S A R A W A K

PENYATA RASMI PERSIDANGAN DEWAN UNDANGAN NEGERI

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MESYUARAT PERTAMA BAGI PENGGAL KELIMA

First Meeting of the Fifth Session

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DEWAN UNDANGAN NEGERI SARAWAK KESEMBILAN BELAS

Nineteenth Sarawak State Legislative Assembly

SELASA

19 MEI 2026

(2 Zulhijjah 1447H)

KUCHING

BELUM DISUNTING

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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Selasa, 19 Mei 2026

Dewan bermesyuarat di Petra Jaya, Kuching pada pukul 9.08 pagi

HADIR

Bil.	Nama	Konstituensi
1.	Yang Berhormat Tan Sri Datuk Amar Haji Mohamad Asfia bin Awang Nasar P.S.M., D.A., P.N.B.S., D.S.A.P., D.I.M.P., P.B.K., P.C.E. (Emas) *Speaker Dewan Undangan Negeri Sarawak*	
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. *Timbalan Speaker Dewan Undangan Negeri Sarawak*	*N.16 Muara Tuang*
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., S.P.D.K. (Sabah), D.A., P.N.B.S., J.B.S., P.C.E., P.S.N.B. (Brunei), Order of the Rising Sun, Gold and Silver Star (Japan) *Premier Sarawak* *Menteri Kewangan dan Ekonomi Baru* *Menteri Sumber Asli dan Pembangunan Bandar* *Menteri Tenaga dan Kelestarian Alam Sekitar*	*N.26 Gedong*
4.	Yang Berhormat Datuk Amar Douglas Uggah Embas D.A., P.N.B.S., P.G.B.K., P.C.E. *Timbalan Premier Sarawak* *Menteri Kewangan dan Ekonomi Baru Kedua* *Menteri Infrastruktur dan Pembangunan Pelabuhan*	*N.37 Bukit Saban*
5.	Yang Berhormat Datuk Amar Haji Awang Tengah bin Ali Hasan D.A., P.N.B.S., P.G.B.K., A.M.N. *Timbalan Premier Sarawak* *Menteri Sumber Asli dan Pembangunan Bandar Kedua* *Menteri Perdagangan Antarabangsa, Industri dan Pelaburan*	*N.82 Bukit Sari*
6.	Yang Berhormat Datuk Amar Dr Sim Kui Hian D.A., P.N.B.S., P.J.N., P.B.E. *Timbalan Premier Sarawak* *Menteri Kesihatan Awam, Perumahan dan Kerajaan Tempatan*	*N.14 Batu Kawah*
7.	Yang Berhormat Dato Sri Hajah Fatimah Abdullah P.N.B.S., P.G.B.K., P.C.E. *Menteri Pembangunan Wanita, Kanak-Kanak dan Kesejahteraan Komuniti*	*N.56 Dalat*

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. *Menteri Industri Makanan, Komoditi dan Pembangunan Wilayah*	*N.69 Kemena*
9.	Yang Berhormat Dato Sri Haji Abdul Karim Rahman Hamzah P.N.B.S., P.G.B.K., P.B.S., P.B.E. *Menteri Pelancongan, Industri Kreatif dan Seni Persembahan* *Menteri Belia, Sukan dan Pembangunan Usahawan*	*N.15 Asajaya*
10.	Yang Berhormat Dato Sri Lee Kim Shin P.N.B.S., P.J.N., K.M.N., P.B.S., P.P.B., B.B.S., P.B.E. *Menteri Pengangkutan*	*N.75 Senadin*
11.	Yang Berhormat Dato Sri John Sikie anak Tayai P.N.B.S., P.J.N., P.B.S., P.B.E. *Menteri di Jabatan Premier*	*N.60 Kakus*
12.	Yang Berhormat Dato Sri Haji Julaihi bin Haji Narawi P.N.B.S., P.G.B.K., P.B.S., K.M.N., P.P.D., P.B.E. *Menteri Utiliti dan Telekomunikasi*	*N.27 Sebuyau*
13.	Yang Berhormat Dato Sri Roland Sagah Wee Inn P.N.B.S., P.G.B.K., J.B.K., P.B.S., P.B.E. *Menteri Pendidikan, Inovasi dan Pembangunan Bakat*	*N.20 Tarat*
14.	Yang Berhormat Datuk Gerawat Gala P.G.B.K., P.S.B.S., P.B.K. *Timbalan Menteri di Jabatan Premier (Buruh, Imigresen dan Pemantauan Projek)*	*N.78 Mulu*
15.	Yang Berhormat Datuk Francis Harden anak Hollis P.G.B.K., P.B.S., A.B.S., P.B.E. *Timbalan Menteri Pendidikan, Inovasi dan Pembangunan Bakat (Pembangunan Bakat)*	*N.32 Simanggang*
16.	Yang Berhormat Datuk Dr Jerip anak Susil P.G.B.K., A.M.N., P.B.E. *Timbalan Menteri Pengangkutan (Penerbangan dan Jalan Raya)*	*N.19 Mambong*
17.	Yang Berhormat Datuk Liwan Lagang P.J.N., P.P.N., K.M.N., J.B.S., P.B.E. *Timbalan Menteri Utiliti dan Telekomunikasi (Telekomunikasi)*	*N.65 Belaga*
18.	Yang Berhormat Datuk Hajah Rosey binti Haji Yunus P.G.B.K., J.B.K., P.P.B., P.P.S., P.T.E., P.B.E. *Timbalan Menteri Pembangunan Wanita, Kanak-Kanak dan Kesejahteraan Komuniti (Pembangunan Wanita dan Kanak-Kanak)*	*N.71 Bekenu*
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20.	Yang Berhormat Datuk Dr Haji Abdul Rahman bin Haji Junaidi P.G.B.K., J.B.S., A.B.S., P.B.E. *Timbalan Menteri di Jabatan Premier (Penyelaras Projek untuk Agensi Pembangunan Wilayah, Dewan Bandaraya Kuching Utara dan Hal Ehwal Islam)*	*N.4 Pantai Damai*
21.	Yang Berhormat Datuk Hajah Sharifah Hasidah binti Sayeed Aman Ghazali P.G.B.K., P.T.E., J.B.S. *Timbalan Menteri di Jabatan Premier (Undang-undang, MA63 dan Hubungan Negeri-Persekutuan)*	*N.7 Samariang*
22.	Yang Berhormat Datuk Dr Malcolm Mussen anak Lamoh P.G.B.K., P.B.S., P.T.E. *Timbalan Menteri Perdagangan Antarabangsa, Industri dan Pelaburan*	*N.34 Batang Ai*
23.	Yang Berhormat Datuk Dr Haji Abdul Rahman bin Haji Ismail P.G.B.K., A.B.S., P.T.E. *Timbalan Menteri Industri Makanan, Komoditi & Pembangunan Wilayah (Industri Makanan)*	*N.79 Bukit Kota*
24.	Yang Berhormat Datuk Dr 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*
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26.	Yang Berhormat Datuk Abdullah bin Haji Saidol P.G.B.K., K.M.N., J.B.K., P.T.E. *Timbalan Menteri di Jabatan Premier (Hal Ehwal Korporat dan Unit Komunikasi Awam Sarawak)*	*N.42 Semop*
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28.	Yang Berhormat Datuk Ir. Aidel bin Lariwoo P.G.B.K., P.B.S., P.T.E. *Timbalan Menteri Infrastruktur dan Pembangunan Pelabuhan (Pembangunan Infrastruktur)*	*N.24 Sadong Jaya*
29.	Yang Berhormat Datuk Dr Ripin bin Lamat P.G.B.K., J.B.K., K.M.N., P.T.E. *Timbalan Menteri Belia, Sukan dan Pembangunan Usahawan (Pembangunan Usahawan)*	*N.72 Lambir*
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31.	Yang Berhormat Datuk Maclaine Ben @ Martin Ben P.G.B.K., J.B.S., P.T.E. *Timbalan Menteri Industri Makanan, Komoditi & Pembangunan Wilayah (Komoditi & Pembangunan Wilayah)*	*N.22 Kedup*
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34.	Yang Berhormat Datuk 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*
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55.	Yang Berhormat Dato Sri Wong Soon Koh P.N.B.S., P.G.B.K., A.B.S., P.C.E.	*N.53 Bawang Assan*
56.	Yang Berhormat Dato Rolland Duat anak Jubin P.S.B.S.	*N.48 Meluan*
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59.	Yang Berhormat Ir. Christopher Gira @ Gira anak Sambang P.B.K.	*N.59 Tamin*
60.	Yang Berhormat Encik Abdul Yakub bin Haji Arbi B.B.S., A.B.S., K.M.N., J.B.K.	*N.58 Balingian*
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63.	Yang Berhormat Encik Allan Siden Gramong P.B.S., A.B.S.	*N.50 Machan*
64.	Yang Berhormat Datuk Hamzah bin Haji Brahim A.M.N., P.M.W.	*N.17 Stakan*

65.	Yang Berhormat Encik Adam Yii Siew Sang A.B.S.	*N.74 Pujut*
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67.	Yang Berhormat Dr Simon Sinang @ Sinang anak Bada J.B.K., A.B.S., P.B.S., K.M.N.	*N.21 Tebedu*
68.	Yang Berhormat Encik Billy anak Sujang P.B.S., P.P.B.	*N.1 Opar*
69.	Yang Berhormat Encik Yap Yau Sin P.B.S., K.M.N.	*N.12 Kota Sentosa*
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72.	Yang Berhormat Encik Baru Bian	*N.81 Ba'Kelalan*
73.	Yang Berhormat Encik Friday anak Belik A.B.K., P.P.S., P.P.B., P.B.K., P.P.C.	*N.39 Krian*
74.	Yang Berhormat Encik Anyi anak Jana P.B.K.	*N.49 Ngemah*
75.	Yang Berhormat Encik Chieng Jin Ek P.B.S.	*N.51 Bukit Assek*
76.	Yang Berhormat Encik Royston bin Valentine J.B.K., A.B.S.	*N.57 Tellian*
77.	Yang Berhormat Encik Nicholas Kudi anak Jantai P.B.S.	*N.64 Baleh*
78.	Yang Berhormat Encik Johnny Pang Leong Ming P.B.S.	*N.68 Tanjong Batu*
79.	Yang Berhormat Encik Iskandar bin Turkee P.B.S.	*N.67 Jepak*

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1.	Yang Berhormat Datuk Dr Haji Annuar bin Rapa'ee P.G.B.K., J.B.S., P.T.E. *Timbalan Menteri Pendidikan, Inovasi dan Pembangunan Bakat (Pengajian Tinggi dan Inovasi)*	*N.55 Nangka*
2.	Yang Berhormat Encik Azizul Annuar bin Pehin Sri Haji Adenan J.B.K., P.B.S.	*N.3 Tanjong Datu*

3.	Yang Berhormat Encik Lidam anak Assan P.B.S.	*N.62 Katibas*
4.	Yang Berhormat Encik Awla bin Dris P.B.S., A.B.S.	*N.25 Simunjan*

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1. Encik Nur Azhar bin Bujang
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6. Penolong Superintenden Cornelius anak Philip Aso
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PETUGAS PERSIDANGAN

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1.	Encik Adam Huang Tung Kai	*Jabatan Peguam Besar Negeri Sarawak*
2.	Puan Beatrice anak James	*Jabatan Peguam Besar Negeri Sarawak*

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1.	Puan Dorensia Dyonie Dominic	*Dewan Bahasa dan Pustaka Negeri Sarawak*
2.	Puan Saidatul Faiqah binti Samasu	*Dewan Bahasa dan Pustaka Negeri Sarawak*

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6.	Puan Nor Shila binti Shamsuddin	*Kementerian Pelancongan, Industri Kreatif dan Seni Persembahan Sarawak*
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9.	Puan Hazreenna binti Hussen Ali	*Jabatan Kehakiman Syariah Sarawak*
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12.	Encik Mohd Alfadjer bin Tuah	*Pentadbiran Bahagian Kuching*
13.	Puan Nurzatul Atikah binti Sahak	*Jabatan Kebajikan Masyarakat Sarawak*
14.	Puan Nurhanisah Nadiah bt Mohamad Terki	*Jabatan Wanita dan Keluarga Sarawak*
15.	Puan Sophia anak Rangim	*Jabatan Pertanian Sarawak*
16.	Puan Mariadiba Naliza binti Marzuki	*Jabatan Agama Islam Sarawak (JAIS)*
17.	Puan Sylvia anak Chichik	*Jabatan Kastam Diraja Malaysia*
18.	Puan Nur Syakila binti Kasdinata	*Majlis Keselamatan Negara Negeri Sarawak*
19.	Puan Siti Aisyah Abdullah @ Rosemary Langub	*Perbadanan Kemajuan Perusahaan Kayu Sarawak (STIDC)*
20.	Puan Dayang Duraiza binti Haji Awang Jangka	*Lembaga Sumber Asli dan Alam Sekitar Sarawak (NREB)*
21.	Puan Zuriawati binti Haji Mohd Laili	*Pustaka Negeri Sarawak*
22.	Puan Margaret anak Francis Bohui	*Lembaga Penyatuan dan Pemulihan Tanah Sarawak (SALCRA)*
23.	Puan Anieta anak Sylvester Pungga	*Perbadanan Pembangunan Ekonomi Sarawak (SEDC)*
24.	Puan Nurul Hafizha binti Osman	*Perbadanan Pembangunan Ekonomi Sarawak (SEDC)*
25.	Puan Nursurfina binti Blassan	*Perbadanan Pembangunan Ekonomi Sarawak (SEDC)*
26.	Puan Ratna Airnawati binti Md. Junaidi	*Perbadanan Pembangunan Perumahan (HDC)*
27.	Puan Sabtuyah binti Adeng	*Perbadanan Pembangunan Perumahan (HDC)*
28.	Puan Khalida binti Mohd Mahali	*Majlis Islam Sarawak*
29.	Puan Meri binti Sabas	*Universiti Malaysia Sarawak (UNIMAS)*
30.	Puan Lilian Bian	*Pihak Berkuasa Penerbangan Awam Malaysia (CAAM)*
31.	Encik Azhwan bin Bujang	*Persatuan Setiausaha Profesional dan Pentadbir Sarawak (SSS)*

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3.	Encik Lee Chang Fu	*Jabatan Penyiaran Sarawak*
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1.	Encik Mohd Nor Majidi bin Marekan	*Percetakan Nasional Malaysia Berhad*
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1.	Encik Abang Hasmadi bin Abang Wahab	*SAINS*
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3.	Encik Alvin Thien Han Liang	*SAINS*
4.	Encik Junaidi bin Husaini	*SAINS*
5.	Encik Alan Chai	*SAINS*
6.	Encik Siddeq Harris Chiew	*SAINS*

MESSENGER

1.	Encik Mohamed Nazeerudin bin Gulam Mohamed	*Kementerian Industri Makanan, Komoditi dan Pembangunan Wilayah Sarawak*
2.	Encik Andy anak John	*Kementerian Industri Makanan, Komoditi dan Pembangunan Wilayah Sarawak*
3.	Encik Mohammad Zaidi bin Rambli	*Jabatan Pertanian Sarawak*
4.	Encik Lawrence Encharang	*Jabatan Pertanian Sarawak*
5.	Encik Helmy bin Abdul Rahman	*Jabatan Pertanian Sarawak*
6.	Encik Shah Riwandy Sia bin Ridzuan	*Jabatan Pertanian Sarawak*
7.	Encik Erdy Nurwiranata bin Eden	*Jabatan Pertanian Sarawak*
8.	Encik Mohamad Zahari bin Hamden	*Pejabat Agama Islam Bahagian Kuching*
9.	Encik Addison anak Fredrick	*Jabatan Tanah dan Survei Sarawak*
10.	Encik Fadillah bin Lokman	*Jabatan Tanah dan Survei Bahagian Kuching, Sarawak*

SEKRETARIAT PERSIDANGAN DEWAN UNDANGAN NEGERI SARAWAK

1. Tuan Haji Abang Zaabar bin Abang Ballia
2. Encik Nurkhairudin bin Osen
3. Cik Noria binti Suut
4. Puan Nur Azira binti Abdul Kadir
5. Puan Rabiah binti Abdul Kadir
6. Puan Aisha Parveen binti Badron
7. Cik Genang anak Timbung
8. Puan Siti Norhiza binti Mohammad Yusri
9. Puan Hanisah Abdullah
10. Puan Hasfarini binti Hassim
11. Cik Nurhaffizah Abdullah
12. Puan Natasha Nadia binti Mohd. Saidi
13. Puan Angela Lisa anak Mathew Linol
14. Encik Felix Aaron anak Michael
15. Cik Sharina binti Sopian
16. Puan Patricia anak Peter
17. Encik Awang Mohammad Asyrul Jaya bin Awang Putra
18. Sarjan Terence anak Jayan
19. Puan Norziana binti Haji Ahmad
20. Puan Nur Eliana Abdullah
21. Puan Nazmah binti Darham
22. Puan Tracy Lyana anak Bana
23. Encik Muhammad Elliyas bin Matali
24. Encik Mohd Zulkhairy bin Mohammad Hejemi
25. Puan Dayang Nazira binti Abang Martaza
26. Puan Jasmine Sinja anak Robinson
27. Puan Dayang Noorazilla binti Jasni
28. Cik Parcelia Renyelia anak Pamg
29. Cik Nur Zafirah binti Affendy Michael
30. Puan Deidre anak Wilson
31. Cik Siti Nur Marsitah binti Abdullah
32. Puan Nur Amira Lystiani binti Poniman
33. Encik Razali bin Awi
34. Puan Nora binti Atem
35. Encik Zahari bin Bolhi
36. Encik Lukas Jammany anak Kated
37. Encik Ruzaimy bin Muhammad
38. Encik Hazrin Syah bin Hamzah
39. Encik Salman bin Jaya

40. Encik Alwie bin Haji Ali
41. Encik Romzi bin Bujang
42. Encik Musa bin Julai
43. Puan Suraya binti Hamden
44. Puan Noraisah binti Ahmad
45. Cik Siti Zalilah binti Samsawi
46. Encik Iz Mohd. Haiqal Hakeem bin Mahamud

PELAJAR PRAKTIKAL

1. Cik Tania Adilla binti Hamka
2. Encik Jefrey Jerry anak Juki
3. Encik Mohamad Ainul Hakim bin Mustapha

(Mesyuarat dimulakan pada jam 9:08 pagi)

[Timbalan Speaker mempengerusikan Mesyuarat]

DOA

PEMASYHURAN DARIPADA TUAN SPEAKER

Timbalan Speaker: Bismilahirrahmanirrahim. Assalamualaikum W.B.T., selamat pagi dan salam sejahtera. Ahli-ahli Yang Berhormat, I have granted the leave of absence under Standing Order 81 to Yang Berhormat Encik Awla bin Idris, Honourable Member for N.25 Simunjan for yesterday, today and tomorrow's sitting.

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

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

Menteri Pelancongan, Industri Kreatif dan Seni Persembahan Sarawak; Menteri Belia, Sukan dan Pembangunan Usahawan Sarawak; dan Ahli Dewan Undangan Negeri N.15 Asajaya (YB Dato Sri Haji Abdul Karim Rahman Hamzah): Terima kasih, Tuan Speaker. Bismillahirrahmanirrahim, Assalamualaikum W.B.T., Salam sejahtera, Salam Sarawak Maju Makmur, *Salam Segulai Sejalai.* Alhamdullillah, syukur ke hadrat *Illahi* dengan limpah kurnianya, saya diberi peluang untuk menyampaikan ucapan penggulungan bagi Kementerian Pelancongan, Industri Kreatif dan juga Seni Persembahan Sarawak pada pagi ini.

Tapi sebelum saya berucap lanjut, saya ingin mengalu-alukan kehadiran pemimpin-pemimpin masyarakat jauh daripada utara Sarawak daripada Ba'Kelalan yang diketuai oleh Temenggung Davis Parat. Selamat datang ke Dewan Undangan Negeri dan juga selamat datang ke ibu negeri Sarawak semasa di Kuching. Harap mereka sentiasa selamat dan juga melawat tempat-tempat bersejarah, tempat-tempat yang menarik termasuk Borneo Cultures Museum kerana di sana kita *tauk* memang banyak khazanah-khazanah termasuk khazanah-khazanah berkenaan dengan mereka yang daripada utara negeri Sarawak.

Sebelum menyampaikan ucapan penggulungan, izinkan saya juga untuk memulakan dengan tiga rangkap pantun:

Songket keringkam seni menseya,
Ditenun disulam Puteri Santubong;
Industri kreatif pembangunan nusa,
Warisan budaya tetap disanjung.

Pergi ke Mulu melihat kelawar,
Membeli kraf di Batu Bungan;
Lestari alam pelancongan mekar,
Warisan alam jadi sanjungan.

Inap desa indah berseri,
Tempat musafir singgah bertamu;
Pembangunan kapasiti terus diberi,
Komuniti bitara maju bersatu.

Tuan Speaker, saya ingin merakamkan setinggi-tinggi penghargaan kepada Tuan Yang Terutama Yang di-Pertua Negeri Sarawak, Tun Pehin Sri Dr. Haji Wan Junaidi bin Tuanku Jaafar di

atas ucapan yang penuh berwawasan dan berpandangan jauh semasa pembukaan Mesyuarat Pertama bagi Penggal Kelima Dewan Undangan Negeri Sarawak yang ke-19 pada 11 Mei baru-baru ini.

Intipati ucapan Tuan Yang Terutama Yang di-Pertua Negeri Sarawak menjadi dasar dan juga pandangan penting kepada kita di dalam menangani pelbagai cabaran global seiring dengan usaha kita untuk membangun dan juga memajukan wilayah Sarawak yang kita cintai ini.

