkan daya saing mereka untuk menceburi bidang keusahawanan dan memperkasakan daya tahan seiring dengan perkembangan ekonomi pada masa kini.

Memandangkan kita akan meraikan Ulang Tahun Ke-60 Kemerdekaan Sarawak dengan bertemakan “*Sarawak Maju Makmur*”, para pemimpin dan rakyat Sarawak akan terus menyokong GPS di bawah kepimpinan dan juga bimbingan Yang Amat Berhormat Premier Sarawak, Datuk Patinggi Tan Sri (Dr.) Abang Haji Abdul Rahman Zohari bin Tun Datuk Abang Haji Openg dalam memacu pembangunan dan seterusnya menjadikan Sarawak Negeri termaju di Malaysia. Di bawah *Post COVID-19 Development Strategy (PCDS) 2030*, Kementerian saya akan terus mengadakan jaringan kerjasama dan penglibatan serta menganjurkan lebih banyak lagi acara sukan, dalam usaha menjadikan Sarawak sebagai *Nation Sports Powerhouse*, seterusnya, menyumbang kepada pertumbuhan ekonomi kita.

## YOUTH DEVELOPMENT

### *Ministry's Aspirations*

Tuan Speaker, my Ministry endeavours to promote the aspirations of our youth by advocating policies for Sarawak youth developmental initiatives aimed to align with the PCDS 2030 by implementing programmes that are in line with its objective such as economic prosperity, social inclusivity and sustainable environment.

*Ministry's Engagements*

My Ministry's involvement, collaboration and engagement with Agencies, Higher Learning Institutions, Private Sectors, Professional Bodies, Community Leaders, Youth Associations and Non-Government Organizations (NGOs) would maximize and enhance Sarawak's youth talents development both national and international level.

*Sesi Libat Urus Aktiviti* Kementerian Belia, Sukan dan Pembangunan Usahawan throughout Sarawak is an effort made by my Ministry in engaging various parties on joined-up youth development programmes across sectors.

My Ministry with various collaboration with other Governmental agencies and NGOs such as Jabatan Belia dan Sukan Negeri Sarawak (JBS), Persatuan Mencegah Dadah Malaysia (PEMADAM) and others have planned and implemented 617 comprehensive youth programmes that encapsulate the important elements of Education and Skills Training, Nationhood and Self-Identity, Healthy and Prosperous Lifestyle, Leadership, Volunteerism and Civil Society, Entrepreneurship, Research and Innovation, Youth Work Professionalism, and Recognition of individual and youth associations during *sambutan Hari Belia Peringkat Negeri Sarawak*. My Ministry will also initiate the digitalisation programmes in both national and international level.

My Ministry is also working very closely with SABERKAS, the largest and most active youth association in Sarawak, or probably in Malaysia also, in conducting various youth programmes that aligned with the Ministry's objectives. This year, SABERKAS is celebrating their Golden Jubilee Celebration and there are 727 programmes that has been planned with 17 main programmes as follow, among others:

- (a) The Blood Donation Campaign Programme;
- (b) SABERKAS Charity Leisure Cycle;
- (c) SABERKAS Active;
- (d) SABERKAS Prihatin Khas;
- (e) Career and Education Carnival;
- (f) *Jelajah Usahawan Muda* SABERKAS (JUMS) Start Bisnez;
- (g) Agricultural Fertigation Course;
- (h) Creative Media Literacy;
- (i) *Karnival Sukan* SABERKAS (KASUS);
- (j) The Digital Economy Empowerment Workshop;
- (k) *Sambutan Kemuncak Jubli Emas* SABERKAS;
- (l) *Larian* SABERKAS;
- (m) SABERKAS Youth Talent;
- (n) Youth Rampaian Dance Competition;
- (o) Donation of Dialysis Machine;

- (p) Car Boot Sale; and
- (q) *Jerayawara Bubur Lambuk* SABERKAS.

Among others. When you have got 727 programmes and in one year you have got only 365 days, so you can simply say practically every day where have got two programmes. As of now, 215 various programmes have been conducted at the different Branches and Units throughout SABERKAS.

### *Youth Development Strategies*

My Ministry is aware that many youth facing uncertainties about their future, as a result of technological change, demographic and social exclusion. More than ever, they need to be resilient and able to adapt to these challenges. In today's interconnected world, youths should acquire the necessary skills to contribute to Sarawak. With this, my Ministry has come out with strategies via Engagement, Connection and Empowering the youth.

### *Engage*

It is very important for my Ministry to engage the youth and improve the impact of policy decisions on youth through dialogue, or townhall and addressing their needs across sectors. The main programme is *Jelajah Belia Sarawak* which was initially implemented in 2019 covering 40 districts State-wide. So far, we have covered 23 Districts and DUNs involving a total of 21,550 youths.

In our efforts to further enhance youth engagement and outreach towards our *anak-anak Sarawak* outside of Sarawak, my Ministry will embark on *Jelajah Belia Sarawak in Sabah* as well as in Johor, west Malaysia. These programmes will involve the participation of young Sarawakians that are living or studying in these two States.

We hope that this programme will achieve our objectives in enhancing youth engagement and outreach, as well as in empowering our *anak-anak Sarawak* with leadership and positive qualities that are beneficial to them in the future.

MYSED Go Rural programme is another engagement strategy by my Ministry to facilitate the development of youth, sports and young entrepreneurship throughout Sarawak. My Ministry has planned Turun Padang programme with a visit to five rural areas namely Long Semado (Lawas), Long Seridan (Baram), Long Busang (Belaga), Semop (Rajang) and Banting (Lingga). My Ministry will also continue to do more programmes in the future in order to broaden service outreach toward the rural youth.

The highlight of the youth programme is *Hari Belia Sarawak*. For the first time this year, the celebration will be in Kapit, Sarawak as an effort in reaching out to the youths in the Heart of Borneo.

### CONNECTIVITY OR CONNECTION

My Ministry has the initiative to connect young people together across Sarawak and beyond to foster voluntary engagement, solidarity and intercultural understanding. Among the programmes are *Juh Sungkei* at Miri and *Juh Sungkei* at Kuching that estimated that successfully gathered a total of 6,000 youth and community by encouraging the youth to become active citizens, agents of solidarity and active change towards intercultural understanding. I attended the one in Kuching actually at the Padang Central. It was quite a surprise even the Premier was quite surprised. It was the first time it was held at Padang Central *berbuka puasa*. We were targeting at that time maybe about a thousand, a thousand plus, but the number of youth participants that came down on their own just to be there for the breaking of fast during last Ramadhan came to almost about 5,000, and



it was quite a, I was quite amazed to see the response, the support from the public especially on the youth, by the youth.

In aligning with the spirit of MA63, my Ministry is planning to implement the Youth Cultural Exchange Programme. This programme is an initiative to promote solidarity and understanding for other cultures, as well as strengthening ties between the youths in Sarawak, Sabah and West Malaysia or Peninsular Malaysia.

It is imperative for our youth to be given the opportunities to broaden their outlook by learning other cultures in Malaysia, thus empowering them to be creative, dynamic and knowledgeable. Digital technologies have revolutionised young people's lives in many ways and youth development programme need to consider both opportunities and challenges. *Bengkel* E-Commerce, MYSED TikTok Entrepreneur, Youth Biz Goes Pro and E-Video are among programmes will be implemented by my Ministry in equipping youth with digital skills, tapping the potential of social media, and fostering critical and creative thinking.

## EMPOWERMENT

At the core of youth empowerment is the belief that the youth are capable of incredible things. When youth have exposure to inspire ideas and opportunities and the tools to build their confidence, my Ministry believe it will align with our vision in making Sarawak youth a world class youth. My Ministry empowers the youth through Sarawak Youth Creative Industry Fund or in short SYCIF. A total of 64 youth associations and individuals in Sarawak have already benefited from this fund. Since its implementation, more talented youth has participated in international programmes, ventured into digital creative contents, as well as contributed to the community through their innovations. Therefore, we urge the youths to apply for the fund to develop their talents and to add values to their programmes.

## MASS SPORTS PROGRAMMES

### SARAWAK X-TIVE

Tuan Speaker, in sync with my Ministry's "*Sports for All*" vision under the flagship of the Sarawak X-Tive Programme, a total of 34 main activities encompassing fitness activities, recreational games, extreme sports, and traditional games have been strategically underlined in the 2023 Ministry's sports events calendar, expecting to meet the various niche preference of its targeted group throughout Sarawak. The main events are Outdoor Adventure Race, Tug-of-War competitions, International Extreme Sports competitions for BMX Freestyle, Skateboard, Aggressive Inline and Wall Climbing competitions as well as Obstacle Races.

The programmes will kick off in Lawas, Limbang on the 27<sup>th</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup> of May end of this month, 2023 in conjunction with the Sambutan Perayaan 60 Tahun Sarawak Merdeka. Concurrently, it will follow through to the various other divisions and its finale will be in Kuching on the 21<sup>st</sup> of July 2023. Incorporating the philosophy of strategic and smart partnership, our engagement with the various NGOs throughout Sarawak will pave the way for direct involvement instilling a sense of belonging towards the activities among the communities.

## NEW SPORTS: OBSTACLE SPORTS

My Ministry in the midst of discussing the proposed Southeast ASEAN Obstacle Sports Championship in Kuching, Sarawak, on the 4<sup>th</sup> to the 6<sup>th</sup> of September 2023. Based on the indication of growing interest especially among our Malaysian youth particularly to the achievement of the Malaysian Obstacle Race athletes in the recent SEA Games in Cambodia, undisputedly our local youth will have more advantage while capitalizing on the future locally established training centre in Kuching. Sarawak has the potential to be the hub for developing champion Obstacle Race athletes in various level championships in the near future.

## E-SPORTS

Tuan Speaker, my Ministry is continuously collaborating with Sarawak E-Sports Association or SESA in creating e-sports development platform such as organising e-sports competition and development programmes to produce future champions for this country. In developing the e-sports throughout Sarawak, my Ministry, SESA, other Governmental Agencies and NGOs had organised Sarawak E-Sports Expo 2023 on the 16<sup>th</sup> to the 19<sup>th</sup> of March 2023 in Kuching. It was really attended by many from all over Asian countries actually. There are more than a thousand participants if I am not mistaken, yea. About 1,600. The grand final which includes E-Sports Forum and Workshop, Grand Final of My Borneo E-Force Invitational 2.0, Sarawak E-Sports Championship 2023 and gaming peripheral expo and healthy gaming exhibition, with a total of 1,630 national and international participants. Apart from that, we are also planning to organise physical and virtual Sarawak E-Sports Competition on this coming July. Sharing the good news here is that in the recent 32<sup>nd</sup> SEA Games Cambodia 2023, our Sarawakian athlete, Mohamad Nabil Nazaruddin has won bronze medal in PUBG Team event category. This is a result of our talents development programme which has produced a world class athlete in e-sports.

## STRATEGIC COLLABORATIONS

Our strategic partner, Jabatan Belia dan Sukan Negeri Sarawak or JBS is planning to conduct five Programmes with 19 activities in the first half of 2023 with the participation of 350,770 local communities. Among the programmes are Sport Staking Challenges, Fit @ Community, KLAS (Swimming), Inspire I-Talent and Synergy Inspire.

## THE WAY FORWARD FOR 2023

This year, my Ministry is constantly promoting the traditional sports and *sukan rakyat* which include *Tarik Tali, Sepak Raga Bulatan, Tating, Batak Lampung, Gusti Payu*, I saw in the TV also for the *Festival Bedundun* the one in *Lumba Kerbau* is also a traditional sport, definitely we want to have it also and many more, in parallel with my Ministry's vision "*Sports for All*". In addition, my Ministry strongly supports new sports associations to be established in Sarawak such as obstacle sports, functional fitness, pickleball, *jom bola*, woodball and many more.

We believe that these new sports would be globalized in the future and Sarawak will achieve the State's vision as a Sports Nation Powerhouse by 2030. As we join forces with the Ministry of Tourism, Creative Industry and Performing Art Sarawak, we are also promoting sports tourism in Sarawak such as DekaFit, Spartan Race and Functional Fitness Competition Sarawak Open apart from hosting the marathon, the Kuching Marathon as well as the Sarawak Miri Marathon. Sarawak is the only State in Malaysia which is hosting two international marathons which is given accreditation by the AIM or Association of International Marathon. There are five international marathons in Malaysia. Two are in Sarawak, one is in Sabah, one is Kuala Lumpur and the other one is the Penang Bridge Marathon. This event will be attracting participations nation-wide as well as our neighbouring countries such as Brunei, Singapore, Indonesia, the Philippines, and Australia. In addition, we are also targeting on conventions and exhibitions that are related to sports held in Sarawak such as Sarawak E-Sports Expo or SAREX 2023, Sarawak International Sports Forum and Workshops 2023, the 17<sup>th</sup> Asian Associations for Sports Management or AASM Conference 2023 and the 4<sup>th</sup> Asia Pacific Conference on Performance Analysis of Sports (APCPAS) 2023, targeting up to 3,000 participants.

## SARAWAK SPORTS CORPORATION (SSC) AND MAJLIS SUKAN NEGERI SARAWAK (MSNS)

Tuan Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate our Golden Athletes achievers in the recent 32<sup>nd</sup> SEA Games Cambodia 2023. Among them; Grace Wong Xiu Mei (Women Hammer Throw), Enrique Maccartney Anak Harold (Diving Men Individual), Kimberly Bong Qian Ping (Diving Women 3M Springboard Individual), Nur Humaira Abdul Karim, *wah deh sama*

*nama dengan saya ini.* And her sister actually these two sisters from Bintulu. Nurul Hidayah Abdul Karim both of them got gold medal in Taekwondo – Poomsae.

Over the years, Sarawak athletes have made names for Sarawak at international level. Recent outstanding performances in certain sports such as Diving, Athletic, Golf, Swimming and others, have brought pride to the people of Sarawak. In the recent 32<sup>nd</sup> SEA Games in Cambodia, there are 40 athletes from Sarawak representing Malaysia, and 23 of our athletes out of the 40, 23 of our athletes managed to grasp or to bring back five Gold, eight Silver and 10 Bronze medals. So, that is quite an achievement for our athletes from Sarawak.

#### SUKAN MALAYSIA (SUKMA XXI) SARAWAK 2024

Sarawak was entrusted to host the upcoming 21<sup>st</sup> SUKMA 2024 on the 16<sup>th</sup> of March 2023 by the Jawatankuasa Tertinggi SUKMA. I was there attending that meeting, still remember. This is an honour for Sarawak to host the games in such a short cycle after the year 2016. The last time we became the host was in 2016, we should go to the other State and then come back after 14 years, but somehow probably the other States are not able to be daring enough to host it because of cost probably preparing for the State election, too busy, you know *lah ini Semenanjung* everything is politic or no, no everybody say no. We take this opportunity to prepare our athletes in targeting to grab the championship, whereas in 2016 we came close to becoming champion when the game was held in Sarawak. We fall short of just two gold medals.

If we managed to get one gold medal plus with the silver and bronze, we would have been champion at that time. But we are not going to repeat that mistake, what in 2016. This time it's going to be Sarawak becoming champion, and I have told Sarawak Sports Corporation, I've told Timbalan Menteri was looking after sports, I want Sarawak to be a runaway winner this time, not just champion. We are proposing for the 21<sup>st</sup> SUKMA games to be held in Sarawak, to be held from the 17<sup>th</sup> to 24<sup>th</sup> of August 2024, but there is subject to again, our national body Jawatankuasa Tertinggi SUKMA agreeing to those things. Among the initiatives from Majlis Sukan Negeri Sarawak are as follows:

- (a) Sending our potential athletes to overseas for exposure, training and competition as well as attachment training with other athletes for State or Countries. This will help to improve their performances as well as their confidence both physically and mentally;
- (b) Apart from that, engaging overseas and with local consultants who have specialised in coaching and technical sports to guide and rectify our shortcomings in order to enhance our teams' competitiveness;
- (c) Inviting other States or National teams to train with us at our own training venue, sharing sports knowledge, identify strengths and shortcomings of our teams, gain experiences and opportunities;
- (d) Tour games with other State level athletes for adapting them to get used with the competition atmosphere; and
- (e) Recruiting qualified coaches to improve our coaching quality.

And of course, even though it is not stated in here to change the mindset the athletes. They must be able to think like champion. If you go into any sport, thinking just to participate but not able to think that you can beat the best in that particular race or whatever it is you can never become champion. How to manage the mindset.

*In lieu* of our vision to be the best SUKMA in record, we have the honour to have the Right Honourable Premier of Sarawak to be our Patron for the Main Committee for the hosting of this, a next year SUKMA. The Organizing Committee is established on 19<sup>th</sup> April 2023 chaired by the Honourable State Secretary of Sarawak to ensure smooth running of the whole event.

To share the excitement of SUKMA among fellow Sarawakians in various parts of Sarawak, we want all Sarawakians to be able to be there to support, to enjoy SUKMA. That's the reason why we don't want to have SUKMA only to be hosted in Kuching. Sarawak is a big State, we want as many places as possible. The pride of all Sarawakians be able to go to the stadium, able to go to the hall to give the support. There are eight Divisions namely Kuching, Samarahan, Sri Aman, Betong, Sibul, Mukah, Bintulu and Miri which have been identified and proposed to host the 32 sports that have been agreed by the national body. This is after taking into consideration the venues and facilities, as well as the accommodation, logistic, transportation and the local community support for chosen sports. I can see the enthusiasm from the division. There are certain sports where I get called from the local representatives, local sports leaders asking can you have sport in this divisions.

So, we have to really, but I love to see that kind of spirit which I believe it will culminate during SUKMA itself when you have got that kind of support. I'm very, very sure our athletes who are competing in any of the event, they are competing. We will be able to excel once SUKMA comes in. If all the sports are in Kuching, the support will be less, because they just too many, so you just can pick and choose. So, if it's only two or three in Sri Aman, two or three in Betong, a few in Sibul, with these limited sports, everybody will convene stand. After taking into consideration, the venue, the facilities, the accommodations, logistic, transportation and local community support, we make this decision to identify the eight places, eight divisions. Indirectly, this will also boost the local economy, the hotels, the transportation company, the restaurants, those who are making crafts and all that. That's why in some way I believe there will be a little bit of excitement when this event are being hosted in other divisions in Sarawak.

Apart from Radio Televisyen Malaysia or RTM, we are also planning to engage with TVS, they have come and see me. We will try to bring how, how we want to create that love, that interest for the sports as well as to build up that feeling of patriotism through TVS interviewing the potential medallist, running capsule programmes and broadcasting live telecast of event at different venues via SUKMA or even before SUKMA started.

With the success factors such as full preparation of athletes, venues and facilities, and efficient organizing committee, we wish to realize our dream to become the champion once again after our victory gained in the year 1990, 1992 and 1994. Can you just imagine the last time we were champion overall champion was in 1994. It has become very elusive we have not been able to capture back that count but partly, sports there's a lot of politics in sports. That is the unfortunate part. Some states will become host if they know that they are very good in certain sports they will increase the number of *acara* or event for the sports. They will increase it just to get more gold medals. As much as possible we won't be like that. I look at it as well as MSN we look at it; are those sports in the Olympics? Are those sports in the ASEAN Games? Are those sports in the SEA Games? If these are core sports in those it should be laid up.

Sometimes it quite unfortunate you see, sports like water polo, Sarawak used to be very, very strong in water polo but it was just because water polo involved so many athletes the other States or the National Council feel it might be too costly, it has not been held in SUKMA for many-many years. So, Sarawak, we used to be a powerhouse in water polo the whole sports *hilang*. But we are trying to revise back we cannot look at sports just from how many medals you are going to get. You have to look at it objectively because they are many tremors for might not be sprinter in the pool so if they are not good, they can be in water polo. Where is more about endurance and all that. That also apply to the other sports where we hope we could bring them back. We do not want to see the possible this SUKMA *ada* next SUKMA *tidak ada*.

The moment it stopped halfway that way, that will be a break for four years, because SUKMA is held every two years. If that athlete is 18 years old there is no SUKMA being held for that particular sports by that time he will be 22, he will not be eligible if another state wants to proceed for 4 years' time. So that's why sometimes I hope that National SUKMA Committee do look at it positively have this kind of sports make sure we go for it. Boxing was supposed to be dropped for this SUKMA. I bid for it; I make sure but then was given back by Federal I am very happy so boxing will be there.

We do hope that our boxer. We do have a pool of good boxers; boxing athletes and we hope that they will produce medal in this SUKMA 2024.

Among the sports with high potential to win gold for Sarawak are Tenpin Bowling, Swimming, Athletics, Taekwondo, Silat, Shooting, Archery, Lawn Tennis, Volleyball, Squash, Diving, Muay Thai, Gymnastics, Golf, Weightlifting, Table Tennis, Wushu, Judo, Rugby, Lawn Bowls, Boxing, Pétanque, e-Sports, Cycling and Sepak Takraw. In order to enhance our excellence and strengthen the performance of our athletes in SUKMA 2024 for the participation in the 32 sports that have been agreed, Sarawak Sports Corporations (SSC) through High Performance Division focuses on the on-going application of sports science support which includes psychology, nutrition, strength and conditioning, rehab and recovery, and performance analysis. We are also developing sports coaching education, strategic management, high-performance sports development system, games and research development. This initiative has been planned, implemented and monitored to ensure effectiveness of the delivery of each sports science support mentioned.

Foreseeing that hosting the 21 SUKMA 2024 is a massive undertaking. My Ministry has come out with a comprehensive planning to address the potential issues and challenges that have been identified. Sarawak Sports Corporation (SSC) has strategically laid out and implemented corrective and preventive maintenance plans in phases for most of our sport facilities, ensuring sustainability and conducive usage during the SUKMA event and many others in future including social events.

#### *Sukan Sarawak (SUKSAR) III Sibu 2023*

Majlis Sukan Negeri Sarawak (MSNS) or Sarawak Sports Corporation (SSC) has proposed to host SUKSAR III the 3<sup>rd</sup> time in Sibu on the 19<sup>th</sup> until the 21<sup>st</sup> of December 2023. SUKSAR is prepared, SUKSAR is planned one year before SUKMA. It is for us to select also our SUKMA athletes as well as to condition them prior to SUKMA. SUKSAR as sport which are held among the various division in Sarawak.

Among the four zones that will compete in this SUKSAR games in Sibu which comprises of Northern Zone (Limbang, Miri, Bintulu), Central Zone (Mukah, Sibu, Kapit), Western Zone (Sarikei, Betong, Sri Aman), and Southern Zone (Kuching, Samarahan, Serian). The last winner or the winner of last SUKSAR II; it was Northern Zone; the Miri, Limbang and Bintulu. Somehow, they are very, very strong although in northern region.

#### **YOUTH ENTREPRENEUR DEVELOPMENT**

Tuan Speaker, entrepreneurship is increasingly shifting towards digitalisation, as well the use of digital technology becoming more prevalent in all aspects of business. Adoption of digital technology is the key to entrepreneurial success in this digital age. When digitalisation leads to the use and integration of digital technology in business processes and operations, then entrepreneurs, especially the youth, need to be prepared and equipped with digitalisation skills.

My Ministry has designed the Youth Entrepreneur Setup or in short YES; Youth Entrepreneur Setup 2.0 programme to make it more-friendly for the youth to accept the digital economy as a way to create more efficient, innovative and scalable businesses, after the success of YES 1.0 in introductory phase of entrepreneurship motivation, business registration and licensing, and financial aids. This programme will be implementing in the third quarter of this year in line with the PCDS 2030 to achieve a developed and high-income Sarawak by 2030 as well as provide and cultivate digitalisation among Sarawak's youth entrepreneurs in all aspects of entrepreneurship.

To cater programmes and activities involving youth entrepreneurship in digitalisation through various approaches will include:

- (a) Providing Access to Digital Tools and Resources:

Young entrepreneurs need access to digital tools and resources to help them develop and grow their businesses. This include access to high-speed internet, software development tools and cloud-based storage services;

(b) Offer Training and Mentoring Programmes:

Youth entrepreneurship programme is focusing on developing digital skills, such as coding, digital marketing and e-commerce, equip our young entrepreneurs via leveraging of technology to grow their businesses. Whereas mentoring programme is providing guidance and support to young entrepreneurs as they navigate and explore into the digital landscape;

(c) Create a Supportive Ecosystem:

My Ministry is collaborating with business players and other stakeholders such as Tabung Ekonomi Gagasan Anak Sarawak (TEGAS) and Sarawak Digital Economy Corporation (SDEC) to create an environment that supports youth entrepreneurship. This include formulating policies to incentivise innovation and digital entrepreneurship, funding opportunities for young entrepreneurs and access to network of investors and other entrepreneurs;

(d) Encourage Collaboration and Networking:

Organising events, workshops and other opportunities for young entrepreneurs to collaborate and broaden their network, foster innovation and encourage the exchange of ideas;

(e) Highlight Success Stories:

My Ministry will conduct the success stories sharing sessions through mass media, social media, events and other marketing channels, by showcasing the young successful entrepreneurs who have harnessed digital technology to inspire others and boost their confidence to pursue entrepreneurship and embrace digitalisation;

In making such programmes a success, my Ministry will also collaborate with other Government and private sectors and agencies, NGOs and associations in implementing and supporting entrepreneurship programmes especially in the digital economy that target the youth.

## DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS

Tuan Speaker, according to Mr. Nelson Mandela, "*Sports has the power to change the world. It has the power to inspire. It has the power to unite people in a way that little else does. It speaks to youth in a language they understand.*" That is the word of Nelson Mandela.

My Ministry has been passionate in empowering and supporting sportsmen to achieve their mission and dreams to lift the name of the nation. We are fortunate that the persistent efforts by the State Government have benefited particularly in strengthening communities, advancing social bonds and supporting youth throughout Sarawak.

Sports facility is one of the fundamental components of engaging in physical activities. With that, the State Government has embarked on an initiative to construct and upgrade sports facilities and social infrastructure in relation with sports and games.

With 21 *Project Rakyat* and 16; Twelfth Malaysia Plan (MP) physical projects approved, my Ministry is paving a path in providing the locals especially the youth, communities, and sportsmen with a conducive, safe, and standard sports facility.

At the present, a total of RM274.5 million has been approved under *Project Rakyat* and 12<sup>th</sup> MP to be implemented under projects and programmes throughout the State. My Ministry together with the Jabatan Kerja Raya (JKR), Sarawak Sports Corporation (SSC), Local Councils and Bintulu Development Authority (BDA) will continue to work together in ensuring all projects will be implemented and completed as scheduled. With the soon completion of Project Mini Sports Complex at Pekan Beluru, Projek Cadangan Menaik taraf Stadium Balingian, Cadangan Menaik taraf Dewan Suarah Sri Aman, Sarawak Sports Village, the Proposed Cricket Ground, the Wushu Hall which I just have the earth breaking two days ago; it will be able to cater a place for athletes' training and recreation as well as providing facilities for event organisers.

In order to achieve our target of quality athletes, under the Mid Term Review my Ministry has include proposed upgrading and refurbishment of existing sports complex or sport facilities. The projects are as follows:

- (a) Upgrading of Stadium Sarawak (RM10 million);
- (b) Proposed Improvement Works to Bintangor Sports Complex (RM5 million);
- (c) Cadangan Naik taraf Kompleks Sukan Matu, (RM5 million);
- (d) Proposed Improvement Works to Pakan Sports Complex (RM3.5 million);
- (e) Cadangan Naik taraf Kompleks Sukan Samarahan (RM3.5 million);
- (f) Naik taraf, Baik pulih Kompleks Sukan Limbang dan Stadium Tertutup Limbang (RM3.5 million);
- (g) Proposed Improvement Works to Kapit Indoor Stadium (RM2.5 million);
- (h) Refurbishment Pusat Gasing Petra Jaya into Boxing and Muay Thai Centre (RM1 million); if I can recall that Pusat Gasing is never been used from the time it was established; that's the reason why we want to turn it into Boxing as well as Muay Thai Centre. You built the facility without; probably, doing a proper flexibility study, that's what happened;
- (i) Kerja Naik taraf dan Baikpulihan Perkampungan Sukan Petronas Miri (RM3 million);
- (j) Proposed Improvement Works to Swimming pool in Kota Samarahan (RM2 million);
- (k) Swimming Pool Sarikei, upgrading (RM2 million);
- (l) Swimming Pool Sri Aman (RM2 million);
- (m) Swimming Pool Kapit (RM2 million);
- (n) Swimming Pool Limbang (RM2 million); and
- (o) Proposed Improvement Works to Asajaya Sports Complex (RM10 million).

This is to comply with relevant international standard recognition for us to host events and training centers for athletes in the future. Meanwhile, my Ministry has also submitted several project proposals under Mid Term Review for districts that do not have sports facilities.

#### ORGANISATIONAL RESTRUCTURING

Tuan Speaker, in order to keep up with the pace of the post Covid-19 era and the increasing responsibilities, and to achieve our Vision of World Class Youth and Sports For All And Excellent

Youth Entrepreneurs by 2030, my Ministry and Sarawak Sport Corporation(SSC) are in the midst of restructuring our organization setup to address the issues of manpower shortage, as well as to ensure that we are able to provide the best and effective management and implementation of all events and programmes to our youth, athletes as well as young entrepreneurs.

My Ministry is also planning to revisit the relevancy of Dewan Suarah's policy, roles, management and development to keep up with the progress of this competitive Post Covid era.

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

I would like to thank the Ahli-ahli Yang Berhormat bagi Repok, Meradong, Tebedu, Pujut, Simunjan, Tanjong Datu, Engkilili, Tanjong Batu, Tamin, Kalaka, Tellian, Krian, Lingga, Tupong, Beting Maro and Batu Danau for their issues, proposals and suggestions raised in relations to youth, sports and entrepreneur development and sports facilities throughout the State.

The Government will continue to formulate and implement various youth, sports and entrepreneur development programmes and activities in Sarawak to produce healthy, creative and skillful youths as well as high performance athletes.

**CONCLUSION**

Tuan Speaker, in conclusion, saya ingin mengambil kesempatan ini untuk mengucapkan terima kasih kepada Tuan Speaker dan Timbalan Speaker dan semua warga Dewan Undangan Negeri di atas kecemerlangan dan komitmen yang tinggi bagi melancarkan persidangan kali ini. Tidak dilupakan juga kepada Yang Berhormat Setiausaha Kerajaan Sarawak dan semua Ketua-Ketua Jabatan Negeri dan juga Persekutuan termasuk staf Kementerian saya yang telah bertungkus-lumus menyediakan input dan informasi serta sokongan padu.

Masih belum terlewat untuk saya mengucapkan Selamat Hari Raya Aidilfitri, Selamat Hari Raya Aidiladha yang akan datang, Selamat Hari Wesak, Selamat Hari Gawai, *Gayu Guru Gerai Nyamai Lantang Senang* kepada semua rakan yang meraikannya. Dengan ini, saya ingin menutup Ucapan Penggulangan bagi Kementerian Belia, Sukan dan Pembangunan Usahawan Sarawak dengan tiga rangkap pantun:

*Dari Lawas ke Tanjong Datu,  
Konvoi Kembara Jelajah Sarawak,  
Bersamalah Kita Berganding Bahu,  
Demi Sukan untuk Sarawak.*

*Sarawak Merdeka 60 Tahun,  
Bertema Sarawak Maju Makmur,  
Infra Sukan Rancak Dibangun,  
Lahirkan Juara di Medan Tempur.*

*SUKMA Sarawak Tahun Hadapan,  
32 Sukan Dipertandingkan,  
Agi Idup Agi Ngelaban,  
Juara Keseluruhan Kita Impikan.*

*Wabillahi Taufiq Walhidayah, Wassalamualaikum Warahmatullahi Wabarakatuh.* Sekian, terima kasih.

**Timbalan Speaker:** *Terima Kasih*, Yang Berhormat Menteri. Just one observation from your reply; from the Chair; it is not worthy to refer to your reply page 12, I think or 11 and 12 for the five young



Sarawakian Athletes whose got gold at the SEA Games, they deserve the acknowledgement of this august House, I, from the Chair especially; I believe. A round of applause for them.

Thank you, Yang Berhormat for your very comprehensive reply. Now, may I call the Yang Berhormat Dato Sri Dr. Stephen Rundi anak Utom, Menteri Industri Makanan, Komoditi dan Pembangunan Wilayah *untuk menyampaikan ucapan penggulungan*. Dipersilakan, Yang Berhormat.

**Menteri Industri Makanan, Komoditi dan Pembangunan Wilayah (YB Dato Sri Dr. Stephen Rundi anak Utom):** Terima kasih, Tuan Speaker. Selamat tengah hari, Salam Sejahtera dan Salam Sarawakku Sayang kepada semua yang hadir di Dewan pada pagi ini.

Tuan Speaker, firstly, I would like to join other Honourable Members of this august House in congratulating and thanking Tuan Yang Terutama for his inspiring words and invaluable advice during his address at the opening of this Dewan Undangan Negeri Sitting on 15<sup>th</sup> May 2023. I am encouraged by Tuan Yang Terutama's confidence in the Sarawak Government efforts to make Sarawak as the nett food exporter as well as to increase the income of the farming community.

## INTRODUCTION

Tuan Speaker, the agriculture sector will be transformed and modernised into a high income and sustainable sector. This sector has contributed 10.54 % with a value of RM14.6 billion to Sarawak GDP in 2022. The growth in the agriculture sector is largely contributed by the improved production of palm oil which increased from 3.9 million tonnes in 2021 to 4.0 million tonnes in 2022. My Ministry is targeting the sector to grow at 2.5% in 2023, in line with the Post COVID-19 Development Strategy 2030 (PCDS 2030).

To intensify the transformation of the agriculture sector, my Ministry is committed to enhance the development of existing transformative initiatives while introduce new ones focusing on ensuring food security, scaling up the agrofood sector production to generate increased export earnings, and improving the livelihood of the farming community.

My Ministry will continue to explore the adoption of modern technologies such as farm mechanisation and digital application to boost the productivity of the industrial commodities.

My Ministry is committed to develop a complete supply chain for the promoted sub-sectors to ensure the sustainability of the agriculture industry in Sarawak. The development of agriculture programmes and projects will be implemented in a sustainable manner considering the impact to climate change and agricultural practices which is in line with Sustainable Development Goals (SGD).

My Ministry has adopted six strategic thrusts that have been identified to spur the growth of Sarawak agriculture sector. In a short, we will look at and focus on:

- (a) Food security;
- (b) To industrialize and commercialize agricultural sector;
- (c) To create a complete supply chain that is infrastructure, production, distribution, downstream and marketing;
- (d) Transformation of Rural Farming Community to increase their income;
- (e) Agro-commodity Development; and
- (f) The NCR Development to optimise the virtualization of NCR Land.

I will go on details each thrust.

### **THRUST 1: ENSURING FOOD SECURITY**

Tuan Speaker, Sarawak remain vulnerable to food insecurity in the foreseeable future due to being reliant on imports for maintaining its food supply. Sarawak's food import stood at RM5.6 billion in 2022. Any disruption in the supply chain of imports from exporting countries resulting in high food price spikes which we are currently experiencing. The persistent issue in relation to Sarawak's food security is the under development of its agrofood sector capacity. The agriculture development trend has been more on commodity crops, mainly oil palm rather than food crops.

As such, it is imperative to create a balance development between commodity and food crops to ensure the sustainability development for food industry.

#### *Emphasising Paddy Production*

Tuan Speaker, producing sufficient supply of rice is of utmost importance to achieve food security in Sarawak. Currently, the Self-Sufficiency Level (SSL) for rice stood at 34% as compared to 42 % in 2020. Effort must be made to revive the paddy industry to avoid further decline. The declined in rice production over the years is mainly due to the lack of paddy tertiary farm infrastructure, high cost of production, aging farmers, and stiff competition for land from other lucrative crops i.e., oil palm.

Sarawak Rice and Paddy Production Policy will be reviewed to facilitate the development of paddy and rice industry. My Ministry will continue to strengthen the paddy and rice industry through the following key strategies and initiatives towards achieving the targeted Self-Sufficiency Level (SSL) of 60% by the year 2030.

#### *Development of Farm Infrastructure*

Tuan Speaker, in order to improve the production capacity of the paddy areas, my Ministry through the Department of Irrigation and Drainage (DID) Sarawak is actively developing and improving agricultural infrastructure in predominantly paddy cultivated areas such as Tanjung Purun and Kampung Pueh at Lundu.

The Department of Agriculture Sarawak is rehabilitating the paddy area in Lebor, Serian Division. In addition, my Ministry will develop the drainage and irrigation infrastructure in three new areas in Kampung Mujat, Serian Division (100 hectares size of land), Selepong-Panggil and Issu-Gayau in Sri Aman Division with an estimated area of 1,000 hectares. Meanwhile the proposed rehabilitation of 500 hectares DID's Mid-Sadong I Scheme with a cost of RM30 million is at the planning stage. About 100 hectares at Kampung Lubok Punggor will be dedicated for the cultivation of specialty rice called Biris.

The effort to develop more paddy cultivation areas with tertiary farm infrastructure is a prerequisite to ensure increased rice production. Hence, my Ministry has proposed additional funding to upgrade several existing DID schemes throughout Sarawak that are in dilapidated conditions into tertiary infrastructure under the Mid Term Review (MTR) for 12<sup>th</sup> Malaysia Plan.

#### *Promoting Mechanisation and Automation*

My Ministry has also taken various initiatives including intensifying adoption of farm mechanization services. However, the mechanisation and automation services are limited to paddy cultivation areas with tertiary drainage and irrigation infrastructure. Several PPKs, namely PPK Sri Gading, PPK Siburan and PPK Batang Lupar have provided mechanisation and automation services in their respective areas for land preparation and harvesting. In the year 2022, the Department of Agriculture Sarawak has assisted 160 farmers with mechanisation services. The effort to intensify

the mechanisation and automation services in paddy farming can only be done, provided more paddy areas are developed with tertiary infrastructure.

#### *Shifting to High-Yielding Paddy Seed*

Efforts also been made to produce quality paddy seed towards improving paddy yield. In this regard, Department of Agriculture Sarawak has developed a designated area of 45 hectares seed farm at Stumbin, Sri Aman Division, with tertiary irrigation. In the year 2022, Department of Agriculture Sarawak has distributed 40 metric tonnes of quality paddy seeds to farmers. Paddy planters have been urged to replace or complement the traditional paddy varieties with high-yielding varieties. In addition, the private sector is also being encouraged to participate in the commercial production of quality and high-yielding paddy seeds.

#### *Provision of Production Incentives*

To increase the supply of rice, the Federal Government has provided several production incentives. This includes input incentives and Guarantees Minimum Price (GMP). The input incentives are *Skim Baja Padi Kerajaan Persekutuan (SBPKP)*; *Skim Insentif Pengeluaran Padi (SIPP)*; *Skim Subsidi Baja dan Racun Padi Bukit (SBRPB)* as well as *Skim Insentif Benih Padi Berkualiti* while the output incentive was provided under the *Skim Subsidi Harga Padi (SSHP)*. In the year 2022, the Department of Agriculture Sarawak has assisted around 45,000 farmers. The input incentives are aimed to lessen farmer's burden in paddy production, while the output incentive is to motivate farmers to improve their production and productivity.

The Government has also implemented Guaranteed Minimum Price (GMP) and price subsidy to ensure farmers receive a reasonable minimum farm income and at the same time reduce incidences of poverty. The rate for GMP in Sarawak is fixed at RM750 per metric tonne. However, Padiberas Nasional Berhad (BERNAS) purchases paddy from the local farmers ranging from RM750 to RM1,500 based on supply and demand as well as the quality of the paddy grain. In Peninsular Malaysia, the GMP rate for paddy is RM1,200 per metric tonne while the price subsidy is RM360 per metric tonne. My Ministry is currently negotiating with the Ministry of Agriculture and Food Security (KPKM) to review the rate of GMP for Sarawak to be at par with Peninsular Malaysia.

#### *Gazettement of Paddy Areas*

This is very important Tuan Speaker. Meanwhile, to ensure land for paddy cultivation do not losing out to other crops and to promote large-scale paddy cultivation. Therefore, my Ministry will propose to gazette land specifically for paddy cultivation. The gazettement of paddy areas will facilitate the introduction of public-private and community smart partnership (PPCP) also known as SMART Sawah Berskala Besar (SMART SBB) Model, hence will spur greater private sector and community participation in paddy and rice supply chain.

#### *Expanding Beef Production*

Tuan Speaker, beef sub-sector in Sarawak has become significantly important as the demand for beef is increasing every year. However, the pace of development for beef sub-sector is still far to meet the Self-Sufficiency Level (SSL) in Sarawak. In 2022, the cattle population in the State is estimated around about 17,000 heads.

##### (a) Is Proposed That No Slaughtering of Productive Cow Policy

One of the strategies to increase the cattle population in Sarawak is by introducing and enforcing a policy of "No Slaughtering of Productive Cow" as practiced in Peninsular Malaysia and other countries such as Indonesia and Thailand. The introduction of this policy is imperative to achieve the targeted cattle population.

My Ministry is committed to achieve the targeted beef Self-Sufficiency Level (SSL) of 25% on the standing population and around 60,000 heads of beef cattle by the year 2030.

#### *Structured Cattle Breeding Programme*

The current demand for beef is largely met by the import of live animal and frozen or chilled beef. In order to reduce the dependency on import, my Ministry will continue to implement various initiatives to increase the local production by having structured breeding programme and strengthening the existing cattle development programme involving smallholders and private sector as well as advisory and support services.

Currently, about 75% of cattle population in Sarawak are under oil palm estates and the rest of 25% cattle population are reared by smallholders. Through these development programmes including Cattle Pawah Scheme, high quality breeder will be purchased to increase the population of cattle breeder. The acquired breeder stock will then be distributed to several agriculture-related agencies as well as to deserving small-holders for breeding. A total of 5,044 heads of cattle have been distributed under Cattle Pawah Scheme to 39 estates and 66 entrepreneurs since 2016. Through this programme, the standing population of cattle has increased by 12,700 heads or more than two-fold. This year, 640 heads of cattle breeder will be imported from Australia with an allocation of RM5 million.

In ensuring the success of these programmes, my Ministry has invited Sarawak Land Consolidation and Rehabilitation Authority (SALCRA) to initiate several breeding and fattening centres in view of their vast experience as Pawah Scheme participant and complemented by large-scale oil palm plantations. I must thank SALCRA for that initiative. To date, SALCRA has established such centre in Serian Division with a holding capacity for cattle breeder of 300 heads. Two more such centres will be established in Bau in Kuching Division and Debak in Betong Division with an allocation of RM12 million. These three centres will breed cattle through the adoption of modern breeding technology such as Artificial Insemination (A.I) besides providing facilities for quarantine, conditioning, treatment, fattening and also sales.

In total, these centres have the holding capacity of 1,300 heads and are expected to produce 750 calves annually by the year 2026. The farmers and landowners in the vicinity will also benefit from these centres acting as contract breeders, supplier and also raw material of animal feed.

In addition, the Department of Veterinary Services Sarawak has successfully attracted the participation of private sector to boost the cattle, buffalo, and goat population. To date, Temudok Livestock Station in Sri Aman Division, Karabungan Station in Miri Division and Meragang Livestock Station in Limbang Division have been privatised for the commercial production of cattle, buffalo, goats and sheep. Each station is expected to produce between 500 to 1,000 heads of cattle, buffalo and goat by the year 2025.

#### *Livestock Biotechnology Centre*

To accelerate the growth of the livestock industry, my Ministry is also planning to establish Livestock Biotechnology Centre in Sungai Pinang Station in Samarahan Division to produce cattle semen to boost cattle population. The establishment of the biotechnology centre will allow intensification of research and development activities in modern livestock farming technology such as artificial insemination (AI) and embryo transfer.

#### *Collaboration with International Institution in Talent Development*

During our recent working visit to Indonesia, the Indonesian Ministry of Agriculture has expressed their willingness to collaborate with my Ministry in providing technical expertise and technology transfer particularly in the area of good animal husbandry practices, embryo transfer and artificial insemination know-how. The Cipelang Livestock Embryo Centre in Bogor, Indonesia has

also expressed their commitment to provide the opportunity for Sarawak Veterinary Services Department's officers to undergo training on the latest cattle breeding technology.

In advancing our talent development in the field of veterinary, my recent visit to Institut Pertanian Bogor (IPB) University in Indonesia has also successfully obtained their strong commitment to accommodate Sarawak students to pursue their studies in the field of veterinary at the university. This opportunity augurs well for the livestock industry development in Sarawak in view of the shortage of veterinarian workforce in the state as well as the limited seats provided by the local university in the veterinary field. The proposed collaboration also includes joint research and development activities with IPB University. Perhaps Yayasan Sarawak can contribute into this endeavour.

### *Developing Animal Feed Industry*

Tuan Speaker, animal feed is another crucial component of food security. Sarawak imported in the year 2021 a total of RM1.11 billion of animal feed product and maize to produce animal feed. Currently, the total livestock feed requirement in Sarawak stood at 660,000 metric tonnes, valued at RM2.1 billion and Sarawak Government is taking an initiative to produce feeds from locally available raw materials. My Ministry through SALCRA is planning to produce oil palm-based animal feeds by establishing a Kernel Crushing Plant (KCP) in Lubok Antu in Sri Aman Division and it is expected to commence production by fourth quarter of next year.

SALCRA is also venturing to produce Black Soldier Fly (BSF) meal with a local private company by using oil palm decanter cake. The insect black soldier fly (*Hermetia Illucens*) larval (BSFL) meal is being recognized as a feed ingredient in animal feeds for their protein rich content. BSF, black soldier fly larval meal has been utilized as soy meal substitution to improve the nutrition. BSF larval meal will be used as ingredient formulated with palm kernel expeller (PKE) to produce animal feed and aquafeed.

With this initiative, SALCRA is targeting to produce 100,000 metric tonnes annually for formulated palm-based animal feeds by the year 2026 and contributing around 10% or RM214 million to Sarawak's total feed requirement. I must thank Yang Amat Berhormat Premier for his initiative to give us this idea.

Hence, this initiative will reduce dependency on import and to stabilise the price of animal feeds in Sarawak.

## **THRUST 2: INDUSTRIALISING THE AGROFOOD SECTOR**

Tuan Speaker, the Sarawak's food trade balance deficit has risen in the past five years. In the year 2021, Sarawak recorded a food trade balance deficit amounting to RM4.65 billion, compared to RM3.86 billion in the year 2018. In order to curb the deficit, my Ministry will actively be pursuing the industrialisation of the agriculture sector. Thereby, transforming it into a vibrant and profitable economic sector, shifting the sector from being associated with low income and unskilled jobs into a high-income profession that will also attract the youths and professionals.

The focus will be on several emerging agriculture sub-sectors and high-value agricultural products that have the potential to reduce our reliance on imports and generating greater export earnings. Emphasis will be given to establish more and larger designated farming areas, improve productivity, strengthen the food supply chain, improve the support system and services, increase farmers' knowledge and skills as well as ensure market compliance. In short, we must be able to create a complete supply chain.

The following are the key strategies and initiatives that would be pursued to spur the industrialisation of the sector:

### *Scale-up Production of Promoted Food Crops*

Tuan Speaker, my Ministry has been aggressively promoting the development of large-scale high value food crops production to achieve economic of scale and producing export-quality farm products in compliance with the requirements of export markets. Among the key initiatives that would be advanced to drive the commercialisation of high value food crops include:

#### *Agroparks*

To create agropark development by my Ministry since 11<sup>th</sup> Malaysia Plan. The main objective of establishing an agropark is to develop a designated area for permanent commercial scale production of food crops. The land approved for an agropark will be sub-divided into plots and provided with basic infrastructure and shall be anchored by a company that possesses capital, technology and most importantly market access and other resources.

The development of agroparks will address the pertinent structural issues of Sarawak agriculture sector which is fragmented and inefficient agri-supply chain that are being burdened with lack of holistic planning, absence of scale and high logistic cost.

Agropark serves to integrate production and distribution channels and consolidation as the central value propositions seems to emerge as the solution for revamping the traditional supply driven agricultural system to a more organised and demand driven system. The associated investments in processing technologies, knowledge and skill development shall catalyses the growth of the agriculture sector in Sarawak.

To date, the approved five agroparks located in Samarahan, Betong and Sarikei Division are in various stages of implementation. Out of the five agroparks, Sg. Baji in Sarikei is in the final stage of completing the farm infrastructure and it is expected to commence operation in the third quarter of 2023.

My Ministry will continue to identify more land throughout the state that are free from any encumbrances to avoid implementation delays. In this endeavour, I would like to seek full cooperation from all relevant agencies, particularly Land and Survey Department, Department of Irrigation and Drainage, and other relevant agencies for the smooth implementation of agropark projects.

#### *Precision Farming Park*

The approved development of Precision Farming Parks in Sg. Sebiew Station, Bintulu and Kabuloh Station, Miri Division are currently in the design stage. The final design stage. The parks are a vital component of commercial scale production of high value food crops that will be equipped with modern farming facilities such as automated machines, sensors and Internet of Things (IoT). The adoption of precise farming technology will ensure greater efficiency and productivity of high value food crops and also be able to in ties the youths to involve in agriculture activities.

#### *Commercialising High-Value Indigenous Food Crop*

##### **DABAI BELT**

We have mentioned it before in the last sitting. I'm going to create one, the *Dabai* Belt. My Ministry is committed to commercialise high-value indigenous food crops such as *dabai* which is naturally available in certain part of Sarawak to be promoted as a niche product. The central region of Sarawak mainly in Kapit, Song and Kanowit District have been identified as the proposed site for the development of *dabai* Belt. The region has an estimated of 13,000 good standing trees with an average production of 650 metric tonnes per season. To boost the *dabai* production, the Department

of Agriculture Sarawak will initiate a programme to rehabilitate the existing *dabai* trees in these areas by the year 2024.

## **AQUACULTURE AND DEEP-SEA FISHERY**

### *Intensifying Aquaculture Industry Development*

Tuan Speaker, with her vast water bodies, Sarawak has the potential to be developed as a regional hub for fish and shrimp production. Up to now, four areas had been gazetted by the Sarawak Government as an Aquaculture Industrial Zone (AIZ) namely Batang Ai Dam in Lubok Antu, Loba Stoh Rambungan in Kuching, Sundar Awat-Awat in Lawas and Selalang in Sarikei for the production of high value fresh and brackish water fish and shrimp produces.

The Department of Agriculture Sarawak is also planning to gazette Bakun Dam in Belaga as AIZ by the year 2024. It has an estimated potential production capacity of 40,000 metric tonnes with production value of RM500 million per annum.

In addition, my Ministry will continue to identify suitable site along the coastal areas to develop more Aquaculture Park to expand the production of fish and shrimp produces to meet domestic and international demand. The development of AIZs and Aquaculture Parks are important initiative to promote sustainable development of the aquaculture industry and contribute largely to the economic growth of Sarawak.

### *Harnessing Potential of Deep-Sea Fishery*

Sarawak's deep-sea fishery industry has a vast potential to be developed. Currently, there are 10,828 registered fishermen and 5,103 vessels, producing a total of 125,000 metric tonnes of fish per year with a value of over RM716 million. Under the 12<sup>th</sup> Malaysia Plan (12MP), the Sarawak Marine Fisheries Department has been allocated more than RM17 million to manage fisheries resources and increase the fish production in Sarawak.

The proposed establishment of Sarawak owned Department of Fisheries which I have mentioned earlier in the last sitting is in the planning stage, would be able to accelerate and regulate the development of the fisheries industry in Sarawak. The main goal is to facilitate and encourage the people of Sarawak to be actively involved to tap the great potential in the deep-sea fishing sector. To date, the deep-sea fishing vessel quota that could be licensed in Sarawak waters stood at 560 vessels of which only 156 or 28% has been issued. Sarawak now is empowered to issue deep-sea fishing licences, following the empowerment of authority accorded to Sarawak Government by the Federal Government under MA63 Agreement in 2022.

### *Establishing Empurau and Tapah Belt*

The interior of Sarawak is blessed with large network of pristine water bodies that provides natural habitat to many species of high value indigenous fishes. Hence, my Ministry is planning to establish indigenous fish belts namely Empurau and Tapah Belt in Kapit Division and Bintulu Division respectively.

The Department of Agriculture Sarawak has taken the initiative to upgrade the existing facilities it the Inland Fisheries Holding Station, Song, Kapit to carry out the domestication and development of indigenous fishes such as *Empurau*, *Semah*, *Labang* and also *Tengadak* from Katibas and Baleh with an initial allocation of RM105,000. Just the preliminary part of the allocation. The centre will be renamed as Kapit Indigenous Fish Hatchery Centre (*Pusat Pembenihan Ikan Asal Kapit*). Besides, two satellite stations in Kapit Division namely Merirai and Engkuah Agriculture Station would also be developed as inland fisheries stations for high impact indigenous fishes' aquaculture and conservation.

Meanwhile, the proposed development of Tapah Belt in Bintulu will start with the upgrading of facilities at Sungai Sebieu Inland Fisheries Station and to be renamed as I declare my interest, Kemena Tapah Research and Development Centre. Among others, the centre will conduct research and development of Tapah fish as well as other high value blackwater ornamental fishes and aquatic plants.

A satellite research facility, the Tapah Research and Conservation Ulu Binyo Base Camp will also be established to focus on the Tapah fisheries researches. The best Tapah in the world is of course from Sungai Binyo.

### SWINE INDUSTRY DEVELOPMENT

Tuan Speaker, Sarawak is one of the major producers of swine and porker products in the region. As at December 2022, a total of 140,000 porkers with a value of RM147 million were exported to Singapore from Pig Farming Area (PFA) Pasir Puteh, Simunjan. Despite the outbreak of African Swine Fever (ASF) disease in Sarawak, there are seven commercial pig farms are still operating despite of per issue of ASF (African Swine Fever). That's because of they have a better bio security system.

PFA Pasir Puteh has been approved as ASF-Free Compartment by Department of Veterinary Services Malaysia and Singapore Food Authority. So, the ASF-free status awarded by these authorities has enabled PFA Pasir Puteh to continue to supply of fresh pork to local and export market.

### DEVELOPING AGROFOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRY

There are opportunities for large-scale and high impact on agrofood processing projects to assist Sarawak to meet self-sufficiency for food production as well as to reduce Sarawak dependency on imported food. In this regard, my Ministry is encouraging the innovation and adoption of advanced technology in the agrofood downstream activities.

To accelerate the development of the agrofood processing industry, the Department of Agriculture Sarawak has established the Northern Region Agrofood Incubator which is currently in the final stage of development. The centre is expected to commence operations in the first quarter of next year. This processing centre will be certified with Good Manufacturing Practice (GMP).

The Department of Agriculture Sarawak is also aggressively promoting other quality accreditation such as Halal, Hazard Analysis Critical Control Point (HACCP) and *Makanan Selamat Tanggungjawab Industri* (MeSTI). A total of 150 products owned by nine entrepreneurs have been certified with HALAL and MeSTI standard. Currently, a total of 12 entrepreneurs are undergoing quality accreditation training.

In view of the increasing demand of agrofood processed products, my Ministry will continue to intensify the development of agrofood downstream industry through product and agropreneur development programmes.

### STRENGTHENING AGROFOOD SECTOR DEVELOPMENT ENABLERS

#### *Research and Development*

Tuan Speaker, Agricultural Research, Development and Innovation (RD&I) is a crucial driver for agricultural productivity and production. With the vision of ensuring food security and nett food exporter, the Department of Agriculture Sarawak is the principal Government agency involved in agricultural research and development. My Ministry has tasked the DOA or Department of Agriculture Sarawak and other agriculture-related agencies to systematically conduct research activities that would suit the needs of all stakeholders and disseminate various improved crops varieties and



technologies that are locally adapted in different agro-ecological regions in Sarawak. Among the research programmes to increase crop production are improved seed, crop management, crop protection techniques, and cropping systems tailored to suit the various Sarawak agro-ecological zones.

Currently, the Department of Agriculture Sarawak is aggressively promoting precision farming and the use of internet of things technologies in the production of high value crops for better returns. In addition, DOA Sarawak continues to enhance the capacity and capability for RD&I on the post-harvest product development activities. Some of the recent outputs include freeze dried *rambutan*, *durian*, jackfruit, *dabai*, pandan coconut and *longan* also longan crystal.

To enhance food safety and quality, the adoption of the latest technology to analyse the nutritional values in the crops produced is also given special emphasis. Among others is the use of Near-Infra Red Spectrometry. DOA Sarawak continues to conduct pest surveillance throughout Sarawak using a digital platform named Weed, Insect, Micro-organism Collection Sarawak (WIMICS). This digital platform is of great help in curbing the spread of pests and diseases affecting the agrofood production. The Federal Government has approved an allocation of RM10 million under the 12<sup>th</sup> Malaysian Plan for the procurement of various laboratory equipment, reagents, and consumables, which will greatly enhance our RD&I capability.

## STRENGTHENING BIOSECURITY MEASURES

### *Fish Biosecurity*

Fish biosecurity measures is crucial to safeguard the fishery industry against fish disease outbreak because without proper measures may lead to adverse economic impact which as well correlated with food safety and health towards consumers. In the year 2017, Sarawak experienced an outbreak of Tilapia Lake Virus (TiLV) which has led to the drastic decline in Sarawak aquaculture industry and impacted major stakeholders and investors. My Ministry is planning to develop a fish biosecurity centre to safeguard fish quality and safety for the industry as well as to consumers especially in import and export of fish products.

The Department of Agriculture Sarawak will continue to implement fish health surveillance programme, quality enhancement programme and conducting awareness campaign in collaboration with both State and Federal agencies. Fish health surveillance programme is to ensure fish farm operators comply with the biosecurity and safety guidelines. In the year 2023, a sum of RM800,000 was allocated to Department of Agriculture Sarawak (DOA) Sarawak for this purpose.

The Department of Agriculture Sarawak requires RM2.1 million additional funding to upgrade a Fishery Station at Rambungan, Kuching as a Fish Biosecurity Centre. This centre will have fish quarantine, laboratory facilities and equipment and this initiative will strengthen the supply chain, enhance confidence towards Sarawak products, hence widening the market access.

### *Establishment of Sarawak Quarantine and Inspection Services (SAQIS)*

The proposed establishment of Sarawak Quarantine and Inspection Services (SAQIS), a one stop agency to undertake the biosecurity roles and functions of Department of Veterinary Services (DVS) Sarawak, DOA Sarawak and also Department of Marine Fisheries Sarawak at various Immigration, Custom, Quarantine and Security (ICQS) Complexes; the Sea Ports, Airports entry points and border posts in Sarawak. SAQIS is an agency similar to Malaysia Quarantine and Inspection Services (MAQIS) which is under Ministry of Agriculture and Food Security Malaysia.

The establishment of SAQIS is the first line of defence as its function is to safeguard the optimum health status of communities as well as maintaining the free disease status of animal such as Foot and Mouth Disease (FMD), African Swine Fever and Rabies as well as food security.

## TALENT DEVELOPMENT

Tuan Speaker, it is crucial to enhance our agropreneurs' knowledge and skills to enable them to be competitive and deliver high-quality products. The Department of Agriculture Sarawak offered various type of training in food processing, marketing and entrepreneurial aspects at *Pusat Latihan Industri Asas Tani* (PLIAT) and also at divisional agricultural offices. In 2023, there are 45 on-going training programmes and expected to produce about 1,000 agropreneurs. Agriculture Institute provides structured training programme in agriculture such as Sijil Kemahiran Malaysia (SKM) and Sijil Pertanian Malaysia (SPM).

To enhance the entrepreneurs' knowledge in online marketing, Pusat Latihan Industri Asas Tani (PLIAT) in the Department of Agriculture Sarawak has taken the initiative to organise a series of digital marketing and e-commerce courses. To date, these courses have benefited 30 entrepreneurs who are involved in agrofood downstream industry. Through the various programmes and exposure, more than 50% of entrepreneurs are expected to use this platform for products marketing.

There is an urgent need to address the current shortage of manpower in Department of Veterinary Services (DVS) Sarawak to carry out their roles, functions, and duties. DVS Sarawak requires a total of 728 personnel in various to function efficiently and effectively. Presently, the Department only has only 307 posts as compared to DVS Sabah of 750 manpower in various categories.

A request has been submitted to the State Human Resource Development and Management Unit to create and fill of 421 additional posts to support and regulate the Livestock Industry and the Veterinary Public Health. The Department is in dire need of additional manpower.

### *Financial Facility*

Tuan Speaker, Sarawak Agro Fund (SAF) is a funding facility provided by my Ministry through Sarawak Land Development Board (SLDB) with a budget of RM150 million. This Funding Facility is offered to eligible entrepreneurs in the form of Grant or Soft Loan.

As at 30<sup>th</sup> April 2023, a total of SAF approved to 50 agropreneurs amounted to RM105.85 million out of which Grant amounted to RM13.46 million and Soft Loan RM92.39 million. These agropreneurs are involved in various agriculture sub sectors such as in modern farming of cash crop and fruits like pineapple, coconut, aquaculture, poultry, ruminant, food processing and swine.

A total of RM56.6 million which about 53.47% was approved to 44 micro and small enterprises and RM21.25 million which is 20.08% was approved to four medium-scale enterprises. Another RM28 million which is 26.45% was granted for swine and poultry companies.

Since its inception in 2019, this facility has received an overwhelming response from the industry players. Currently, based on the number of applications being processed, an additional budget of RM100 million is required for SAF facilities.

### THRUST 3: AUGMENTING FARM INFRASTRUCTURE, DISTRIBUTION AND MARKETING OF AGRICULTURE PRODUCES

Tuan Speaker, my Ministry will continue to undertake the following initiatives to ensure the agriculture sector can be developed into an industry supported by a complete supply chain.

#### *Farm Infrastructure*

Farm road is a vital component of agriculture infrastructure to ensure farms are connected to markets particularly in the rural areas. To address this connectivity limitations, the Department of

Agriculture Sarawak has sought funding from both Federal and State Government to build, upgrade and maintain farm road in all Divisions. With that last year, last three years (2020 – 2022), a total of 317 projects totalling 272km of road and with a total cost of RM45 million have been completed and benefits about 7,000 farmers.

In the year 2023, the Department of Agriculture Sarawak will continue to improve farm connectivity in Sarawak. With an approved allocation of RM10 million from the Sarawak Government, RM1 million from the Federal Government and another RM4.5 million under MARRIS, DOA Sarawak will implement a total of 74 farm road projects totalling 55 kilometres benefitting around 1,200 farmers.

In 2023, the Department of Irrigation and Drainage Sarawak had received an allocation of RM42.2 million to implement 200 MARRIS projects and 83 drainage and irrigation schemes throughout Sarawak. All projects are in various stages of implementation.

Besides, the DID Sarawak is actively implementing various farm infrastructure projects funded by the Federal Government that include *Jalan Ladang Pekebun Kecil (JLPK)*, *Program Jalan Luar Bandar*, *Program Jambatan Luar Bandar*, *Jalan Perhubungan Desa (JPD)*, *Jalan Perhubungan Desa-Jalan Ladang Pertanian (JPD-JLP)*, *Projek Ameniti Sosial (PAMS)* and *Program Ameniti Sosial (BANJIR)*.

#### *Strengthening Distribution and Marketing Efficiency*

Tuan Speaker, the Sarawak Government has acknowledged the difficulties that are faced by farmers and producers to bring their produces to the market. To address this issue, my Ministry has introduced an initiative to establish market infrastructure and facilities throughout Sarawak. This initiative is a vital component of the agriculture supply chain, support the drive for rapid commercialization of the agriculture sector.

Up to now, my Ministry has adopted two concepts of market infrastructure and facilities, one Collection, Processing and Packaging Centre (CPPC) and Agrofood Terminal. CPPC is operated by a single operator, acting as an anchor company that has capacity and markets access. Meanwhile, Agrofood Terminal or Wholesale Market is operated as a wholesaling platform that houses multiple tenants to collect, store and distribute agriculture produces within the area.

To date, my Ministry has completed the construction of three CPPCs located in Tarat, Lawas and Limbang and one Wholesale Market in Kota Samarahan. Another CPPC in Layar, Betong is under construction and expected to be completed by 2024. The Government has approved the construction of CPPC in Long Lama and Sebangan. Six Agrofood Terminals have also been approved to be implemented in Semenggok, Lundu, Lachau, Bebuling, Sg. Baji and Kapit. Meanwhile, several Area Farmers Organisations (PPK) are also implementing similar projects at a smaller scale to cater for their own needs towards providing the collection, processing, and distributing services for their members' products.

My Ministry acknowledged the request by some Honourable Members of this august House to establish CPPC and Agrofood Terminal in their respective constituency. However, a detailed feasibility study is needed to assess the economic viability before setting up new one. This is to ensure investment in these facilities is sustainable.

To further expand market access for agriculture produces, my Ministry has embarked on promoting e-commerce initiatives. The State Farmers Organisation (PPNS) and Area Farmers Organisation (PPK) has been entrusted to undertake the marketing function for agriculture produces and products in Sarawak, complementing the role of Federal Agriculture Marketing Authority (FAMA). In 2021, a sum of RM3 million had been allocated to PPNS and PPK to enhance its marketing capacities. To date, PPNS and PPK has successfully established e-shop concept with multiple outlets to serve the consumers.

*Intensify Investment & Trade Promotion*

Apart from project development programme, entrepreneurs are also assisted in the marketing aspect through promotional activities such as involvement in various types of trade expos. In 2023, DOA Sarawak together with 100 entrepreneurs plans to participate in 10 trade expos in an effort to introduce their respective products to the market.

**THRUST 4: UPLIFTING THE LIVELIHOOD OF FARMERS AND RURAL COMMUNITY**

*Issues and Challenges*

Tuan Speaker, majority of our farming community still practising subsistence farming and having small plot of farm that are scattered and fragmented. Their production is inconsistent in term of volume while the quality is often do not meet the export market requirement. Hence therefore, the farmers and smallholders must be able to transform and change their mindset and embrace a commercial approach to farming and adopt modern farming technologies.

My Ministry will continue to transform the smallholders into an organised group to enable systematic implementation of development programmes and projects. Among the various initiatives to encourage the farmers venturing into commercial agriculture are:

*Strengthen Smallholding Programmes*

To strengthen smallholding group that is to have a smallholding programme. For the year 2023, a total of 16 programmes and projects under DOA Sarawak have been approved to be implemented throughout Sarawak. These programmes and projects are funded through various sources of fund from Federal and Sarawak Government. The projects implemented are focusing on planting and rehabilitating the food crops such as vegetables and fruits. The assistance given to farmers include agriculture inputs such as fertilizer, pesticide and farm equipment as well as allocating farming area. Programme and projects that are currently implemented are as follows:

(a) Federal Government Funded Programme and Projects:

Tuan Speaker, a sum of RM8.7 million has been approved by the Department of Agriculture Sarawak to implement various food crops development programmes for smallholders. The programmes include *Program Pembangunan Tanaman Sayuran dan Kontan*, coffee, coconut, *industri buah-buahan*, *pembangunan (TKPM) Taman Kekal Pengeluaran Makanan*, *pembangunan ekonomi baru*, *naik taraf agrifood park*, *pembangunan pertanian komuniti dan peningkatan pendapatan pesawah* especially those under (B40) group.

(b) Sarawak Government funded Programme and Projects:

For the year 2023, a sum of RM3 million was approved to the Department of Agriculture Sarawak to implement coconut development programme, fruit crops development programme, *program pelbagai pertanian*, *pembangunan dan penyelenggaraan TKPM*; *dan juga program pembangunan pertanian di kawasan penempatan semula*, *program pembangunan industri kopi*.

(c) Inland Fishery Development:

Among the services provided by Inland Fisheries Division in the Department of Agriculture Sarawak to aquaculture farmers include technical and development-focused assistance; and training to promote the adoption of sustainable aquaculture practices. This includes research, licensing and good farming practices.

(d) Agro-Based Industry Development:

A sum of RM1.24 million has been allocated to Department of Agriculture Sarawak for various product development and entrepreneurship programme, which will benefit 90 participants in the year 2023.

*Rural Socio-Economic Development*

(a) Program Perumahan Rakyat Termiskin (PPRT)

The *Program Perumahan Rakyat Termiskin* (PPRT) aims to improve the quality of life of the hardcore poor and poor households by providing safer and better housing and living conditions for them. The Ministry of Rural and Regional Development Malaysia (KKDW) has appointed my Ministry to coordinate the implementation of PPRT projects by the District Offices in Sarawak.

As of May 2023 this year, KKDW has allocated a sum of RM23.56 million in the Phase 1 and Phase 2 for the implementation of 767 units for building new houses and repair works in Sarawak which are implemented by various agencies such as District Offices, *Giat Mara* and KKDW Sarawak's Branch, which are currently at the preliminary stage of implementation.

(b) Rural ICT and Human Capital Training Programme

The objective of this program, probably I have mentioned this in last Sitting. The objective of this program is to provide training to the rural community aims at increasing the level of ICT literacy in product marketing and adoption of smart farming.

The programmes includes:

- (i) *Program Latihan Pembangunan Modal Insan Luar Bandar;*
- (ii) Sustainable Modern Agriculture through Rural Technopreneurship Programme (SMART);
- (iii) Smart Farming Programme;
- (iv) School Smart Farming Programme (For the Rural Schools); and
- (v) *Program Latihan ICT dan Digital Luar Bandar.*

Thus, my Ministry has planned to carry out 26 series of training programmes targeting about 800 participants throughout Sarawak this year.

*Coastal Erosion Protection and River Mouth Rehabilitation*

Tuan Speaker, increased coastal erosion problems in the shores of Sarawak have threatened local human life as well as cause damages to property and land. The Department of Irrigation and Drainage Sarawak (DID) is responsible to provide coastal erosion control infrastructure essential to mitigate these threats in affected areas.

For this purpose, Sarawak Government has approved an allocation amounting to RM6.5 million of which the project is expected to be called for tender in September 2023. In addition, under 12<sup>th</sup> Malaysia Plan, Federal government has approved RM76 million for DID Sarawak to implement four coastal erosion protection projects.

*River Clearing and Rehabilitation*

Tuan Speaker, DID Sarawak is also responsible to rehabilitate and conserve rivers to minimize flood risk. In 2023, Sarawak Government has allocated RM29.5 million in addition to the annual

allocation of RM1 million for river clearing works and riverbank protection projects throughout Sarawak. All the projects are scheduled to be completed by December 2023.

Meanwhile, the Federal Government has also approved RM16.25 million for the same purpose, to be completed by December 2023.

#### **THRUST 5: STRENGTHENING AGRO-COMMODITY DEVELOPMENT**

Tuan Speaker, the agro-commodity sub-sector is the backbone of Sarawak agriculture industry, comprises of oil palm, rubber, pepper, sago, and cocoa are the major contributors to Sarawak's GDP. Combinedly the agro-commodity sub-sector contributed RM18.25 billion of export earnings and 17.9% of Sarawak's export in 2021. As at 31<sup>st</sup> December 2022, 1.77 million hectares of land has been planted with commodity crops of which 91.5% are planted with oil palm.

With the exception of oil palm, areas planted with other commodity crops are declining. To address over reliance on oil palm or single cropping, my Ministry will promote and develop rubber, sago and nipah through the recent establishment of Sarawak Rubber Industry Board (SARIB) and Sago and Nipah Development Board (SNDB).

#### **THRUST 6: UNLOCKING POTENTIAL OF NCR LAND FOR AGRICULTURE**

In line with the Sarawak Government's policy to discontinue the development of large-scale plantation on state land, NCR land is now the last development frontier. The total size of NCR land is estimated around 1.5 million hectares. To date, about 843,199 hectares of NCR land has been approved for various agriculture development of which 785,106 hectares or 93% has been developed. The main objective of NCR Land Development is to open the interior part of Sarawak and improve the socioeconomic status of Bumiputera community in the rural areas through various NCR land development models and agriculture programmes.

In spite of its potential, the physical nature or status of the NCR Land, the attitudes and perceptions of the landowners toward the New Concept of NCR Land Development and other external factors remain the persistent issues or challenges that has hinders the smooth implementation and very often delays project implementation.

##### *NCR Land Development for High Value Crop*

Tuan Speaker, my Ministry will intensify the development of native land with high-value food crops, to create new economic opportunities for the people of Sarawak. To achieve this goal, my Ministry will be working closely with local communities, farmers, and other stakeholders to identify the most suitable crops for each area of NCR land mainly using large-scale organised smallholding and smallholding development approaches.

##### *Large-Scale Organised Smallholding Approach*

Tuan Speaker, for large-scale organised smallholding approach, my Ministry has implemented three models, Project Management Model, Joint Venture Model and Leasing Model. Under the Project Management Model, a total of 64,358 hectares are being planted by various agencies including SALCRA (51,295 hectares with 21,141 participants), SLDB (626 hectares with 207 participants), and FELCRA (12,437 hectares with 2,668 participants).

Under the Joint Venture Model, a total of 93,202 hectares of NCR Land in 48 NCR Land Development Areas have been developed by Joint Ventures Companies (JVC) under LCDA as the Trustee representing a total of 17,643 registered participants. As at 31<sup>st</sup> March 2023, the NCR Land Development JV Projects has generated a total of RM519 million in the form of Upfront Payment, Annual Incentives, and Dividends which have been paid to the participating landowners.

Sarawak Land Consolidation and Rehabilitation Authority (SALCRA) is another principal agency that has been tasked to transform and improve rural community livelihood through NCR Land development. As at April 2023, SALCRA has developed and planted a total of 51,295 hectares of land for oil palm cultivation under 19 estates in Kuching, Serian, Sri Aman and Betong Division. Out of this, 26,628 hectares (52%) are mature field, 10,100 hectares (20%) are immature and 14,567 hectares (28%) are in the process of replanting.

Under the twelfth Malaysia Plan (Rolling Plan - 4), SALCRA is requesting for RM10 million from the Federal Government in the form of loan to initiate the new planting of oil palm in Sarikei and Sibu Divisions. The new planting projects involving 6,400 hectares is estimated to cost RM153.60 million and shall benefit more than 1,400 participants from 70 villages.

In ensuring the landowners are benefitting from their land development projects, my Ministry will continue to monitor the performance of the JV companies and review the model to meet its objectives. My Ministry is also aware that some NCR land owners are developing their land by leasing or renting out their land to private companies or individuals through their own initiative. However, this arrangement needs to be regularised to avoid any legal complication and to protect the interest of both parties.