Saya juga ingin mengambil kesempatan ini untuk mengucapkan setinggi-tinggi tahniah kepada Yang Amat Berhormat Datuk Patinggi Tan Sri (Dr) Abang Haji Abdul Rahman Zohari, Premier Sarawak, di atas penganugerahan *Sustainability Visionary Award* daripada *United Nation Global Compact Network Malaysia & Brunei* baru-baru ini. Anugerah ini melambangkan pengiktirafan antarabangsa terhadap kepimpinan berwawasan beliau dan juga menerajui agenda pembangunan mampan, dan transformasi ekonomi hijau Sarawak.

GLOBAL TOURISM OUTLOOK

Tuan Speaker, allow me to begin my speech by highlighting the Global Tourism Outlook. According to the World Tourism Barometer Report 2026, produced by the United Nation Tourism, international tourist arrival, which was produced by United Nation Tourism, international tourist arrivals grew by 4% in 2025, with estimated 1.52 billion international tourists. This is a new record year in the post-pandemic era.

According to United Nation Tourism, the conflict in the Middle East has severely disrupted international travel and caused massive ripple effects to the global tourism ecosystem. However, given the highly volatile nature of this crisis, it is still too early to fully measure its long-term impact on international tourism sector. Nevertheless, international tourism is expected to grow by 3% to 4% in 2026, assuming that geopolitical conflicts does not escalate. Sarawak on the other hand, remains vigilant and will continue to monitor these developments closely.

MALAYSIA TOURISM PERSPECTIVE

Now, let me highlight the tourism performance at the national level. In 2025, Malaysia recorded a strong tourism growth with 42.2 million international arrivals. During the first quarter of 2026, Malaysia recorded 10.65 million visitors' arrivals, representing an increase of 5.4% as compared to the same period in 2025.

Despite evolving global crisis, the government remains committed in strengthening connectivity and enhancing industry resilience. Regional markets such as Singapore, Brunei, Indonesia, and Thailand continue to play a vital role, supported by their proximity, accessibility, and strong travel affinity with Malaysia. Efforts are also being made and focused on sustaining travel demand, ensuring accessibilities, and supporting industry players in adapting to the changing conditions.

SARAWAK TOURISM PERFORMANCE

Sarawak's tourism sector continues to gain momentum, supported by a diverse range of tourism offerings and well-executed marketing initiatives. My ministry is committed to further elevating Sarawak's standing as a leading destination, highlighting the unique eco-tourism, blend of arts, culture, and heritage.

Visitor Arrivals

I am happy to inform this august House that Sarawak has recorded a total of 4.97 million visitor arrivals last year. This reflects a modest growth of 2.89% as compared to the previous year, that is 2024, which highlights a steady recovery and continued positive momentum for the tourism sector.

Brunei and Indonesia together accounted for 48% of Sarawak's total visitor arrivals, underscoring their continued strategic importance to our tourism sector.

For the first quarter of 2026, Sarawak recorded 1.24 million visitor arrivals, an increase of 4.5% as compared to the same period in 2025. Asia remains Sarawak's key source of visitors, contributing 52.6% of the total visitors. Out of this, 48.8% are from the ASEAN countries. Meanwhile, domestic tourism continues to drive our tourism industry forward, contributing 45.0% during that period. We are happy to note that despite the challenges posed by the global crisis, the statistics indicated that Sarawak's tourism industry continues to flourish as well as strengthen.

Tourism Receipts

The tourism industry acts as an economic catalyst by creating a spin-off effect that extends far beyond hospitality industries or hospitality services, generating multiplier effects that elevate the social wellbeing of the community. The number of tourist arrivals is translated into tourism receipt which indicates how much the industry's contribution to the economy. Well in 2025, Sarawak generated a total of RM12.67 billion in tourism receipts with a growth of 1.75% as compared to the previous year. So, if you were to see an average, 12.67 billion averaging is more than a billion-ringgit tourism receipts every month which goes not into the government's coffer, but it goes into the community, it goes into the industry, it goes into the hotel, the restaurant and all other. And that is why the importance of tourism industry to our community. From January to March this year, the first three months of this year, Sarawak has generated a remarkable RM3.15 billion in tourism receipt. So, what happened last year is continuing into this year because for the first three months, we have managed to secure or accumulate more than RM1 billion a month in tourism receipts.

SARAWAK TOURISM DEVELOPMENT DIRECTION

Tuan Speaker, despite the ongoing geopolitical tensions and uncertainties in the Middle East, Sarawak's overall tourism performance remained stable. The Middle East plays a significant role in the global tourism industry, being the global transit hub that facilitates visitor arrivals from North America as well as in Europe. Nevertheless, the Middle East is relatively a new market for Sarawak, a niche premium market that we are still exploring, actually. Moving forward, we have set our bold target to receive five million visitors arrival this year and generating approximately RM12.73 billion in tourism receipts. In this respect, Sarawak continues to undertake strategic initiatives including diversifying our products offerings and target markets, besides working closely with stakeholders and industry players to navigate the impacts of rising costs and supply chain instability caused by the Middle East crisis.

Mitigating the Impacts of Geo-Political Crisis

From Sarawak's perspective, mitigating the impact of global crisis on tourism requires a more resilient, sustainable and well-coordinated industry that aligns with international and regional frameworks. One of the major strategies is to boost domestic tourism, which we have been doing even during the covid days. We have been able to fly through during the covid era, partly because of how we strategize. When foreign arrivals are not coming in, we activate the local industry. Those from Miri, Sibu, will come down to Kuching, those from Kuching will be going to the other parts of Sarawak. They have to stay somewhere, and that in itself is good for the tourism and hospitality industries.

The trend shows that visitors arrivals from the Peninsular Malaysia and Sabah have continued to increase and contributed significantly to our tourism industry, with 1.9 million (38.67%) in 2024 and 2.17 million (43.63%) arrivals respectively in 2025. Through the *Sia Sitok Programme or Sia Sitok Sarawak the 5th Chapter* campaign, we are reviving and expanding our domestic travel campaigns to encourage locals as well as visitors from Sabah, from Labuan, and from the Peninsular Malaysia, from West Malaysia to explore Sarawak.

The global uncertainty typically shifts travel preferences toward domestic and short-haul trips. In alignment with the ASEAN Tourism Strategic Plan 2026–2030, Sarawak is pushing for deeper integration with its neighbours. Hence, Sarawak focuses on regional tourism markets especially ASEAN, while at the same time continues to expend our promotion to China, to Japan, Taiwan, South Korea as well as to India. The Gateway to Borneo Campaign which Sarawak has embarked on, would play significant input in our marketing effort.

Sarawak diversifies into various segments including health tourism which is coming up very well in Sarawak now and edu-tourism or education tourism. These sectors are increasingly becoming important. Based on the report by Malaysia Healthcare Travel Council (MHTC), Sarawak recorded more than 104,000 medical travellers in 2025, a significant increase of 26.16% from 2024 which reflects the growing confidence in Sarawak's healthcare ecosystem and Indonesia remains our main source market for this sector. The good part about health tourism or medical tourism, if one patient comes to Sarawak to seek medical treatment, there will be four or five others family members coming along and normally they will stay several days. Because those who come in for medical treatment or a medical check-up, the result will not be immediate. They will have to stay for some time, weeks or months, and that is why it is really benefiting the state.

In addition, edu-tourism or education tourism is another strategic sector that Sarawak potentially focuses on. Based on the statistics of approved student pass, the number of students from outside Sarawak studying in local higher learning institutions has shown an increase from 2,183 in 2024 to 2,295 in 2025. Sarawak will continue to solidify its position as the preferred destination for Business Events, normally been called MICE, Meetings, Incentives, Conferences, and Exhibitions (MICE); now the trend they will always use the term business event for this, leveraging world-class infrastructure and its unique cultural heritage to attract high-impact international business events.

Sarawak has pioneered a shift in the MICE industry by moving the focus from *"tourist dollars"* to *"legacy impacts"* that ensure meetings leave behind long term benefits to the community. Sarawak's appeal as a premier destination for entertainment, for sporting as well as gastronomy will continue to be strengthened. My ministry remains steadfast in providing continuous support to tourism celebrations, cultural showcases, entertainment, and sporting events across Sarawak. We recognize the role of events and festivals in contributing to the Sarawak's economy and cultural identity. By supporting these events, the benefits are extended to the whole spectrum of economy, far beyond visitor arrivals as well as tourism receipts.

Well, taking advantage on our strengths in eco-tourism, culture and heritage, as well as infrastructures to support business events and festivals, Sarawak can attract niche and premium markets. While some major global tourist attractions in Europe raised concern on overtourism, Sarawak must prioritize strategies to attract premium and high-spending visitors. On the Oceania market which include Australia, New Zealand and the island around there, is becoming increasingly important to Sarawak's tourism industry, recording more than 6,000 visitors between January to March 2026, just for the first three month of this year, we have recorded more than 6,000 visitors coming in from the Oceania Market. Optimizing current air connectivity, targeted marketing and niche tourism products, Sarawak can strengthen its presence in this market.

Sarawak also possesses a strong historical connection with Australia and New Zealand through war memorial events. For example, the *Operation Semut oh ya,* you can see that eight para troopers that from the tv there you can see that eight para troopers that was sent to Bario at that time during the Japanese occupation. These eight para troopers can mean under what we called *Operation Semut* involving Australian troops during the World War II is remembered through commemorations and regarded as the cornerstone of modern defense partnership between Australia and Malaysia. By leveraging these shared historical narratives, Sarawak can further strengthen its tourism appeal to visitors from the Oceania region, especially those with interests in history, heritage, and commemorative travel experiences.

Digital Innovation in Tourism Sector

In line with the Sarawak Digital Economy Agenda, Sarawak's tourism sector leverages technological advancements to enhance the overall tourist experience while improving destination management and sustainability. Sarawak is expanding internet connectivity across both urban and rural areas including tourism destinations and attraction areas. The improved internet connectivity will facilitate tourism operators, particularly homestay operators, to adopt digital platforms and smart tourism services in a more positive and effective way. Sarawak Tourism Board (STB) is collaborating with Pacific Asia Travel Association (PATA) to enhance adoption of Artificial Intelligence (AI) through digital skills training for tourism entrepreneurs. The program helps local tourism businesses adopt AI tools, improve digital marketing capabilities, strengthen destination resilience and enhance service delivery for international visitors.

Eco-Tourism and Community Based Tourism

Sarawak continues to capitalize on its strength in eco-tourism with the focus on local community participation. Through collaboration with Sarawak Forestry Corporation (SFC), my ministry continues to market our National Parks especially the two UNESCO World Heritage sites, that is the Mulu National Park which was awarded on the 27th of November of the year 2000 as well as the recent one that is the Niah National Park which was recognized as a World Heritage sites by UNESCO on 27th July 2024. My ministry is capitalising on the Sarawak Delta UNESCO Global Geopark (SDUGGp) recognition, which is just *very, very* recent to place Sarawak on the global map as a sustainable tourism destination.

Well, with all this recognition by a world body like UNESCO Sarawak has become more prominent in global tourism industry. Moving forward, the ministry is developing various tourism packages riding on the Sarawak Delta UNESCO Global Geopark (SDUGGp). Tourism Malaysia reported that the Sarawak Delta Geopark Package Volume 2, which is launched in November 2025, has generated a remarkable RM2.37 million in sales until the first quarter of 2026. Just for the first three months of 2026, it has managed to secure quite a remarkable sale. Sarawak Tourism Board (STB) in collaboration with Sabah Tourism Board have also launched the initiative *"Exploring the Wonders of Malaysia, Borneo Geopark"* during the World Travel Market (WTM), London in 2025.

Sarawak Malaysia My Second Home Programme (SMM2H)

I would like to highlight to this august House, Tuan Speaker, that my ministry remains committed to strengthen the implementation of the Sarawak Malaysia My Second Home or SMM2H as part of our strategies to enhance visitor arrivals and generate greater economic value. This programme enables us to position Sarawak as a preferred destination for long term residency, offering high quality life, cultural diversity and welcoming environment.

Since the ministry manages the program, we have got different programmes like, from what we have in west Malaysia or in Sabah. The Sarawak Malaysia My Second Home program, where every month my ministry will chair that meeting to screen through all those applicants which are coming every month and presently, we can see a big increase in the number of interests, in the number of applicantions from all over the world. Since the ministry manage the programme in 2020, we have recorded significant increases in the number of approved applications. From 2020 until April 2026, we have recorded a total of 2,191 approved applications.

This achievement far exceeded the 1,240 applications approved, between the year 2007 and 2019, before the program was handed over to Sarawak under this ministry, under the Ministry of Tourism, Creative Industry and Performing Arts. I wish to thank MOTAC or Ministry of Tourism Malaysia for willing to handover or let Sarawak manage its own SMM2H Programme. But under the MA63 discussion, there are many other areas that we are trying to get back from the Ministry of Tourism, matters that are related to tourism. Because we are fighting for tourism to be a matter which is going to be park under the Concurrent List.

Presently, it is under the Federal List which the Government of Sarawak, which the ministry feels that it should be in the Concurrent List. It should be in the Concurrent List, because when we form Malaysia in 1993 tourism was not in the Federal List, not in the State List, not in the Concurrent List. So is deemed to be a matter which should come under the Reschedule List, matters under the Reschedule List, should be matter that is to be shared by, should be a matter under the state but we are not being greedy. We just want it to be under the Concurrent List but somehow through the course of events, historically in 1992 or 1994 tourism was bulldozed through, the Federal Constitution was amended, and it was made a federal matter under the Federal List. And that is the reason why under the MA63 discussion, we are trying to make it a balance. We don't want everything to be under the State List, but we want to share it with, together under the Federal Government.

From January to April this year, we have approved under the SMM2H application. 217 applicants, participants or applicants. The highest number of applicants originate from China (48), followed by the United States (15), the United Kingdom (9), Singapore (8), and Taiwan (7). This program has contributed significantly towards Sarawak's revenue by generating RM605,000 from just the processing fees, with Fixed Deposit placements amounting to RM60.5 million. Because we have imposed a processing fee of RM5000 on every application. Which processing fee goes into the state coffer. It does not go to the federal coffer. Every sitting that we have, there will be at least a 150, *eh* no, three hundred thousand if I'm not mistaken. Which will go into the state coffer.

Based on the survey done by my ministry, the Sarawak Malaysia My Second Home Programme generated an estimated RM5.60 billion in total economic impact during the period from 2007 to 2025. The beneficiaries include those in the property, education, healthcare, tourism, food and beverage, transportation, insurance, rental, and entertainment sectors. But rest assured, members of the august House, that this committee that seat every month to process the application, we are very, very careful. We'll make sure that those who want to come and stay down here, really appreciate Sarawak. We do not want those who come in with other alternative motive. Those who are involve or who have been involved in the bias, biases industry or those in the scamming industry.

So, that's why the processing is very, very details and that is the reason why sharing that meeting every month will make it the point. Is it either chaired by me, as a Minister or the Deputy Minister. We would want it to be that way and I'm very-very happy to know that all those who are in this committee, weather they are from the immigration, the police, ILMU, Jabatan Kesihatan, whom are also a part of this committee. They are very, very passionate. They are very, very committed to what, to every time we held that committee meeting, actually.

Based on the survey done by my ministry, oh, I have already read that part. The authority to license SMM2H companies is placed under my ministry at the beginning of 2025. Before this, it was under MOTAC. This empowerment strengthens the licensing framework and enables the ministry to regulate the program more effectively. From January 2025 to April this year, 23 licenses have been approved. My ministry, through the Sarawak Tourism Board is strengthening the SMM2H program promotional initiative globally. This program is showcased at major international trade and travel exhibitions, such as ITB Berlin, ITB Berlin or Internationale Tourismus-Borse 2026, as well as several up-and-coming events such as the ITB China, the Seoul International Tourism Forum, World Travel Mart in London and other business-to-business engagements.

Creative Industry

My ministry continues to strengthen the development of a heritage based creative industry in Sarawak. Among others, the initiative such as children's book series, *"Sarawak Folktales for All"*, demonstrate how traditional heritage and oral narratives can be adapted into contemporary heritage and oral narratives can be adapted into contemporary creative content, for wider audiences through books, through animation and digital media.

In 2025, Tuan Speaker, two animations based on Sarawak's folktales were successfully produced by local Sarawak production houses. Another three folktales have been awarded to local

production houses for animation development and are expected to be completed by June of this year. At the same time, we continue to strengthen the mapping and coordination of creative industry players and stakeholders through the compilation of the creative industry practitioners into Sarawak's creative industry directory. Currently, the directory records more than 3,300 creative industry practitioners throughout Sarawak. The directory will help to increase the visibility of local creative talents and support better coordination of networking and talent development.

Culture and Heritage

Tuan Speaker, Sarawak's strength also lies in the cultural heritage or cultural diversity across 34 ethnic groups that we have in Sarawak. My ministry is intensifying efforts to document oral narratives, traditional practices and social histories, particularly those that remain unrecorded or under-recorded. We adopt a community-first approach, recognising community as the custodians of their own heritage. These narratives are translated into heritage trails, cultural programs and creative content that can be preserved and shared.

Old Kuching Smart Heritage (OKSHE)

My ministry is also reviving the Old Kuching Smart Heritage initiative, focusing on creating a smart heritage incorporating smart applications with community participation. One of the main initiatives is the publication of the book titled, *"The Revival of Songket & Keringkam Sarawak"*, honouring the late Puan Sri Datuk Amar Hajjah Juma'ani Tun Tuanku Haji Bujang which was launched by the Right Honourable Premier on the 27th of November 2025. The publication shows the government's commitment to preserving, empowering and celebrating our rich traditional textile heritage. Meanwhile, the Borneo International Textile Festival or BITF 2025 which was held on the 7th and 8th of December 2025 has helped to promote the region's rich textile heritage and creative industries.

Through OKSHE also, 21 heritages building signages and three heritage trails directional signages have been installed as part of the initiatives to strengthen the cultural and historical significance of the designated heritage area. In addition, an Urban Art Mural project at Dock Lane with the theme, *"Left to Right Flow: The Timeline of Kuching's Waterfront Legacy"* was completed recently and launched on the 5th of April 2026. It has turned the land into a vibrant place that used to be a land which nobody would want to go through. But now, it has become a very vibrant place and that is how thing can transform when you have mural, when you have graffiti, good graffiti being painted on the building and that is also the place where many visitors to the Brook Dockyard which is just next door, would want to take pictures or doing the selfies.

STRENGTHENING SARAWAK'S TOURISM INDUSTRY

Tuan Speaker, acknowledging the challenges posed by global uncertainties, my ministry is strengthening our efforts to drive and accelerate the growth of the tourism industry.

Major Tourism Infrastructure Projects

Sarawak continues to embark innovative approaches in preserving and celebrating our heritage and identity. The old Brooke Dockyard site has been transformed into Industrial Heritage Museum that showcases its historical and industrial significance. The museum was officially launched on 20th April 2026 by the Right Honourable Premier of Sarawak.

Meanwhile, our signature project, the Sarawak Performing Arts Centre is progressing as scheduled. As of April 2026, the physical progress is 34.13%, targeted for completion in the second quarter of 2027. This world-class venue aims to attract major global productions and visitors, creating a vibrant ecosystem for both the international performers as well as homegrown talent.

Another landmark project, the Redevelopment of MBKS Swimming Pool or Majlis Bandaraya Kuching Selatan into a Water Fun Park and Centre of UNESCO Creative City of Gastronomy is nearing completion with physical progress currently at 78.87%. This expected to be officiated or opened by the third quarter of this year, this dual-purpose landmark will combine recreational leisure and provide local chefs with a world-class platform to showcase their talent.

We continue to safeguard Sarawak's cultural heritage through the preservation of gazetted heritage buildings. The Sarawak Museum Department has completed the design for the restoration and upgrading of Sarawak's historical forts involving Fort Hose in Marudi, Fort Lily in Betong, Fort Emma in Kanowit and Fort Brooke in Julau. Hopefully, once it has all already been gazetted or fully renovated, we can have a fort trail starting from Kuching, going through right up to the northern region and stopping by, to visit some of these important forts that are part of our history.

Tourism, Arts and Heritage Grants

The Sarawak Government is committed to facilitating and accelerating the growth of tourism industry, arts and culture or art and heritage. For this purpose, Tuan Speaker, my ministry has been approved with three support grants, namely:

(a) Geran Sokongan Acara dan Pesta;
(b) Dana Mudahcara Warisan dan Kesenian Sarawak; *and*
(c) Geran Sokongan Kajian dan Penyelidikan Pelancongan, Warisan dan Kesenian Sarawak.

I hope that the Members of this august House, also will know the differences between these three grants, because there are those from your constituency who might be able to benefit for this grant. Not to just know the first grant. There is the *Geran Acara* or *Geran Pesta*. There are other grants where those talented artisans in your area could also apply to improve their skills. From January to April 2026 of this year, my ministry has approved RM22.45 million to support 137 events and programs, this is for the first grant.

This includes, RM21.1 million approved to support 109 events and festivals through the *Geran Sokongan Acara dan Pesta*. In addition, RM1.35 million were approved under the *Dana Mudahcara Warisan dan Kesenian Sarawak* to support 28 programs related to arts, culture and heritage organised by organisations, NGOs, schools, institutions of higher learning as well as private individuals. To further strengthen the development of tourism, arts, culture and heritage, my ministry has approved RM290,000 to support research proposals under the *Geran Sokongan Kajian dan Penyelidikan Pelancongan, Warisan dan Kesenian Sarawak* to identify emerging growth areas and to ensure tourism strategies are backed by impactful data driven research.

Major Events and Festivals

Tuan Speaker, major events and festivals stand as dynamic pillars of Sarawak's tourism development serving as a dynamic avenue for economic, social and cultural enrichment within our communities through sporting spectacles, cultural exhibitions, music performances or culinary celebrations. These gatherings draw a continuous stream of visitors from across Malaysia and beyond. The Sarawak Countdown 2026 which is going to be at the end of this year, cemented its, or last year, cemented its status as a regional tourism magnet, drawing over 40,000 attendees, despite the heavy rain at the time, including thousands of visitors from Brunei and Indonesia.

The Kuching Waterfront buzzed with energy as Sarawak clinched a Guinness World Record for a 1,706.7km drone relay. Headlined by regional icons Judika, KRU, and Dayang Nurfaizah, the night ended in a pyrotechnic masterpiece, positioning the Sarawak as the premier *"Gateway to Borneo"* for the year ahead.

The ministry supported the Avantgardey concert of ACG Concert 2026, a live orchestra concert held on the 31st of January 2026 at Stadium Perpaduan. I was there; I know that it was a sold-out

concert. The show featured Japanese dance group Avantgardey in their historic Borneo debut alongside a 57-piece orchestra and 50-member choir. The concert drew 2,491 attendees including 294 international visitors from seven countries.

Sports tourism in Sarawak is gaining momentum with flagship events such as the Miri Marathon, Kuching Marathon, Bintulu Marathon, they just recently last week, last weekend, the Hock Seng Lee Marathon, the Sarawak Energy Marathon, we have got so many marathons in Sarawak within the state, with the most marathon. I understand Sibu is going to have their own marathon, I've been checking why is Sibu not having its full marathon and I hope that Sibu will also have its marathon also because marathon is good for their health, it's good for the industry, there's so many who comes in from our neighbouring countries you know just to run in marathon, they have to stay somewhere, it might not be the five star hotels but they will be staying in the budget hotels, the homestays and all that and during marathon; I know all the low cost hotels are taken up. Miri Marathon recorded more than 7,900 runners with 54% of them coming from outside Sarawak, so you can just imagine half of those they run in Miri Marathon are from outside of Sarawak. While the Kuching Marathon has attracted more than 14,000 runners with 25% of them non-Sarawakian. My request to the organizer of the Kuching Marathon because that is the number one marathon in Sarawak. I want to see the numbers increase up to 30,000, one day we hope to be able to achieve it in the next few years.

Another major event, a triathlon event, the second edition of XTERRA Borneo Sarawak, was successfully organised on the 18th and 19th April 2026 in Sematan. This triathlon event featured 1.5km swimming in the sea, 32km bike ride, and 10km of running alongside other races for various categories. The event has shown a strong international turnout with over 365 athletes from 14 countries attending, marking a 35% increase from the previous year, that is 2025. This event demonstrates Sarawak's position as a key adventure tourism destination.

Another up-and-coming adventure trail or adventure product is the Silabur Ultra Trail 2026 which was successfully held on the 2nd and 3rd May 2026 at Kampung Batu Bedang, Serian and featured four main race distances including 100km, 50km, 30km and 15km. The event recorded a total of 581 participants including 130 international athletes from 11 countries. This reflects the event's continued appeal among global endurance athletes and contributes towards enhancing Sarawak's visibility as an emerging eco-adventure and trail running destination. Tahniahlah *to the wakil rakyat tempatan*, Dr. Simon, Yang Berhormat Dr. Simon.

Meanwhile, the Sibu International Powerboat Race 2026, held on the 24th till 26th April 2026 has created a history of its own with 251 powerboats entries into the Malaysia Book of Records under the category of the *"Most Number of Powerboats in a Single Event" ... (Applause)*…Can you imagine? 251 powerboats you know from all over, from all over, and it was in Sibu, and we'll make sure that this event will stays on for long, long time and it will be in the calendar of our tourism calendar.

Protection of Sarawak Signature Events

My ministry is strengthening the commercial value and protection of Sarawak's creative output through Intellectual Property (IP). IP plays an important role in safeguarding ownership and increasing the value of creative products, traditional cultural expressions and signature events.

Through collaboration with the Sarawak Multimedia Authority (SMA) and relevant stakeholders, the ministry has secured copyright for 41 signature events and two trademarks to date. We will continue to encourage wider IP registration, including Geographical Indication (GI) for heritage-based products such as *Baju Kuas Balau*, Buriek Kapit, and *Baju Gagong* Bintulu to ensure authenticity is preserved and communities benefit from their cultural assets.

Air Connectivity

Tuan Speaker, air connectivity remains the foundation of Sarawak's Tourism. Sarawak is on an island, there's no other way to come into Sarawak unless you're using boats or over land from Indonesia, the other easier way especially for the tourism industry is air connectivity, and that is the reason why I'm very, very happy with the Sarawak acquiring AirBorneo.

We are glad to note that Nine Air or 9 Air from China and Batik Air have launched direct flights connecting Kuching to Haikou and Guangzhou. At the same time, we look forward to the jet operation of AirBorneo that is scheduled to provide direct connectivity to Jakarta, to Singapore, Kota Kinabalu, Kuala Lumpur and other destination that we are going to identify.

In addition, by capitalizing on the established air connectivity with major domestic airports in Malaysia such as Kota Kinabalu, Johor Bahru, Kota Bharu, Pulau Pinang, and I saw from them, media also, Kuantan, because the Sultan of Kuantan who do want to see there is air connectivity from Kuching to Kuantan as well as Kuala Lumpur International Airport, we are targeting more visitors from the other parts of Malaysia coming into Sarawak.

Cruise Tourism

Cruise industry presents a significant and growing opportunity for Sarawak's tourism sector, offering not only substantial economic benefits but also fostering inclusive social impact and sustainable development.

Star Cruise, a Star Dream Cruise, an international cruise operator, has shown an interest in its plans to launch a Sarawak cruise package and include Sarawak's ports into its Southeast Asia cruise itineraries. For this purpose, the ministry is collaborating with Sarawak Trade and Tourism Office in Singapore or STATOS in pursuing the matter with Singapore Tourism Board and Marina Bay Cruise Centre, Singapore.

As for cruise tourism, the way I see it, we cannot wait for the main infra to be build. We have to look into how to get the cruise to come down here. The Singaporean cruise, they want it immediately possible within one year. If we are still thinking about building the jetty, building the port, we will take about five, ten years, you can forget it, you can forget it. That's why SEDC have got to look into it practically.

I love the cruise; I love to go on a cruise. I've been to several cruises all over the world. It's very very simple, they can just park at the sea, go into a boat then just go down to the, to the jetty. On the jetty, you don't have to, you don't need to have building just to cater for custom, immigration. It just a one table, one table because the moment you are thinking about building, building *untuk* custom *lah*, *untuk* immigration, forget it. That will take another five years, 10 years, then the cruise industry will look into some other destination. They will not be willing to consider because if you are to tell them we can only provide this facilities five years, 10 years, they can say we go other places. Theres so many other places. We have to think how to grab the opportunities when it is still very hot.

UNESCO Creative Cities Network (UCCN)

Since its destination or inscription as a UNESCO Creative City of Gastronomy in November 2021, Kuching has strengthened its creative gastronomy agenda at both the national and international levels. Kuching city is hosting the UNESCO Creative Cities of Gastronomy Annual Cluster Meeting from 3rd to 7th August 2026 this year. Besides the local and national participants, the event is expected to gather 200 international participants from all over the world and will be a platform for culinary exchange, knowledge sharing and industry collaboration.

At the same time, Sarawak continues to strengthen its international presence through participation in global culinary platforms and competitions. Sarawakian chefs and industry players

have achieved strong recognition at events such as the World chefs-endorsed Global Chef Challenge and the MasterChef of Foodex 2026 in Ho Chi Minh City early this year. Congratulations. These achievements highlight Sarawak's strength in preserving gastronomy tradition while reinforcing Kuching growing position as a leading gastronomy hub.

On another hand, when we have got 24 different ethnicities, definitely they are lots of cuisine, each ethnicity had got their own niche special food. The *ayam pansuh*, the *umai*, the *mi kolok*, the *laksa* Sarawak, there's so many, and that is why Sarawak is looked upon as a meeting port of gastronomy as well as culture.

Collaboration with the Federal Government

My ministry continues to work closely with our partners in the Federal Government, reservice, the Ministry of Tourism Malaysia also to bolster and accelerate Sarawak's tourism industry. Under the 13th Malaysia Plan, the Federal Government through the Ministry of Tourism, Arts and Culture, Malaysia or MOTAC has approved the project; Upgrading and Redevelopment of Taman Jubli Bukit Aup, Sibu under Rolling Plan 1 with an allocation amounting to RM11 million.

My ministry is also collaborating with MOTAC on the funding for the projects under the *Program Pemulihan, Pemuliharaan, Ubah Suai dan Naik Taraf*, where MOTAC has allocated RM1.2 million this year for three projects under this programme. It is a little bit too small actually, RM1.2 million. Itu macam *peanut* sahaja. I think MOTAC, since we have got a minister from Sarawak now, should relook into this. These projects include:

(a) Projek Naik taraf Infrastruktur Pelancongan Adaptif Banjir dan Pemerkasaan Fasiliti Interpretasi di Taman Negara Maludam;
(b) Pemulihan, Pemuliharaan Ubahsuai dan Naik Taraf bagi Menara Tinjau di Taman Awam Miri; *and*
(c) Projek Baik Pulih Jambatan dan Laluan Pejalan Kaki di Homestay Patrick Libau, Sungai Tanggap Niah.

As of 2025, the Sarawak Homestay Programme implemented by MOTAC recorded 74 registered clusters, involving 960 homestay operators and a total of 1,991 rooms. The programme generated income amounting to RM9.2 million. For the first quarter of 2026, homestay operators managed to generate an income amounting to RM2.4 million.

Perbadanan Kemajuan Kraftangan Malaysia Cawangan Sarawak, *ha*, this one has played a good role for Sarawak, it continues to play active role as our strategic partner in driving the development of craft industry. As of April of this year, Kraftangan Malaysia recorded total sales of RM6.18 million. Meanwhile, Jabatan Kebudayaan dan Kesenian Negara, Sarawak (JKKN Sarawak), which is also our very good partner in Sarawak, has also contributed significantly in promoting and showcasing Sarawak's creative industry to several events, among others, which is a must every year, *Festival Gendang Sarawak* which is also helps simultaneously during the Regatta Sarawak, and *Festival Teater Malaysia Peringkat Sarawak*. These are the two major events. They collaborate as well as do in 2026.

In line with the Visit Malaysia 2026, Tourism Malaysia continues to strengthen Sarawak destination visibility through promotional initiatives across Malaysia including expanding the *Jom ke Sarawak Programme* to Johor; to take advantage of the Singapore's travel industry players' presence. Tourism Malaysia is also promoting Sarawak in Kuala Lumpur through collaboration with the hotel, highlighting unique cultural charm of *Pesta Nukenen* in the Bario.

Capitalising on Bilateral and Regional Corporation

Sarawak continues to capitalise on regional platforms such as Brunei-Indonesia-Malaysia-Philippines East Asia Growth Area or BIMP–EAGA Growth Area, East Asia Inter-Regional Tourism

Federation or EATOF and Socio-Economic Corporation Malaysia Indonesia or SOSEK MALINDO to enhance promotional and increase visitors' arrival. Through the BIMP–EAGA tourism clusters, the ministry continues to advocate facilitation of seamless cross-border movement within BIMP–EAGA region. Meanwhile, SOSEK-MALINDO continues to be the platform for cultural and heritage collaboration. Through Sarawak Trade and Tourism Offices in Singapore, which we called STATOS, and in Brunei which we called STATOB, we continue to gain insight to the visitors' profile, facilitate Sarawak's industry players and stakeholders, whilst enhancing our tourism promotion.

HIGHLIGHTS OF REPORT BY AGENCIES

Under my ministry, there are five agencies that have contributed to the growth of tourism industry, protecting our cultural and heritage, bringing vibrancy to our creative industry as well as promoting arts in Sarawak.

Sarawak Museum Department

Currently, we have 20 active museums and galleries across Sarawak. These museums and galleries have recorded more than 130,000 visitors to date, a 5.50% increase as compared to the same corresponding period last year. Among our latest galleries are the Santubong Archaeological Park and Wallace Centre, which were officially launched on 4th October 2025. As of April 2026, these two galleries have recorded more than 14,000 visitors.

The latest museum is the Brooke Dockyard Industrial Heritage Museum. I think it might be one of the kinds in Malaysia or maybe the only one, that was opened to public on 21st April 2026. To date, the museum has attracted 19,603 visitors, just a matter of one month. I hope this figure is correct. The museum has attracted 19,000 to the Brooke Dockyard Industrial Heritage Museum in a matter of one month. We will check on that again. It cannot be one month, 19,000. It might be a little bit too big.

The Borneo Culture Museum (BCM) continues to establish itself as a premier tourism destination in Sarawak. The BCM welcomed almost 70,000 visitors between January and April of this year. Since its grand opening on 9th March 2022, the BCM has reach a remarkable milestone of more than 1.6 million total visitors. BCM also attracts high profile dignitaries, international delegates and royal guests. Between January to April this year, BCM hosted the visit by the Ambassador of France, the Ambassador of Hungary, and the Ambassador of Germany. The BCM also continues to bring in blockbuster exhibition such as Helios. There is Helios on the tv there by Luke Jeram, an artwork presentation of the sun from 17th November 2025 to 17th July 2026. To date, the exhibition has attracted almost 119,000 visitors. Kudos to the museum management which is led by Puan Nancy bin Jolhi.

The Museum Department continues to undertake conservation, and preservation works on heritage monuments. Three significant monuments namely Makam Sultan Tengah in Santubong, Lumbung Rentap *ataupun* Makam Rentap *lah* in Bukit Sibau, Pakan and the Makam Pengiran Matusin in Trombol, Kuching have been successfully preserved. The Museum Department is proud and committed to guarding the shared heritage. This commitment has encouraged remarkable public generosity, and I am pleased to share down here that in the first quarter of this year, the Museum Department has received 11 significant donations. I am happy to note that with the Museum Department showcasing and showing that we can look after our shared heritage. We are beginning to get a lot of donors. Jars and other things which might be, if you are to keep it at home, in your closet it might not be able be appreciated by Malaysians. But when you donate them to the museum, it will be showcased with the *cerita* down there and we would be able to know what are the things that being used by our forefathers and all that.

Among the 11 significant donation that I have mentioned just now, six jars, there, were donated by Madam Maney anak Nyiggang from Lepong Empeliau, Sri Aman. Thank you, Madam Maney, these jars have been in this family's possession and passed on for six generation. The Museum

Department also received a unique sawfish rostrum. There it is, *yang depan mulut "u" tu.* I am a fisherman but have not seen this fish, this *yu*, *ikan* shark, this shark. I think probably, extinct original, the shark with the saw in the front is called Sawfish Rostrum from Mr. Chyr Ye Hong from Kuching. The rostrum originated from Tatau, Bintulu which is estimated to be over 50 years old. This rostrum served as a fascinating specimen and show a glimpse of the biodiversity in northern Sarawak.

Another significant donation was an old copy of Mushaf Al-Maliki Qur'an, Kitab Al-Quran which is contributed by Abang Abdul Karim Bin Abang Yak. Thank you *lah* to Abang Abdul Karim as well as to Mr. Chyr Ye Hong and Madam Maney just now. This handwritten inscription within its pages reveal it was purchased in Kabong on 9th February 1942. Besides artifacts, the Museum Department also received a collection of historical documents from Mr. Ko Tee Hock. *Terima kasih*, Mr Ko @ Joseph Ko, including a 1937 passport and identity certificates from 1939 and 1940. There are all in the screen down there. That is how our passport looks like before Malaysia was formed.

In support of National Malaysia Digital Initiative, the Museum Department continues to embrace digital transformation in heritage preservation. In the first quarter of this year, Museum Department successfully digitised 621 old maps. At the same time, the Museum Department remains committed to undertaking significant research initiatives that encompass both tangible and intangible cultural heritage. Among the recent research are the Chinese Cultural Heritage in Bau District, Natural History Research Project in Sarawak, Bidayuh Traditional Musical Instrument, *Praktuong* and the Orang Ulu Child Naming Ceremony. The Museum Department also continues to conduct archaeological field survey focusing on significant sites such as Bukit Serapah, Gua Sireh, Batu 18 and Bukit Berhala in Serian as well as Gua Cupak in Padawan, and *Gua Lungup* in Bau. These surveys aim to reassess the current condition of the sites, while updating archaeological records and supporting evidence-based research in archaeological studies.

Sarawak Tourism Board

The Sarawak Tourism Board (STB) is moving forward with the Elevation, Diversification, Growth, and Empowerment (EDGE) marketing strategy for 2026–2030. This bolder, more strategic framework prioritises innovative promotion to strengthen brand visibility and ensure high-impact ROI (Return on Investment) for a more robust business ecosystem.

Tuan Speaker, from January to April 2026, Sarawak Tourism Board completed approximately 26% out of 68 marketing programs planned for this year, across various targeted markets. Sarawak's tourism industry players reported sales value estimated at RM1.61 million. Among the major travel fairs in which STB has participated are:

(a) ITB Berlin, Vakantiebeurs and Matka Travel Fair in the Europe region;
(b) Total Holiday Options (THO) Mega Roadshow in Oceania region;
(c) Outbound Travel Mart (OTM) in Mumbai;
(d) South Asia Travel and Tourism Exchange (SATTE) New Delhi in India;
(e) ASEAN Tourism Forum (ATF) the Philippines;
(f) National Association of Travel Agents Singapore (NATAS) Holidays in Singapore; and
(g) MATTA Fair in Sabah as well as in Kuala Lumpur.

STB has formulated innovative packages or strategies based on big data-driven market intelligence. In the first quarter of 2026, STB conducted five market surveys during its B2B and B2C sessions, focusing on Europe, focusing on India, Oceania, Singapore, and the domestic market. The market survey insights revealed that Sarawak national parks, authentic local food, museums and heritage sites scored the highest in appeal among both domestic and international markets.

STB has continued to strengthen its digital marketing efforts in the first quarter of 2026 and has recorded approximately 60 million impressions strengthening of Sarawak's digital presence via collaborations with key online partners such as Amadeus, Traveloka, Tripadvisor, Tripzilla, Ctrip, Qunar, Skyscanner and Expedia.

In the first quarter of 2026, STB recorded over RM19.6 million in PR Value an increase of approximately 14% from RM17.2 million in the same period in 2025, by extensive coverage across domestic, regional and international media outlets, including Wanderlust, Going Places, Songlines, Gaya Travel Magazines and robust Out-of-Home (OOH) strategy in countries such as Singapore, Brunei, Indonesia, India and United Kingdom, among others, contributed to driving global interest in Sarawak's eco-tourism, indigenous culture, and culinary diversity, positioning Sarawak as a premier destination in the Southeast Asia region.

Currently, STB has received a total of 86 applications for marketing support through the Strategic Partnership Collaboration Fund (SPCF), Visitors Incentive Programme (VIP) and Sarawak Tourism Online Ecosystem Fund (STOEF) with a combined disbursement of RM600,000. These are ongoing initiatives to boost visitor arrivals by incentivising Sarawak tourism industry partners while enhancing Sarawak's visibility and competitiveness in the regional and global tourism landscape.

Advocating responsible tourism, STB has collaborated with Sarawak Forestry Corporation (SFC) for a long-term carbon offsetting initiative at the world-famous Rainforest World Music Festival to establish a new standard for *"Green Festivals"* in alignment with the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals. The proceeds from ticket sales and sponsorships will contribute to the event sustainability management. Every ticket that you buy when you go to the Rainforest World Music Festival, part of it will be contributed for sustainability, for our green programme, planting of trees.

From November 2025 until May 2026, STB has received 12 major awards nationally and internationally. *Tahniah,* to the Sarawak Tourism Board as well as to the CEO, Dr Sharzede and the team, highlighting its excellence in destination marketing, sustainability, creative events and overall tourism performance. Among the latest awards, one of the latest ones was just in the last few days are:

(a) Best Destination Marketing Campaign Award 2026 (OTM Mumbai 2026, India);
(b) Excellence in Sustainable Tourism Promotion Malaysia 2026 from World Business Outlook Awards, Singapore;
(c) Leading Regional Tourism Promotion Agency Malaysia 2026 from World Business Outlook Awards, Singapore;
(d) Best Tourism Board for Destination Marketing Malaysia 2026 from the World Business Outlook Awards also from Singapore; and
(e) I think this is the latest I think, Asian Tourism and Hospitality Awards 2025-2026 (Malaysia) Excellence in State Tourism Board Leadership 2025.

We are very proud of you, STB. The 29th Edition of Rainforest World Music Festival (RWMF) with the theme *"Regenerations: Roots & Rhythms"* is scheduled on the 26th to the 28th, 26th, 27th, 28th of June 2026 which is aimed in attracting global audiences, blending traditional and contemporary music in a captivating rainforest setting at Sarawak Cultural Village, showcasing over 200 performers from 13 countries. I am made to understand that there will be a few royalties from West Malaysia, there will be coming just for the fest. There will be many ambassadors, they were based in Kuala Lumpur, they will be coming also and that will make the Rainforest World Music Festival into much focus or much more given the highlights.

Alongside World Music Festival, World, Rainforest World Music Festival, there's another event which is interrelated, this also part of the role of the ministry as well as the Sarawak Tourism Board to inculcate, to develop better youth for the future. It's called the Rainforest Youth Summit (RAYS) under the theme *"Youth: Many Ways, One Planet"*. There are many things that we do for the youth. I'm not touching on the Ministry of Youth here, but I know yesterday there ware some comments about the youth. The Ministry of Youth must do something. But I'll touch on that in the next *ucapan*.

This Rainforest Youth Summit or RAYS is a two-day summit gathering more than 700 youths from the Asian region committed to sustainability, fostering future leaders. Emphasizing responsible

tourism, RAYS aim to position Sarawak as a forward-thinking destination by enhancing the overall experience through its alignment with the Rainforest World Music Festival.