#### *Smallholding and Block Planting Development Approach*

Tuan Speaker, the second approach for NCR Land Development is Smallholding Development Programme which are mainly undertaken by the Department of Agriculture Sarawak and Malaysian Palm Oil Board (MPOB). Currently, there are 243,600 hectares being planted by registered independent smallholders. In addition, my Ministry will continue to develop NCR Land with other crops of which 347,000 hectares has been utilised for this purpose.

#### *NCR Land Development Promotion*

My Ministry will continue to encourage NCR landowners to open their land for development through various promotional programmes such as Dialogue on NCR Land Development, Agriculture Expo, Agriculture Community Outreach Programme (AgriCOP) and Agriculture Transformation Seminar.

To date, my Ministry has registered 124 applications from landowners, through their respective Area Development Committee (ADC) or Jawatankuasa Kemajuan dan Keselamatan Kampung (JKKK) to develop their land involving 422,350 hectares. To date, 53 applications involving 121,000 hectares have been approved as NCR land development area.

All the applications for development are duly administered by One Stop Committee and State Task Force on NCR Land Development to ensure NCR lands are developed on sustainable manner, benefiting the landowners and investors.

#### *Update on Rabies*

Next, I will update on rabies.

Tuan Speaker, since the rabies outbreak first appeared in Sarawak in 2017, our State has been actively taking measures to combat the disease. As of now, a total of 232,198 (as of 8<sup>th</sup> May this year) anti-rabies vaccinations have been administered, with more vaccination programs being planned for the rest of this year. However, we still continue to face challenges, as the Department of Veterinary Services Sarawak receives an average of 250 animal bite notifications every month.

Locations for the 42 animals' rabies positive sample from 181 samples collected this year.

All positive animal sampling cases this year are still within the previously declared rabies-infected areas. Since 2017, a total of 72 areas in Sarawak have been declared as rabies-infected areas: Kuching, Samarahan, Serian, Sri Aman, Betong, Sibu, Sarikei, Kapit, Mukah, Bintulu and Limbang. All the divisions, none is spared. Everyone has got the same problem.

Since 2017, 366 rabid dog bites recorded with 300 patients survive due to early treatment. Sadly 66 human rabies cases with 59 deaths due to delay or no treatment since the rabies outbreak was declared in the State on July 1<sup>st</sup>, 2017. This year alone, we have worrying number increased of human rabies for this year, 11 cases was reported, with nine deaths in total. So, I appeal to the public, appeal to the authorities to work together in full cooperation. Rabies is preventable. Once you got bitten, immediately you must seek treatment. Immediately. That requires only four injections. I have my own officer who actually got bitten by the dog while he was at the petrol station. He quickly he went to the hospital. Now he is attending the Dewan. So therefore, it is very important to take such a step.

As such, it is crucial to constantly elevate awareness on rabies prevention, vaccination, and control measures, as well as finding effective strategies and solutions to eradicate rabies in Sarawak. And I also appeal to the animal lovers, dog lovers to be rational, in their approach in trying to, we need their full cooperation.

The State Government is very much committed to this goal, with funds allocation for manpower, logistics and resources that are much needed to combat this disease. Part of our action plan are also targeted towards maintaining collaboration and communication with our bordering neighbours in Sabah, Brunei and Indonesia, to monitor border control and migration of animals.

Immune Belt Enforcement Team (IBET) under the State Security Unit has vaccinated more than 17,000 heads of dogs covering 378 villages comprising 32 teams since its establishment on 26<sup>th</sup> September last year. Thank you, very much. I appreciate the IBET teams.

We are not alone in our fight against rabies, this vaccine-preventable disease actually occurs in half of the world regions - more than 150 countries and territories. As a zoonotic disease, it requires close cross-sectoral coordination, as I mentioned earlier, at the national, regional and global levels. In fact, we have our soon Rabies in Borneo (RIB) Conference. Please, I am inviting everyone to attend so that we know how and what we are supposed to do.

#### 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 on the subjects relating to my Ministry. And before that I want to record my appreciation to all the Honourable Members for your concern and also advice, recommendations that you have put forward. The Honourable Members has participated in the debate also that which to be recorded by my Ministry.

#### *Food Basket*

First, the most popular one, Food Basket.

Untuk makluman Ahli Yang Berhormat bagi Daro, Kementerian saya telah pun mengenal pasti kawasan seluas 7,375 hektar yang merangkumi Sungai Ilas, Sungai Sependam, Muara Stubah dan Sungai Ulin yang berpotensi untuk dibangunkan sebagai kawasan pengeluaran tanaman makanan berskala komersial. Setakat ini, 2,776 hektar telah dibangunkan dengan pelbagai aktiviti pertanian seperti tanaman *citrus*, nanas, padi, sagu serta aktiviti perikanan darat dan ternakan. Kerajaan juga telah meluluskan peruntukan sejumlah RM30 juta untuk menaik taraf infrastruktur pertanian di kawasan Sg Ilas/ Sebena (Block A3) seluas 713 hektar dan akan dilaksanakan oleh Jabatan Pengairan dan Saliran Sarawak.



*Paddy Development*

Isu yang kedua, *Paddy Development*.

For the information of the Honourable Member for Ba'Kelalan, Adan Rice has become one of the most popular agricultural products from Lawas District. In 2022, Adan Rice has been registered under Geographical Indication (G.I.). The Department of Agriculture (DOA) Sarawak has introduced certification programmes for Adan Rice under myGAP (Good Agriculture Practice) and myOrganic. I hope, the YB is not here.

*Industri Perikanan dan Nelayan*

Untuk makluman Ahli Yang Berhormat bagi Tellian dan Beting Maro, Kerajaan melalui Jabatan Pertanian Sarawak, Jabatan Perikanan Laut Sarawak (JPLS) dan Lembaga Kemajuan Ikan Malaysia (LKIM) telah mengambil pelbagai inisiatif untuk membantu para nelayan. Antara inisiatif yang sedang dilaksanakan adalah seperti Program Pembangunan Usahawan Asas Perikanan, Penyediaan Kemudahan Infrastruktur Pendaratan Ikan, Penyediaan Kemudahan Pemasaran dan Promosi; dan Mempelbagaikan Sumber Pendapatan melalui Aktiviti Akuakultur, Pertanian Moden dan juga Pengeluaran Produk Hiliran.

Untuk makluman Ahli Yang Berhormat bagi Beting Maro, Kerajaan akan meneliti keperluan untuk menambah tukun tiruan yang akan dilabuhkan di sepanjang perairan pantai Sarawak.

*Pembangunan Industri Komoditi*

Untuk makluman Ahli Yang Berhormat bagi Bukit Semuja, Kementerian saya sedia maklum mengenai polisi *European Deforestation-free Regulation (EUDR)* yang telah diperkenalkan oleh Kesatuan Eropah (EU) untuk menghadkan penggunaan produk agro-komoditi di seluruh dunia. Ini akan menyebabkan kesan negatif ke atas pengeluaran komoditi Negara ini. Kerajaan sedang dan akan melaksanakan pelbagai strategi untuk mempromosi keluaran agro-komoditi secara mampan selain giat *to promote* pensijilan Malaysian Sustainable Palm Oil (MSPO) di seluruh negara yang meliputi semua peringkat rantai pengeluaran di sektor tersebut.

For the information of the Honourable Member for Tamin, the Government has no plan to provide price subsidy assistance for oil palm as the average price of this commodity is currently at a high level. However, the Government through MPOB and the Department of Agriculture Sarawak (DOA) have implemented various schemes and assistance in the term of loans and grants to oil palm smallholders.

Untuk makluman Ahli Yang Berhormat bagi Meluan, Kerajaan melalui Lembaga Kemajuan Tanah Sarawak (SLDB) mempunyai pembiayaan projek lada termasuk *Creamy White Pepper* di bawah Sarawak Agro Fund (SAF) yang boleh dipohon oleh pengusaha lada secara komersil dan pembelian mesin dan peralatan kilang pemprosesan lada.

*Delivery System by Department of Agriculture (DOA) Sarawak*

For the information of the Honourable Member for Katibas, regarding reviewing work process of the Department of Agriculture Sarawak, the Department is continuously improving Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) in providing the scheme and assistance to the farmers. On the other hand, department is in the process of strengthening the Department Organizational Capacity such as manpower, facilities, and logistics in order to provide better service to the agriculture community including in Katibas area.

*Program dan Projek Pertanian*

Untuk makluman Ahli Yang Berhormat bagi Daro, untuk membangunkan tanah Hak Adat Bumiputera yang telah disukat, Kementerian telah memperkenalkan modul *Public-Private-Community Partnership (PPCP)*. Pemilik tanah akan membangunkan tanah milikan masing-masing secara kontrak (*Contract Farming*) bersama dengan syarikat peneraju yang berpotensi dan mempunyai kapasiti yang boleh dipercayai.

Untuk makluman Ahli Yang Berhormat bagi Tellian, dalam usaha untuk membantu golongan petani dalam pemasaran hasil pertanian, Kementerian saya telah melaksanakan beberapa inisiatif untuk memperkasakan rantai bekalan makanan. Antara inisiatif-inisiatif yang dilaksanakan adalah penggunaan platform e-dagang untuk memperluaskan pemasaran produk pertanian dan membangunkan Pembangunan Infrastruktur Pemasaran, Pusat Pengumpulan, Pasar Borong, Pasar Tani dan Pasar Nelayan.

*Agriculture Training Centre*

For the information of the Honourable Member for Pelagus, my Ministry through the Department of Agriculture Sarawak has submitted a proposal for the construction of the Nanga Mujong Kapit Agricultural Training Centre in Mid-Term Review of the Twelfth Malaysian Plan under Public Works Department of Sarawak list of construction projects and awaiting for allocation approval from the Government.

*Pembangunan Tanah Hak Adat Bumiputera*

Untuk makluman Ahli Yang Berhormat bagi Tamin, tanah Hak Adat Bumiputera yang tidak dibangunkan di dalam kawasan projek usahasama, pemilik tanah boleh memohon kepada Jabatan Tanah dan Survei supaya tanah tersebut disukat di bawah Seksyen 6 dan seterusnya Seksyen 18 Kanun Tanah Negeri. Justeru itu, tiada sebarang *Provisional Lease (PL)* dikeluarkan kepada syarikat-syarikat pelabur atau syarikat usaha sama. Hanya geran tunggal akan dikeluarkan kepada syarikat usahasama bagi kawasan yang telah siap dibangunkan.

Untuk makluman Ahli Yang Berhormat bagi Meluan, Kerajaan telah melantik perunding untuk menjalankan pengauditan ke atas projek usaha sama (*Joint Venture*) dan kini dalam fasa akhir penyediaan laporan.

Untuk makluman Ahli Yang Berhormat bagi Pelagus juga, bagi tanah Hak Adat Bumiputera yang tidak dapat dibangunkan di NCR Land Development JV Baleh Confluence, ianya adalah tertakluk kepada pematuhan polisi iaitu, "*No Deforestation, No Peat and No Exploitation*" (*NDPE*), pemilik tanah boleh memohon kepada LCDA untuk dikeluarkan daripada kawasan pembangunan.

*Hakisan Pantai dan Pemuliharaan Tebingan Sungai*

Untuk makluman Ahli Yang Berhormat bagi Balingian, Kerajaan juga telah melaksanakan Projek Pembinaan Benteng Perlindungan Hakisan Tebingan Kampung Litong (Fasa 4), Bahagian Mukah di bawah Peruntukan Persekutuan berjumlah RM800 ribu.

Di samping itu, bagi mengatasi masalah hakisan di Kampung Suyong, dan kawasan-kawasan lain seperti yang dinyatakan, Jabatan Pengairan dan Saliran Sarawak akan membuat siasatan tapak dan mengemukakan cadangan untuk pelaksanaan projek-projek tersebut.

Untuk makluman Ahli Yang Berhormat bagi Tellian, Jabatan Pengairan dan Saliran Sarawak telah mengemukakan cadangan Projek Pemuliharaan Tebingan Batang Mukah antara Sungai Penakub dan Sungai Tellian dan Projek Pengawalan Hakisan Pantai Petanak, Daerah Mukah melalui Rajang Delta Development Agency (RADDA) dengan kos projek masing-masing dianggarkan berjumlah RM40 juta dan RM20 juta.

Untuk makluman Ahli Yang Berhormat bagi Lingga, di dalam Kajian Separuh Penggal RMK-12, Jabatan Pengairan dan Saliran Sarawak telah mengemukakan cadangan Projek Rancangan Tebatan Banjir di Pekan Lingga dan Projek Pengawalan Hakisan Pantai di pantai Tanjung Riong Maludam, dengan anggaran kos keseluruhan berjumlah RM107.5 juta.

Untuk makluman Ahli Yang Berhormat bagi Kabong, sebanyak RM15.0 juta telah diluluskan di bawah Projek Rakyat untuk melaksanakan Projek Hakisan Tebingan Sungai Seblak di Kampung Sungai Benang, Kabong. Manakala bagi projek Sungai Seblak *Diversion Channel at Empayang, Kabong* ianya telah dikemukakan di bawah Kajian Separuh Penggal RMK-12.

#### *Pembangunan Pertanian di Opar*

Untuk makluman Ahli Yang Berhormat bagi Opar, Kementerian saya melalui Jabatan Pertanian Sarawak juga telah membuat kajian dan penelitian mengenai kesesuaian penggunaan tanah di kawasan Opar. Berdasarkan maklumat yang telah diperolehi, antara tanaman yang sesuai adalah kopi, durian dan nanas.

Bagi memberi pendedahan kepada golongan muda, pelbagai kursus-kursus berkaitan dengan pertanian moden seperti hidroponik dan fertigasi dianjurkan di kawasan kampung secara *in-situ* melalui program pengembangan pertanian.

#### *Rural Growth Centre (RGC)*

Untuk makluman Ahli Yang Berhormat bagi Opar, buat masa ini Kementerian saya baru menerima kertas cadangan perniagaan daripada pelabur yang berminat untuk membangunkan kawasan RGC Opar dan ianya masih dalam peringkat penilaian.

Untuk makluman Ahli Yang Berhormat bagi Beting Maro, proses temuduga peserta Projek Penempatan Semula Nelayan Beladin telah dilaksanakan. Peserta yang telah berjaya ditemuduga tersebut akan dibentangkan dalam Mesyuarat Jawatankuasa Induk Projek Khas Perumahan Nelayan untuk kelulusan. Kementerian saya juga telah mengemukakan permohonan pertambahan siling bagi projek pembinaan Jeti Nelayan RGC Beladin di bawah Kajian Separuh Penggal Rancangan Malaysia Ke-12.

#### *Penyelenggaraan Parit dan Pintu Air*

Untuk makluman Ahli Yang Berhormat bagi Kabong, Kerajaan telah meluluskan sejumlah RM6.5 juta di bawah Rancangan Malaysia Ke-12 yang melibatkan peruntukan Persekutuan bagi tujuan membaik pulih infrastruktur pertanian seperti ban perimeter dan juga pintu air.

#### *Sarawak Agro Fund*

Untuk makluman Ahli Yang Berhormat bagi Meluan, *Sarawak Agro Fund* yang diperkenalkan pada September 2019, adalah pembiayaan untuk membantu *agropreneur* berskala komersial (SME) di dalam bandar mahupun di luar bandar. Bagi pembiayaan geran, nilai minima adalah RM200,000 hingga RM500,000. Keutamaan diberikan kepada pengusaha-pengusaha yang sudah mempunyai hasil jualan. Untuk pembiayaan mudah (*soft loan*), nilai pembiayaan adalah seperti berikut:

- (a) *For Small and Micro applicant between RM300,000 to RM700,000;*
- (b) *For the Medium scale – >RM700,000 to RM3,000,000; and*
- (c) *For the Corporate scale is higher which is to RM3,000,000 to RM10,000,000.*

Syarat-syarat dan *the terms* adalah berbeza menurut kepada saiz operasi serta kedudukan kewangan pemohon.

*Agriculture Food Terminal*

For the information of the Honourable Member of Pelagus, as of the construction of Agriculture Food Terminal in Kapit, the project is in the planning stage. Public Works Department of Sarawak will be appointed as the implementing agency. A sum of RM5.0 million has been allocated for this project.

*Conclusion*

Tuan Speaker, in conclusion, finally, I wish to express my sincere gratitude and thanks to Tuan Speaker for the smooth proceedings of current sitting in this august House. And also, my thanks to all my Members, all the Members here in this august House for your kind attention decorum and discipline.

My appreciation also goes to the Honourable State Secretary, Yang Arif State Attorney-General, State Financial Secretary and all Officers from the various Sarawak and Federal Ministries and Agencies for their commitment and dedication in providing the necessary input and support for the smooth proceedings of this august House.

My special thanks to all my officers from my Ministry and agencies for their efforts and commitment in the input doing by them during this sitting.

Finally, I would like to extend my greeting to all my Dayak friends, *Selamat Hari Gawai, Gayu Guru Gerai Nyamai* and to all my Muslim friends, *Selamat Hari Raya Aidiladha and Selamat Hari Wesak*. And also, with that Tuan Speaker, with all the aforesaid mentioned I shall, I support the Motion by the Tuan Yang Terutama during his Opening Address in this *Mesyuarat Pertama bagi Penggal Kedua Persidangan Dewan Undangan Negeri Sarawak Ke-19*. Thank you very much.

**Timbalan Speaker:** Thank you very much Yang Berhormat Menteri Industri Makanan, Komoditi dan Pembangunan Wilayah, smooth and preform reply. We shall now adjourn for lunch since we have a very short lunch, we shall adjourn until 3.00 p.m. this afternoon.

*(Mesyuarat ditangguhkan pada pukul 1.42 petang)*

*(Mesyuarat dimulakan pada jam 3.05 petang)*

*[Tuan Speaker mempengerusikan Mesyuarat]*

**Tuan Speaker:** Dengan hormatnya saya menjemput Yang Berhormat Dato Sri Hajah Fatimah Abdullah, Menteri Pembangunan Wanita, Kanak-Kanak dan Kesejahteraan Komuniti untuk menyampaikan Ucapan Penggulangan.

**Menteri Pembangunan Wanita, Kanak-Kanak dan Kesejahteraan Komuniti Sarawak (YB Dato Sri Hajah Fatimah Abdullah):** Terima kasih, Tuan Speaker. Bismillahirrahmanirrahim. Assalamualaikum Warahmatullahi Wabarakatuh. Salam sejahtera, Salam Ibu Pertiwiku.

Tuan Speaker, I would like to acknowledge the presence of a strong group of women NGOs, members from public and private sectors as well as the officers and staffs from my Ministry who are presence in the Dewan this afternoon for my Ucapan Penggulangan... (*Applause*)...

**PENDAHULUAN**

Saya ingin memulakan Ucapan Penggulangan saya ini dengan menzahirkan ucapan terima kasih kepada Tuan Yang Terutama Yang di-Pertua Negeri Sarawak atas ucapan Pembukaan Mesyuarat Pertama bagi Penggal Kedua Dewan Undangan Negeri Sarawak Ke-19. Antara perkara yang wajar kita jadikan inspirasi dalam memperjuangkan kebajikan dan kesejahteraan rakyat ialah

pencapaian dan kejayaan yang telah kita capai dan nikmati bersama dalam bidang ekonomi, politik dan sosial dalam tempoh 60 tahun merdeka.

Saya yakin pengorbanan, perjuangan serta usaha sepanjang 60 tahun yang telah dilakukan oleh pemimpin-pemimpin Sarawak sebelum ini juga menjadi pemangkin dan terus menginspirasi Yang Amat Berhormat Premier Sarawak untuk melakar visi baharu bagi Sarawak melalui kepimpinan dan strategi pembangunan yang berwawasan jauh dan berani. Sebagai seorang strategis ekonomi, beliau secara cekap telah memperkenalkan mekanisme baharu untuk mencari dan mengenal pasti sumber baharu bagi meningkatkan pendapatan Sarawak demi menjanakan kelestarian ekonomi, kelangsungan hidup rakyat yang berdigniti, bersatu padu dan sejahtera.

Sehubungan itu, saya ingin mengucapkan tahniah kepada Yang Amat Berhormat Premier, kerana bijak menyantuni kepercayaan rakyat dengan ikrar berani dan tindakan pragmatik bagi mengubah landskap politik, ekonomi dan sosio budaya Sarawak supaya menjadi sebuah wilayah ekonomi yang maju dengan berpendapatan tinggi dan masyarakatnya hidup sejahtera serta bersatu padu menjelang 2030.

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

Tuan Speaker, sukacita dimaklumkan bahawa Ucapan Penggulangan ini akan dibahagikan kepada tiga bahagian utama, iaitu (1) Pemerksaan Wanita dan Keluarga; (2) Pemerksaan Kanak-kanak; dan (3) Pensejahteraan Komuniti. Seperti yang telah kita mulakan pada tahun 2018, Ucapan ini akan disertakan dengan paparan *slide* bagi memudahkan lagi Ahli-ahli Dewan yang mulia ini mengikutinya. Saya amat bangga melihat Menteri Utiliti dan Telekomunikasi Sarawak; Menteri Pelancongan, Industri Kreatif dan Seni Persembahan; Menteri Belia, Sukan dan Pembangunan Usahawan Sarawak; dan Menteri Industri Makanan, Komoditi dan Pembangunan Wilayah Sarawak yang juga telah menggunakan *slides* dalam pembentangan Ucapan mereka. Jadi kami ingin mengucapkan Syabas dan Tahniah.

#### **PEMERKASAAN WANITA DAN KELUARGA (EMPOWERING WOMEN AND FAMILY: INITIATIVES, SUPPORT SYSTEM AND RESOURCES)**

Definisi Ekuiti. Equity recognizes that some individuals and groups have historically faced barriers and disadvantages that prevent them from achieving the same outcomes as others. While equality means treating everyone the same way regardless of their differences.

Tuan Speaker, satu daripada tindakan jitu Kerajaan Sarawak dalam merealisasikan aspirasi pembangunan mapan tersebut ialah komitmen terhadap usaha memperkasa pembangunan wanita dan keluarga supaya mereka dapat menyumbang dan terlibat secara bermakna dalam setiap agenda pembangunan Sarawak.

Penubuhan Biro Wanita (1988) yang kemudiannya dinaik taraf sebagai sebuah Jabatan pada tahun 2015 merupakan inovasi pengurusan bagi memperkukuhkan keupayaan jentera pelaksana Kementerian dalam merancang dan melaksana pelbagai program, aktiviti dan inisiatif yang memberi fokus kepada pemerksaan, kesaksamaan dan kesamaan terhadap wanita (*women empowerment, equity and equality*).

Usaha-usaha ini dilaksanakan secara berterusan dengan tujuan untuk meningkatkan kesejahteraan sosio-ekonomi wanita dan keluarga di Sarawak, menyediakan sistem sokongan (*support system*), sumber daya, dan peluang selaras dengan visi Jabatan Wanita dan Keluarga Sarawak (JWKS) – *Wanita Berdikari Keluarga Lestari*. Ia juga seiring dengan Strategi Pembangunan Pasca COVID 2030 (PCDS-2030) untuk menjadikan Sarawak maju secara inklusif dengan persekitaran lestari menjelang 2030. Usaha-usaha yang dilaksanakan ini juga adalah bertepatan dengan Matlamat Pembangunan Lestari Pertubuhan Bangsa-Bangsa Bersatu (*Sustainable Development Goals of the United Nations – (SDG) 2030*).

Antara usaha strategik yang telah dilaksanakan oleh KPWK melalui JWKS ialah menyediakan sistem sokongan pengupayaan bagi memperkasa wanita dan keluarga. Melalui usaha ini, mereka mampu berdikari dan memiliki keupayaan untuk membuat pilihan, menyedari hak dan mempertahankan maruah diri demi kesejahteraan keluarga dan masyarakat.

Pada tahun ini, JWKS meneruskan fokus kepada agenda pemerdayaan wanita dalam ekonomi dan kepimpinan agar wanita boleh berdikari dan meningkatkan kualiti hidup diri dan keluarga mereka.

### *Pemerdayaan Ekonomi Wanita*

Untuk memperkasa ekonomi wanita, melalui JWKS, Kementerian meneruskan inisiatif pengupayaan kapasiti dengan mengadakan beberapa aktiviti di bawah Program Latihan Kemahiran dan Bantuan Keusahawanan seperti: Jelajah Kerjaya Wanita Sarawak; *Women Skills Training*; dan Bantuan Ketua Isi Rumah Wanita Sarawak.

#### (a) Jelajah Kerjaya Wanita Sarawak

Jelajah Kerjaya Wanita Sarawak Siri Pertama, telah dilaksanakan di Kuching pada 4 dan 5 Mac 2023 dengan kolaborasi agensi Kerajaan dan swasta bagi menyediakan maklumat tentang peluang pekerjaan (*job opportunity*), pendaftaran lesen perniagaan dan bantuan perniagaan. Pada hari tersebut, seramai 258 orang wanita telah memohon pekerjaan secara terus dengan para majikan dan seramai lapan orang daripada mereka telah mendapat pekerjaan *on the spot*, manakala 142 orang lagi dipanggil untuk temuduga kali kedua. Seramai 615 pengunjung pula telah menerima pelbagai khidmat nasihat, manakala 100 permohonan bantuan perniagaan daripada usahawan wanita telah diterima oleh agensi-agensi yang terlibat.