So, you can see that apart from building up the youth in Sarawak, apart from building up good citizen in Sarawak, we are already going outside of Sarawak. This is the third edition. I still remember, the first edition we bring in student leaders from public universities within South Asia. We paid for the cost, we bring them here, we get international speakers to tell them about their role as future leader, because when they are in public universities, that is a very high likely that they would become future leaders in their own country. So that's why we bring them here, to teach them about sustainability, good governance, about the responsibilities of looking after our environment and this thing is continuing now. Even though we might not be giving free passage anymore. But we are still doing that effort to build up strong good future leaders from within and without.

Sarawak is scheduled to host the upcoming PATA Travel Mart (PTM), on the 18th to 20th August 2026. The event is expected to welcome over 1,000 participants comprising international thought leaders, industry changemakers, and senior decision-makers from over 60 countries to discuss the challenges and opportunities facing the tourism industry.

Business Events Sarawak

The ministry, through Business Events (BE) Sarawak, is capitalising on business events, also recognised as Meetings, Incentives, Conferences and Exhibitions (MICE). It's always known as MICE, MICE they said, but now, more glamourous term is Business Event. *Macam pasar malamlah, kalau dulu kita panggil pasar malam, pasar malam,* now we called it uptown, uptown, we don't call it *pasar malam,* uptown*, ada nama* glamour *sikitlah*. Through MICE, it has been able to drive the growth of visitors to Sarawak.

For 2026, to date, Sarawak, BE Sarawak or Business Event Sarawak has secured 53 of 140 targeted events through, up to 2028, attracting over 25,000 delegates. These events are projected to generate RM205.1 million in Total Economic Impact. This is Total Economic Impact; it does not include yet the tourism receipts. Among the secured events are the 11th International Union Against Tuberculosis and Lung Disease Asia Pacific Regional Conference 2028 with 1,000 delegates; the 13 Asian Pacific Organisation for Cancer Prevention General Assembly and Conference 2026, with 600 delegates; and the Borneo Cardiology Conference 2026, with 600 delegates.

As of April 2026, Sarawak became the host destination for 20 business events through the support of BE Sarawak, generating RM37.2 million in Total Economic Impact. Key events include Asia Pacific Aerospace Conference and Exhibition 2026, International Conference on Biomass, Biofuels & Green Transitions 2026, and International Conference of Sustainable Smart Cities 2026. Beyond the direct return of the events, 53% of delegates extended their stay for leisure, further benefiting Sarawak's tourism sector. As a leading destination in the legacy impact of business events, Sarawak is leveraging business events as a platform to support the goals of the Post COVID-19 Development Strategy 2030.

Business Events Sarawak is working towards increasing the number of business events that delivers meaningful social, economic, and environmental benefits for Sarawak. From 2024 to 2025, 60 business events were identified for legacy impact measurement and documentation to assess their long. Where am I? Of these, 10 events have been validated as legacy case studies, demonstrating lasting contributions in areas such as knowledge sharing, industry development, sustainability, and community well-being. These include the Borneo International Water and Wastewater Conference 2024, the 2nd Regional Conference on Agrobiodiversity Conservation and Sustainable Utilisation, and the 13th Asian Aerosol Conference 2024.

Sarawak's position as a preferred international business events destination continues to gain global recognition. At the Meetings Show Asia Pacific 2026 in Singapore, the Sarawak Pavilion attracted more than 1,300 visitors, reflecting strong international interest in Sarawak's business

events offerings. To further strengthen Sarawak's visibility and attract future business event opportunities, Business Events Sarawak will continue its international promotion efforts by participating in IMEX Frankfurt, Germany which is about now, 19th - 21st May 2026, as well as the China International MICE Exchange in Beijing from the 3rd - 5th November 2026.

In addition, Business Events Sarawak hosted promotional roadshows in the Peninsular Malaysia and destination update sessions in Singapore to strengthen industry engagement, enhance market presence, and further position Sarawak as a leading business events destination in the region. Business Events Sarawak's communication initiatives generated RM6.5 million in earned media value, further strengthening Sarawak's international profile through increased global visibility and industry confidence.

In line with the Sarawak's commitment to sustainable business events development, Business Events Sarawak in collaboration with Events Industry Council or EIC will host the Sustainable Event Professional Certificate or SEPC program in Kuching; on August 20th and 21st of this year. The program will benefit 50 local industry players or partners by enhancing knowledge and capabilities in sustainable event management practices.

Sarawak Craft Council

The Sarawak Craft Council continues to promote, to preserve and develop the Sarawak's traditional handicrafts. The number of registered craft entrepreneurs in Sarawak has increased, *oh* these are the registered one *ya*, has increased from 1,503 in 2025 to 1,593 in April 2026. It might not be a big increase, but at least there is an improvement. In line with the technological achievement or advancement, Sarawak Craft Council focuses on the integration of modern technology and applications in craft designs, cultural and heritage preservation. In doing so, Sarawak Craft Council is working closely with the community by cultivating professional business skills.

The Sarawak Craft Council also continues to strengthen craft development through capacity-building. As of April 2026, Sarawak Craft Council had organised 10 capacity-building programs involving 156 participants aimed at developing highly skilled craftsmen and equipping them with the necessary business acumen traits. And in addition, Sarawak Craft Council is collaborating with Perbadanan Kemajuan Kraftangan Malaysia, Cawangan Sarawak in several programs including capacity building, craft sales and exhibitions in both local and national events. At the same time, Sarawak Craft Council is collaborating closely with international craft bodies such as the ASEAN Handicraft Promotion & Development Association or AHPADA, Asia Pacific Craft Association or APCA and British Council.

Under the *Program Khas Bumiputera* funded by the Federal Government, the Sarawak Craft Council will be implementing the *Program Pembangunan Modal Insan untuk Penggiat Kraf di Sarawak* that will involve 100 participants from the rural areas. Sarawak's craft sector is further strengthened through strategic promotion and marketing strategy initiatives. A total of 90 craft entrepreneurs has participated several domestic and international events such as INACRAFT in Indonesia, MATKA Fair in Helsinki Finland, and MATTA Fair in Kuala Lumpur. Through these events, entrepreneurs have the opportunity to gain new insight, enhance skills, strengthen networking opportunities and international craft communities.

In preserving traditional arts, the Sarawak Craft Council is collaborating with NGOs, for example in the processing of natural-based dyes from plants, use of alternative materials and new technologies in the making of crafts. On another note, I wish to appeal also to the private sector especially the big corporations in Sarawak to also come and assist. You cannot expect Sarawak Craft Council and the government only to be helping. Just like in sports or other subject matters, craft is another matter where the big corporations, those that are making money must also be contributing back.

I have to put give due cognition down here to Sarawak Energy. Sarawak Energy has been embarking on this kind of CSR program deep into the interior trying to develop those that are staying in the longhouses, in the settlement, in building them up to become well-verse to become good crafts people. The other big companies I won't name them because with the oil and gas industries coming up, they will be many more, then just swell your *dana* make it grow big and pay the Federal Government. You also should contribute back to society by embarking on your CSR program. I would love to see something like that initiated by the many companies that are in Sarawak. Well, that can also be a way for you to reduce your tax by embarking in all these CSR programs or in developing our sportsmen.

Majlis Seni Sarawak

Majlis Seni Sarawak focuses on showcasing and promoting the rich heritage of Sarawak's 34 different ethnic groups through its programmes, *Festival Kesenian Sarawak* or FKS and *Sarawakku Sayang* or SKS 2026. These programmes highlight the unique performances of various ethnic communities. Through *Kelas Bimbingan Seni, Majlis Seni Sarawak* continues its commitment to empower talent. To empower talent development in creative industry in Sarawak. Talented applicants even from the aged of seven years old, you can see the picture there. From aged of seven to 40 are invited to enrol in various classes, including traditional dances, traditional music, modern music, theatre, arts, arts as in painting, and vocal coaching.

Under the *Skim Galakan Kesenian Geran MySeni*, Majlis Seni Sarawak continues to support aspiring local talent and start-up applications in the creative industries in Sarawak. The support is given to various programs including:

(a) *Menghasilkan Lagu Tradisional Joget dalam Dialek Sarawak* from the 25th of April to the 19th of May in Kuching;
(b) *Bengkel Ngerembaika Pantun Iban Edisi yang ke-2* from 25th to the 26th of July in Rumah Rantai in Sekuau, Sibu;
(c) *Ekspo Alat Muzik Lutong* from the 28th to the 30th of August 2026 in Kuching*;*
(d) *Bengkel Pementasan Teater* from the 1st to the 6th of September 2026 at four selected schools in Kuching*;*
(e) *Bengkel Gendang Rayah Saratok* from the 4th to the 5th of September 2026; and
(f) *Pesta Semarak Seni Jawa (tok mesti sidak Kolong tok) ... (Laughter)…Pesta Semarak Seni Jawa,* from 4th to the 5th of September 2026 in Kuching.

RESPONSES TO ISSUES RAISED BY THE AHLI-AHLI YANG BERHORMAT

Tuan Speaker, responses to issues raised by the Ahli-ahli Yang Berhormat. I wish to, I would like to thank the Ahli-ahli Yang Berhormat bagi Murum, Ngemah, Baleh, Engkilili and others that might not have been placed down here, who have raised pertinent issues related to tourism industry.

In line with the strategy to boost local and domestic tourism, my ministry will consider agrotourism as one of the focus areas. For this purpose, these are the recommendations from the other, from the Ahli-ahli Yang Berhormat. For this purpose, my ministry will look closely with relevant stakeholders especially Ministry of Food Industry, Commodity and Regional Development Sarawak or M-FICORD, Department of Agriculture or DOA, Divisional Tourism Task Group or DTTG of each division and private sectors to identify potential agrotourism sites.

The ecotourism potential in *Lusong Laku* has been identified, whereby the ministry of, where the ministry engaging with Kapit Divisional Tourism Task Group to plan necessary facilities and amenities to support the tourism activities. Meanwhile, the potential of *Panchur Gelanggang* and *Panchur Mabong* waterfalls will be studied further.

My ministry is actively pursuing heritage and community-based tourism to showcase our culture and blend it with traditional crafts, gastronomy, lifestyle and environment. Traditional Iban

longhouse is one of the most recognised attractions, especially in Ulu Skrang which will continue to be promoted. Engkilili, being the entry point. *Ney YB Engkilili tek? Oh, tidak ada? ada sini?* Engkilili, being the entry point to Ulu Skrang, has the potential for homestay programme to complement tourism activities in the area. For this purpose, my ministry will consider homestay programme and capacity building for Engkilili.

CONCLUSION

In conclusion, Tuan Speaker*,* sebelum mengakhiri ucapan penggulungan ini, saya ingin juga merakamkan setinggi-tinggi penghargaan kepada Tuan Speaker dan Timbalan Speaker di atas kecemerlangan dalam pengendalian persidangan Dewan kali ini.

Terima kasih juga saya ucapkan kepada Setiausaha Kerajaan Sarawak, Setiausaha Persekutuan Sarawak dan semua Ketua-ketua Jabatan di peringkat Sarawak dan juga Persekutuan, *and the agencies under them*, serta Setiausaha Dewan Undangan Negeri dan sekretariat, *all the stenos*, di atas kerjasama kepada kementerian dan juga perjalanan persidangan kita kali ini.

Saya rasa tidak lengkap juga kalau saya tidak mengucapkan setinggi-tinggi terima kasih kepada semua mereka yang datangnya daripada Kementerian Pelancongan, Industri Kreatif dan juga Seni Persembahan, Setiausaha Tetap dan juga agensi-agensi di bawah kementerian yang telah bertungkus lumus menyediakan teks ucapan ataupun penggulungan untuk kali ini dan sepanjang tahun memberi komitmen yang begitu tinggi sekali sehingga industri pelancongan, kebudayaan, kesenian, saya dapat melihat berkembang dengan begitu pesat sekali.

Sebagai penutup, izinkan saya mengakhiri ucapan ini dengan tiga rangkap pantun. Tiga pembukaan, tiga penutupan, sebagai cerminan harapan dan aspirasi kita bersama:

Mentari senja di Pantai Tusan,
Keindahan sawah di Long Semadoh;
Sarawak destinasi penuh keunikan,
Memikat hati pelancong jauh…(Applause)…

Pergi ke Sambir membeli ambal,
Singgah sebentar di Tanjong Embang;
Kerajaan GPS akan terus kekal,
Sarawakku Sayang kian gemilang…(Applause)…

Batang Lupar jauh seberang,
Jembatan tembu enda berasai;
Minggu baru becuti panjai,
Selamat Hari Raya enggau Hari Gawai.

Oohaa…(Applause)…

Saya ingin mengambil kesempatan ini untuk mengucapkan Selamat Hari Raya Aidiladha kepada semua muslimin muslimat serta selamat menyambut Hari Gawai kepada semua masyarakat Dayak. *Gayu Guru Gerai Nyamai, Lantang Senang Nguan Menua* semua. Semoga musim menuai ini membawa kebahagiaan, kesihatan yang baik, dan juga kemakmuran kepada negara dan juga negeri kita*. Insha Allah*. Dengan ini, Tuan Speaker, saya menyokong Usul Penghargaan ke atas Ucapan Pembukaan oleh Tuan Yang Terutama Yang di-Pertua Negeri Sarawak. Sekian, *Wabillahi Taufiq Wal Hidayah Wassalamualaikum* W.B.T.

Timbalan Speaker: Terima kasih, Yang Berhormat Menteri. Seterusnya, adakah Yang Berhormat Menteri nak teruskan atau nak rehat sebentar? Your option, please.

Menteri Pelancongan, Industri Kreatif dan Seni Persembahan; Menteri Belia, Sukan dan Pembangunan Usahawan; dan Ahli Dewan Undangan Negeri N.15 Asajaya (YB Dato Sri Haji Abdul Karim Rahman Hamzah): Tuan Speaker, kalau dapat kita ada rehat sebentar kerana teks untuk yang kedua itu pendek sahaja.

Timbalan Speaker: 15 minit.

Menteri Pelancongan, Industri Kreatif dan Seni Persembahan Sarawak; Menteri Belia, Sukan dan Pembangunan Usahawan Sarawak; dan Ahli Dewan Undangan Negeri N.15 Asajaya (YB Dato Sri Haji Abdul Karim Rahman Hamzah): 15 minit, *okay*, terima kasih.

Timbalan Speaker: Terima kasih, Ahli-ahli...*Okay*...Bawang Assan, Yang Berhormat.

YB Dato Sri Wong Soon Koh: Thank you. Thank you, Tuan Speaker. I would like to bring to the kind attention of Dato Sri Minister for Tourism, that there is a well-known restaurant at Changi Airport, Singapore, located at Jewel Terminal No.1, known as Jewel Canteen, serving authentic Sarawak and Borneo dishes. Since commencing operations some three years ago, the restaurant has won numerous national and international calorie awards. I was told that it was one of the best judges, one of the best restaurants for Malaysia.

I understand that the business is doing well. However, considering the monthly rental, I was told is reportedly around SGD30,000 per month. It would be meaningful if Sarawak's Ministry of Tourism could somehow extend some promoting support to that restaurant. I think we all should be proud of that restaurant set up by Kuching, few entrepreneurs, the few ladies. Visitors from all over the world who dine at the Jewel Canteen, are introduced to unique flavours, culture and identity of Sarawak through the food. In many ways, this restaurant serves as ambassador for Sarawak because through their authentic Sarawak dishes, it helped make Sarawak better known and appreciated internationally.

And I was hoping that perhaps the Ministry of Tourism Sarawak could probably help to promote further this restaurant. In fact, very well-known international celebrities have visited that restaurant. In fact, the former British Prime Minister, Gordon Brown was there, Tony Fernandes was there, many ambassadors from all over the world have frequented that restaurant.

So, Tuan Speaker, my point is, if the Ministry of Tourism could look into the possible ways of somehow promoting further this restaurant because they in fact put Sarawak on the map of world tourism. Thank you, Tuan Speaker.

Timbalan Speaker: Thank you, Yang Berhormat Bawang Assan.

Menteri Pelancongan, Industri Kreatif dan Seni Persembahan Sarawak; Menteri Belia, Sukan dan Pembangunan Usahawan Sarawak; dan Ahli Dewan Undangan Negeri N.15 Asajaya (YB Dato Sri Haji Abdul Karim Rahman Hamzah): If I may.

Timbalan Speaker: Menteri, please response…*(Interruption)*…

Menteri Pelancongan, Industri Kreatif dan Seni Persembahan Sarawak; Menteri Belia, Sukan dan Pembangunan Usahawan Sarawak; dan Ahli Dewan Undangan Negeri N.15 Asajaya (YB Dato Sri Haji Abdul Karim Rahman Hamzah): Well. Terima kasih, Yang Berhormat bagi Bawang Assan atas makluman yang telah diberi. I am aware of the establishment of this famous kiosk at Changi Airport. It's called Canteen. They sell very authentic Sarawak cuisines. And also, I'm very, very proud of the achievement of these three young ladies that operate the Canteen. Among one of them is Evelyn.

It's not easy to get a site in Changi Airport, especially in the food industry because Singapore is so stringent when it comes to those that are selling food. At the point of entry and the point of

going out. Because they do not want, in the event of food poisoning, it will affect the image of Singapore. So, whoever is going to operate a restaurant or a food kiosk at Changi Airport, it has got to go through that screening, including from KDN Singapore, Kementerian Dalam Negeri. Because I have met the three young ladies who operate it.

How did you manage to get down there? Because that is the only Malaysian restaurant that managed to penetrate and *jual* at that place, at the Jewel. Well, I know this is a business matter. They are doing well. But we will definitely look into how to support them. Probably not in subsidising the rental because that might not be proper. But probably in looking into how we can park our adverts. But then we have to pay them for something like that, which they can use to support or to reduce the burden of paying for the big rental.

Well, I've had my sitting with them because I'm very, very proud of what these three young ladies have done for Sarawak and in promoting Sarawak cuisines. I wish to inform also there is another young lady from Sarawak who has made it very big in the gastronomy in Beijing, actually. The restaurant is called Mulu in Beijing. She has gone so high up. Even in the high-speed train in China, you see the advert of Mulu, and you feel so proud because you know when it is Mulu, it's Sarawak. And they sell very authentic *Laksa Sarawak* in Mulu.

So, you can see that Malaysian entrepreneurs, *vis-a-vis* those who are in the gastronomy industry, they have been making, going places. And we do hope that there will be many more coming out from Sarawak. Not only promoting, building it up in Kuching, in Borneo, or in Sarawak, but also going abroad. Going abroad to promote our cuisines. Thank you, *sekali lagi* Bawang Assan *pun* highlight. We'll definitely look into this. Thank you.

Timbalan Speaker: Thank you, Yang Berhormat Menteri. Ahli-ahli Yang Berhormat, we shall adjourn until 11:30 a.m., please.

(Mesyuarat ditangguhkan pada jam 11:11 pagi)

(Mesyuarat dimulakan pada jam 11:47 pagi)

[Timbalan Speaker mempengerusikan Mesyuarat]

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

Menteri Pelancongan, Industri Kreatif dan Seni Persembahan Sarawak; Menteri Belia, Sukan dan Pembangunan Usahawan Sarawak; dan Ahli Dewan Undangan Negeri N.15 Asajaya (YB Dato Sri Haji Abdul Karim Rahman Hamzah): Okay, terima kasih, Tuan Speaker. Bismillahirrahmanirrahim. Assalamualaikum W.B.T. Salam sejahtera, Salam Sarawak Maju Makmur dan juga *Salam Segulai Sejalai*.

Tuan Speaker, once again I would like to express my heartfelt thanks to His Excellency, Tuan Yang Terutama Yang di-Pertua Negeri Sarawak, for his kind advice during this opening address of this august House this time round. Among others, His Excellency stressed the importance of unity and human development which has contributed to the rapid social economic development of Sarawak.

In line with this, my ministry will further strengthen our strategies and intensify our effort to move our youth and sports sectors forward. We will continue to work closely with both the federal and state agencies, as well as the youth and sports associations. Tuan Speaker, I will now report on my ministry achievements thus far.

YOUTH DEVELOPMENT

As emphasized under the PCDS 2030, the development of quality human capital remains one of Sarawak's highest priorities. Therefore, empowering youth through leadership, through education, entrepreneurship, civic engagements, and environmental advocacy is not anymore, an option, but a strategic necessity.

The Sarawak Government is committed to ensuring that every youth is given equal opportunities to growth, to contribute, and to succeed. By nurturing capable, resilient, and future-ready youth, we are building a generation that will lead Sarawak towards a progressive, inclusive, and sustainable future.

Strengthening Sarawak's Global Youth Presence

One of Sarawak's key international youth empowerment initiatives this year was the Ship for Southeast Asia and Japanese Youth Programme (SSEAYP) International Conference (SICO) Borneo 2026, held from the 30th of January to the 1st of February 2026 in Kuching, Sarawak. The conference successfully gathered 350 youth leaders from Malaysia, from Brunei Darussalam, from Indonesia, as well as from Singapore to engage in meaningful dialogue on sustainable development, youth leadership, innovation, artificial intelligence, integrity, and economic opportunities for youth.

More importantly, SICO Borneo served as a strategic platform to strengthen regional and international networking among youth, while positioning Sarawak as an active contributor to global youth discourse. Beyond fostering cross-border collaboration and partnerships, the conference also represented a significant milestone in Sarawak's preparation to host the SSEAYP *"Port of Call"* in 2027. This *"Port of Call"* is a ship sponsored by the Japanese Government, they will come down to Sarawak bringing in youth of several nations, that will be next year in 2027, to come down to Sarawak where they will participate in many youth programmes.

In continuing Sarawak's commitment towards sustainability and environmental leadership, 300 local youths will participate in the Rainforest Youth Summit (RAYS) 2026 together with other invited ASEAN youths, held from the 24th to the 26th of June in conjunction with the Rainforest World Music Festival. Carrying the theme, *"Youth: Many Ways, One Planet"*, the summit aims to cultivate environmental awareness and empower youth leaders, not just from Sarawak but all around the ASEAN region, to champion sustainable development for future generations.

Uniting Youth, Strengthening Communities

Apart from international engagement, my ministry continues to strengthen grassroots and community-based youth programmes such as *Juh Berambeh Sungkey* in Kuching and Asajaya, as well as *Imarah Belia Ramadan* in Lundu, Sibu and Mukah. Collectively, these initiatives brought together more than 6,000 participants and served as important platforms to foster unity, volunteerism, inclusivity and mutual respect among youth associations, community leaders and local organisations.

In line with our commitment to strengthen youth engagement at the community level, several other initiatives have also been planned for the year namely, among others:

(a) *Jelajah Belia Sarawak* – This is a statewide tour designed to bridge the gap between the rural youth and State's development road map, ensuring local voices are synchronized with our strategic needs, this is a very popular programme under the ministry where we go deep into the interiors of Sarawak. One of the programs the other day was at, if I am not mistaken Long Semado again, *yeah;*

(b) *Eksplorasi Belia* – An immersive leadership program in the interior of Limbang, Long Semado focused on rural resilient, heritage preservation, and community building among youth in remote areas;

(c) Sarawak-Johor-Sabah-Melaka Youth Integration Programme – We are not just confining ourselves to the state, but we are also expanding. So, that the youth leaders will be open in the outlook together with youth leaders from other states, and we are starting with Sabah, Johor, and Melaka, and we called it Sarawak-Johor-Sabah-Melaka Youth Integration Programme. A strategic collaboration between Sarawak, Johor, Sabah, and Melaka to foster national unity and cross-state exchange of best practices in youth leadership and entrepreneurship, with Melaka serving as the host state for this year's programme. Initially it was just Johor, Sabah, and Sarawak but Melaka came to know about it, they are keen to be part of it. So, that is why now it is include Melaka. So now it is Melaka, Johor, Sabah, and Sarawak; and

(d) *Belia Kasih Belia Sayang* – This is a social welfare initiative where youth engage directly with community care centers to understand social challenges firsthand while providing meaningful support to residents.

Celebrating The Aspirations of Sarawak Youth

Building upon the momentum of *Minggu Belia Sarawak* last year, Sarawak will once again celebrate the aspirations, the talents and achievements of its youth through a week-long programme in Samarahan this August. This celebration will serve as a dynamic platform to empower youth participation, nurture leadership values, encourage innovation, entrepreneurship and unity among youth. The *Anugerah Belia Sarawak 2026* will also be awarded to outstanding individuals and youth organisations for their contributions towards youth development and the progress of Sarawak, this should be in August.

Youth & Community Organisations

(a) *Pertubuhan Belia Kebangsaan Bersatu Sarawak* (SABERKAS) – As the biggest youth movement in Sarawak, SABERKAS continues to play a crucial role in nurturing youth leadership and empowering community development initiatives throughout Sarawak. This initiative encompasses sports and recreation, social and welfare, leadership and human capital, science, technology and innovation, women empowerment, as well as other community engagement programmes. Among the programmes successfully implemented are:

(i) SABERKAS Sports Carnival (KASUS) involving more than 8,000 youth from 82 SABERKAS branches and the recent one which was about a week ago, the SABERKAS President's Cup Futsal Championship, with the involvement of 600 members from 34 branches from all over Sarawak. It was successfully held at the Arena Sukan Futsal Court in Kuching;

(ii) *Program SABERKAS Prihatin* and *Program SABERKAS Bubur Lambuk* with the aim to help those in need and foster close relationships with the community. I still remember *SABERKAS Prihatin* was setup during the COVID time. That is one of our ways to get the youth to be involved with the distribution of the food basket at that time. And after the COVID era, we still keep *SABERKAS Prihatin* and get them to be very involved whenever there is flood, whenever there is disaster happening, fire and all that, I still remember when we have the landslide in Miri, when we have got the flood in Sibu, *SABERKAS Prihatin* was among the frontliners in distributing food to the affected community;

(iii) SABERKAS members actively participated in the SICO Borneo 2026 and are also set to take part in the upcoming RAYS 2026. These two international events provide a strategic

platform for SABERKAS members to interact with international participants and gain valuable experiences;

(iv) Under the science, technology, innovation initiatives, SABERKAS have successfully organised Artificial Intelligence (AI) Literacy Programme in four zones ended in December 2025. With a total of 299 participation, SABERKAS inspire to continue this programme to other SABERKAS areas in 2026;

(v) 950 participants of SABERKAS took part in programmes sponsored by the SABERKAS Women's Bureau, namely Shoe Artisan Exhibition, *Ziarah Kasih, Sumbang Ihya Ramadhan*, and Fit & Fun Run SABERKAS 2026. And apart from that the Women Bureau they also went to Kunming, China if I'm not mistaken for bilateral understanding and also to study what is good that they can promote or bring into Sarawak. The overwhelming response from all these programmes has inculcate more women involvement in social and sports activities and apart from that has bring more youth, wanting to participate and become member of SABERKAS; and

(vi) SABERKAS, in collaboration with *Majlis Belia Malaysia*, successfully organised two Program Reach Out SABERKAS *Cawangan Bersama Komuniti* to encourage youth participation in community activities and promote local cultural heritage. The programmes recorded a total of 600 participants from Sibu and Miri.

SABERKAS will continue to collaborate with ministries and agencies to enhance youth capacity and cultivate strong leadership for the future.

Persatuan Mencegah Dadah Malaysia (PEMADAM)

Tuan Speaker, as of May 2026, PEMADAM Sarawak has implemented 46 programmes, comprising 20 state-level and 26 district-level initiatives. These programmes result from strategic collaborations between PEMADAM Sarawak, District Offices, NGOs, and other associations. The framework for this year's activities was established during the PEMADAM Sarawak Coordination Meeting on the 26th of January 2026, which was attended by all 45 district officers and department representatives.

The year began with the Break Off Saribas Program, that is on the 14th to 15th February, which drew nearly 3,000 participants to activities designed to promote a drug-free lifestyle. Additionally, during the PEMADAM CARE programme, 3,000 packs of *bubur lambuk* featuring anti-drug awareness stickers were distributed in Kuching, in Samarahan and across multiple districts, including in Lundu, Miri, and as well as Simunjan.

To safeguard the youth, the Anti-Drug and Anti-Bullying Campaign was launched on the 31st of March 2026, at SK Bandaran Sibu No. 3. This initiative is a collaboration between the Sarawak State Education Department and Polis Diraja Malaysia. As a result of these continuous drug awareness programmes, PEMADAM has contributed to a reduction in the number of students testing positive in school urine screenings in Sarawak.

Looking ahead, the Must Fight Drugs Run which is scheduled for, on the 24th of May, next few days, 2026 in Lundu, with an expected turnout of 2,000 participants. Furthermore, PEMADAM has introduced Program S.T.A.R (Say No, Take Action, Rise), which aims to foster personal development free from the influence of drugs. Saratok served as the inaugural destination for the STAR programme this year.

SPORT

SEA Games 2027 Preparation

Tuan Speaker, for the information of this august House, preparations for the SEA Games 2027 under the Sarawak Cluster are progressing well in an orderly manner and remain on track in accordance with the established timeline. A comprehensive governance framework has been established under the Local Organising Committee SEA Games 2027, supported by the *Jawatankuasa Kerja Penganjuran* SEA Games 2027 Sarawak Cluster.

This framework coordinates the implementation and execution of all preparatory matters at the operational level. 22 working committees have been set up or have been established to oversee key operational areas, including technical management, infrastructure, accommodation, transportation, medical services, security, media, and volunteer coordination. Each committee operates with clearly defined responsibilities, designated persons-in-charge, targeted action plans, and risk management measures to ensure that every component of preparation is implemented in a coordinated, efficient, and timely manner.

Sarawak also carries the significant responsibility of hosting the official opening ceremony, of the forthcoming SEA Games which is scheduled for the 18th of September 2027 at the Sarawak Stadium. The state will host or the state will be the host for 17 out of 38 sports, which will be showcase in the next SEA Games. Among others there are aquatics, e-sports, golf, tennis, lawn bowls, muay, cricket, taekwondo, petanque, squash, gymnastics, basketball, archery, shooting, tenpin bowling, weightlifting, and wushu. This reflects the substantial role entrusted to Sarawak in the overall delivery of SEA Games Malaysia 2027. Therefore, venues that will be use for the next SEA Games, out of 38 sports, 17 are in Sarawak. Among the other venues are Kuala Lumpur, Penang and Johor. Johor has got one sport, Penang has got five or six sports, and the rest are all in Kuala Lumpur but most of the sports will be in Kuching.

To support these hosting requirements, upgrading works for 11 SEA Games facilities have been approved under the 13th Malaysia Plan and are currently progressing according to schedule. The facilities involved are:

(a) Stadium Sarawak; with the renovation and reconstruction of Stadium Sarawak you will see a totally new museum, *eh,* a totally new stadium. Once it is completed;

(b) Stadium Perpaduan;

(c) Lawn Bowl Arena; lawn bowl arena is the one next to Stadium Perpaduan;

(d) Wushu Training Centre;

(e) Sarawak Lawn Tennis Centre; the one near to the Dewan Suarah;

(f) Sarawak Shooting Range; which will make the Sarawak Shooting Range probably will be the best, the top shooting range in Malaysia with the inclusion of the skeet and trap in that Sarawak Shooting Range;

(g) Sarawak Squash Centre; which will increase the size of the Squash Centre to double to what it is now;

(h) Cricket and Rugby Ground; actually, the cricket ground, will be highlighted with lightings;

(i) Pandelela Rinong Aquatic Centre; which will also involve in a little bit of facelift;

(j) Sarawak Archery Centre; the one next to the lawn bowling as well as the Sarawak Stadium Perpaduan; and

(k) Pusat Petanque Sarawak, which is in Santubong.

These are the facilities that will be seeing a little bit of upgrading including one for golf all those players are golf enthusiasts, we will be doing a little bit of upgrading to the Kuching Golf Club. To make it better for the SEA Games.

The upgrading project for Stadium Sarawak, with a duration of 12 months, is expected to be completed on the 29th of January 2027. Meanwhile, the upgrading and refurbishment of the remaining 10 projects are expected to commence in the second quarter of 2026. All the facilities are targeted to be fully operational by the first and second quarters of 2027. We have put the timeline; it must be completed by June 2027 because SEA Games will commence from September. By June, all the facilities will be completed. We will make sure the contractors that are engage will have to work according to the timeline, less, they will have to work, day and night.

With an estimated allocation of RM636.5 million from the state coffers, the Sarawak Government demonstrates its commitment to ensuring that every aspect of preparation is delivered smoothly, professionally, and on schedule. I am confident that with the strong support and teamwork of all parties involved, we will successfully deliver a prestigious and memorable SEA Games 2027. We have got a very good team looking after the organizing of the SEA Games, looking after the upgrading of the facilities. There is the minister and there is the organizing committee. The organizing committee is headed by our Deputy State Secretary, Datu Hii Chang Kee, together with his big team, among others, JKR and all that to oversee the upgrading of all these facilities.

Sarawak X-Tive 2026

My ministry has conducted a Community Activeness Survey across Sarawak to evaluate the level of participation in sports and recreational activities among the local communities. The survey not only identifies the proportion of individuals involved but also examines the frequency and intensity of participation, including regular exercise habits, average duration per session, and the consistency of engagement.

These insights provide a practical foundation for shaping Sarawak X-Tive programmes that are inclusive, relevant, and responsive to the needs of both urban and rural communities. Since X-Tive initiatives continue to be implemented under the Sarawakku Sayang programme across all divisions to promote a vibrant sports culture, healthy living, and stronger community engagement.

This year, three programmes have already been successfully held in Limbang, in Miri, and Samarahan with the participation of more than 7,000 participants from the local community, reflecting the Ministry's commitment to reaching diverse communities throughout the State.

Sukan Sarawak (SUKSAR) IV 2026

Tuan Speaker, *Sukan Sarawak* or in short SUKSAR *yang keempat* 2026. *Sukan Sarawak 2026* was successfully held from the 4th until the 8th of February 2026 across Betong, Sri Aman and Lubok Antu, reflecting the state's steadfast commitment to strengthening grassroots sports development. I still remember when we introduce Sukan Sarawak a few years ago, the whole idea of having *Sukan Sarawak* was to prepare the Sarawak contingent for SUKMA. That is why *Sukan Sarawak* or SUKSAR must always be held one year or just before one year before SUKMA. We have it just before the SUKMA Sarawak, this time round just before SUKMA in Selangor, we have the SUKSAR.

A total of 11 sports were contested, involving 1,356 participants; including athletes and officials supported by 1,039 organising personnel. The games brought together four zonal contingents, namely the Northern, Central, Western, and Southern Zones, creating a highly competitive and vibrant sporting environment. Throughout the event, a total of 105 gold, 105 silver, and 135 bronze medals were awarded, providing a meaningful and high-stakes platform for all participants. The Northern Zone that is the Miri Zone, Miri, Limbang, Lawas are the overall champion this time round with 39 gold medals, followed by the Southern Zone with 30. The Western and Central

Zones also demonstrated commendable performances, securing 19 and 17 gold medals, respectively.

In addition to team achievements, individual excellence was recognised through the Best Athlete awards. Cyclist Zhen Xiang Kenny Lim from the Southern Zone was honoured as the Best Male Athlete, while cyclist Nur Ain Ramadhania binti Abdullah from the Western Zone received the Best Female Athlete award. Their accolades reflect outstanding performance and dedication to the sport of cycling. SUKSAR serves as a cornerstone of athlete development, providing a vital platform to assess athletes' readiness in technical skill, mental resilience, discipline and competitive character. It is our hope that all athletes will seize this opportunity to strengthen their competitive edge and further intensify their preparation towards SUKMA XXII, the 22nd SUKMA which is going to be held in Selangor this year in August.

Sukan Malaysia (SUKMA) XXII Selangor 2026

Tuan Speaker, Sukan Malaysia or SUKMA *yang ke-22* di Selangor 2026. The Malaysia Games Supreme Committee has confirmed on the 30th of April 2026 that SUKMA XXII Selangor 2026 will proceed as planned from the 15th to the 24th of August 2026, spanning over nine districts across Selangor and there is one which it will be in Negeri Sembilan that is in Nilai, because Selangor does not have a velodrome. The velodrome is in the neighbouring state Nilai, so there will be one sport that will be held in Nilai, *pinjam fasiliti.* The games will be conducted in a more moderate, cost-effective format while maintaining the full roster of sports and events. In preparation, comprehensive logistical planning has been undertaken to ensure the smooth participation of the Sarawak contingent, including the coordination of accommodation, transportation, competition scheduling, and overall operational management.

Following the close of registration on the 13th of February 2026, a total of 1,178 athletes from Sarawak have been registered under the SUKMA longlist. The games will feature 37 sports with 468 gold medals up for grabs, comprising 239 men's events, 211 women's events and 18 mixed events. The Sarawak contingent will compete in every discipline with the exceptions of women's football and women's softball. Just for record, for the information of members of this august House, Sarawak is the *juara bertahan*. So, when we go to Selangor that is the team to beat but it is not an easy task because through the history of SUKMA, Selangor has been the state that have win the overall championship, the most numbers of time.

Sarawak *baru empat kali kalau tak silap saya.* Selangor if I'm not mistaken, they have become overall champion easily 9 or 10 times. To align strategic planning and preparation, Majlis Sukan Negeri Sarawak conducted the Sarawak Contingent Champion Camp from the 1st till the 7th of May 2026 at Kem Putra Sentosa, Sematan. This initiative focused on bolstering the athletes' readiness, physical fitness, mental resilience, as well as team cohesion. Concurrently, a *"100 Days Countdown to SUKMA"* was held to boost the motivation, strengthen team spirit, and build momentum leading up to the games.

Furthermore, athletes are receiving continuous exposure through competitions at the state, national, and international levels to ensure they remain competitive and performance ready. To further enhance results, a High-Performance Programme has been implemented, which adopts a science-based approach encompassing:

(a) Fitness and injury screening;
(b) Recovery monitoring;
(c) Body composition analysis;
(d) Sports psychology support; and
(e) Anti-doping education.

Sarawak Sports Corporation (SSC)

As a leading sports agency in Sarawak, Sarawak Sports Corporation continues to play a pivotal role in advancing Sarawak's aspiration to become a sports powerhouse in Malaysia through a structured approach focused on athlete development, coach education, system enhancement, and the upgrading of sports facilities. I think in Malaysia, there is no other state whereby, the sport facility is as big as the Kompleks Sukan Sarawak which we have in Petra Jaya in one place. They might have got it all over the place, but in Sarawak practically the whole sport facilities are park at *Kompleks Sukan Sarawak* making it as the largest sports complex in Malaysia. The Sarawak Sports Corporation remains committed to developing and maintaining international-standard sporting infrastructure to support high performance training and as well as international-level competition.

Athlete Achievements In 2026

We should be proud that our Sarawak athletes continue to excel nationally and internationally, reinforcing Sarawak's role in Malaysia's sporting success. The following are among the notable achievements this year:

(a) Cycling – In cycling, Muhammad Danial Hakim bin Zulkaisi won gold medal in Men's Junior Elimination Race in Asian Track Cycling Championships 2026, in the Philippines in March. This is the big achievement looking into Sarawak not having a velodrome. So, all our development cyclists in track are all park in Negeri Sembilan. They study in Negeri Sembilan, they practiced in Negeri Sembilan. So now the junior cycling, the top junior cyclist in Malaysia practically many are them are from Sarawak. And we will be taking over once athlete like Dato Azizul Hasni a faceout the Sarawakian athlete cyclist will be taking over. *Insha Allah.*

Apart from the race in Philippines, he won another gold medal in Criterium 17-18 years old category at Kejohanan Junior Cycling Malaysia Series, Series 1-2026, in Langkawi, Kedah in April. *Selain daripada* Muhammad Danial, we have got another cyclist that is Afif Danish bin Mohamad Nazir. He won gold medal in Criterium 13-15 years old category at the Kejohanan Junior Cycling Malaysia Series 1-2026, also in Langkawi, Kedah in April;

(b) Sailing – In sailing, Sarawakian, Mohamad Hazmi bin Suwandy was placed second at the fourth YAI Northeast Regatta 2026 in India in April;

(c) Squash – In squash, we have got Altamis Aqhar Sallam bin Haji A. Sufian, he won Champion for Boys Under 19 categories at Touch 'N Go Group Squash Racquets Association of Federal Territory Kuala Lumpur, International Junior Open Squash Championship 2026 in April. We have got another squash player; Whitney Isabelle emerged first place at the same championship. She also won second place at Philippines Satellite No.1 2026 in March, and third place at Marigold Singapore Squash PSA Satellite 1 2026, in Singapore in February;

(d) Wushu – In wushu, in the 10th World Junior Wushu Championships 2026, in Tianjin, China in March. We've got a number of wushu athletes. Among them, Crystal Wee Yu Tang won gold medal in Girls' Children Daoshu and silver medal in the Girls' Children Changquan. We've got Bryan Wee Hao Quan won silver medal in Boys' Children Daoshu, bronze medals in Boys' Children Changquan and Boys' Children Gunshu.

We have got another athlete, Darren Hiing Chee Yik won the bronze medal in the Boys' Children Nandao. In the Fifth World Taijiquan Championships, Bulgaria in April, Marcos Bong Wei Zhi won gold medals in Sun Style Taijiquan; Yang Style Taijijian and Yang Style Taijiquan. We have got Serene Teo Xing Ling won silver medals in the third International Taijijian and Taijiquan. We have got another athlete Elson Chong Jia Bao won silver medal in Chen Style Taijijian and bronze medal in the Chen Style Taijiquan. Another athlete, Carmen Chaw Jia Min won silver medal in the Sun Style Taijiquan;

(e) Athletic – In athletic, our proud athlete, Jonah Chang Rigan breaking a new national record in Shot Put Event at Fourth ASIAN Throwing Championship 2026, in South Korea in May just recently.

Tribute to a Visionary Sports' Figures

Tuan Speaker, I would like to also take this opportunity to honour the legacy of Allahyarham Datuk Haji Mohamad Taha bin Ariffin, the founder of the Sarawak Football Association (FAS) a distinguished figure, also in the civil service, who played a major role in shaping the sports development especially of soccer, of football in Sarawak.

Under his leadership, Sarawak reached great heights and achieved significant success at various sporting events such as, it was the Champion in Malaysia FA Cup in 1992, the *Ngap Sayot* days, and three consecutive terms as Champion of SUKMA, it was during his time, in 1990, 1992 and 1994. Some of you here might not even been born at that time yet. These accomplishments reflected not only the strength of the team during that period, but also the vision, dedication, and leadership of Allahyarham Datuk Haji Mohamad Taha bin Ariffin in building a strong sporting culture and identity for Sarawak. We will not forget. Less we forget those who have help build up sport development. As a mark of appreciation and recognition for his immense contribution to the sport development in Sarawak, the State Government has approved the renaming of the current Stadium Negeri Sarawak to Stadium Taha Ariffin…(*Applause*)…This recognition is a fitting tribute to an individual whose service and commitment greatly contributed to the growth and success of soccer or football in the State.

Today, we are again witnessing the continuation of that legacy through the remarkable achievement of Kuching City FC, which has created history by qualifying for the final of the Malaysia Cup 2025/2026 for the first time since the time of the late Datuk Taha Ariffin. In this regard, I would also like to call upon Honourable Members of this august House, as well as the people of Sarawak, to extend our fullest support to Kuching City FC as they prepare for the Malaysia Cup Final against Johor Darul Ta'zim (JDT) at Stadium Nasional Bukit Jalil on the 23rd of May 2026.

I wish to personally record to the Chairman of Kuching FA, Yang Berhormat Datuk Fazrudin for being able to bring up Sarawak soccer to a new level now. We have been in the doldrums for quite long but now, there is this excitement. I can see that whenever soccer being played at Sarawak Stadium, it is either full or almost full. So, there is this very big interest in soccer and through soccer, it has built up a unified Sarawak because those who watch soccer, whether they are Malays, they are Dayaks, they are Chinese, they are there with one mission, to make sure that the state team, which is represented through Kuching FC will achieve championship.