#### (b) Women Skills Training (WST)

Pada tahun ini, *Women Skills Training (WST)* Kursus Jahitan Pakaian, Kulineri, Kecantikan dan Spa & Urut masih diteruskan secara bersemuka dan atas talian yang melibatkan sebanyak 151 sesi dengan sasaran seramai 4,075 peserta. Setakat April 2023, as of April 2023, sebanyak 32 sesi kursus telah dilaksanakan.

Selain memastikan peserta dapat menambah pengetahuan dan kemahiran baharu, JWKS turut memantau kemajuan pendapatan peserta, *monitor their income* dan mendapati, daripada 687 peserta yang dilatih, 306 peserta *that is equivalent to 45%* telah berjaya menggunakan kemahiran tersebut untuk menjana pendapatan.

#### (c) Bantuan Ketua Isi Rumah Wanita Sarawak (KIRWaS)

Sukacita saya memaklumkan Dewan yang mulia ini tentang hasil pemantauan bantuan KIRWaS seperti yang dilaporkan kepada Dewan Undangan Negeri (DUN) yang lepas seramai 503 daripada 590 usahawan, *that is equivalent to 85%* telah berjaya menjana pendapatan melebihi PGK RM1,169.

Susulan kejayaan ini, Yang Amat Berhormat Premier telah bersetuju untuk meluluskan bantuan Geran Modal Pemerdayaan Wanita bernilai RM2.5 juta dan ini dijangka memberi manfaat kepada 2,500 wanita tahun ini. Jadi kami ingin mengucapkan terima kasih kepada Yang Amat Berhormat Premier, terima kasih "*daun keladi*".

### *Penglibatan Wanita dalam Kepimpinan*

Selari dengan agenda SDG 5 – *Gender Equality and Empower Women and Girls*, dalam sektor politik, ekonomi dan kehidupan awam, Kementerian melalui JWKS akan meneruskan dua program

kepimpinan iaitu *Women Leadership Program* dan *Leadership Bootcamp for Youth* untuk zon selatan, tengah dan utara Sarawak. Program ini bertujuan mengasah kemahiran insaniah pemimpin dan pemimpin pelapis wanita Sarawak dan mengembangkan potensi kepimpinan dalam kalangan pelajar wanita di sekolah menengah dan institusi pengajian tinggi.

Tuan Speaker,

#### *Pemantapan Institusi Keluarga*

Institusi keluarga merupakan tunjang kesejahteraan negara. Justeru pelaksanaan kursus-kursus pemantapan institusi keluarga adalah signifikan diteruskan dengan kerjasama pelbagai agensi dalam mengukuhkan kesejahteraan dan kelestarian keluarga. Bermula pada tahun ini, Kementerian melalui JWKS telah berkolaborasi dengan Lembaga Penduduk dan Pembangunan Keluarga Negara, (LPPKN) mengadakan siri pertama daripada tiga siri; Kursus Keibubapaan, Modul: Mutiara Kasih pada 15 April 2023 di Kuching. Kursus Keibubapaan ini bertujuan mewujudkan persefahaman dan komunikasi berkesan antara ibu bapa dan anak remaja bagi membentuk remaja yang berdisiplin dan berdaya tahan.

#### *Program Kesedaran Keselamatan dan Hak Wanita*

Bagi tujuan meningkatkan kesedaran, kefahaman dan pengetahuan tentang hak, perundangan dan keselamatan wanita dan keluarga, Kementerian melalui JWKS telah bekerjasama dengan pelbagai agensi mengadakan kursus *Know Your Rights; Family and Women Safety*; Kemahiran Asas Menolong; dan *Pocket Talks*.

*Pocket Talks* Siri Pertama atas tajuk "*Peranan, Hak Wanita dan Keluarga Selepas Perceraian*" telah diadakan pada 28 Mac 2023, ini melibatkan seramai 122 peserta dengan kerjasama Jabatan Kehakiman Syariah Sarawak (JKSS).

#### *Pengiktirafan Sumbangan Wanita Sarawak*

(a) Sambutan Hari Wanita Sarawak 2023 (HW23)

Pada tahun ini, sambutan Hari Wanita Sarawak (HW23) telah diadakan pada 18 Mac 2023 di Penview Convention Centre, Kuching dengan tema *#EmbraceEquity*. Majlis Sambutan ini telah diisi dengan satu sesi forum *#EmbraceEquity*, pelancaran buku Sarawak *Women in Scholarly Writing Volume 2*, dan sebagai kemuncak sambutan HW23, penyampaian Anugerah Tokoh Wanita Sarawak iaitu Anugerah Premier Sarawak: Kepimpinan Wanita; Keusahawanan Wanita; Penggiat Sosial Wanita; Pencapaian Khas Wanita; dan Pertubuhan Cemerlang.

Kehadiran jemputan secara fizikal di majlis ini melebihi 1,000 orang dan turut diikuti oleh penyertaan daripada 45 pejabat daerah dan beberapa rakan strategik jabatan dalam kalangan NGO secara maya.

Sempena Hari Wanita 23, Yang Amat Berhormat Premier telah mengumumkan persetujuan Kerajaan dengan cadangan penubuhan Kursi Kepimpinan Wanita Sarawak yang kelak akan ditempatkan di salah sebuah institusi pengajian tinggi tempatan.

(b) Penerbitan Buku *Sarawak Women in Scholarly Writing Volume 2*

Lanjutan daripada penerbitan buku *Sarawak Women in Scholarly Writing Volume 1* pada tahun 2022 yang menampilkan 26 personaliti, pada tahun 2023, JWKS menerbitkan buku *Sarawak Women in Scholarly Writing Volume 2* yang mengetengahkan 25 orang lagi personaliti wanita Sarawak yang terlibat dalam bidang akademik. Buku ini telah dilancarkan sempena sambutan Hari Wanita 2023.

- (c) Official Launch of “Women Practicing Resilience, Self-Care and Wellbeing in Academia: International Stories from Lived Experience” Book

As a recognition and acknowledgment of the contribution of Sarawak women in the publication of stories of resilience, self-care, and success from a diverse range of women in academia from eight countries across the world, in collaboration with Sarawak Women and Family Council (MWKS), JWKS jointly organized the official launch of the book entitled “*Women Practicing Resilience, Self-Care and Wellbeing in Academia: International Stories from Lived Experience*”. The book was launched on May 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2023, at TEGAS Digital Village by the Honourable Deputy Premier, YB Dato Sri Professor Dr. Sim Kui Hian. Also in attendance was our Tuan Speaker, thank you very much for the support. At the heart of this book lies the dedicated involvement of four exceptional Sarawakian women who have served as both editors and part authors.

**PEMERKASAAN KANAK-KANAK  
(EMPOWERING CHILDREN – INITIATIVES, SUPPORT SYSTEM FOR SAFETY AND  
WELLBEING OF CHILDREN)**

Early childhood education has significant impacts on children’s development. Thus, Sarawak Government put strong emphasis on access, equity, quality Early Childhood Care and Education (ECCE) and the children wellbeing. We study and benchmark ECCE systems and policies across different regions and countries such as Finland, Singapore, Japan, New Zealand, and Australia. Thus, various initiatives and programs, have been implemented for the benefit of our children in Sarawak, mainly:

- (a) Endowment Fund Sarawak (EFS)

A recent survey by RinggitPlus revealed that 70% of Malaysians saved less than RM500 monthly in 2022, or did not save at all, including for the education of the children. This makes the Endowment Fund Sarawak (EFS) introduced by the Sarawak Government in 2019, even more significant.

To date, with RM91.16 million allocated by the Government, 91,163 children have owned Endowment Fund Sarawak accounts.

- (b) Geran Tahunan Khas (GTK)

Bagi membantu pengusaha Institusi Pendidikan Awal Kanak-Kanak yang berdaftar, terus dapat memberi perkhidmatan asuhan, bimbingan dan pendidikan awal kanak-kanak yang berkualiti, Kerajaan meneruskan pemberian GTK yang telah dimulakan pada tahun 2019.

Setakat April 2023, sebanyak RM57.5 juta yang dibelanjakan telah memberi manfaat kepada seramai 290,621 kanak-kanak.

- (c) Subsidi Yuran Tadika Dan Taska

Bagi terus membantu meringankan beban kewangan ibu bapa berpendapatan rendah, tahun ini, Kerajaan Sarawak telah memperuntukkan sejumlah RM2.5 juta untuk melaksanakan inisiatif subsidi RM1,000 setahun Yuran Pengasuhan dan Pendidikan Awal Kanak-Kanak. Ini dijangka memberi manfaat kepada seramai 2,500 kanak-kanak yang tidak menerima subsidi yang disediakan oleh Kerajaan Persekutuan. Ia dapat membantu anak-anak terus menikmati asuhan dan didikan berkualiti di TASKA dan TADIKA yang berdaftar sementara ibu bapa bekerja. Permohonan subsidi yuran ini telah dibuka mulai 13 Mac sehingga 10 April 2023 dan kini sedang dalam proses penilaian, dan pembayaran akan dibuat kepada pengusaha IPAKK oleh Kementerian.



(d) One-Stop Early Intervention Centre (OSEIC)

Tuan Speaker, *One-Stop Early Intervention Centre (OSEIC)* yang ditubuhkan pada tahun 2020 memberi akses kepada diagnosis, intervensi dan rehabilitasi di bawah satu bumbung, kepada kanak-kanak berkeperluan khas, selari dengan aspirasi keterangkuman sosial di dalam PCDS 2030.

Yuran yang dikenakan hanya RM50 untuk empat sesi sebulan. Sehingga Mei 2023, seramai 577 kanak-kanak telah mendapat manfaat daripada perkhidmatan yang disediakan.

Kejayaan yang dilakar oleh OSEIC Sarawak di Metro City Matang, telah menguatkan semangat Kementerian untuk memperluaskan perkhidmatan OSEIC bagi manfaat kanak-kanak berkeperluan khas, termasuk di kawasan luar bandar. OSEIC Dalat di Kompleks Kebajikan Dalat adalah model OSEIC luar bandar pertama yang telah mula beroperasi sejak 1 Mac 2023. Dalam tempoh dua bulan perkhidmatannya, seramai 20 kanak-kanak telah berdaftar yang berasal dari Sibu, Mukah, Oya, dan Dalat.

Sebelum ini, perkhidmatan intervensi awal bagi kanak-kanak untuk kawasan ini hanya boleh didapati di Hospital Sibu ataupun di *Agape Centre, Sibu*.

(e) Empowering The Rights of the Child

It is disheartening to see stateless children denied of access to education, healthcare, and welfare services. Education is a basic right stipulated under the Universal Declaration of Human Rights 1948, United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC) 1989, and Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) 2030.

Sehubungan itu, Kerajaan Sarawak mengambil inisiatif untuk mengeluarkan Dokumen Sementara Individu Tanpa Kewarganegaraan di Sarawak (DSITKS), khusus untuk membolehkan kanak-kanak mendapat akses kepada perkhidmatan pendidikan dan kesihatan. Setakat April 2023, sebanyak 594 permohonan telah diterima dan daripada jumlah tersebut, sebanyak 86 permohonan kumpulan pertama telah diluluskan oleh Jabatan Premier Sarawak. *More to come.*

Di samping itu, Kementerian juga rancang mempertingkatkan kesedaran dan advokasi mengenai isu dokumen pengenalan diri dan permohonan DSITKS melalui 115 siri pelbagai program *outreach* seperti Randau Pembangunan Sosial, Randau Solidariti Komuniti; Randau Kesejahteraan Komuniti; dan lain-lain program anjuran rakan strategik Kementerian yang dirancang pada tahun 2023.

Consistent with our emphasis on basic rights of a child to education irrespective of their nationality, our Government has agreed to the establishment of Community Learning Centres (CLC) for children of Indonesian plantation workers. To date, there are 16 registered CLCs with 890 children.

We would like to recognise the good work done by Persatuan Destiny for Children in Sibu and Persatuan Pendidik D'Wira in Kuching in providing access to education for stateless children in Sarawak.

**PENSEJAHTERAAN KOMUNITI  
(SOCIAL AND WELFARE SUPPORT SYSTEM FOR COMMUNITY WELLBEING — INITIATIVES,  
SUPPORT SYSTEM AND ADDITIONAL RESOURCES)**

Sebagai usaha menyokong aspirasi PCDS 2030 yang bertunjangkan kelestarian ekonomi, keterangkuman masyarakat dan kelestarian alam sekitar, Kementerian menempatkan pensejahteraan komuniti sebagai teras dalam penyampaian perkhidmatan sosialnya. Sehubungan

ini, Kementerian menyantuni kumpulan berkeperluan semua peringkat umur, status sosio-ekonomi, dan kepelbagaian etnik supaya mereka berpeluang menyumbang kepada kesejahteraan dan menikmati hasil kemakmuran ekonomi berpendapatan tinggi.

Tuan Speaker, bagi tujuan meningkatkan kesejahteraan sosial masyarakat di Sarawak, pada Persidangan kali ini saya ingin menarik perhatian Dewan yang mulia ini kepada pendekatan bagi menangani isu-isu sosial, menyediakan sistem sokongan sosial dan mengukuhkan perpaduan.

(a) Menangani Isu-Isu Sosial dalam Komuniti

Sukacita dimaklumkan, Kementerian terus komited untuk menangani kesemua 14 isu sosial utama yang telah dibangkitkan dalam persidangan yang lepas. Untuk persidangan kali ini, laporan Kementerian tertumpu kepada isu penyalahgunaan dadah dan substans.

Melalui kolaborasi dan kerjasama dengan rakan-rakan strategik Majlis Pembangunan Sosial (MPS), Kementerian komited menjalankan tanggungjawab kolektif (*collective responsibility*) menangani isu penyalahgunaan dadah dan substans. Isu ini dikategori oleh Kerajaan Sarawak sebagai satu isu keselamatan Negeri yang telah menjejaskan kesejahteraan komuniti, dan juga didapati menjadi punca utama kepada isu sosial lain seperti keganasan rumah tangga (83%), masalah keluarga (70%), jenayah harta benda (68%) dan kesihatan mental (52%).

Kementerian telah menubuhkan Tadbir Urus One Stop Committee (OSC) bagi Menangani Isu Dadah dan Substans (MIDS) di peringkat Negeri, di peringkat Daerah dan di peringkat bidang kuasa penghulu di Sarawak mulai 2018 untuk melaksanakan program dan intervensi secara bersepadu bersama agensi awam, NGO, ketua masyarakat dan komuniti setempat. Sejak ditubuhkan, sebanyak 678 siri Operasi dan Program Bersepadu Isu Dadah (OBID) telah dilaksanakan di peringkat daerah.

Melalui OSC MIDS, Kementerian telah menyalurkan peruntukan sebanyak RM7.9 juta sejak 2018 sehingga April 2023 untuk menyokong usaha-usaha rakan-rakan strategik bagi melaksanakan program dan aktiviti:

- (i) Operasi penguatkuasaan bersepadu bagi mengurangkan penawaran dadah dan substans;
- (ii) Pengesanan dan pencegahan penyalahgunaan dadah bagi mengurangkan permintaan terhadap dadah dan substans;
- (iii) Rawatan dan pemulihan penyalahgunaan substans secara berterusan dalam komuniti;
- (iv) Pendidikan pencegahan penyalahgunaan dadah bagi meningkatkan kesedaran dan advokasi dalam komuniti yang belum terjebak; dan
- (v) Mengukuhkan lagi tadbir urus dan fungsi OSC MIDS Peringkat Daerah dan Biro MIDS Kawasan Penghulu di Sarawak.

Sejak 2018 hingga April 2023, Sarawak merekodkan 51,842 tangkapan berkaitan pelbagai kesalahan penyalahgunaan dadah dan substans. Dan daripada jumlah tersebut, sebanyak 37,190 tangkapan bersamaan dengan 71.7% adalah melibatkan kesalahan mengguna dan menagih dadah.

Kejayaan agensi-agensi penguatkuasaan (*enforcement agencies*) dalam usaha membanteras pengedaran dadah dan substans di Sarawak wajar diiktiraf dan dihargai. Antara 2018 hingga April 2023:

- (i) Dadah bernilai RM74.01 juta telah dirampas oleh Polis Diraja Malaysia (PDRM) dan Jabatan Kastam Diraja Malaysia (JKDM) di Sarawak. Nilai rampasan mengikut tahun

- adalah: pada tahun 2018 (RM7.92 juta), 2019 (RM9.89 juta), 2020 (RM19.98 juta), 2021 (RM20.75 juta), 2022 (RM7.73 juta), dan Januari hingga April 2023 (RM7.74 juta);
- (ii) Harta pengedar bernilai RM21.84 juta telah disita oleh PDRM; dan
  - (iii) Seramai 3,651 pengedar dadah telah ditangkap oleh PDRM dan JKDM di Sarawak.

Dalam sesi Dewan Undangan Negeri November 2022, saya telah melaporkan nisbah 1:7 pengguna dadah yang tidak mendapat rawatan dan pemulihan dan menyasarkan indeks yang lebih rendah pada tahun 2023. Today, we are pleased to report that Sarawak has achieved our KPI that is a ratio of 1:6 in March 2023. This is better than the international average of 1:7 reported by the United Nation Office for Drugs and Crimes (UNODC) in 2022.

(b) Sistem Sokongan Sosial, Kebajikan dan Perkhidmatan Rujukan Intervensi

*To address pertinent social issues affecting vulnerable groups, the Ministry is also embarking on specific integrated social support and intervention programs and facilities in the community under the 12<sup>th</sup> Malaysia Plan (Sarawak Government Budget) and PCDS 2030.*

*Specific programs and projects implemented by our Ministry to provide evidence-based integrated social support, welfare and intervention referral services in the community for vulnerable groups affected by social issues at the Community Social Support Centre (CSSC); Tempat Transit Gelandangan (TTG) dan Desa Bina Diri (DBD); Pusat Pemulihan Samarahan (PPS); Institusi-Institusi Warga Emas dan Kanak-Kanak; Grant for NGO Empowerment; and Social Development Intervention Awareness and Advocacy Programs. These specific social intervention activities are vital for vulnerable groups to sustain their social functionality, dignity, and wellbeing.*

(i) Community Social Support Centre (CSSC)

Sukacita saya ingin memaklumkan bahawa *Community Social Support Centre (CSSC)* Kuching sudah beroperasi pada 3 Januari 2023. Setakat 30 April 2023, pelbagai program dan rujukan intervensi sosial telah dijalankan. Ia juga menjadi pusat bagi NGO untuk menyumbang secara aktif kepada golongan rentan dan memerlukan. Antara program yang telah dilaksanakan adalah:

- (1) The Soup Kitchen that is funded through donations in cash and kind from corporate bodies and philanthropists has provided free breakfast and lunch to 12,228 urban hardcore poor and the needy. This is from 3<sup>rd</sup> of January to 30<sup>th</sup> of April 2023.
- (2) The Food Bank provided dry rations and food baskets to 378 needy individuals; and
- (3) 23 social cases were reported for intervention referrals from our strategic partners involving NGOs with four cases fully resolved.

Di samping itu, pelbagai aktiviti intervensi sosial dan kebajikan turut dijalankan di CSSC Kuching. Antaranya adalah:

- (1) 63 sesi saringan, penilaian, kaunseling individu dan konsultasi melibatkan 34 klien yang dikendalikan oleh Agensi Anti Dadah Kebangsaan (AADK), Mental Health Association Sarawak (MHAS) dan Pejabat Kesihatan Bahagian Kuching;
- (2) 20 aktiviti perancangan intervensi sosial bagi tahun 2023, kesedaran dan advokasi, pencegahan, kaunseling kelompok dan program pembangunan kapasiti telah dilaksanakan;
- (3) Enam perkhidmatan kaunter satelit dan khidmat nasihat dikendalikan oleh rakan strategik dari agensi Kerajaan dan NGO seperti Jabatan Kebajikan Masyarakat Sarawak (JKMS), Pejabat Residen dan Daerah Kuching, Majlis Pembangunan

Sosial, *Sarawak Women for Women Society (SWWS)*, *The Society for Kuching Urban Poor (SKUP)* dan *Kuching Food Aid*.

- (4) Dua sesi *Drum Circle Therapy* melibatkan 147 peserta yang dikendalikan oleh fasilitator dari JKMS.
- (5) Tiga siri aktiviti (*Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR)* anjuran *Anonymous Corporate and Philanthropists*) telah memberi manfaat kepada 300 peserta sempena Tahun Baru 2023, Tahun Baru Cina 2023, dan Ramadan iftar tahun ini untuk meraikan gelandangan, ibu tunggal, warga emas dan golongan miskin di sekitar Bandaraya Kuching.

The uniqueness of CSSC Kuching has also courted visits from Minister of Home Affairs, Ministry of Women, Family and Community Development Malaysia, The United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) and various NGOs.

The one of a kind integrated social and welfare support components and services under one roof in the CSSC is an outcome of benchmarking visits to New Zealand in 2017, to Finland in 2018 and to Singapore in 2019.

(ii) Tempat Transit Gelandangan (TTG)

Sebagai maklumat terkini, Tempat Transit Gelandangan Sibul telah beroperasi sepenuhnya sejak Februari 2022. Bagi menangani isu gelandangan di bahagian-bahagian lain, sukacita dimaklumkan bahawa Tempat Transit Gelandangan (TTG) Miri (di belakang Pejabat Daerah Miri yang lama) sedang dalam proses pengubahsuaian bangunan oleh Majlis Bandaraya Miri dan dijangka siap pada Disember 2023. Tempat Transit Gelandangan (TTG) Bintulu (di tepi jambatan Sungai Sebieu) sedang dalam proses pembinaan bangunan oleh Lembaga Kemajuan Bintulu dan dijangka siap pada bulan Mei 2025.

Sejak TTG Sibul beroperasi mulai Februari 2022 sehingga Mei 2023, seramai 87 orang gelandangan, 87 homeless, 65 lelaki *that's equivalent to 75%* dan 22 *equivalent to 25%* perempuan telah menggunakan perkhidmatan TTG. Sembilan (9) orang telah mendapat pekerjaan, *nine (9) of them have been employed*, tiga (3) orang ditempatkan di Rumah Seri Kenangan (RSK) Sibul dan Kuching *due to age factor*, 15 masih mengikuti latihan kemahiran menjana pendapatan, 12 orang telah kembali ke pangkuan keluarga masing-masing dan selebihnya telah meninggalkan TTG secara sukarela. Semua gelandangan ini telah kita rekodkan dan profilkan.

Tuan Speaker, who would ever thought of teaching the homeless basic literacy and numeracy skills? Or teaching them living skills such as weaving, hydroponic gardening and fish rearing? But that is exactly what we did at TTG Sibul, to prepare the homeless for integration into the community.

Antara kisah kejayaan penghuni TTG Sibul adalah Cik Ani anak Mail berumur 56 tahun, yang sekarang ini telah kita lantik menjadi tenaga pengajar, *we called her Cikgu Ani*. Beliau telah dilantik menjadi tenaga pengajar anyaman kepada rakan-rakan penghuni TTG. Hasil kraf tangan beliau dan rakan-rakan telah dipasarkan di 12 stesen minyak Petroleum Nasional Berhad (PETRONAS) sekitar Sibul.

Selain daripada pemerksaan ekonomi, penghuni TTG Sibul turut dilatih dalam kemahiran membaca, *because they don't know how to read and write*, jadi kita latih dengan kemahiran membaca, menulis dan mengira, dengan kerjasama Pustaka Negeri Sarawak yang sedang mengendalikan Program Literasi Golongan Dewasa dengan bantuan Methodist Pilley Institute dan Kolej Laila Taib.

TTG juga menjadi platform bagi aktiviti-aktiviti kesukarelawanan melibatkan NGO, institusi pendidikan, Komuniti Rukun Tetangga (KRT) dan JKKK setempat di Sibul. Sejak pengoperasian TTG Sibul, sebanyak 79 siri program kesukarelawanan telah dilaksanakan. Antara rakan strategik korporat TTG Sibul adalah PETRONAS dan Bintulu Port Authority termasuk Yang Berhormat Pelawan yang turut menyumbang dana dan barangan keperluan harian.

(iii) Fasiliti dan Perkhidmatan Sokongan bagi Pengendalian Kes Kanak-Kanak

Khusus bagi menangani isu-isu sosial melibatkan kanak-kanak, Kementerian melalui JKMS menyediakan perkhidmatan Pegawai Akhlak dan Pelindung serta institusi perlindungan, pemeliharaan dan pemulihan bagi membantu kanak-kanak daripada pengabaian, penderaan dan eksploitasi.