Well, even though it is this weekend, Kuching FC has made another achievement, it was not stated in this text actually, because during the last match, which is two days ago, Kuching City FC, after their match against Kuala Lumpur and by winning that match 1 – 0, it has placed them second in the Malaysian League. And being second, for the first time, a football team from Sarawak have qualified for the forthcoming Asia Championship League Two…(*Applause*)…This is a very, very big achievement and you will be seeing probably, big names because for the Asia Games, for Asia Champion League, it will involve probably teams from the Arab region, team from Korea, team from China, team from Japan. We might even be seeing if by coincidence, *kita berlawan dengan team daripada* Arab Saudi, we might even be seeing Ronaldo playing in Sarawak Stadium. *Kalau dia disamakan dalam perlawanan melawan dengan* Kuching City, it depends on all that.

Jabatan Belia Dan Sukan Negeri Sarawak

Our counterpart, JBS Sarawak under the Federal Ministry of Youth and Sports, achieved significant community outreach last year through 230 activities involving 652,853 participants, largely driven by the National Youth Day and National Sports Day.

Moving forward, JBS targets a 5% increase in participation, with a strategic focus on bridging the gap between urban and rural communities. This includes hosting major events such as National Youth Day in Bau, National Sports Day in Betong, and the *Fiesta Rakan Muda* in Mukah. Furthermore, 31 *Rakan Muda* Clubs will be established across all parliamentary constituencies in Sarawak to implement the 10 *Rakan Muda* Lifestyles. *Biar dia jadi Rakan Muda* lifestyle *jangan ada agenda politik sahaja...hmm...hmm itu.*

To bolster economic resilience, initiatives like *Agrobelia Lestari* and *Rakan Mahir* and the Belia Lestari Entrepreneurship Programme will equip youth with agricultural and business skills. In line with the National Sports Vision, inclusive programmes such as basic swimming skills training for the B40, groups with disabilities, and seniors are being prioritised, supported by a RM1.2 million grant to empower local sports and youth associations.

Entrepreneurship Development

Tuan Speaker, my ministry remains steadfast committed to strengthening Sarawak's entrepreneurial ecosystem and empowering youth participation in the state's economic transformation in line with the PCDS 2030. Today, entrepreneurship is no longer an option but rather a necessity. It is increasingly competitive and rapidly evolving global economy, the ability of our youth to create rather than wait for opportunities will determine the future resilience and prosperity of Sarawak.

Sarawak Emerging Entrepreneurs Drive or the Seed Programme

The SEED Programme, implemented as an advanced development platform for SYStartUP participants, was successfully conducted in Kuching, in Samarahan and Betong, benefiting 100 young entrepreneurs through structured mentoring, business coaching and market exposure. Following the encouraging outcomes and positive response received, my ministry will expand the programme to Sibu, to Mukah, to Miri to ensure more youths benefit from the entrepreneurial initiatives.

Tapi entrepreneur initiatives ni dia perlu juga good connectivity, sebab itulah bila dibuat di Asajaya, bila telefon nya tidak bagus, tidak dapat nak register Belia dalam business pun tidak dapat. Saya ada bising sikit, bila ada saya bising ada orang kecil hati. Nasib baik Yang Amat Berhormat di Siburan *beritahu*, this is the problem of the telcos. The telcos will only look at places which will bring them profitability.

Terima kasih, Yang Amat Berhormat to explain the reality on the ground, *tapi yang bertanggungjawab* always been defensive, always defensive*. Itu yang tidak sedap itu dengar,* always defensive *saja semua bagus, bagus, bagus tapi tak memberitahu* the reality on the ground kawasan Samarahan, Asajaya *yang hanya 30 minit, setengah jam, satu jam, bila nak buat telefon tidak dapat,* how to register the youth *dalam* Youth Start Up Business, start up? Aturlah, siapa-siapa yang diberik amanah tu atur, berik amanah, atur betul-betul.

You squeeze the telco if you are in charge, *kalau you tidak mahu masuk*, you don't come to Sarawak, you have to squeeze sometimes, to be brutal, to get people to toe the line. *Macam kambing biri-biri*, you have to squeeze, *baru dia ikut.* Betul tak? Kalau nak cerita baik, boleh cerita baik, semua boleh cerita baik, ini saya buat, itu saya buat semua. But the reality on the ground, the reality *rakyat lagi tahu, belia lagi tahu* whether things are moving or not.

Beliagobiz Programme

One of my ministry's key highlights in the first quarter of 2026 was the successful BeliaGoBiz Programme held in Samarahan from 8th to 10th May 2026 I can't really say its 100% successful *kerana kita tidak dapat* even register, I want to officiate that one *ikut* IT *pun tidak dapat* because *tidak ada* internet connectivity in Asajaya which is only half an hour from Kuching which has attracted

more than 400 participants. The programme featured a comprehensive range of activities including entrepreneurship courses, agency exhibitions, sports activities, sales carnivals, talent competitions and Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET) sharing sessions.

This initiative provided a dynamic platform to nurture creativity, to nurture innovation, to nurture leadership and community engagement among youth while encouraging greater participation in entrepreneurship and economic activities.

Program Pemasaran Viral Melalui Video AI

Under my ministry's digital entrepreneurship agenda, the first edition of the *Program Pemasaran Viral melalui video AI* was successfully held in Kuching from 2nd to 3rd of May this year, involving 50 young entrepreneurs.

The programme aimed to enhance Digital Literacy and Artificial Intelligence (AI) competencies among participants, particularly in the areas of content creation, digital branding and online marketing strategies. It also supports the expansion of the gig economy and digital entrepreneurship ecosystem among Sarawak's youth. The second series of the programme will be conducted in Miri from 23rd and 24th May 2026 to benefit more entrepreneurs, digital creators as well as youth innovators.

Entrepreneurial Market Exposure and Participation

Participants under the Sarawak Youth Startup initiative were also provided with opportunities to showcase and market their product at major exhibitions and trade events across Sarawak and beyond. My ministry works closely with the Ministry of International Trade, Industry and Investment Sarawak or MINTRED for broader exposure and greater market access. Among the key events participated, among others:

(a) Showcase *Usahawan* Sarawak Kuantan 2026;
(b) Sabah International Food Expo 2026; and
(c) MY Food 2026 (Sarawak Pavilion) in Kuala Lumpur.

These engagements have strengthened participation participants entrepreneur capabilities, enhanced business confidence as well as increased market exposure in line with the objective to develop competitive, market-ready and high-impact entrepreneurs.

Sarawak Youth Startup (SYStartUp)

The Sarawak Youth Startup *(SYstartUp)*, where the minister in charge was my deputy YB Datuk Dr Ripin bin Lamat. My Ministry has implemented two series of SYstartUp programs, cohort one in 2024, in Kuching and cohort two 2025, in Miri. Both series of cohorts have significant progress in terms of business registrations, job creations and revenue generations. It has created an overwhelming interest among the youth who are keen into going into entrepreneurship. We have done a big screening, intensive screening *untuk* who are going to participate. There are so many that want to be part of it, there are even those who are with bachelor's degree or even above that who wants to participate in our youth startup. For cohort one, out of 275 participants, 175 or 64% have successfully embarked on their entrepreneurial journey and generated an accumulative revenue of RM3.05 million. We follow through whoever participate, we follow through what has happened to them.

I know YB Datuk Dr Ripin bin Lamat is the very meticulous person, *dia betul-betul ikut mana tuju sapa-sapa yang ikut dalam our program*. We would want to see we don't want to just *melepas batuk di tangga*. We would want to see *sapa-sapa yang terlibat dalam program ini* that there will be successful as the years goes on. Meanwhile for cohort two, 150 participants have successfully completed the programme and 87 of them started their venture and 66 has successfully registered

their business; creating 162 employment opportunities and generating revenue of RM2.35 million for the first quarter of 2026.

In addition, the SYstartUp Meet and Greet sessions conducted in Miri and Kuching provided valuable engagement with programme participants. These sessions enabled MYSED to monitor business progress, provide advisory support and implement timely interventions for youth entrepreneurs beyond programme completion. Building on this momentum, SYstartUp cohort three, 2026 will be implemented in Sibu. We have start in Kuching, we have gone to Miri will be doing another one in Sibu, targeting 200 young entrepreneurs.

Youth Entrepreneur Setup (YES) 3.0

My ministry with collaboration with the Department of Agriculture and Department of Veterinary Services will implement Youth Entrepreneur Setup 3.0 Programme in Subis, in Sadong Jaya as well as in some other districts. This is part of the effort to strengthen youth participation in agriculture and agro-based business sectors. Through structured training, hands-on exposure and industry engagement, the initiative seeks to empower young entrepreneurs to explore high-value opportunities within the agricultural value chain, improve productivity and contribute towards the growth of Sarawak's rural economy. As well as to make sure, we address the food global food scarcity food security problem.

Sarawak Youth Business Idea Competition (SaYBIC)

The SaYBIC 2025/2026 Programme, scheduled to be held from 19th to 21st June 2026 this year in Kuching, will feature a dynamic business pitching competition aimed at fostering innovation, fostering creativity and entrepreneurial excellence among youth in higher learning institutions throughout Sarawak. SaYBIC will provide a competitive platform for young entrepreneurs to present their business ideas, to receive professional feedback from industry experts and further refine their entrepreneurial concepts and business models.

Sarawak youth startup grant, this one probably will also interest. Anything to do with the grant, entrepreneur out there will always be watching. *Bila geran ada*, because *geran* means *duit.*

Sarawak Youth Startup (SYstartUp) Grant and Entrepreneurship Funding

The Sarawak Government, I have to thank The Right Honourable Premier for this. The Sarawak Government under the excellent leadership of The Right Honourable Premier continues to strengthen support for youth entrepreneurs through strategic funding initiatives aimed at accelerating business growth and sustainability. A total allocation of RM3 million has been approved under the Sarawak Youth Startup (SYstartUp) Grant to support young entrepreneurs in starting and developing their businesses.

In addition, *tiga juta tadi*, in addition, RM25 *juta* has been approved under a soft loan initiative to facilitate business expansion, operational enhancement and market growth among youth-led enterprises. This is a venture which we will work together with Affin Bank. This demonstrates the Sarawak government's strong commitment to help our youth to venture into and scale up their businesses. The ministry will continue to build not just entrepreneurs, but a generation of Sarawak job creators, economic prime mover, innovators as well as future business leaders. *We do not want entrepreneurs'* yang hidup hanya melihat apakah geran yang ada disediakan oleh Kerajaan Pusat ataupun Kerajaan Negeri, after they get the grant, itu saja cukup untuk menghidupkan. We want to see a strong entrepreneur base coming up from the youth which will build up Sarawak into the future.

FACILITIES AND COMMUNITY INFRASTRUCTURE

Tuan Speaker, my ministry is on a strategic mission, backed by strong support from various implementing agencies and administrative authorities, to ensure that all sports facilities and projects meet their respective set standards and specifications.

The 13th Malaysia Plan Projects

Under the 13th Malaysia Plan, my ministry has been entrusted with 40 projects and a total ceiling of RM422 million. It consists of 15 12th Malaysia Plan continuation projects, 13 Projek *Rakyat*, 11 new projects involving SEA Games venues upgrading and refurbishments works as mentioned earlier, and one new project involving upgrading work on Dewan Suarah Sibu.

As of the second quarter of 2026, my ministry has completed three 13th Malaysia Plan projects, with a total ceiling cost of RM7.4 million. These physical projects are namely *naik taraf Dewan Suarah Baram, daerah Marudi, bahagian Miri and pengubahsuaian Dewan Suarah Mesra Mukah*. While Kompleks Sukan Batang Sadong*,* Simunjan project only involves land acquisition which has been recently completed in April. The overall ongoing 13th Malaysia Plan projects are progressing well, with 70% are at various planning stages, 20% under construction, and 7.5% fully completed. In addition, one non-physical project is currently under revision by my ministry.

Projek Rakyat

Tuan Speaker, currently my ministry is entrusted with three *Projek Rakyat* involving a total allocation of RM20.25 million. Proposed sport facilities for Bau District. The Bau Sports Arena project, is scheduled for completion in May 2026. Actually, the Deputy Minister from Bau, *mana dia*, has asked me to have a soft opening of that place, the Sporta Arena Bau.

On the implementing agency, the Public Works Department of Sarawak, is working closely with all the relevant agencies to expedite the project completion. Permyjaya Sports Hub project, which was recently approved RM9 million, is expected to start in the third quarter 2026 and be completed by 2029. Stadium Taha Ariffin, I was mentioned much earlier, which was approved last year has been allocated RM7.05 million under *Projek Rakyat.* This much-anticipated project involves upgrading and renovation works. The upgrading works are expected to start this year after the completion of the Malaysian Super League 2025/2026 (MSL) season.

Dewan Suarah Upgrading Project

Dewan Suarah Negeri, Kuching is currently undergoing the main tower reroofing works with the cost of RM4.9 million. The project is scheduled for completion in May 2026. Meanwhile, the Phase 1 reroofing works for Dewan Suarah Sibu costing RM5 million under the 13th Malaysia Plan is scheduled to start in the third quarter of 2026 and expected to complete by the second quarter of 2027. My ministry is proposing the five *"Dewan Suarah"* refurbishment projects by the fourth quarter of 2026, to improve safety elements, functionality, and its readiness to host multilevel events. These include the remaining upgrading works for Dewan Suarah Negeri in Kuching and Dewan Suarah Sibu. The other three Dewan Suarah which are among others, the one in Samarahan, the one in Kapit, and the one in Limbang, will undergo total refurbishment works.

"One District, One Sports Complex"

My ministry remains committed to the *"One District, One Sports Complex"* initiative to ensure equitable access to sports facilities throughout Sarawak. To date, my ministry has achieved approximately 67% of this target, with 30 out of 45 districts in Sarawak currently equipped with at least one sports complex to support community and sporting activities.

Within the 13th Malaysia Plan period, my Ministry in collaboration with strategic partnership with Regional Development Agencies, such as RADDA, SADA, BDDA, Greater Kuching (GKCDA), and MIRRDA, is planning to develop more sports complexes in other districts which upon completion is expected to engage the local and its surrounding communities towards contributing to Sarawak's social and economic productivity. With every district having its own Mini Sports Complex. I believe we will be able to produce many more goods sportsman to represent the state, to represent Malaysia in future. Because that is way the *gedung* for the athletes are being born, from the district.

Grants

My ministry offers three specialised grants dedicated to empowering youth, advancing sports management, and building entrepreneurial capacity throughout Sarawak. This year, under the yearly grant initiative for five youth associations, RM434,600 has been allocated.

This funding enables the implementation of impactful programmes that foster leadership, unity and community engagement among our young people. In addition, 37 sports associations have benefited from RM1.5 million. This allocation aims to strengthen the organisation of sporting activities, nurture talent and promote a healthy and active lifestyle among Sarawakians.

Since January 2026, under the Ministry's Support Grant initiative, continuous support, continuous efforts have been undertaken to strengthen youth and sports development across Sarawak. Nine youth associations have received a total of RM280,150, benefiting an estimated 7,021 youths through programmes focused on leadership development, skills enhancement and community engagement.

Meanwhile, 29 sports associations have received RM658,380.00 to organise competitions, capacity-building programmes and talent development initiatives, benefiting approximately 12,630 individuals.

Since its inception in 2019, the Sarawak Youth Creative Industry Fund (SYCIF), the brainchild of our Right Honourable also Premier has benefited 116 youth associations and individuals across Sarawak. Designed to nurture talent in music, film, theatre, and innovation. This fund has empowered young Sarawakians to access international platforms, produce digital contents, and implement impactful community initiatives. Moving forward, youths are encouraged to seize this initiative in advancing their talents, expand their creative potential, and elevate their projects to greater heights.

ISSUES RAISED BY THE AHLI-AHLI YANG BERHORMAT

Tuan Speaker, I would like to thank the Ahli-ahli Yang Berhormat bagi Murum, from Telang Usan, Tupong, Bukit Semuja, Pelagus, Tanjong Batu, Tellian, Bukit Assek, Tebedu, Tanjong Datu, Engkilili, Bawang Assan, Daro, Krian, Jepak, Ba'Kelalan, Repok and Tamin for your constructive comments and suggestions on issues related to youth, related to sports and related to young entrepreneur development programmes.

My ministry will continue to formulate and implement various youth, sports and entrepreneurial development programmes and initiatives throughout Sarawak to ensure and to nurture healthy, creative, resilient and highly skilled youths, while also producing high performing athletes capable of competing successfully at both national and international levels.

Kesimpulan, *in summary*, saya ingin mengambil kesempatan ini untuk mengucapkan Tuan Speaker, terima kasih kepada Tuan Speaker, juga kepada Timbalan Speaker sendiri dan semua warga Dewan Undangan Negeri di atas kecemerlangan dan komitmen yang amat tinggi sekali dalam melancarkan persidangan kali ini.

Tidak dilupakan juga kepada Yang Berhormat Setiausaha Kerajaan Sarawak, Yang Berbahagia Setiausaha Persekutuan Sarawak dan semua jentera-jentera kerja perkhidmatan awam baiknya daripada Kerajaan Sarawak ataupun daripada Kerajaan Persekutuan.

Setinggi-tinggi tahniah dan juga penghargaan kepada Timbalan-timbalan Menteri saya di Kementerian Belia, Sukan dan juga Pembangunan Usahawan, agensi-agensi di bawah kementerian dan kakitangan-kakitangan yang terlibat dalam penyediaan input dan juga informasi untuk teks ucapan saya pada hari ini dan juga sokongan padu yang telah diberi dalam menjayakan program-program yang telah disediakan oleh kementerian ini supaya belia-belianya tidaklah suka curi kabel.

Kita atur banyak sekali program, tapi ada orang kata kita tidak mengaturkan belia-belia kita sehingga vandalisme berlaku kiri kanan. Harap *nok toklah,* selidik, kalau tidak, saya boleh jemput untuk jadi *'intern'* di kementerian saya juga. Like what I did with the Right Honourable from Pending at one time. She was my intern for six months and I think after that internship, she knows the running of the ministry, and she was very happy and you can see after that, no more criticism from Pending for me, for the ministry because once they know, they will not be talking back. Probably, the ministry, the minister *yang tegur tu boleh buat internship* dengan saya jugaklah. Cadangan saya sahajalah, *okay.*

Saya ingin mengucapkan setinggi-tinggi tahniah, Selamat Hari Raya Aidiladha, in *one-week time.* Unfortunately, I won't be able to celebrate Hari Raya Aidiladha because two days-time, I will be performing Hajj also, please pray for me*…(Interruption)…*

Timbalan Speaker: In that connection, Yang Berhormat…

Menteri Pelancongan, Industri Kreatif dan Seni Persembahan Sarawak; Menteri Belia, Sukan dan Pembangunan Usahawan Sarawak; dan Ahli Dewan Undangan Negeri N.15 Asajaya (YB Dato Sri Haji Abdul Karim Rahman Hamzah): Ya*... (Interruption)…*

Timbalan Speaker: We wish you Haji mabrur.

Menteri Pelancongan, Industri Kreatif dan Seni Persembahan Sarawak; Menteri Belia, Sukan dan Pembangunan Usahawan Sarawak; dan Ahli Dewan Undangan Negeri N.15 Asajaya (YB Dato Sri Haji Abdul Karim Rahman Hamzah): *Oh...*terima kasih, Insya-Allah, insya-Allah*…(Interruption)…*

Timbalan Speaker: Dan, pohon *juak* doa untuk kami semua.

Menteri Pelancongan, Industri Kreatif dan Seni Persembahan Sarawak; Menteri Belia, Sukan dan Pembangunan Usahawan Sarawak; dan Ahli Dewan Undangan Negeri N.15 Asajaya (YB Dato Sri Haji Abdul Karim Rahman Hamzah): Insya-Allah, insya-Allah, terima kasih*... (Interruption)…*

Timbalan Speaker: Ahli-ahli Yang Berhormat ini, kakitangan kerajaan*…(Interruption)…*

Menteri Pelancongan, Industri Kreatif dan Seni Persembahan Sarawak; Menteri Belia, Sukan dan Pembangunan Usahawan Sarawak; dan Ahli Dewan Undangan Negeri N.15 Asajaya (YB Dato Sri Haji Abdul Karim Rahman Hamzah): Ya.

Timbalan Speaker: Supaya selamat, maju jaya*…(Interruption)…*

Menteri Pelancongan, Industri Kreatif dan Seni Persembahan Sarawak; Menteri Belia, Sukan dan Pembangunan Usahawan Sarawak; dan Ahli Dewan Undangan Negeri N.15 Asajaya (YB Dato Sri Haji Abdul Karim Rahman Hamzah): Terima kasih.

Timbalan Speaker: Ya, la.

Menteri Pelancongan, Industri Kreatif dan Seni Persembahan Sarawak; Menteri Belia, Sukan dan Pembangunan Usahawan Sarawak; dan Ahli Dewan Undangan Negeri N.15 Asajaya (YB Dato Sri Haji Abdul Karim Rahman Hamzah): I am quite excited because I am going for Hajj this year, insya-Allah. This is my second Hajj, my first Hajj was 23 years ago so it's been a long span and I am quite excited, we're going. I wish to *ucapkan Selamat Hari Raya Aidiladha, Selamat Hari Wesak, Selamat Hari Gawai kepada kaum Dayak kepada Ahli-ahli Yang Berhormat dan juga seluruh rakyat Sarawak.* Dengan ini, saya ingin menutup Ucapan Penggulungan bagi Kementerian Belia, Sukan dan Pembangunan Usahawan Sarawak dengan beberapa rangkap pantun, dua sajalah rangkap pantun:

Kenari Hinggap Di Pohon Jati,
Terbang Bersama Si Burung Helang;
Belia Cemerlang Pemimpin Berintegriti,
Menggalas Cabaran Sarawak Gemilang.