Mulai Januari 2022 sehingga April 2023, JKMS mengendalikan sebanyak 1,466 kes menurut Akta Kanak-Kanak 2001 yang merangkumi 403 kes pemeliharaan dan perlindungan (Seksyen 17); 638 memerlukan perlindungan segera (termasuk 622 kes hamil luar nikah) [Seksyen 41]; 41 kes kanak-kanak tidak terkawal [bawah Seksyen 46]; dan 384 terlibat dengan jenayah [Seksyen 91].

Daripada jumlah tersebut, seramai 82 telah diperintahkan oleh Mahkamah Bagi Kanak-Kanak untuk ditempatkan ke institusi kebajikan seperti Rumah Kanak-Kanak (RKK), Asrama Akhlak (AA), Sekolah Tunas Bakti (STB)/ Sekolah Henry Gurney Puncak Borneo dan Taman Seri Puteri (TSP).

Bagi membantu penghuni Sekolah Henry Gurney Puncak Borneo yang mempunyai masalah pembelajaran dan buta huruf, Kementerian telah menyalurkan dana Geran Pemerkasaan NGO (RM20,000) kepada Persatuan Disleksia Sarawak bagi membantu Penjara Puncak Borneo menganjurkan dua siri Program Meningkatkan Literasi Bahasa Malaysia yang memanfaatkan 21 orang penghuni.

Di samping menyediakan fasiliti perlindungan dan pemeliharaan, Kementerian juga telah menambah bilangan Pegawai Akhlak dan Pelindung daripada 25 kepada 47 orang. Dan dari 2022 sehingga April 2023 bilangan pengurusan kes kanak-kanak yang dikendalikan adalah sebanyak 1,466 kes. Kesan penambahan ini, kita dapat mencapai nisbah 1:31 maknanya satu pegawai kepada 31 kes yang memenuhi piawai antarabangsa iaitu 1:15-35 kes. Dengan adanya penambahbaikan nisbah ini, kebajikan dan kesejahteraan kanak-kanak adalah lebih terjaga.

(iv) Kesukarelawanan dalam Kesejahteraan Komuniti

Dalam ucapan Tuan Yang Terutama Yang di-Pertua Negeri Sarawak sempena pembukaan Mesyuarat Pertama bagi Penggal Kedua Persidangan Dewan Undangan Negeri Sarawak Ke-19, Tuan Yang Terutama Tun telah memuji penglibatan Badan Bukan Kerajaan, syarikat dan individu dalam melaksanakan program dan bantuan kebajikan untuk rakyat.

Kami di pihak Kementerian juga mengalu-alukan penglibatan mereka ini demi melestarikan kesejahteraan komuniti rentan. Geran pemerkasaan NGO sebanyak RM8.9 juta (sejak tahun 2020 sehingga Mei 2023) telah disediakan oleh Jabatan Kebajikan Masyarakat Sarawak dan Majlis Pembangunan Sosial (MPS). Kementerian turut memberi pengiktirafan kepada NGO yang cemerlang setiap tahun melalui majlis berprestij seperti sambutan Hari Wanita dan sambutan Hari OKU Peringkat Negeri. By empowering NGOs with financial assistance, the Ministry can reach out to wider target groups amongst vulnerable communities for a shared responsibilities to address pertinent social and welfare issues in Sarawak.

Di peringkat individu seramai 1,341 sukarelawan JKMS telah dilatih dan terlibat aktif dalam memberi perkhidmatan sokongan sosial. Daripada jumlah tersebut, seramai 258 petugas Program Khidmat Bantu di Rumah (*Home Help Services*) bertanggungjawab menyantuni seramai 1,018 klien yang terdiri daripada 794 warga emas dan 224 Orang Kurang Upaya (OKU).

(v) Aktiviti dan Program Intervensi Sosial

Kementerian melalui MPS telah melaksanakan beberapa *signature outreach programs* seperti Randau Pembangunan Sosial, Randau Solidariti Komuniti, Wacana Minda, Wacana Bestari, dialog dan bengkel bagi pengurusan isu sosial yang diberi fokus.

Sejak tahun 2016 sehingga 2022, Kementerian telah melaksanakan sebanyak 964 siri program intervensi sosial melibatkan 122,000 peserta dan 33 buah agensi pembangunan sosial dan NGO yang berkaitan. Pada tahun ini, tahun 2023, sebanyak 309 siri program *outreach* dirancang untuk dilaksanakan. Selain itu, Kementerian kami juga menyantuni komuniti rentan dengan membangunkan empat panduan pengurusan isu sosial di Sarawak iaitu: Panduan Pengurusan Kes Remaja Hamil, Panduan Pengurusan Pengangkatan Anak, Panduan Pengurusan *One Stop Committee* Bagi Menangani Isu Dadah dan Substans, dan Panduan Pengurusan Gelandangan.

(vi) Kesejahteraan Warga Emas

Kerajaan telah menyediakan kemudahan rumah perlindungan untuk warga emas seperti Rumah Seri Kenangan (2 RSK); Pusat Aktiviti Warga Emas (13 PAWE); Pusat Perkhidmatan Warga Emas (15 PPWE); Bantuan Kewangan Bulanan Warga Emas sebanyak RM500 sebulan (20,112 orang penerima Bantuan Warga Emas ini); dan kad diskaun yang digunakan oleh rakan strategik untuk pemegang *Kenyalang Gold Card* yang berjumlah 253,535 orang.

Seperti yang telah dilaporkan dalam persidangan Dewan Undangan Negeri lepas, cadangan Kementerian untuk melaksanakan satu kajian "*Research on Preparation for An Ageing Nation: The Profile of and Ageing Issues Affecting the Elderly in Sarawak*" telah mendapat persetujuan dan kelulusan sebanyak RM1.4 juta daripada Yang Amat Berhormat Premier. Sekali lagi kami ingin mengucapkan terima kasih kepada Yang Amat Berhormat Premier.

In the meantime, the Ministry is looking into effective policies and good practices by our neighbour, Singapore for healthy, active, productive, and positive ageing; inter-generational approaches; and evidence-based activities and programs for their elderly that could be adapted to Sarawak.

On the issue of KGC application raised by Ahli Yang Berhormat Pending, although the Ministry has embarked on online KGC application through iSarawakCare beginning in September 2022, all Welfare offices including those in Pejabat Kebajikan Masyarakat Bahagian (PKMB) Kuching still accept manual application. In fact, PKMB Kuching do provide counter services to assist applicants applying online.

The public are also encouraged to register their Sarawak ID as currently there are more than 60 Government online services accessible through the Sarawak ID including iSarawakCare.

This year alone, as of April 2023, we have received 2,285 applications manually and 1,954 online.

(vii) Program Sejambak Kasih

*Signature* program Kerajaan Sarawak di mana pada musim perayaan penerima bantuan bulanan JKMS diberi tambahan RM100 secara *one-off*. Pada tahun 2022, Kementerian telah membelanjakan RM5.5 juta dan setakat Mei 2023, sebanyak RM5.3 juta telah dibelanjakan untuk tujuan yang sama.

(viii) Pengurusan Bencana

*Angin berhembus sesayup bayu,  
Mentari merah di ufuk senja,  
Sarawak makmur Negeri maju,  
Rakyat sejahtera, kebajikan dijaga.*

Kerajaan GPS merupakan Kerajaan yang prihatin. Kerajaan yang sentiasa bersama rakyat lebih-lebih lagi ketika rakyat ditimpa musibah seperti bencana banjir, kebakaran, tanah runtuh, ribut dan kemarau. Sejumlah RM9.2 juta telah dibelanjakan bagi membantu 130,822 mangsa bencana.

Pada tahun 2022, JKMS telah membantu mangsa banjir seramai 74,534 mangsa dengan perbelanjaan sejumlah RM3.9 juta, mangsa kebakaran seramai 2,461 mangsa dengan perbelanjaan RM3.2 juta, mangsa kemarau seramai 52,223 mangsa dengan perbelanjaan sebanyak RM1.8 juta, mangsa ribut seramai 690 mangsa dengan perbelanjaan RM200,000, dan mangsa tanah runtuh seramai 914 mangsa dengan perbelanjaan sejumlah RM100,000.

Bagi tempoh Januari hingga April 2023, JKMS telah membelanjakan sejumlah RM3.5 juta untuk membantu 57,130 mangsa.

Untuk memantapkan kesiapsiagaan menghadapi bencana, JKMS menyediakan empat Depo Simpanan Keperluan Bencana di Samarahan (2), Kuching dan Miri; 16 buah stor bencana di PKMB dan Daerah; dan 27 Pangkalan Hadapan Bencana di seluruh Sarawak.

Berhubung dengan cadangan Ahli Yang Berhormat bagi Baleh bagi mewujudkan Pusat Kecemasan Bencana di kawasan beliau, Kementerian mengambil maklum hal ini dan akan mengadakan perbincangan dengan Jawatankuasa Pengurusan Bencana Negeri [*Sarawak Disaster Management Committee (SDMC)*] untuk meninjau kesesuaian bagi mewujudkan Pangkalan Hadapan Bencana.

(ix) Penamatan Bantuan Bulanan Kebajikan

Saya ingin merakamkan ucapan terima kasih kepada Ahli Yang Berhormat bagi Machan atas keprihatinan beliau berkaitan penamatan bantuan bulanan kebajikan JKMS di DUN Machan. Kementerian mendapati dalam kalangan 68 penerima yang telah ditamatkan bantuan tersebut adalah atas sebab berlakunya perubahan pendapatan isi rumah; tidak melaporkan diri dan gagal dikesan. Sukacita diingatkan bahawa mereka boleh memohon semula kepada Pejabat Kebajikan Masyarakat Daerah (PKMD) Kanowit.

(c) Perpaduan Perpaduan

Perpaduan dan integrasi adalah antara tunjang utama untuk mencapai kestabilan politik, kemampanan ekonomi dan keharmonian sosial sejajar dengan aspirasi PCDS 2030.

Perpaduan tidak datang bergolek. Ia perlu dipupuk secara sedar dan disemai dalam setiap ahli komuniti bermula dari usia dini. Untuk tujuan tersebut, Kementerian sejak 2020,

telah menganjurkan Program Randau Solidariti Komuniti dengan kolaborasi Jabatan Perpaduan Negara dan Integrasi Nasional Negeri Sarawak serta rakan-rakan strategik berkaitan dengan Majlis Pembangunan Sosial Sarawak.

Sebanyak 60 siri Randau telah dikendalikan dalam komuniti setempat yang terdiri daripada pelbagai kaum, etnik dan kumpulan umur. Pada tahun ini, Kementerian merancang untuk melaksanakan 30 siri lagi Program Randau Solidariti Komuniti dengan harapan, perpaduan dan solidariti dalam kepelbagaian kekal terpelihara di Bumi Kenyalang yang kita cintai ini.

Tuan Speaker, dalam konteks merealisasikan dasar “*Sarawak First*” atau “*Utamakan Sarawak*”, kestabilan politik di bawah kepimpinan YAB Premier, Datuk Patinggi Tan Sri (Dr.) Abang Haji Abdul Rahman Zohari bin Tun Datuk Abang Haji Openg yang berwawasan jauh, inovatif, dan kreatif dalam menambah pendapatan untuk Sarawak melalui *reengineering revenue*, kecekapan pengurusan dan tadbir urus yang telus dan berintegriti, dan penyantunan keperluan kebajikan rakyat Sarawak secara insani, *humanise* dan berpaksikan nilai ihsan, belas kasihan adalah pemangkin utama kepada pembangunan ekonomi yang lestari, pewujudan masyarakat berbilang bangsa, budaya, dan agama yang mapan, dan kelangsungan hidup yang berdigniti.

Sehubungan ini, kebersamaan semua pihak pemegang taruh dalam bidang politik, ekonomi dan sosiobudaya di Sarawak, dan kesepaduan sokongan politik dari Kerajaan Perpaduan di Putrajaya, adalah penting dan perlu diperjuang dan dipertahankan secara cekal dan berani.

Perpaduan, kebersamaan dan keterangkuman sama ada bersifat dalaman atau antara wilayah adalah amat kritikal kerana kesemuanya merupakan tunjang dan pemangkin teras kepada usaha:

- (a) melonjakkan kadar pembangunan infrastruktur;
- (b) memperkukuhkan penyediaan dan peningkatan kualiti kemudahan asas; dan
- (c) mempercepatkan pemulihan ekonomi – pasca dan melangkaui era COVID-19, untuk kewujudan yang berdigniti untuk semua.

Dalam kata lain, demi kelangsungan bangsa Malaysia yang berintegriti dan bermaruah, dan demi kemajuan dan kemakmuran Sarawak yang lestari dan mapan, sekarang adalah masa yang sangat sesuai untuk kita sama-sama menyemarakkan lagi semangat perpaduan dan perasaan sayangkan Negara, dan memupuk amalan hidup berteraskan prinsip-prinsip Rukun Negara.

Kita perlu menginsafi bahawa membina sebuah negara bangsa yang berjiwa besar, di mana semua rumpun bangsa dan suku kaum saling menghormati dan menghargai kepelbagaian, dan turut memiliki rasa sepunya, bukanlah mudah. Ia mengambil masa bergenerasi. Sarawak tidak terkecuali. Justeru, adalah menjadi tanggungjawab kita semua untuk memperkukuhkan iltizam melalui usaha strategik Kerajaan GPS dan komitmen politik Kerajaan Perpaduan.

Seruan Tuan Yang Terutama Yang di-Pertua Negeri Sarawak, sempena pembukaan Mesyuarat Pertama DUN Ke-19, agar “*Kerajaan Perpaduan dapat segera menyelesaikan tuntutan Sarawak selaras Perjanjian Malaysia 1963 (MA63), Laporan IGC, Perlembagaan Sarawak dan Perlembagaan Persekutuan*”, adalah sangat relevan.

*Devolution of Power (DOP)* berserta komitmen pentadbiran, penggubalan undang-undang dan penyaluran peruntukan yang diyakini akan mempercepatkan Sarawak mencapai status wilayah maju menjelang 2030, hendaklah diteruskan dan dipercepatkan.

Tuan Speaker, berkaitan dengan pengurusan hal-hal kebajikan rakyat di Sarawak, adalah perlu diketahui dan ingin saya tegaskan semula bahawa lanjutan daripada persetujuan Yang Amat Berhormat Perdana Menteri Malaysia dan Yang Amat Berhormat Ketua Menteri Sarawak pada 20 Januari 2016 untuk menurunkan beberapa kuasa pentadbiran hal-hal kebajikan kepada Kerajaan Negeri Sarawak. Surat Kelulusan Perjawatan (SKP) telah diterima pada 2 November 2016. Walau



bagaimanapun pada 5 Disember 2016, SKP ini telah ditangguhkan pelaksanaannya kerana melibatkan isu kewangan.

Pada 24 September 2022, permohonan untuk pelaksanaan pengambilalihan jawatan ini dibangkitkan semula dalam Mesyuarat Perhubungan Jabatan Perkhidmatan Awam Malaysia (JPA) bersama Kerajaan Negeri Sarawak. Sebagai langkah susulan, pada 16 Januari 2023, Kementerian Pembangunan Wanita, Kanak-Kanak dan Kesejahteraan Komuniti (KPWK) telah mengadakan kunjungan kehormat terhadap Yang Amat Berhormat Dato' Sri Haji Fadillah bin Haji Yusof, Timbalan Perdana Menteri yang dipertanggungjawabkan untuk menyelesaikan hal-hal tertunggak mengenai MA63, bagi menegaskan keperluan segera supaya pelaksanaan *Devolution of Power* (DOP) itu diteruskan secara konkrit. Ini adalah bagi memastikan penstrukturan semula, penyelarasan organisasi, pengurusan dan pentadbiran hal-hal kebajikan tidak lagi wujud keterpisahan di antara perkhidmatan Negeri dan Persekutuan, sama ada dari segi perjawatan, kewangan, atau personel.

*Yang kurik itu kendi,  
Yang merah itu saga,  
Yang cantik itu budi,  
Yang indah itu bahasa.*

Sebagai Menteri KWPK, saya ingin mengucapkan jutaan terima kasih kepada semua pegawai dan kakitangan KPWK, warga JKMS, dan warga JWKS, yang terus komited untuk menyantuni kumpulan sasar dalam merealisasikan aspirasi PCDS 2030. Saya ingin juga menzahirkan penghargaan khusus kepada wira-wira Kementerian yang jarang didendangkan komitmen, penglibatan dan pengorbanan mereka dalam menyantuni keperluan kebajikan rakyat secara insani dan berpaksikan nilai ihsan semasa berlakunya bencana seperti kebakaran, banjir, kemarau, tanah runtuh, atau semasa menyantuni pelbagai kes yang melibatkan keselamatan, kebajikan dan kesejahteraan rakyat. Jadi hari ini, saya terpanggil dalam Dewan Undangan Negeri ini untuk mengucapkan jutaan terima kasih kepada mereka.

Kementerian juga merakamkan setinggi-tinggi penghargaan kepada semua rakan strategik terdiri daripada agensi-agensi kerajaan, badan-badan swasta, NGO, pemimpin peringkat akar umbi dan orang perseorangan seperti yang kita senaraikan dan kita paparkan di atas skrin. Mereka ini telah banyak membantu dalam pelaksanaan pelbagai program dan aktiviti kami. Together, We Care for Sarawak. We Care We Share.

Saya juga ingin mengucapkan terima kasih kepada pihak kepimpinan dan pengurusan tertinggi Perkhidmatan Awam Sarawak yang diketuai oleh Yang Berhormat Setiausaha Kerajaan Negeri, Yang Arif Peguam Besar Negeri, dan Yang Berbahagia Setiausaha Kewangan Negeri, kerana telah memudahkan lagi Kementerian melaksanakan tadbir urus hal-hal berkaitan dengan kebajikan dan kesejahteraan rakyat secara cekap, telus dan berintegriti.

Saya ingin merakamkan ucapan tahniah kepada Tuan Speaker kerana seperti lazimnya, telah mengendalikan persidangan dengan cekap dan berhikmah.

Saya mewakili Kementerian mengucapkan Selamat Menyambut Hari Gawai Dayak 2023, *Gayu Guru Gerai Nyamai, Lantang Senang Ngitu Menoa*.

Saya dengan hormatnya menyokong penuh usul penghargaan atas ucapan Tuan Yang Terutama Yang di-Pertua Negeri.

**Tuan Speaker:** Ahli-ahli Yang Berhormat dengan hormatnya saya menjemput Yang Berhormat Dato Sri Prof. Dr. Sim Kui Hian, Timbalan Premier; dan Menteri Kesihatan Awam, Perumahan dan Kerajaan Tempatan untuk menyampaikan ucapan penggulungan.

**Timbalan Premier; dan Menteri Kesihatan Awam, Perumahan dan Kerajaan Tempatan (YB Dato Sri Prof. Dr. Sim Kui Hian):** Thank you very much Tuan Speaker. Tuan Speaker, first and

foremost, together with the other Ahli-ahli Yang Berhormat in this august House, I wish to record my sincere appreciation and thanks to Tuan Yang Terutama Yang di-Pertua Negeri Sarawak for his address during the opening of the First Meeting of the Second Session of the Nineteenth sitting of the Dewan Undangan Negeri Sarawak on 15<sup>th</sup> May 2023.

I would like to thank Yang Amat Berhormat Premier of Sarawak for also allocating funds to all agencies under my Ministry for various infrastructure and community services projects and to the Housing Development Corporation for the construction of affordable housing.

Tuan Yang Terutama Yang di-Pertua Negeri in his address, has reiterated on the importance of a strong and stable Government in spearheading the nation towards a prosperous stable nation especially for the betterment of Sarawak and this was achieved with Sarawak GPS unwavering support for the formation of a Unity Government at the Federal level. It is hoped that with the strong mandate and support from GPS, the Federal Government under YAB Dato' Seri Anwar Ibrahim will honour and resolve all of our demands as stated under MA63, IGC Report, Sarawak Constitution and Federal Constitution. Through all these demands, it is hoped that the Federal Government will continue to provide more funds and bring in more development to Sarawak, improve our healthcare services and facilities and excellence provision on educational facilities and development aside from elevating the quality of life of Sarawak people.

His Excellency also touches on the importance of proper decorum, respect and good rapport and collaborations amongst our multi-ethnic society which becomes the pillar of reference by others. This was very much reflected by the strong commitments shown by all the Ahli-ahli Yang Berhormat of this august House for their active participation in debating on his Excellency's address. The desires and voices of the *rakyat* as raised by the Ahli-ahli Yang Berhormat will be acted upon by the respective Ministries and agencies with actions and approaches to be taken to address all issues as addressed.

I also want to express my support to Sarawak Craft Council Bill, 2023 and I believe Sarawak Craft Council will definitely be able to make big impact on its existence in overcoming issues and challenges in the craft industry, including promoting, encouraging growth and preserving and conserving craft arts for all races in Sarawak.

I would also like to record my greatest appreciation to all Ahli-ahli Yang Berhormat who, during the course of their debates, either have commented or raised matters related to my Ministry as well as agencies and departments under my purview or watching brief. I will now proceed with my winding up speech and I will attempt to respond to issues raised by the Ahli-ahli Yang Berhormat.

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

Tuan Speaker, there are 28 agencies under my charge, namely, Department of Irrigation and Drainage Sarawak; Sewerage Services Department Sarawak; the Housing Development Corporation, the Borneo Development Corporation (Sarawak) Sdn. Bhd.; and 24 Local Authorities including MBKS. In addition to these State Departments and agencies, two Federal Departments are under my watching brief. They are the Sarawak State Health Department; and the Fire and Rescue Department Malaysia, Sarawak. We pledge to do our very best and are committed to continuously enhance our service delivery in order to improve the quality of life of the *rakyat*.

#### *Development Projects and Programmes under Local Authorities*

Tuan Speaker, for the information of the Ahli-ahli Yang Berhormat, in 2023, my Ministry was allocated RM108.577 million under the State Funding for the implementation of various projects by 24 Local Authorities. As 11<sup>th</sup> May 2023, RM2.508 million has been disbursed for 209 infrastructure projects such as road and drainage improvements; improvement of waterfronts; upgrading of markets; provision of street lighting; traffic lights; public toilets; public libraries; town and landscape

beautification; and also rural facilities and amenities. All the projects are at various stages of implementation by the various local authorities.

#### *Rural Transformation Projects (RTP)*

The Rural Transformation Projects (RTP) is one of the most imperative Sarawak Government initiatives in developing the rural areas by building public facilities and infrastructures for the rural communities. Under this initiative, the local authorities under my Ministry were allocated with RM127.5 million in 2022 comprising of 846 projects. To date, 439 projects were completed in 2022. The balance of 407 projects for 2022 are in various stages of implementation by the various local authorities. This month, the Sarawak Government has further approved a total of 728 projects to be implemented this year.

#### *Projek Rakyat*

From 2018 to 2022, the Sarawak Government has also approved 320 projects under *Projek Rakyat* with a total allocation of RM1.89 billion for my Ministry. To date 203 projects have been completed whereas 117 are at various stages of implementation. This year, another eight projects have been approved with a total value of RM254 million. These projects are implemented by DID Sarawak, JKR Sarawak, HDC and local authorities.

#### *Malaysia Road Record Information System (MARRIS)*

Road infrastructures are very important public assets. Regular programme of road maintenance is required to keep existing road in optimal conditions. This year, a total of RM297.8 million has been approved under the MARRIS for my Ministry to maintain council's roads including road furniture, road shoulders, roadside drains, etc. in the 24 local authorities' areas. As of 30<sup>th</sup> April 2023, RM95.1 million has been disbursed to the local authorities.

#### *BP1*

In 2023, a total of RM20.7 million has been allocated to the 26 Local Authorities in Sarawak to implement 65 minor public amenities, public facilities and infrastructure projects under BP1 by the Federal Ministry of Local Government Development (KPKT). It is under its various stages of implementation.

#### *Community Programs*

For this year, my Ministry has been allocated a grant of RM2 million to implement community programs by local authorities with the objectives to empower the local communities to be more productive, prosperous, and to create a more inclusive society in line with the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) No. 11 of the United Nation, which is for Sustainable Cities and Communities. To date, seven community programs have been completed while the Ministry is still evaluating the remaining 171 number of programs to be implemented by the local authorities.

#### *Waste Minimization*

In line with circular economy my Ministry together with local authorities, Education Department and the private sector will continue our effort to promote recycling activities and competition involving schools. In 2022, a total of 116 schools participated in this program; 73 schools from Southern Region and 43 schools from Central Region. We have collected a total of 330 tons of recyclable materials through this program. My Ministry will continue to organise this program to bring in more schools to participate.

*Human Resources of Ministry and Local Authorities*

Human resource is key to high performing organisation. For my Ministry and all local authorities, under the Ministry, efforts are on-going to recruit more personnel, in the right areas.

In order to address the gap in technical staff requirements for development projects, my Ministry has recruited 52 technical staff comprising Engineers and Assistant Engineers; Quantity Surveyor and Assistant Quantity Surveyors; and Assistant Landscape Architect. These new recruits have been deployed to the Ministry and to all District Councils.