Selamat Berjuang Kuching City FC,
Kuatkan Semangat Bersama Kami;
Belia Berwibawa Penuh Berdedikasi,
Pencetus Inovasi Pemacu Ekonomi.

Dengan itu, bagi pihak kementerian saya juga menyokong Usul Penghargaan kepada ucapan Tuan Yang Terutama Yang di-Pertua Negeri Sarawak pada persidangan ini. Sekian, Wabillahi Taufiq Walhidayah, Wassalamualaikum W.B.T. Sekian, terima kasih.

Timbalan Speaker: Waalaikumsalam. Terima kasih, Ahli Yang Berhormat. I would like to ask the Ahli Yang Berhormat Dato Sri Dr Stephen Rundi anak Utom, would you like to proceed now as I understand you will proceed without any stoppage?

Menteri Industri Makanan, Komoditi dan Pembangunan Wilayah Sarawak; dan Ahli Dewan Undangan Negeri N.69 Kemena (YB Dato Sri Dr Stephen Rundi Anak Utom): Okay.

Timbalan Speaker: Or would you like this afternoon…*(Interruption)*…

Menteri Industri Makanan, Komoditi dan Pembangunan Wilayah Sarawak; dan Ahli Dewan Undangan Negeri N.69 Kemena (YB Dato Sri Dr Stephen Rundi Anak Utom): If I may, we shall have a break for lunch. I have to consider my fellow YBs.

Timbalan Speaker: Okay…*(Interruption)*…

Menteri Industri Makanan, Komoditi dan Pembangunan Wilayah Sarawak; dan Ahli Dewan Undangan Negeri N.69 Kemena (YB Dato Sri Dr Stephen Rundi Anak Utom): I don't want to bore them with sleepiness, thank you very much.

Timbalan Speaker: In that case, Ahli-ahli Yang Berhormat, we shall adjourn until 2:30 p.m. this afternoon. Thank you.

(Mesyuarat ditangguhkan pada jam 1:10 petang)

(Mesyuarat dimulakan pada jam 2:35 petang)

[Timbalan Speaker mempengerusikan Mesyuarat]

Timbalan Speaker: Ahli-ahli Yang Berhormat, kita meneruskan mesyuarat dengan mempersilakan Yang Berhormat Dato Sri Dr Stephen Rundi anak Utom, Menteri Industri Makanan, Komoditi dan Pembangunan Wilayah. Silakan.

Menteri Industri Makanan, Komoditi dan Pembangunan Wilayah Sarawak; dan Ahli Dewan Undangan Negeri N.69 Kemena (YB Dato Sri Dr Stephen Rundi anak Utom): Terima kasih, Tuan Speaker. Selamat petang dan salam sejahtera, Salam Sarawak Maju dan Makmur, *Salam Segulai Sejalai. I believe you all* sudah makan, perut kenyang tapi jangan mengantuk.

Tuan Speaker, I would like to join my cabinet colleagues and Honourable Members in conveying our highest appreciation and gratitude to Tuan Yang Terutama Yang di-Pertua Negeri Sarawak for his gracious address during the Opening of the First Meeting of the Fifth Session of the 19th State Legislative Assembly on the 11th of May 2026. I also would like to extend my hearties congratulations to Tuan Yang Terutama Tun Pehin Sri Dr. Haji Wan Junaidi bin Tunku Jaafar on being conferred with Honourary Doctorate in Management by Universiti Tun Abdul Razak on the 15th of December 2025. At the same time, I wish to congratulate the Right Honourable Datuk Patinggi Tan Sri (Dr) Abang Haji Abdul Rahman Zohari bin Tun Datuk Abang Haji Openg, Premier of Sarawak, on his reappointment as Pro-Chancellor Universiti Malaysia Sarawak (UNIMAS).

I would also like to express my deepest condolences to the families of the late Datuk Douglas Sullang Ganda, former Senator, and the late Dato Sri Bo' Tajang Laing, former State Cabinet Member, Assemblyman for Belaga and the late Datin Patinggi Puan Sri Dr Yong Sau Kan, wife of the late Datuk Patinggi Tan Sri Wong Soon Kai. Their contributions and services to Sarawak will always be remembered.

The Performance of 12th Malaysia Plan (12MP)

Tuan Speaker, Sarawak's agriculture sector has continued to demonstrate strong and positive performance, positioning itself as one of the main contributors to Sarawak economic growth and rural transformation in the 12th Malaysia Plan. The sector's contribution to Sarawak's economy remains substantial. For the year 2021 to 2024, this sector contributed an average of RM14.8 billion to Sarawak Gross Domestic Product (GDP) accounting for 10.5% of Sarawak GDP. This places agriculture among the leading contributor to the state economy after services, manufacturing and mining activities. The agricultural export value has shown an increasing trend from RM15 billion in 2020 to RM20 billion in 2024. The agriculture sector recorded trade surplus of RM 17 *eh* RM16 billion for 2024.

One of the major contributors to the growth within the sector is the palm oil industry. In 2024, palm oil exports generated RM16.5 billion or 12% of the state's total export value. The industry has also expanded significantly in terms of land development covering approximately 1.5 million hectares.

Sarawak, is the largest pepper producing region in the country, contributes about 98% of Malaysia total pepper production and based on 2025 records, Malaysia's pepper sector contributed RM2.27 billion to the nation GDP. Sarawak pepper industry is estimated to contribute approximately RM2 billion annually equivalent to 1.3% to 1.5% of the state's GDP. Sarawak pepper production amounted to 30,613 metric tonnes with an export value of RM159 million.

Tuan Speaker, in 2025, 36 Small and Medium Enterprises in Sarawak was successfully developed by Malaysian Pepper Board through the Entrepreneurship and Micro, Small and Medium Enterprise Development Programme, generating approximately RM34.5 million in sales comprising RM7.1 million from the domestic market and RM27.4 million from exports. The state has also seen encouraging growth in livestock sub-sector. The export of live swine has reach 124,871 heads valued at RM197.42 million in 2025. This is a remarkable increase of about 123% from 56,050 heads value at RM56.27 million in 2020.

The total fisheries production has declined, nonetheless from 141,000 metric tonnes in 2020 to 125,000 metric tonnes in 2025, representing a decrease of approximately 11.4%. This overall reduction was mainly driven by lower marine capture fisheries and a significant decline in brackish water aquaculture production. Although freshwater aquaculture and inland fisheries recorded an

increase, these gains were insufficient to offset the drop in production. To reverse this trend, there is a need to enhance productivity, modernize infrastructure, strengthen industry resilience, and promote the sustainable and responsible use of the fisheries resources.

Tuan Speaker, with regards to the rural infrastructure development and connectivity, we have successfully delivered 8,500 kilometres of farm roads, 3 kilometres of rural roads and 8.83 kilometres of river and coastal protection works. In addition, drainage and irrigation infrastructure has been developed across 3,000 hectares of agricultural land. Altogether, these initiatives represent a total scheme value of RM450 million directly benefiting 30,000 farmers and rural communities by strengthening connectivity, safeguarding, livelihood and enhancing resilience against environmental challenges.

Under the 12th Malaysia Plan (RMK-12), a total allocation of RM438 million was provided to my Ministry, GIATMARA, FELCRA Bina for the implementation of the *Program Perumahan Rakyat Sejahtera* (PPRS). As of 2025, more than 2,300 out of 2,900 houses under the *Bina Baharu* had been successfully completed. In addition, 11,200 out of 12,300 houses under the *baik pulih* had also been completed. The remaining houses were currently under various implementation stages.

With continued emphasis on sustainability, technological innovation, value-added processing, and export expansion, the sector is well positioned to strengthen food security and contribute further to the state's long-term economic development. These positive economic indicators and sustained growth trends clearly demonstrate that agriculture will continue to play a critical role in shaping Sarawak's prosperity and resilience in the years to come.

CHALLENGES AND WAY FORWARD FOR THE 13TH MALAYSIA PLAN

Tuan Speaker, agriculture continues to play an important role in supporting people livelihoods and contributing to Sarawak's economy. However, the sector's growth is faced with structural challenges such as land tenure issues, limited infrastructure, labour and talent shortages, slow technology adoption, limited market access and investment.

In recent years, the sector has been affected by external pressures including COVID-19 pandemic, climate change, pest and disease outbreaks and geopolitical uncertainties, which disrupted productivity and supply chains, resulting in slower growth and high food import bills. Nevertheless, the agriculture sector still holds strong growth potential through modernisation, mechanisation, sustainable farming practices and stronger government support across agricultural value chain.

Tuan Speaker, under the Thirteenth Malaysia Plan (13MP), our agricultural transformation agenda will remain dynamic and responsive to enable us to effectively navigate global challenges while safeguarding the resilience and sustainability of our agriculture sector.

In our pursuit towards achieving Sarawak agriculture transformation agenda, no single body can handle this alone. Therefore, I urged all related Ministries, Departments or Agencies must give their full commitment and cooperation. In short, *"We Must Work as a Team"*. That embrace the spirit of *"Segulai Sejalai".* Thank you.

Therefore, my ministry will continue to strengthen collaboration and coordination with all stakeholders, including federal and state ministries and agencies, industry players, academia, local communities, to ensure a more integrated and effective approach towards achieving our common goals that is *"Enhance Food Security, Improve Food Trade Balance, Uplift The Socio-Economic Wellbeing"* of our agriculture and rural communities.

IMPROVING FOOD SECURITY

Tuan Speaker, food security is commonly measured through the Self-Sufficiency Level (SSL), which reflects a nation's ability to produce sufficient food for domestic needs. However, food security goes beyond food production alone. It also includes accessibility, utilisation and stability of food supply. Therefore, food security is shared responsibility involving not only farmers, livestock breeders and fishermen, but also suppliers, transporters who are involves in logistic, manufacturers going downstream, distributors, retailers, exporters and consumers across the food supply chain.

So, relevant ministries and enforcement agencies also play an important role in ensuring food remains affordable and safe for consumption. My ministry will continue to work closely with industry players and relevant agencies to safeguard Sarawak's food security.

My ministry will placed food security as a key priority under the Post COVID-19 Development Strategy (PCDS) 2030. Sarawak has recorded encouraging self-sufficiency levels (SSL) in several key food commodities, namely poultry (117%), pork (101%), eggs (100%), fruits (98%), fisheries (96%), vegetables (75%), reflecting the State's continued efforts to strengthen food security.

Increase Rice Self-Sufficiency Level (SSL)

Tuan Speaker, the next step is to increase the Self-Sufficiency Level (SSL) for rice to 60% and beef to 25% by next year 2030:

(a) Sarawak Padi and Rice Board Ordinance 2026

The passing of the Sarawak Padi and Rice Board Bill 2026 on 12th May 2026 marks an important milestone in strengthening Sarawak's food security and building a more resilient and sustainable rice industry. I wish to thank all Honourable Members in this august House for their strong support towards the passing of the Bill. The views, proposals and concerns raised during the deliberations will be duly considered;

(b) Paddy development through Design, Build, Operate and Transfer (DBOT) Model

Tuan Speaker, to address the challenges facing paddy cultivation, Sarawak will embark on a new development approach through the implementation of the Design, Build, Operate and Transfer (DBOT) model for commercial paddy development. Which is at least more than 50 hectares land size.

I am pleased to inform that this august House that the Design, Build, Operate and Transfer (DBOT) model were recently approved by the Majlis Mesyuarat Kerajaan Negeri in its meeting in April 2026 which is this year. This model aims at attracting private sector participation, ensuring faster project completion while maintaining high standards of quality and integrity.

The DBOT model provide a commercially attractive structure by reducing upfront infrastructure, risk for investors while imposing clear performance obligations. This enables the private sector to focus on efficient farm operations, mechanization and productivity enhancement. This arrangement allowed the government the flexibility to initiate the procurement process for specific paddy development project by inviting only shortlisted potential investors who have indicated interest to participate. Accordingly, the shortlisted investors will be able to focus on their selected areas particularly in the preparations of their technical and financial proposals.

Through this model, the government will be responsible for providing suitable land, establishing project requirement, facilitating regulatory approval and overseeing project implementation, compliance and performance throughout the concession period. Meanwhile,

the operator will be responsible for financing, designing, constructing, operating and maintaining the project infrastructure as well as managing commercial farm operation in accordance with the agreed performance, safety, environmental and operational standard. Upon expiry of the concession period, all project assets shall be transferred back to the Government in the required condition. That's mean must be in a good condition.

The implementation of this model will be carried out through a Request for Proposal in short RFP procurement process. To date, 52 companies have expressed interest to participate in this initiative. The process will involve proposal submission by potential investors, evaluation by the Technical and Financial Evaluation Committee, endorsement by the State Cost Committee, and approval by the Majlis Mesyuarat Kerajaan Negeri (MMKN). It is anticipated that the selected companies will be appointed by the end of this year;

(c) Sustaining Premium Local Rice Variety

Tuan Speaker, to sustain the premium rice variety, my ministry through Department of Agriculture in collaboration with Universiti Putra Malaysia Sarawak (UPM) will establish a 10-hectare of Biris Paddy Seed Production Farm at Lubok Punggor, Gedong. The planting will commence in June this year. The seeds produced from this farm will support the development of additional 54 hectares at Lubok Punggor and other surrounding areas; and

(d) Capacity Building for Paddy Workforce

My ministry with facilitation from Ministry of Education, Innovation and Talent Development Sarawak (MEITD), in collaboration with Sarawak Skills total of eight Sarawakian youths have enrolled at Muda Agricultural Development Authority (MADA) Rice Training Centre in Kedah for the period of two years. I would also like to express my sincere appreciation to the Ministry of Youth, Sports and Entrepreneur Development Sarawak (MYSED) for its invaluable support in promoting youth participation in agriculture the agro-based business. We look forward to further strengthening this collaboration in nurturing a new generation of cooperative and forward looking young agropreneurs. It's a common knowledge that our farmers are aging farmers. Therefore, we need all the youth come back and attract them to be involved in agriculture sector for the benefit of our agriculture sector.

Increase Beef Self-Sufficiency Level (SSL)

Tuan Speaker, my ministry will continue to strengthen Sarawak's capacity towards resilient and sustainable livestock industry. Sarawak's current self-sufficiency level for beef stands at 17.5%, with a target of 25% by the year 2030 as I said earlier and in 2026, a total of RM43.7 million has been allocated by the Sarawak and Federal Governments to strengthen food security and increase domestic production:

(a) Increase Domestic Production

Breeder stock development remains a key priority, with RM18.0 million allocated to strengthen livestock genetics and productivity through the acquisition of quality breeding stock. Various livestock stations are currently being upgraded to optimize both operational efficiency and facility standards i.e. Karabungan Livestock Station has utilized RM1.0 million to improve the Veterinary Training Centre (VTC) and several staff quarters. Meanwhile, Maragang and Long Sebangan has been upgraded for buffalo and goat breeding. A sum of RM500,000 has been utilized for enhancements of office buildings and staff quarters for these two stations.

Through SALCRA, my ministry is also supporting beef self-sufficiency initiatives. The Cattle Breeding and Fattening Centres in Rimbas, Betong, and Stenggang in Bau are expected to be completed by the third quarter of this year. These two new centres have a combined

capacity of 500 heads and will increase SALCRA's total feedlot capacity from the existing 300 heads at Mayang, Serian to 800 heads.

IMPROVING FOOD TRADE BALANCE

Tuan Speaker, I am pleased to inform this august House that at the end of 12MP (2025), our food export value has increased to RM1.12 billion or 15.3% from RM971 million in 2020. Despite this increase, our trade balance remains in deficit. This is mainly due to the heavy reliance on imported agriculture commodities apart from consumer preference for cheaper imported agriculture produce and products. In 2025, Sarawak recorded a food trade deficit of RM6.64 billion, compared to in 2024, RM6.44 billion. For the first quarter of 2026 alone, the deficit stood at RM1.63 billion, highlighting the need to strengthen domestic food production and reduce reliance on imports.

Export Oriented Food Crop Commodities

My ministry will continue transforming the agrifood sector into a modern and sustainable industry by focusing on export-oriented commodities such as pineapple, coconut, sago, and pepper, which have a strong market demand and export potential. The key initiatives include:

(a) Strengthening agricultural productivity through cooperative and cluster farming models;

(b) Expanding dedicated farming areas such as Agroparks, SARTECH, Precision Farming Parks, Metropolitan Food Cluster (MFC), and TKPM *(Taman Kekal Pengeluaran Makanan)*;

(c) Strengthening public-private partnerships and introducing new business models such as DBOT;

(d) Improving access to financing facilities, especially for SMEs;

(e) Enhancing supply chains and marketing efficiency; and

(f) Accelerating smart farming and technology adoption.

My ministry will also ensure local agrifood products meet export standards while promoting greater consumption of local food products.

Swine Industry

Tuan Speaker, to reduce the livestock food trade deficit, the Department of Veterinary Services (DVS) Sarawak has implemented various programmes to increase livestock self-sufficiency level and has initiated bilateral engagements with Kalimantan to explore pig export opportunities. As Sarawak remains free from Foot and Mouth Disease (FMD) without vaccination, the government will continue supporting private sector participation in the swine industry while maintaining strict disease prevention measures to preserve this status.

Sarawak is set to significantly expand its pig farming sector by 2030. We are aiming for a total capacity of 500,000 Standing Pig Population (SPP) through the full commissioning of Pasir Puteh and Selangau Pig Farming Areas (PFA), alongside Modern Pig Farming (MPF) in Ensengei. These farms are targeted to produce 860,000 porkers annually, valued at RM1.29 billion. This will position Sarawak as a major regional exporter, driving the need for enhanced downstream processing for both domestic and international markets.

Fishery Industry

My ministry remains committed to unlocking the full potential of Sarawak's fisheries resources, estimated at RM3.3 billion, through sustainable and responsible development. To reverse the declining trend of fish production, the government initiated the following:

(a) Establishment of the Department of Fisheries Sarawak is proposed to complement Federal agencies in regulating and developing the fishery industry in Sarawak;

(b) Increase production by expanding aquaculture activities as it is not subject to weather conditions;

(c) Encourage involvement of youth and upskilling through modern vessel training; and

(d) Provide financial assistance to upgrade their fishing vessels.

Animal Feed Initiative

Tuan Speaker, through SALCRA, my ministry has allocated RM6.0 million in 2026 to implement the Animal Feed Initiative aimed at reducing dependence on imported feed ingredients and strengthening local feed security. Following the attainment of MSPO certification in April 2026, SALCRA is now able to commercially market Palm Kernel Expeller (PKE) from its Kernel Crushing Plant in Lubok Antu. With an annual production capacity of 13,500 metric tonnes, PKE or Palm Kernel Expeller has the potential to reduce maize imports by approximately RM16.8 million annually.

In addition, the Smart Insect Farm project for the production of Black Soldier Fly (BSF) meal is progressing well and is expected to be completed by Quarter 4 this year, with the equipment installation scheduled in Quarter 3 of this year. Once operational, the facility is expected to produce 180 metric tonnes of BSF meal annually. As BSF meal can substitute imported soybean and fish meal, the initiative is expected to reduce animal feed imports by RM600,000 annually. The government has also allocated RM1.0 million to support the development of the Black Soldier Fly industry. This is the incorporating component of the animal feed.

Agrofood Sector Enablers

To strengthen agriculture production, my ministry remains committed to improving agricultural infrastructure, accessibility and land productivity.

(a) Drainage & Irrigation Infrastructures

To support agricultural development and uplift rural communities, my ministry through the Department of Irrigation and Drainage (DID) Sarawak has been allocated RM1.0 billion under various State Development Programmes, with the additional RM10.0 million from the Ministry of Agriculture and Food Security Malaysia. These initiatives include the upgrading of existing agricultural infrastructure, improvement of coastal bunds, development of new agricultural schemes and preparation of masterplans for drainage and irrigation schemes. More than 10,000 farmers and rural communities across Sarawak are expected to benefit from this scheme.

(b) Farm Roads

My ministry has received overwhelming requests from farmers throughout Sarawak for new, maintenance and upgrading of farm road. Farm roads remain a key enabler in improving connectivity between rural farming communities and the marketplaces, while reducing transportation costs and post-harvest losses. Better road infrastructure also supports rural economic growth, improves mobility, and encourages greater investment in the agriculture

sector. Therefore, my ministry continues to prioritise the expansion of upgrading of farm road networks throughout Sarawak.

In 2026, a total allocation of RM103.3 million has been approved by Sarawak Government and Federal Government for the implementation of more than 300 farm road projects covering about 1,900km. These projects are expected to benefit more than 18,000 farmers across Sarawak. However, this far from the total number of requests received by my ministry, which stands at 841 farm road projects that is around about 3,428km, with that estimated total project cost of RM347 million. And yet, we are expecting more requests to come.

UPLIFTING SOCIOECONOMIC WELLBEING OF AGRICULTURE AND RURAL COMMUNITIES

Tuan Speaker, besides implementing various agricultural development programmes to improve farmers' incomes, my ministry also undertakes socioeconomic initiatives, aimed at uplifting the well-being and livelihoods of rural communities. The Sarawak Government remains committed to improving the socioeconomic status of the rural population through income-generating activities, better infrastructure and a more conducive and sustainable living environment.

Strengthen Agro-Commodity

The commodity sector continues to be the backbone of Sarawak's agriculturaleconomy, contributing significantly to the state's GDP growth, export earnings and rural employment opportunities.

Palm Oil Industry

Sarawak's palm oil industry continued to record encouraging growth with export earning reaching RM5.93 billion from January to April 2026. During the same period, Crude Palm Oil (CPO) production increased by 5.3%, from 1.27 million tonnes to 1.33 million tonnes. Crude Palm Kernel Oil (CPKO) production also rose significantly by 20.4%, from 112,217 tonnes to 135,137 tonnes. Estate performance also improved, with the average Fresh Fruit Bunch (FFB) yield increasing from 4.6 tonnes per hectare to 4.7 tonnes per hectare.