My Ministry, together with the Public Services Commission, also continuously strive to ensure that career development of local authorities' staff is address adequately. This is crucial not only to motivate the deserving and qualified personnel but is also important to ensure smooth succession for local authorities.

*Digitalisation Of Services*

On digitalisation of local authority services, the Ministry has submitted through Sarawak Service Modernisation Unit (SSMU) proposals for further digitalisation of local authority services to the *rakyat* in the RMK-12 Mid Term Review.

Meanwhile, several digital systems were recently introduced including the Building Control System for submission and approval of building plans and iBuyBack by MBKS to encourage recycling among the community.

*Strata Management Ordinance 2019*

I would like to update this august House on the status of Strata Management Ordinance, 2019 (SMO 2019). As of 19<sup>th</sup> May 2023, there are 586 strata development approved and completed in Sarawak. Of these, 238 developments have been entered under the registry of the Land and Survey Department (L&S) Register as having a Management Corporation (MC) being established under Section 21 of Strata (Subsidiary Titles) Ordinance, 2019 (SSTO 2019). A total of 74 developments have successfully conducted their 1<sup>st</sup> AGM for the establishment of a Joint Management Body (JMB) to manage and maintain their strata development. All this 74 JMB has been registered with the Commissioner of Buildings (COB) under Section 18(2), SMO 2019. The remaining 274 strata development are still in the process of submitting the Strata Subdivision Plan (SSP) as required under Section 7, SMO 2019 before they can call for the 1<sup>st</sup> AGM of the JMB.

In view of the numerous requests for extension of time to call for the 1<sup>st</sup> AGM of the JMB, I would like to announce that all the remaining strata developments have until 31<sup>st</sup> December 2023 to call for the 1<sup>st</sup> AGM of the JMB. The COB will thereafter start to issue compound with effect from 1<sup>st</sup> January 2024 to any developers and strata developments which fail to set up the JMB. My Ministry will closely monitor this process.

**ISSUES RAISED BY AHLI-AHLI YANG BERTHORMAT**

*Electric Scooter*

For the information of Ahli Yang Berhormat for Tupong, my Ministry through Economic Planning Unit Sarawak (EPUS) has received an application from BEAM Mobility Malaysia for the creation of an alternative mode of transportation for the public in Kuching. A further engagement and discussion will be affected with BEAM Mobility Malaysia pertaining to the guidelines and safety measures for their operation including addressing the issue on licensing and permits involving JPJ and the local councils in the next few months.

*Taman Rekreasi Sebangkoi*

For the information of Ahli Yang Berhormat for Repok, the Sarikei District Council has implemented a project to upgrade the Sebangkoi Recreation Park, known as the Sebangkoi Forest Park, in 2022 with an allocation of RM100,000 through the Ministry of Finance's Special Allocation for the implementation of the “*Projek Jaminan Makanan, Pelancongan serta Pemeliharaan dan Pemuliharaan Alam Sekitar*” initiatives. In addition, the initiative to upgrade Sebangkoi Resort in Taman Rimba Sebangkoi has been planned to be implemented in RMK-12 with an estimated cost of RM500,000.

*Road/ Drainage System*

For the information of Ahli Yang Berhormat for Balingian, only Jalan Kampung Lintang, Jalan Kampung Tutus Hilir, Jalan Kampung Sungai Alo, Jalan Kampung Ragei, Jalan Kampung Kuala Balingian and Jalan SPS Sungai Alo roads are under the maintenance of Dalat and Mukah District Council.

As for Jalan SPS Sungai Alo, part of the earth drain has been upgraded to concrete drain using the allocation of the “*Project Mesra Rakyat*”, while another part is being upgraded using the allocation of RMK-12 and is expected to complete in July 2023.

The standard village road width allowed for maintenance under the MARRIS funding are those between 2.44 meters to 4.27 meters. Drainage system upgrading works will be carried out in stages depending on the amount of MARRIS approval allocation received by the council.

For the information of Ahli yang Berhormat for Tellian, Dalat and Mukah District Council does have a plan to upgrade and widen all the *kampong* roads under her jurisdiction. However, these upgrading works is subjected to the availability of fund.

For the information of Ahli Yang Berhormat for Machan, Kanowit District Council has discussed and engagement with the developers on the 2<sup>nd</sup> May 2023 on this issue. The developer through their contractor will carry out the road cleaning and road repair between now until the project completion before the overall upgrading work is carried out. Kanowit District Council will also continuously monitoring and will take action on any overloading or heavy vehicle that uses the roads at Kampung Muhibbah and SMK Kanowit area.

For the information of Ahli Yang Berhormat for Krian, in order to ensure that the feeder roads under jurisdiction of Saratok District Council is in good condition, maintenance works were carried out from time to time. For roads at Jalan Kawang Ng. Drau and Jalan Ulu Gerenjang, maintenance works were carried out in 2021, while for Jalan Sg. Jirak, and Jalan Rh. Machup and Jalan Rh Chenggie, the roads were maintained in 2022.

*Fisherman Park*

For the information of Ahli yang Berhormat for Batu Kitang, the project proposed for Persatuan Nelayan Darat Tourism at Kampung Paya Mebi, Kuching is currently in the process of appointment of consultant.

*Rental fees for utilities*

For the information of Ahli Yang Berhormat for Meradong, my Ministry is in the midst of finalizing the SOP and guidelines with regards to the wayleave and minimum permit charges to be imposed to utilities companies, agencies and services providers. During the engagement with MCMC and all the States in Malaysia in October 2022, it was found that Sarawak is the only State in Malaysia that did not charge for the permits or license fees for these utilities especially on telecommunication utilities. Currently, local council in Sarawak only imposed minimum processing fees of RM50 per

application on wayleave for utilities approval. The new processing fee for wayleave application has been approved in MMKN dated 25<sup>th</sup> August 2022 and will be enforced on the 6<sup>th</sup> June 2023.

Under the new fee structure for the wayleave, a security deposits of RM70,000 per agency yearly is required to be paid by service providers. This security deposit is used as a guarantee by the agency or service provider that the rectification works or reinstatement works affected by the laying of utilities cable or facilities are reinstated properly. A penalty of 25% will be imposed on the agency or service provider if reinstatement works are not carried out satisfactorily and shall be deducted from the security deposit.

#### *New Mukah Integrated Market & Supporting Facilities Project*

For the information of Ahli Yang Berhormat for Tullang, the proposed New Mukah Integrated Market & Supporting Facilities Project has been approved under Rajang Delta Development Agency (RADDA) and is currently in the process of appointment of consultant.

#### *Street Lighting (SOLAR)*

For the information of Ahli Yang Berhormat for Seremban, the Bau District Council will install five units of solar street lighting each at Kampung Tringgus, Kampung Segar, Jalan Simpang Kuda, Kampung Peninjau Baru/ Lama, Kampung Taman Krokong, Tokong Swee Guk Kung Siniawan, Kampung Kandis Baru and Jalan Skiat/ Simpang Kuda. This project will commence this year and is estimated to cost RM 312,500.

#### *Sibu Traffic Wardens*

For the information of Ahli Yang Berhormat for Bukit Assek, the appointment of 10 Traffic Warden for Sibu Municipal Council (SMC) is still pending gazette. The Ministry is also in the midst of seeking further authority from Ministry of Transport Malaysia for the delegation of full set of powers similar to those that are accorded to DBKU's traffic wardens.

#### *Machan Waterfront*

For the information of Ahli Yang Berhormat for Machan, the consultant of Waterfront Pekan Machan with an approved allocation of RM3 million is already appointed and now at early design stage.

#### *Kanowit District Council Office*

For the information of Ahli Yang Berhormat for Machan, the upgrading of Kanowit District Council Office is an approved project under RMK-12 with an allocation RM2.5 million. It is expected to commence this year.

#### *Housing*

Tuan Speaker, I will now deliberate on the subject matter of housing. For the information of Ahli-Ahli Yang Berhormat, housing is under the Concurrent List of the Federal Constitution. The funding of which is both from Federal Government and the Sarawak Government.

#### *Sarawak Government Funded Project*

Under RMK-12, 862 units of affordable housing and Rumah SPEKTRA Permata (RSP) undertaken by Housing Development Corporation (HDC) have been completed consisting of 504 units at Darul Hana 1A and 2A, 122 units of RSP Bunga Rampai, 110 units RSP Kemuyang, 26 units RSP SPK Lundu, 25 units RSP SPK Sematan, 10 units RSP SPK Lingga, 22 units RSP Igan, 20 units RSP SPK Tian, three units RMM Kampung Datu Baru and 20 units RSP SPK Majelin. Five

RMK-12 projects are currently on-going. These involve the construction of 468 units of affordable housing in Kuching, Betong, Miri and Limbang. In addition, HDC plans to implement 1,298 units of affordable housing in Sarawak for the next two years costing RM192.08 million.

*Federal Government Funded Project*

As previously reported in this august House in November 2022, the only ongoing Federal funded project is at PPR Seduan comprising of 461 single-storey terrace houses which is scheduled to complete in August 2023. For the information of this august House, this project is directly implemented by KPKT Malaysia.

My Ministry has also submitted six additional PPR sites on 21<sup>st</sup> February 2023 for consideration of the Federal Government and pending its approval. This particular request has been reiterated in my recent visit to KPKT Malaysia.

Tuan Speaker,

*Sarawak Rental Assistance Scheme (SRAS)*

Sarawak Rental Assistance Scheme (SRAS) was introduced in 2021 with an allocation of RM48 million to assist low-income group in mitigating the cost of living in major towns such as Kuching, Sibul, Bintulu and Miri. To date, the SRAS Selection Committee has approved 1,786 applications from Kuching, Miri, Sibul and Bintulu involving the lock amount of RM10 million.

For the information of Ahli-ahli Yang Berhormat in this august House, Government will ensure that those in needs will be assisted. Along with that vision, to expand the assistance, the Ministry has reviewed and improved the eligibility criteria for SRAS. The improvement is that the young working citizens who are single, aged 18 and above with monthly income of RM2,500 and below are now eligible to enjoy this assistance. Application for SRAS can be made through HDC.

*Housing Deposit and Repayment Assistance Scheme (HDRAS)*

The Sarawak Government in 2021 has introduced Housing Deposit Assistance Scheme (HDAS) initiative which was further enhanced in October 2022 and renamed as Housing Deposit and Repayment Assistance Scheme (HDRAS). This initiative provides financial assistance of 10% of the purchase price or RM10,000 whichever is lower, to the eligible applicants. This house upfront deposit payment is for first time home ownership under the housing schemes sanctioned by Sarawak Government. Any home buyer who is approved with a 100% financing from financial institution is also eligible for repayment assistance scheme of RM200 per month up to 48 months.

For this initiative, RM10 million has been allocated in 2022 and additional RM40 million in 2023 to Mutiara Mortgage & Credit Sdn. Bhd. (MUTIARA) which will benefit about 5,000 home buyers. To date, MUTIARA has received 713 applications of which 601 applications have been approved amounting to RM5 million.

*Longhouse Loan Scheme*

Tuan Speaker, I would like to inform the august House, since 1978 until 2023, the Longhouse Loan Scheme in Sarawak have benefited 1,048 longhouses comprising 23,038 doors. This involves an allocation of RM431.28 million consisting of RM231.28 million from Federal Government and RM200 million from Sarawak Government.

As the funding by the Federal Government is very limited, the additional funding from Sarawak Government has been introduced annually since 2020, by allocating RM50 million per year for long houses to expedite the transformation of the living environment in rural areas and to reduce the long

waiting list of longhouse loan application throughout Sarawak due to overwhelming application received.

To date, under the Sarawak Government funding, a total of RM139.08 million has been disbursed which benefiting 216 longhouses consisting of 4,688 doors. In 2023, 63 longhouses consisting of 1,299 doors have been approved and pending disbursement. Currently, there are 261 longhouses consisting of 5,150 doors in the waiting list.

*Mutiara Mortgage & Credit Sdn.Bhd.*

To address the end-financing problem affecting low-income group (B40) and middle income group (M40) home buyers, the Sarawak Government through MUTIARA has approved 1,382 applications involving financial allocation of RM83 million. To date, out of these approved applications, a total of RM50 million has been disbursed to 1,003 house buyers at an annual interest of 1% for B40 and 3% for M40.

**ISSUES RAISED BY AHLI-AHLI YANG BERTHORMAT**

*Rumah SPEKTRA Permata (RSP)*

For the information of Ahli Yang Berhormat for Balingian, HDC will implement 22 units of Rumah SPEKTRA Permata (RSP) to replace the implementation of Rumah Mesra Rakyat at Skim Pembesaran Kampung (SPK) Balingian Baru Phase 1, RGC Balingian. The implementation of RSP SPK Balingian Baru Phase 1 has been approved under RMK-12 with ceiling allocation amounting of RM7.8 million. However, the ceiling allocation is not sufficient for the development of proposed 22 units of RSP at SPK Balingian Baru Phase 1.

HDC has requested new allocation amounting to RM9.8 million and has been approved on March this year. The tender document for building and infrastructure works is ready for tender. Tender advertisement will be published end of this month.

For the information of Ahli Yang Berhormat for Serembu, the development of any affordable housing is subject to the availability of suitable land. My Ministry through HDC has no plan to implement affordable housing in Serembu Constituency due to unavailability of HDC's land in the area.

However, Ahli Yang Berhormat for Serembu can request to Land and Survey Department (L&S) to implement program *Skim Penempatan Semula (SPS)* or *Skim Pembesaran Kampung (SPK)* in which, under the program of RSP affordable housing can be built on SPS or SPK residential lot.

For information of Ahli-ahli Yang Berhormat for Lingga and Tanjong Datu, *Rumah SPEKTRA Permata (RSP)* affordable housing program implemented by HDC, on *Skim Pembesaran Kampung (SPK)* and *Skim Penempatan Semula (SPS)* residential lots is only applicable to those applicants, under the eligibility criteria as approved by Land & Survey. Any single individual aged 30 years and above, with dependents will be considered to own *Rumah Mampu Milik (RMM)* by HDC in any of the housing programs excluding RSP at *Skim Pembesaran Kampung (SPK)* and *Skim Penempatan Semula (SPS)*.

For the information of Ahli Yang Berhormat for Tanjong Datu, RSP affordable housing selling price are ranging from RM90,000 to RM160,000 per unit, to suit the affordability of the low-income group. In addition, successful applicants can also enjoy other financial assistances such as low interest rate of 1% for B40 and 3% for M40 offered by Mutiara Mortgage & Credit Sdn. Bhd. (MUTIARA) and Sarawak Housing Deposit and Repayment Assistance Scheme (HDRAS) amounting to RM10,000.



For the information of Ahli Yang Berhormat for Beting Maro, planning application for the re-development of Rancangan Perumahan Rakyat (RPR) Pusa Phase 1 involving 30 units of Rumah SPEKTRA Permata (RSP), was submitted to Land and Survey Department (L&S) Betong Division on 3rd April 2023 for approval.

#### **ABANDONED HOUSING PROJECTS**

Tuan Speaker, on the issue of delayed or abandoned housing projects raised by Ahli Yang Berhormat for Padungan, I wish to inform this august House that the Sarawak Government is always concern about the right and interest of house purchasers affected by such delayed or abandoned housing projects.

For the information of this august House, before the Minister of Housing exercise his power under Section 27 of Housing Development (Control and Licensing) Ordinance 2013 [Cap.69] he must consider the number of factors such as financial obligation, legal implication as well as the status of the land and other encumbrances.

For the information of Ahli Yang Berhormat for Padungan, my Ministry has been monitoring the progress of Taman Sri Kenyalang. The project is 90% completed pending the completion of infrastructure for issuance of Road Certificate and Occupation Permit.

As such, at the advice of the Controller of Housing no Ministerial intervention under Section 27 of the Ordinance is required.

#### *Longhouse Loan Scheme*

For the information of Ahli Yang Berhormat for Engkilili, the application for longhouse loan shall be submitted to HDC complete with the necessary documentation for processing. This application will then be submitted to the selection committee for consideration and approval which is subjected to availability of fund. As 3<sup>rd</sup> March 2023, there are four longhouses consisting of 53 doors from DUN Engkilili which has been approved by the Longhouse Selection Committee. As previously reported by me, there are also 261 longhouses consisting of 5,150 doors still in the waiting list and I believe this include the application from Tuai Rumah Ensudin Tisak, Lidong.

#### **DEPARTMENT OF IRRIGATION AND DRAINAGE SARAWAK (DID)**

Tuan Speaker, DID is a Sarawak Government agency. However, the development projects are funded by both Federal and Sarawak Government under the Concurrent List of the Federal Constitution. In March 2023, the Federal Government has officially recognised the Department of Irrigation and Drainage Sarawak (DID Sarawak) and Sarawak Public Works Department (JKR Sarawak) as the Technical Department in Malaysia in accordance with AP182. With such a recognition, DID Sarawak had been given the authority to administer Federal development projects worth up to RM50 million.

#### **STATE FUNDED PROJECTS**

##### *Urban Drainage and Flood Mitigation Program*

For the information of Ahli-ahli Yang Berhormat in this august House, in our effort to alleviate flooding problems, Sarawak Government has allocated RM17.868 million in 2023 for the implementation of numerous urban drainage and flood mitigation projects.

##### *Urban Drainage*

There are three urban drainage improvement projects and one hydrographic survey works. The drainage improvement works at Kampung Jeriah Sibul (Phase 2) was completed in August

2022. Two other approved drainage improvement works which are in Kubong, Limbang and Taman Desa Ilmu, Kota Samarahan are currently in the design stage and planning stage respectively.

*Flood Mitigation*

There are five flood mitigation projects namely Rancangan Tebatan Banjir (RTB) Sibu (Phase 4), RTB Bintulu (Phase 2), RTB Miri (Phase 2), RTB Sg Semariang as well as Drainage Improvement Works at Jalan Datuk Amar Kalong Ningkan and Jalan Datuk Tawi Sli, all of which are under detailed design.

*Rural Transformation Projects (RTP)*

In 2023, the Department has been allocated with RM75.967 million for the implementation of 456 RTP projects in various divisions. These projects are currently under the planning stage.

**SARAWAK GOVERNMENT ALTERNATIVE FUNDING INITIATIVES**

*Sri Aman Development Authority (SADA)*

Tuan Speaker, for the information of Ahli - Ahli Yang Berhormat, the Sarawak Government has allocated RM68.0 million for 10 flood mitigation and drainage improvement projects in Sri Aman Division under SADA. All the 10 projects are in various stages of implementation, four of which under flood mitigation for Kejamut areas are expected to commence physically in June 2023.

*Integrated Regional Samarahan Development Agency (IRSDA)*

IRSDA was formed to focus on the development of infrastructure, human talent, and smart agriculture in Samarahan Division. I am happy to inform this august House that Yang Amat Berhormat Premier of Sarawak has approved a ceiling of RM24.806 million for the Department to implement four projects under the scope of flood mitigation, drainage improvement and masterplan studies in the area. Drainage Improvement Works at SK Muara Tuang, Samarahan is in completion stage pending for CPC recommendation by consultant. As for flood mitigation works for Taman Samarindah, Samarahan is still in design stage. The other two drainage masterplan studies for Samarahan, Simunjan and Gedong are all in finalization stage.

**FEDERAL FUNDED PROJECTS**

*Hydrology and Water Resources*

Tuan Speaker, for a sustainable water resource planning in Sarawak, the Department is continuing to expand the hydrological network, to carry out water balance study and to establish flood forecasting and warning system.

Under the National Hydrological Network Program, the Department will set up 12 new hydrological stations and upgrade 76 existing hydrological stations throughout Sarawak at the cost of RM9.1 million. The project is expected to complete in June 2023.

On the approved installation of a flood forecasting and warning system at Sungai Sarawak and Batang Rejang with a total project cost of RM34.2 million, I would like to update this august House that DID Malaysia in Kuala Lumpur will be calling for tender by the third quarter of this year.

*Flood Mitigation*

For the information of Ahli-Ahli Yang Berhormat, Federal Government has allocated RM14.698 million in 2023 for five flood mitigation projects. Out of these five projects, two are currently under design stage, one at the tender stage while the other two namely RTB Sibu Fasa 3

with a project cost of RM84 million has achieved physical progress of 95% and scheduled for completion by the third quarter of this year. As for RTB Sungai Stakan Kuching is now under construction stage and expected to complete by first quarter of next year.

On the update of *Pelan Induk Saliran Mesra Alam*, (PISMA) studies, I would like to inform this august House that the PISMA Limbang was completed in December 2022. The studies for PISMA Sri Aman and Lawas are expected to complete by end of this year.

#### ISSUES-ISSUES RAISED BY AHLI-AHLI YANG BERTHORMAT

##### *Technical Agency*

For the information of Ahli Yang Berhormat for Daro, DID Sarawak is officially formed in 1967. Since then, the department is actively carrying out restructuring exercise, with the first major restructuring endeavour in 2019. This restructuring exercise is necessary due to the increasing number of development projects especially in the rural areas.

For the information of Ahli Yang Berhormat for Daro, there are five civil engineers and 24 assistant engineers stationed in DID Mukah Division. Out of these, 3 civil engineers and 3 assistant engineers are tasked to oversee the planning and implementation of projects for Daro. On top of that, there are six *Pembantu Kemahiran* stationed in Daro to supervise the projects. The Department is planning to create DID district office in Daro and adding officers to man the project there.

##### *Nanga Singat and Sungai Lengan*

For the information of Ahli Yang Berhormat for Daro, *Kementerian Kemajuan Desa dan Wilayah* (KKDW) has appointed DID Sarawak as the implementing agency for *Projek Membina Jalan Rh Jingga, David Multifarm, Rh. Seli, Rh Guang, SK Singat, Sg Lengan, Sibul, Sarawak* amounting to RM70.0 million under RMK-11 Rolling Plan 4. The design and tender documentation for this project has been completed. However, the Department was instructed by Kementerian Kemajuan Desa dan Wilayah (KKDW) to postpone the procurement for this project until further notice.

For the information of Ahli Yang Berhormat for Machan, under the RMK-11 Rolling Plan 4, RM40 million has been approved for project Jalan Menalun – Sg. Poi, Kanowit, Bahagian Sibul, Sarawak (*Fasa 3*) with the project scope of 5.3 kilometres length JKR R3 road and one concrete bridge. However, during initial design stage, this allocation is found to be insufficient to cover the whole scopes. Upon design review, even with the reduced scope of 3.63 kilometres length JKR R1 road, an additional RM6.1 million is needed to complete the project. The Department has submitted this additional project ceiling increase the Ministry but pending approval. The remaining alignment connecting Rh. Sait, Rh. Linda, SK Ulu Poi, Rh. Gani until Rh. Tarang has been put up under RMK-12 Rolling Plan 4.

##### *Flash Floods*

For information of Ahli-ahli Yang Berhormat in this august House, during the *Landas* season from November to March, natural phenomenon of river flooding occurred due to widespread and prolonged heavy rainfall causing riverbanks to overflow, and existing drainage systems could not cope.

Department of Irrigation and Drainage Sarawak (DID), through its *Pusat Ramalan dan Amaran Banjir* recorded 70 localised areas in major urban areas in Sarawak that are currently suffering from annual recurring flash flooding with flood depth ranging from 0.3 meter to 1.2 meter.

At this point of time, when the entire world is experiencing the devastating impacts of climate change and extreme weather conditions is indeed very timely and appropriate. As everyone in this august House knows, experiences, and can even feel and see with our naked eyes, the climate

change is already happening and it is here to stay as can be seen by many significant “*tell-tale signs*” such as increased in global average surface temperature by about 0.6°C since in 1900 Rise in sea level by about 1cm per decade, Precipitations has increased particularly as intense rainfall leading to more frequent and severe flooding’s, El Nino events have become more common and more intense and the recent unexpected floods that we’re experiencing currently.

For the information of Ahli Yang Berhormat for Padungan, regarding the implementation of project *Pembangunan Lembangan Sungai Bersepadu (PLSB) Sungai Sarawak* was delayed due to various factors in DID Malaysia including changes to the procurement method from direct negotiation to open tender by the Federal Government. To date, out of RM150 million allocated, DID Sarawak only received RM6.9 million for land acquisition. The RM150 million allocations as claimed by Ahli Yang Berhormat for Padungan to be there all this while were in fact never received by DID Sarawak. During my recent working visit to the Yang Berhormat Tuan Nik Nazmi bin Nik Ahmad, Minister for Natural Resource, Environment and Climate Change, he explained and graciously apologised for the various Federal changes in the procurement process, which resulted in the delay on the PLSB implementation. He promised to bring the Notice of Change (NOC) to the Minister for Economy in their Federal cabinet meeting.

For the information of Ahli Yang Berhormat for Padungan, the drainage improvement works at Taman Durian Burung is included under the PLSB Sg. Sarawak project under the component of Proposed Flood Mitigation Works at Federal Quarters.

As for the drainage improvement works at Taman Happy Valley, the proposal has been submitted for funding to the Federal Government under the RMK-12 Rolling Plan 4 and also to the Sarawak Government under the RMK-12 Mid Term Review.

For the information of Ahli Yang Berhormat for Bawang Assan and Bukit Assek, *Rancangan Tebatan Banjir (RTB) Sibu* is based on the Urban Drainage Masterplan Study for Sibu Town 1998.

The first two phases had been successfully completed and in full operation since 2012. Currently, Phase 3 of the RTB Sibu with a project cost of RM84 million has achieved physical progress of 95% and is scheduled for completion by the third quarter of this year.

In view of the urgency to mitigate flooding and to provide a conducive and safe living condition for the Sibu people, the Sarawak Government has approved the Phase 4 of RTB Sibu costing RM120 million. The project is currently in detailed design stage before tender.

RTB Sibu Phase 5 shall be implemented to complete the loop of the flood mitigation bund link as identified in the Master Plan. The Department has submitted this proposal of RM469 million for the approval of the Federal Government under the RMK-12 Rolling Plan 4.

For the information of Ahli Yang Berhormat for Tanjong Batu, in 2018, BDA appointed a consultant to carry out the “*Stormwater Management and Urban Drainage Master Plan Study for Bintulu Town*” with the objective of formulating comprehensive solutions to the flooding problems in the town and recommend short terms to long terms drainage improvement works.

The study identified that the flash flood in Bintulu is mainly due to inadequate or undersized drainage as well as heavy rainfalls occurring concurrently with king tide.

The study recommends the solution for flash flood issue in Bintulu through short term, intermediate and long-term plans with an estimated cost of RM514 million. The realization of the short term, intermediate and long-term plans will be a collaboration of efforts between DID Sarawak and BDA.

RTB Bintulu Fasa II with the scheme value of RM250 million was approved with RMK-12 ceiling of RM4.8 million to Drainage and Irrigation Department (DID) Sarawak. It comprises of RTB Taman

Jason, RTB Sekolah Jenis Kebangsaan Sebieuw Chinese, RTB Traffic Police Station and dredging of Sungai Sebieuw. The detailed design is expected to be completed by middle of 2023. Its physical implementation will only be carried out upon the successful relocation of the squatters along the river bank of Sungai Sebieuw.

DID Sarawak has been appointed as the implementing agency for *Projek Khas Banjir* Bintulu with an allocation of RM58 million under RMK-12 for the implementation of 12 projects. Out of these, 10 projects have been completed and the remaining two projects that are RTB di Sungai Sepegang, Bintulu, RTB for Kampung Assyakirin are in various stages of implementation.

## SEWERAGE SERVICES DEPARTMENT (SSD)

### *Urban Sewerage*

Tuan Speaker, SSD is another one of our agencies which is implementing projects funded by both the Sarawak Government and the Federal Government under the concurrent list. I will now update the 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. The works is divided into two packages. Package A involves the installation of public sewer network and property connections. Package B involves the construction of a centralised sewage treatment plant with a 50,000 population equivalents sewage treatment process module. Package B has been fully completed in November 2020. However, the completion of Package A is delayed due to severe unfavourable underground soil conditions encountered at a depth of about 15 meters for a stretch of about 50 of the trunk sewers near to Sg. Miri crossing at Tudan area. The Department has attempted to implement temporary solution to commission the system but has to abandon it due to worsening condition on site. The Department is now working on a permanent solution by realigning the sewer away from the failed section. The length of the proposed realignment is 193 meters. The Department targets to complete the permanent solution and to commence the property connections within the next nine months.

In 2022, the Federal Government has also approved and allocated fund to commence Miri Centralised Sewerage System Phase 2 with a scheme value of RM450 million. This Phase 2 will further increase the coverage of the centralised sewerage system in Miri. The Department has finalised its procurement of the design consultancy services. Physical works is scheduled to commence by the fourth quarter of 2024.

Kuching Centralized 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 20<sup>th</sup> July 2024. To date, the project has achieved 74% completion. The contractor has implemented a catch-up plan and managed to reduce the delay caused by the general shortage of manpower and exceptionally hard underground rock layer. Currently, the delay is about 5%. The project is now targeted to be completed in the third quarter of 2024.

Kuching Centralised Sewerage System Package 3 is another Federal Government funded project, which has an approved scheme value of RM382 million. The Value Assessment Lab conducted by the Federal Economic Planning Unit for this project has been completed. The project is now in the procurement stage. Physical works is expected to commence in 2024.

Tuan Speaker, under the RMK-11, the Federal Government has approved a total of RM60 million to build four additional septic sludge treatment plants in Sarawak to serve the towns of Betong,

Sarikei, Kapit and Limbang. The design and tender documentation for all these four plants has been completed. Unfortunately, these four projects were put on hold by the Federal Government in 2018.

The Federal Government has re-activated the Sarikei and Betong projects this year. Tender for these two projects will be called soon and physical works is expected to start within the fourth quarter of this year.

The Department has applied again under the Rolling Plan 4 for 2024 for the remaining two projects to be re-activated. The Department is continuously communicating with Federal Ministry of Natural Resources, Environment and Climate Change on this. Once completed and commissioned, these facilities will improve the treatment efficiency of the individual septic tanks and the small package plants in our smaller towns. This will lessen the discharge of pollutant load to our streams and rivers.

## SARAWAK STATE HEALTH DEPARTMENT

### *Health Services*

Tuan Speaker, I will now proceed to update on the health services provided by Sarawak State Health Department, one of the Federal departments under my watching brief.

As of 26<sup>th</sup> April 2023, Sarawak State Health Department has received RM1.278 billion of operating funds and RM208.87 million of development funds from the Federal Ministry of Health Malaysia (MOH) to be used for operational expenses, human capital development, minor upgrading as well as repair on health facilities, hospital and clinic support services as well as medical equipment procurement. As of 31<sup>st</sup> March 2023, there are 26,537 Government healthcare personnel including 2,932 on contract basis serving in Sarawak against 27,462 approved posts.

### *Development Projects*

As at 25<sup>th</sup> April 2023, the overall physical progress of Petra Jaya Hospital is 55.62% and is now scheduled to complete in November 2024.

As at 25<sup>th</sup> April 2023, the physical progress of the construction of an additional block in Miri Hospital is 58.25% and is now scheduled to complete in April 2024.

For the new Lawas Hospital, as at 25<sup>th</sup> April 2023, the physical progress is 25.90% and is now scheduled to complete in December 2024.

I am pleased to update this august House that the operation of this physically completed Nanga Kemalih Health Clinic, Sarikei (Type 6), is subjected to the completion of the rectification works.

Bandaraya Miri Health Clinic (Type 2) was physically completed in December 2022. It is currently in the process of obtaining approval for the passenger lift from the Department of Occupational Safety and Health.

Siburan Health Clinic (Type 3) is now expected to complete next month. As at 25<sup>th</sup> April 2023, the physical progress is 94.92%.

### *Field Hospitals*

Sarawak Government is contributing RM6.1 million towards the building of a 88-bed Field Hospital at Sarawak General Hospital and a 100-bed Field Hospital at Miri Hospital. These Field Hospitals shall be utilized to accommodate COVID-19 patients and thereafter. In the future, these facilities can be expanded and utilized as infectious disease ward or day care centre. The construction of Field Hospital at Miri Hospital has commenced since November 2022. As at 25<sup>th</sup> April

2023 the overall physical progress of Field Hospital at Miri is 55.00% and is now scheduled to complete in August 2023. Field Hospital at Sarawak General Hospital is currently under tender the process.

### *COVID-19 and COVID-19 Vaccination Programme*

I wish to update this august House on the current situation of COVID-19 pandemic in Sarawak. As of 13<sup>th</sup> May 2023, a total of 326,012 COVID-19 cases with 1,792 deaths due to COVID-19 were reported in Sarawak, since the first reported case on 13<sup>th</sup> March 2020.

The disease is generally showing a declining trend and the State's economy activities have also returned to normal norms. This year 2,411 cases were reported from Epid Week 1 until Epid Week 19, 2023 which ended on 13<sup>th</sup> May 2023 as compared to 53,623 cases reported during the same period last year.

However, the disease is showing an increasing trend in the recent four (4) weeks. The Federal Ministry of Health has also announced the existence of a new sub-variant of COVID-19 which is Arcturus or known as XBB1.16, a sub-variant of the Omicron variant. A total of six (6) Arcturus cases have been detected in Sarawak.

Until 13<sup>th</sup> May 2023, there were a total of nine deaths caused by COVID-19 this year, resulting in a mortality rate of 0.31 per 100,000 populations, compared to the 167 death cases and mortality rate of 5.41 per 100,000 populations reported in 2022.

The utilization rate of Intensive Care Units (ICUs) for COVID-19 cases has exhibited a downward trend when compared to the previous year, with a utilization rate of 1.67% from Epid Week 14 to Epid Week 17 this year. However, there was a slight increase in Epid Week 18 to 2.86% and Epid Week 19 to 3.33%.

The high awareness on the importance of public health measures as well as the high acceptance of vaccines among the people of Sarawak have contributed to and helped control the situation of the spread of the COVID-19 infection in Sarawak. As of 13<sup>th</sup> May 2023, 2,433,859 people or about 86.2% of Sarawak population have been fully vaccinated with 2 doses. This comprises 1,908,191 people aged 18 and above, 265,318 people aged between 12 to 17 and 260,350 people aged between 5 to 11.

Sarawak has administered the first booster dose to 1,593,751 people out of 2,433,859 who have completed their primary doses of COVID-19 vaccines (including children) which is 65.48%. As of 13<sup>th</sup> May 2023, 100,952 eligible populations have received the second booster dose.

It is vital that the public continues to practice personal hygiene, wear masks in crowded areas, and take the booster dose of COVID-19 vaccination as the virus may still continue to mutate and spread in the community.

In addition, Sarawakians are encouraged to continue the spirit of solidarity during COVID-19 pandemic, include practicing TRIIS, which is Test, Report, Isolate, Inform and Seek, in case of experiencing symptoms or infection of COVID-19. Public is encouraged to visit private or public medical facilities for assessment of suitability for oral antiviral drug Paxlovid as early as possible if positive as the drug is most effective if taken within 3 days of positive.

We must remain vigilant and continue our efforts to combat COVID-19 pandemic.

### *Rabies*

Tuan Speaker, I would also provide an update on the situation of rabies in Sarawak. Since 1<sup>st</sup> July 2017 until 13<sup>th</sup> May 2023, Sarawak State Health Department has received a staggering total

of 79,452 animal bite reports. Out of these cases, 30,110 were classified as high-risk and have been vaccinated accordingly. This year alone, a total of 4,807 animal bites were reported with an average of 253 cases per week of 36 cases per day. The number of human rabies cases is alarming. There have been 66 cases of human rabies, with 11 cases reported in 2023 until 13<sup>th</sup> May alone, compared with 14 cases in 2022 and 10 cases in the whole of 2021. There are only seven (7) survivors, including two (2) in 2023 from the human rabies. We recognize the gravity of this situation and are doing everything in our power to curb the spread of this deadly disease. Currently, there are 31 post-bite clinics with anti-rabies vaccines set up to deal with this situation. We have also conducted continuous awareness talks and distributed brochures to the community to empower them with knowledge of prevention and control the spread of rabies.

I would like to emphasize that Sarawak can be declared rabies-free if we can remain free of animal and human rabies for a period of at least two (2) consecutive years. I would like to remind Ahli-ahli Yang Berhormat that the World Health Organization (WHO) has set a target of eliminating rabies globally by the year 2030. We are committed to achieving this goal and will continue our effort to eradicate rabies in Sarawak. It is our collective responsibility to work together towards achieving this goal.

### *Dengue*

Malaysia is experiencing nationwide increase in the number of dengue cases, with Sarawak ranking number 11<sup>th</sup> out of 13<sup>th</sup> lowest the country. As of 13<sup>th</sup> May 2023, 267 dengue cases were reported in Sarawak compared to 207 cases over the same period in 2022, an increase of 29%. Sarawak State Health Department will continue to work closely with other non-health agencies in Sarawak to further reduce and prevent dengue cases.

## ISSUES RAISED BY AHLI-AHLI YANG BERTHORMAT

### *Specialist Doctor*

For the information of Ahli Yang Berhormat for Daro, the provision of resident specialised care for Daro Hospital is in the strategic planning of the Department. As to date, Daro Hospital is a non-specialist hospital hence no specialist post is allocated there. Once the Bed Occupancy Rate and workload for the related specialist services have increased, the Department will consider allocating permanent specialists in Daro Hospital.

In the meantime, Daro Hospital is receiving visiting specialists from Sibu Hospital on a regular basis to provide specialised care to patients. This is in line with the implementation of Central Cluster Hospital Sarawak.

For the information of Ahli Yang Berhormat for Kalaka, the Department has submitted a proposal to upgrade the facilities of Saratok Hospital via RMK13 and BP6. Under BP6 allocation in 2023, Saratok Hospital received RM445,000 for upgrading works pertaining to the Fire Safety System and related works, as well as RM60,000 for upgrading Dietary and Serving Unit.

For the information of Ahli Yang Berhormat for Kalaka, the provision of resident specialised care for Saratok Hospital is in the strategic planning of the Department. Once the Bed Occupancy Rate (BOR) and workload for Obstetrics and Gynaecology (O&G) has increased, the Department will consider allocating a permanent O&G specialist in Saratok Hospital. To date, the average BOR for O&G Saratok Hospital for January till March 2023 is 2.6%. In the meantime, Saratok Hospital is receiving visiting specialists from Sarikei Hospital on a regular basis to provide specialised care to patients. This is in line with the implementation of Eastern Cluster Hospital Sarawak.



*Health Clinics*

For the information of Ahli Yang Berhormat for Daro, Daro Health Clinic has an approved project ceiling of RM35 million under RMK11. Phase 2 of the project involving the construction of Type 4 health clinic is currently at the design stage. At the moment, JKR Malaysia is in the process of converting the design drawing into Building Information Modelling (BIM) system after they received comments and approval from Fire and Rescue Department Malaysia Headquarter, Putrajaya. The Public Works Department (PWD) Sarawak will call the tender once the design has been finalised.

For the information of Ahli Yang Berhormat for Bukit Semuja, the department main priority is to provide health services for Triboh communities. Hence, the immediate solution to this matter is by renting shop lot. In future, a new Type 5 clinic will be proposed under RMK14. A land has been acquired for this since 1982.

As for the Tebakang Health Clinic, this facility will undergo repairing works this year. This project has been granted under *Klinik Daif* budget earlier this year with an amount of RM 700,000.

For the information of Ahli Yang Berhormat for Balingian, the proposed repair works for Kampung Teh Health Clinic, Kuala Balingian Health Clinic, Balingian Health Clinic and Sesok Health Clinic in DUN Balingian have been submitted to the Federal Ministry of Health in January 2023 with a total estimated cost of RM1.65 million. The proposed scope includes repairs to building, roof, gutter, walls, plumbing and internal wiring. The Department has been undertaking minor repairs and upgrading works for these four clinics in the last five years.

Further improvements were made through the expansion of support services such as the development of a laboratory unit in 2018 and one assistant pharmacist was stationed at the Balingian Health Clinic in 2021.

As for the Balingian Health Clinic's quarters, the repair works to staff quarters were completed under the annual minor repairs fund in 2018.

For the information of Ahli Yang Berhormat for Tamin, as of May 2023, the workforce in Selangau Health Clinic has been increased to one family medicine specialist and six medical officers who can handle up to 180 patients per day. Currently, the average attendance is 100 patients per day. Sarawak Health Department will continue to monitor the workload to ensure the health needs in the area are met.

As for the Haemodialysis Unit at Selangau Health Clinic, the current physical progress is at 76.13% and is expected to be completed by the end of this year.

For the information of Ahli Yang Berhormat for Tellian, currently Mukah Hospital has 11 Medical Officers (MO), 51 staff nurses and 26 community nurses. From January to March 2023, the hospital has an average Bed Occupancy Rate (BOR) of 27.42%. Therefore, the workforce is sufficient at the moment.

The Federal Ministry of Health has planned to upgrade the status of Mukah Hospital from a non-specialist to a minor specialist hospital, where more nursing posts will be created with this proposed upgrading. The application to acquire two units of ultrasound machines to replace existing one has been submitted to the Federal Ministry of Health for approval.

For the information of Ahli Yang Berhormat for Tellian also, the Department has a plan to develop a new Type 2 Health Clinic in Mukah District. A suitable site for the planned clinic has been identified and is currently under the land pre-acquisition stage.

For the information of Ahli Yang Berhormat for Opar, the Department has proposed a type 4 Health Clinic with Quarters in Biawak, Lundu under the RMK-12 Rolling Plan 4.

As for Stungkor Health Clinic, the current number of referrals for imaging service is low. Hence, there is no immediate plan to expand the imaging service to this Clinic. The Department will continuously monitor the need of this service. As for the request of a new ambulance for this clinic, the procurement process is still on-going at the Federal Ministry of Health.

For the information of Ahli Yang Berhormat for Baleh, the Department has been continuously looking at the health needs in rural areas of Sarawak including Baleh area. Plans are in place to upgrade and improve the facilities via *Klinik Daif* budget to improve the physical structures and Medical Equipment Enhancement Tenure (MEET) project to improve the medical equipment in rural clinics. The Department also focuses on human resource distribution and capacity building to ensure the healthcare provision in rural areas is not compromised.

To improve the capacity of health workforce competencies to handle emergency cases and disaster, focus has been put on capacity building and training on management of emergencies and disaster.

The Department is continuously looking at the needs to improve all health facilities including Baleh area. Nanga Gaat Health Clinic solar hybrid project worth RM2.3 million has been carried out in 2021 to provide 24 hours electric supply for this clinic. This year, two projects have been approved to be carried out. The two projects are maintenance of Entawau Health Clinic facility building worth RM100,000 and repair and upgrade of Nanga Gaat Health Clinic quarters worth RM200,000 under 2023 development budget.

For the information of Ahli Yang Berhormat for Kabong, the Department has no plan to build new clinics in Roban and Nyabor. However, this year, Nyabor Health Clinic and the quarters will undergo some repair works.

With regards to the proposal by Ahli Yang Berhormat for Kabong to build a new block in Kabong Health Clinic to cater for the advisor board office, senior citizen activity centre and a *surau*, the Department will liaise further on the details with Ahli Yang Berhormat for Kabong. The Department will carry out a feasibility study to set up a haemodialysis centre in Kabong Health Clinic.

For the information of Ahli Yang Berhormat for Engkilili, the Skrang Health Clinic will undergo repair work this year with an estimated cost of RM200,000 under *Klinik Daif* budget.

The construction work to replace Skrang Health Clinic quarters which was affected by Pan Borneo Highway is currently on-going. The physical progress is currently at 95.85%.

For the information of Ahli Yang Berhormat for Beting Maro, the Federal Ministry of Health aims to optimize the services provided by upgrading existing Health Clinics according to the current health needs in an area. The Department's priority is to provide comprehensive services to the community in phases including x-ray, laboratory service and visiting specialist services. Therefore, there is no plan to upgrade Pusa and Beladin Health Clinic into hospitals.

This year, Beladin Health Clinic will undergo Phase 1 expansion of x-ray service with the construction of a new x-ray block costing RM200,000. Application for Phase 2 of the project consisting of asset procurement and creation of a post for radiographer will be submitted this year. The imaging service is expected to be operational by 2025. This service will also benefit the Pusa community.

A family medicine specialist has been placed in Pusa Health Clinic since January 2023. The family medicine specialist will visit Beladin Health Clinic monthly to cater for the needs of the people in Beladin.

As for the laboratory services, both Beladin and Pusa Health Clinic provide laboratory services which are able to run up to 17 different types of tests. The Department will carry out a feasibility study to set up a haemodialysis centre in Beladin and Pusa Health Clinic.

#### *Community Clinic*

For the information of Ahli Yang Berhormat for Tullian, the Mukah Community Clinic is currently operating in accordance with the September 2022 circular for the management of primary health facilities in the transition to COVID-19 endemic phase. The Department will consider reverting back to the original operating hours of 9 am to 6 pm if need arises.

#### HOSPITAL

For the information of Ahli Yang Berhormat for Batu Danau, the Department is aware of the lack of parking spaces in Limbang Hospital at the moment. The Department has a proposal to upgrade the hospital to Major Specialist Hospital. The number and location of parking lots will be taken into consideration during the planning of the proposed upgrading works.

For the information of Ahli Yang Berhormat for Ngemah, the Department does not have a plan to build a new Kanowit Hospital. However, in 2023, the Hospital has received RM200,000 to replace the existing underground water supply system and RM165,000 to upgrade the PABX system.

#### FIRE AND RESCUE DEPARTMENT MALAYSIA

##### *Fire Safety Awareness Programme*

The Fire and Rescue Department Malaysia Sarawak is committed to implement the Public Educational and Awareness programmes on fire safety for the communities of Sarawak. In total, the Department has carried out 61 Public Awareness Programmes involving 12,313 participants for the first quarter of this year.

##### *Statistic of Emergency Calls*

A total of 3,367 emergency calls comprising of 513 (15%) calls on fire outbreaks, total of 2,664 (79%) rescue calls, 186 calls for special services and four prank calls were received in the first quarter of this year. The Department managed to save RM520.9 million worth of properties.

##### *Fire Station in Sarawak*

Based on the current BOMBA Fire Risk Assessment, many towns in Sarawak will not be eligible for a Fire Station. We will appeal to the Federal Government to consider special criteria for Sarawak. During the recent meeting with the Minister for Local Government Development (KPKT) Malaysia, Yang Berhormat Tuan Nga Kor Ming, we have discussed the need to review the criteria for setting up Fire Station in rural Sarawak. The current criteria based on population density, numbers & type of industry, existence of important structures such as Government and public buildings, is not suitable and applicable to meet the Sarawak needs.

My Ministry have tasked the Fire and Rescue Department Malaysia Sarawak to come up with the technical and financial requirements of the new fire stations for special consideration from KPKT based on Sarawak's unique geographical spread and demographic conditions. The development of this special criterias will contribute significantly to bolstering fire safety measures and improving emergency response capabilities throughout Sarawak. Currently, we only have 39 fire stations which are well below our needs.

ISSUES RAISED BY AHLI-AHLI YANG BERHORMAT

*Volunteer Firefighter*

For the information of Ahli Yang Berhormat for Kabong, Kabong Volunteer Firefighter is in the process of registration with Registrar of Society.

*Fire Station*

For the information of Ahli Yang Berhormat for Machan, KPKT has approved RM11,764.50 in 2021 for rectification work of *Balai Bomba dan Penyelamat Kanowit* such as lighting, roofs, floors and toilets.

Meanwhile for electrical wiring works, applications for funding will be submitted to Putrajaya in the fourth quarter of this year.

POLITICAL ISSUES

Tuan Speaker, this year mark Sarawak Merdeka 60<sup>th</sup> years. Sarawakian must remain focus and not been distracted by the constant political changing dynamic in West Malaysia. *Dulu lawan, kini kawan, nanti lawan lagi*. We also don't want DAP Malaysia to keep on coming to apologies to Sarawak because DAP Sarawak still *lawan tetap lawan*. Let us focus to negotiate and have meaningful progress with the Unity Government in the implementation of health autonomy, education autonomy, one third member of parliament from Sabah and Sarawak, greater share of financial taxation from Sarawak under 112D, all those outstanding issue listed under MA63 and IGC Report which are of officially part of Malaysia Constitution since 2021. *Jangan tengooook saja*. We have once in a lifetime opportunity and responsibility to do it for all Sarawakian and future Sarawakian by all YB members of parliament Malaysia from Sarawak for Sarawak, its time is now. To safeguard Sarawak the last frontier of the spirit, the values, the multicultural religion, the religious, racial harmony, the inclusivity, the sharing etc, four countries Malaya, Singapore, Sabah and Sarawak came to form a new country Malaysia.

Tuan Speaker, we need every Ahli-ahli Yang Berhormat in this august House, every Sarawakian to help accelerate Post COVID-19 Development Strategy 2030 so that to ensure that by 2030, Sarawak is the most prosperous in Malaysia. That 11.9 billion revenue last year, is just a beginning. So that Sarawak by 2030 is the most inclusive for all races, religions, rural, urban, young old, different sectors and no such issue of the use of word "*Allah*" in Sarawak. And also, by 2030 we are in Sarawak is environmentally sustainable from the jungle of Borneo we are champion in SDG and ESG and by 2030 we are proud Sarawakian and with Sarawak value so that the rest of Malaysia can continue to be jealous of us.

CONCLUSION

In 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 State Secretary of Sarawak 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.

Lastly, I would like to take this opportunity to wish all *Sarawakians Selamat Menyambut Hari Gawai Dayak 2023, Gayu Guru Gerai Nyamai*. Sekian, terima kasih, Salam Ibu Pertiwiku.

Tuan Speaker, thank you.

**Tuan Speaker:** Ahli-ahli Yang Berhormat the sitting is now adjourned. The House shall resume its sitting at 9.00 a.m. tomorrow.

*(Mesyuarat ditangguhkan pada pukul 5.45 petang)*