The Oil Extraction Rate (OER) improved from 19.1% to 19.7%, while the CPKO extraction rate increased from 45.6% to 46.2%. Despite the ongoing geopolitical uncertainties, the palm oil industry continues to benefit from stronger global commodity prices and rising demand for renewable and bio-based energy. The increasing interest in biodiesel and sustainable vegetable oils is expected to strengthen market demand and support higher crude palm oil prices moving forward.

Current Status of MSPO Certification Implementation in Sarawak

As of April, this year, a total of 203,000 hectares of oil palm area under Independent Smallholders and 57,000 hectares, under Organised Smallholders and 1.2 million hectares, under estates have achieved MSPO certification.

Rubber Industry

Tuan Speaker, I wish to express my deepest appreciation to the Yang Amat Berhormat Premier of Sarawak for allocating 490 hectares of the former Similajau Rubber Research Station or (LGM) to Sarawak Rubber Industry Board (SARIB) in 2026. This reflects the State Government strong commitment to revitalising the rubber industry and supporting rural economic development. Sarawak's rubber sector holds significant untapped potential, covering about 164,000 hectares with estimated export earnings exceeding RM1.4 billion annually. To revive the industry, SARIB has initiated partnerships with smallholders and the private sector, successfully consolidating 1,000

hectares of rubber plantations and generating about RM400,000 in revenue for participating farmers since October of last year.

SARIB has also introduced the modern *"Punching"* method system to improve tapping efficiency and latex collection during rainy conditions. Supported by improved agronomic practices, productivity has increased from 0.2kg to 1.5kg per tree per month. Market access for smallholders has also improved through licensed rubber dealers and from RRIMNiaga digital transaction system, which are recorded RM4.5 million in real time transaction within its first three months of operation. In ensuring the sustainability of the rubber industry, the Federal Government through the Rubber Industry Smallholders Development Authority (RISDA) has allocated RM29 million for smallholder development and replanting programme on 1,450 hectares in year 2026 compared to RM24 million in the year 2025. Through state funding, SARIB will focus on rehabilitation, starting 500 hectares in this year 2026. Under 13MP, SARIB will continue prioritising on rehabilitation programmes and its initiatives to enhance productivity and strengthen rural livelihoods.

Sago and Nipah Industry

Tuan Speaker, sago and nipah remain strategic commodities with significant untapped potential for rural economic development and food security in Sarawak. From January to March this year, Sarawak's sago starch exports reached 7,000 metric tonnes valued at RM20 million, reflecting increases of 17% in volume and 16% on value compared with the same period in the year 2025. Meanwhile, *gula apong* exports rose to 25,000kg, valued at RM272,000 representing the growth of 29% in volume and 28% in value. However, the industries continue to face challenges such as low productivity, ageing workforce, and reliance on traditional farming practices, which affect production efficiency and long-term sustainability.

In this regard, the Sago and Nipah Development Board (SNDB) remains committed to strengthening both industries through smallholder empowerment, rehabilitation of cultivation areas, adoption of modern farming practices and entrepreneurship development programmes. These initiatives are further supported through collaboration with the Betong Division Development Agency (BDDA) to strengthen industry value chains and accelerate rural socio-economic development. SNDB will also organise *Karnival Balau* and Dalat Agrofest this year as a platform to promote the sago industry, agrotourism and local entrepreneurship.

Cocoa Industry

The Malaysian Cocoa Board (MCB) will continue to help farmers in increasing their income and socio-economic wellbeing by establishing Koperasi Kluster Koko Sarawak Berhad in the year 2019, which introduced a guaranteed minimum price mechanism. Currently, the floor price is set around RM10 per kilogram for cocoa beans. Through the value-added processing into cocoa powder and chocolate products, the cooperative has remained profitable while enabling farmers to benefit from the annual dividends and profit-sharing. Koperasi Kluster Koko Sarawak Berhad was among one of the three Cooperatives selected by MATRADE to participate in the 51st International Food and Beverage Exhibition (FOODEX JAPAN) 2026 to showcase its Sarawak Single Origin Chocolate and received a very positive response from the Japanese buyers and visitors.

The success of the cooperative demonstrates that agricultural cooperatives in Sarawak can thrive when supported by effective management and strong collaboration among members. In the first quarter of 2026, Sarawak recorded cocoa production of 13 metric tonnes valued at RM201,500, compared to 10 metric tonnes during the same period in 2025. Despite challenges such as rising agricultural input costs and limited capital, capital among farmers, interest in cocoa cultivation remains encouraging. To support the sustainable development of the industry, the Malaysian Cocoa Board (MCB) and my ministry will continue to work closely together. Under the 13th Malaysia Plan (RMK-13), RM6.67 million in federal funding and RM1 million from the Sarawak Government have been allocated to strengthen cocoa development in Sarawak. The key initiatives include farm rehabilitation programmes involving 513 farmers covering 382 hectares, expansion of cocoa

cultivation through the distribution of 350,000 seedlings for 350 hectares, and the development of new cocoa planting areas in Song District involving 12 small holders.

Pepper Industry

Tuan Speaker, on pepper industry. Sarawak remains the country's largest pepper-producing region. As of March 2026, Sarawak recorded 8,061 hectares of pepper cultivation involving 38,587 small holders. My ministry in collaboration with Malaysian Pepper Board will promote on, promote the development of complete supply chain focusing on high-value downstream product to capture greater value, generate better profit margins and strengthen our pepper industry. Under the 13th Malaysia Plan, RM50 million has been approved under the *Program Kemampanan Penanaman Lada Di Malaysia* to support premium pepper cultivation and improve productivity in Sarawak. About 5,800 pepper farmers are expected to benefit under both the Premium Pepper Cultivation Scheme and the Pepper Maintenance Scheme, covering a combined area of 1,450 hectares.

The Entrepreneurship and Micro, Small and Medium Enterprise Development Programme is allocated with RM5 million aims to strengthen downstream entrepreneurship in the pepper industry through training, technical support in production, processing and marketing. In the year 2026, the Malaysian Pepper Board has been allocated with RM100,000 to implement the Food Safety Management System Certification (FSSC); 20,000 certification programmes in major pepper producing areas in Sarawak to enhance global competitiveness and strengthen consumer confidence in the safety and quality of pepper products. A total of RM20 million has been allocated to complete the Pepper Industry Development Centre Project, which is expected to be fully completed by the year 2027.

In addition, Saraspice Sdn. Bhd., a wholly owned subsidiary of Malaysian Pepper Board, is also working closely with Malaysian Pepper Board and pepper farmers to advance sustainability initiatives that ensure Sarawak pepper meets international standards and global market expectations, while supporting farmers through a competitive purchase prices and enhanced initiatives and premium-grade produce. Currently, there are two existing collaborations or Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between Saraspice Sdn. Bhd. and prestige companies in Japan to collaborate on sustainable supply of Sarawak Pepper to Japan. This is to ensure continuous and sustainable pepper production through a sustainable pepper development model, business model that direct, directly links farmers with buyers or importers through exporters locally.

NCR Land Development

Tuan Speaker, as the last frontier of land development, NCR land plays a strategic role in driving economic growth and strengthening food security and advancing rural transformation. The Government remains committed to developing idle and under-utilised NCR land productively and sustainably while safeguarding the rights and interests of landowners.

To-date, a total of 953,373 hectares of NCR land has been developed for a large-scale commercial agriculture through various approaches including agencies such as SALCRA, LCDA, SLDB, FELCRA, RISDA, private companies, individual farmers with an individual farmer with a total of RM81 million investment value in 2025. The management of NCR land require a holistic and coordinated approach involving legal, economic, social, environmental, and governance considerations. As such, applications for NCR land development are evaluated and approved through:

(a) One Stop Committee on NCR Land Development for areas below 100 hectares; and
(b) State Task Force on NCR Land Development for areas exceeding 100 hectares.

In addition, the private companies seeking to invest in NCR land must undergo evaluation by the Investment Evaluation Committee to ensure that they possess the credibility, expertise, technical capability, financial capacity to undertake the projects successfully.

RURAL INFRASTRUCTURES

Program Jalan Luar Bandar (JALB) and Jambatan Luar Bandar (JMLB)

Tuan Speaker, Rural Infrastructures. *Program Jalan Luar Bandar (JALB)* and *Jambatan Luar Bandar (JMLB)*. To strengthen connectivity and support rural economic growth, the Ministry of Rural and Regional Development (KKDW) Malaysia has approved RM1.93 billion under the 13th Malaysia Plan for the implementation of 28 projects in Sarawak under the *Program Jalan Luar Bandar* and *Program Jambatan Luar Bandar*. These projects are expected to improve accessibility, strengthen food security, and enhance quality of life in the rural areas.

River and Coastal Engineering

My ministry, through the Department of Irrigation and Drainage Sarawak, DID Sarawak, continues to strengthen river and coastal engineering development, development through riverbank and coastal protection works, river rehabilitation and clearing programmes, river mouth improvement projects, and river basin studies. With the allocation of ceiling of approximately RM975 million under state and federal funding programmes, these initiatives are expected to benefit more than 200,000 people by improving the food resilience, protecting agricultural land and public assets, enhancing navigation safety, and supporting sustainable socio-economic growth in riverine and coastal communities.

Socio-Economic Programmes by Federal Government

My ministry, together with KKDW Malaysia, continues implementing socio-economic programmes aimed at reducing the rural-urban income gap and improving rural livelihoods through initiatives such as *Program Perumahan Rakyat Sejahtera (PPRS), Projek Pembangunan Ekonomi Kampung (PROSPEK),* and *Projek Pemajuan Kawasan (PPK).* These initiatives reflect the strong commitment from both the Federal and Sarawak Governments in improving rural livelihoods and in reducing income disparities. In the year 2026, RM32.8 million has been approved for *Program Perumahan Rakyat Sejahtera (PPRS)* Phase 1 for the construction of 217 *bina baharu* and 721 *baik pulih* houses throughout Sarawak. In addition, RM33 million has been approved for *Projek Pembangunan Ekonomi Kampung (PROSPEK)* projects in Lawas, Sebuyau, Betong, and Samarahan. Currently, these projects are in various stages of implementation and expected to be completed within Thirteenth Malaysia Plan. RM26 million has also been allocated in the 13th Malaysia Plan for the implementation of *Projek Pemajuan Kawasan (PPK)* in Long Lama. The initial works are expected to commence in June 2026.

New approach of Rural Growth Centres (RGCs) Development

The development of (RGCs) aims to promote more systematic, coordinated, and integrated rural development. My ministry will continue to, to refine the RGC implementation approach to support sustainable and inclusive rural economic growth. In this regard, RGC Opar project will adopt a circular economy concept through a Metropolitan Food Cluster (MFC) initiative, that is a collaboration between Sarawak and the Netherlands based on the Wageningen Metropolitan Food Cluster model. Meanwhile, RGC for Padawan will support the proposed development by plan by the Greater Kuching Coordinated Development Agency (GKCDA), while Regional Development Agencies are encouraged to collaborate with my ministry to further develop other RGCs across Sarawak.

UPDATE ON RABIES

To update on rabies, Tuan Speaker, this has to be very clearly understood. Rabies is fatal but preventable. I repeat, rabies is fatal but preventable. Rabies remains a serious public health concern in Sarawak despite continuous control efforts since 2017. Vaccination coverage remains below the 70% herd immunity target to the large number of free-roaming and unvaccinated dogs that continue

to sustain transmission. If in fact, in this aspect, it is not about all about the bite, as long as you abide by the SOP, the moment, the very moment you got bitten, you must seek intervention from Medical Department and get done and get injection and vaccination and so on. The SOP procedure, once bitten or scratched by dog or cat must, I repeat must immediately wash wound with soap and running water for *limak belas minit* and seek treatment at the nearest hospital and dog bite. The cases that you have heard, of what few of cases that we have heard, they are actually quite, not quite, they are ignorance of this SOP. So, therefore, they thought it simple and near the end when they get into the brain, the answer is death.

So, to date, Sarawak has recorded 94 human rabies cases with 87 deaths, 87 out of 94 that is quite rampant, including our, including four deaths in 2026, from January to May death. Although the animal rabies positivity rate has declined from 42.7% in 2018 to around 6% in 2025, transmission continues among free-roaming and stray dogs. From 2017 to 2026, 311,260 vaccine doses have been administered across Sarawak. In 2026, 18 positive rabies cases were detected from 469 animal samples collected in Kuching, Samarahan, Serian, and Bintulu.

Government Responses and Control Measures

Our rabies control strategy focuses on sustained parenteral dog vaccination. Pilot integrated field deployment combining parenteral vaccination instead of injection, we give parenteral, oral rabies, it is oral rabies vaccine has been carried out in high-risk areas such as Padawan and Kuching. During the three-week programme, 3,579 dogs were vaccinated and 2,281 ORV baits were distributed to target free-roaming dogs, and I would like to emphasize ORV complements but does not replace the parenteral vaccination.

The Way Forward

I would like to thank the government for approving 84 new posts for the Department of Veterinary Services Sarawak to enhance their capacity particularly in animal disease control. This year, Sarawak aims to vaccinate 50,000 dogs to reach the recommended herd immunity threshold and strengthen rabies prevention efforts across the state. An estimated funding of RM1.5 million is required to support the vaccination campaign. Veterinary Mobile Teams will be deployed, especially in urban and high-risk areas, to improve access, strengthen enforcement of responsible pet ownership, and enhance community engagement.

My ministry, through the Department of Veterinary Services (DVS) Sarawak is also collaborating with UNIMAS to develop a rapid and non-invasive rabies screening method to improve early detection and strengthen the state's vaccination strategy through data-driven monitoring.

The public ignorance of the SOP on the need to seek immediate post-bite treatment and completing the full course of anti-rabies vaccination after exposure, remains a big challenge in achieving zero death by 2030. I, therefore, urge full cooperation from the public, strictly adhere to this procedure. And I must say here, there are countries that have been successful enough to fight the rabies i.e. Mexico, Korea and so on. We should learn from them, what can we do to make it more effective, especially in giving the vaccination, and so on.

RESPONSES TO THE ISSUES AND COMMENTS RAISED BY THE HONOURABLE MEMBERS

Tuan Speaker, welcome Tuan Speaker. Tuan Speaker, I would like now to respond to the various issues, requests, views, comments, and suggestions raised by the Honourable Members on matters relating to my ministry. I must express my appreciation to all Honourable Members for your concerns, advice, and recommendations. Your active participation in the debate is noted and will be recorded by my ministry.

Erosion of Coastal Areas and Riverbanks

Among the matters that have been raised is on erosion of coastal areas and riverbanks. For the information of the Honourable Member for Lingga and Kalaka, the *Projek Mengatasi Banjir Pantai di* Pantai Tanjung Riong*,* Maludam and Kampung Beting Maro are currently at the procurement stage, and the Letter of Acceptance (LOA) is expected to be issued in October this year.

For the information of the Honourable Member for Kabong, the project tender for Riverbank Protection at Kampung Sungai Benang (Phase 1) is expected to be called in the third quarter of 2026. As for the river diversion at Sungai Seblak, the process to appoint consultant will commence in June this year.

For the information of the Honourable Member for Balingian, the proposed project *Pemuliharaan Sungai Gigis di Kg. Teh Labak, Kg. Teh dan Kg. Tabo, Daerah Kecil Balingian, Bahagian Mukah, Sarawak* will be submitted for consideration under the 13MP Mid-Term Review.

Rural Roads and Bridges

The matter is on rural roads and bridges. For the information of the Honourable Member for Batu Danau, the project *Naik taraf Jalan Ulu Pandaruan/Nanga Medamit, Limbang, Sarawak* has completed the final design stage, and the tender is scheduled to be called in June 2026. Meanwhile, for the projects; *Membina Jambatan Sungai Enseriban, Sarawak* and *Membina Jambatan Sungai Semena, Nanga Medamit, Limbang, Sarawak,* tenders were called in April 2026 and currently awaiting the decision from Lembaga Perolehan Sarawak.

Paddy Development

On paddy development, for the information of the Honourable Member for Daro; to revitalise the Daro Controlled Drainage Scheme, my ministry, through DID Sarawak, has secured an approved allocation totalling RM20 million from the Federal Government under the 13th Malaysia Plan. The project implementation will commence once the allocation is disbursed to DID.

Status of Sarawak Agro Fund (SAF) and Agriculture Facilitation Fund (AFF)

On the Status of Sarawak Agro Fund (SAF) and Agriculture Facilitation Fund (AFF), for the information of the Honourable Member for Meluan, the Sarawak Agro Fund (SAF) remains active and continues to play an important role in supporting the development of the agricultural sector in Sarawak, with a total allocation of RM125 million. To date, SAF has approved a total of RM73.4 million to finance 63 various commercial agricultural projects such as poultry farming, vegetable cultivation, aquaculture, and other agro-based activities. Meanwhile, the AFF Programme has received a total approved allocation of RM265 million, of which RM254.19 million has been utilised for the implementation of 20 programmes that benefited more than 180,000 participants throughout Sarawak.

Agriculture Assistance

On agriculture assistance, for the information of the Honourable Member for Meluan, in preparation to address the disruption of agricultural inputs and rising costs, my ministry, through the Department of Agriculture has developed a new *Garis Panduan Pelaksanaan Projek Pembangunan Bahagian Tanaman RMK-13*. This guideline is more flexible, responsive, where assistance is now based on the specific targeted needs. With regard to the cost of agricultural inputs, the latest survey conducted by the Department of Agriculture (DOA) in early of May this year, revealed an increase from 20% to 50%.

To cushion the impact of rising costs, my ministry has introduced several intervention programmes to support smallholders such as *Skim Pemangkin Transformasi Agrokomersial* (SPTA), *Skim Imbuhan Balik Agrokomersial* (SIBA), and *Geran Padanan Transformasi Pertanian* (GPTP).

Dividend Returns for Participants of FELCRA Oil Palm Plantation Development Project

For the information of the Honourable Member for Balingian and Daro, FELCRA has disbursed RM 40.25 million of dividend to 17,394 participants throughout Sarawak in year 2025. The financial performance of the project influenced by several factors such as:

(a) Age of the palms;
(b) High operation costs; and
(c) There are lots of land encroachment.

Despite these issues, projects in Matu Region have distributed RM1.99 million to recipients over the last five years. For projects that are no longer economically feasible, FELCRA may return the management responsibilities to participants after detailed studies and mutual agreement were agreed. My ministry will collaborate closely with FELCRA and other relevant agencies to address this matter.

Projek Ladang Sawit Tabung Haji-Pelita Beladin

For the information of the Honourable Member for Beting Maro, LCDA with Tabung Haji is currently in the process of formulating a recovery plan to address the challenges faced in order to improve the performance of Tabung Haji-Pelita Beladin estate.

Hak Milik Tanah di bawah Kerjasama dengan Pemaju ataupun GLC

Tuan Speaker, for the information of the Honourable Member for Opar, the LCDAPJP Pelita Lundu project at Selampit and Kendaie areas are developed under the New Concept of NCR Land Development managed by LCDA. Under this new concept, the individual Land Title will be issued upon expiry of the 60-year project term.

Pig Farming Area (PFA), Selangau

On methods of Pig Farming Area in Selangau, for the information of the Honourable Member for Tamin, Pig Farming Area (PFA) Selangau is operated by a private company and monitored by Department of Veterinary Services Sarawak. The 233-hectare project shall be developed in phases. To date, a total of 10 hectares of land has been cleared and basic infrastructures such as office and administrative area, fencing, access road construction and core utility are currently being carried out and expected to be completed in 2028. The project is designed to transform traditional farming into a technology driven export industry. The PFA Selangau development will provide employment and various business opportunities to local community.

Agriculture Development Proposals by the Honourable Member

For the information of the Honourable Member for Ngemah, Ba'kelalan, Daro, Meluan, Baleh, Bawang Assan, Tamin, Tellian, Machan, Engkilili, Serembu, Krian, Bukit Begunan, Beting Maro, Tanjung Datu, Balingian, Tebedu and Murum, your requests and recommendations related to agriculture development are duly noted and will be given due consideration by my ministry.

CONCLUSION

In conclusion, Tuan Speaker, I wish to express my appreciation to Tuan Speaker and Deputy Speaker for your wisdom and firm leadership in ensuring the proceedings of this august House were conducted and decorum and with full dignity.

I also extend my gratitude to the State Secretary, State Attorney General, State Financial Secretary, Secretary of Sarawak State Legislative Assembly, Heads of Departments, and officers from various state and Federal Ministries and Agencies for their commitment and support in ensuring a smooth proceeding of this sitting. My appreciation also goes to the media for their clear coverage, and also last but not least, I would like to express my sincere thanks to all the officers under my ministry led by the Permanent Secretary and my two Deputy Ministers for their efforts in ensuring smooth preparation during this sitting. Finally, I would like to wish all Sarawakians Happy Wesak Day, *Selamat Hari Raya Haji dan Selamat Hari Gawai, Gayu Guru Gerai Nyamai, Lantang Senang Nguan Menua*.

Tuan Speaker, with that winding up I beg to support the Motion of Thanks on the Opening Address by the Tuan Yang Terutama Yang di-Pertua Negeri Sarawak in the First Meeting of the Fifth Session of 19th Sarawak Legislative Assembly on 11th May 2026. Thank you…(*Applause*)…

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

Menteri Pembangunan Wanita, Kanak-kanak dan Kesejahteraan Komuniti Sarawak; dan Ahli Dewan Undangan Negeri N.56 Dalat (YB Dato Sri Hajah Fatimah Abdullah): Terima kasih, Tuan Speaker.

Lafaz Bismillah pembuka bicara,
Ucapan penggulungan agenda utama,
Laporan keberhasilan bakal diutara,
Mohon perhatian semua yang ada... (Applause)...

Bismillahirrahmanirrahim, Assalamualaikum W.B.T., Salam sejahtera, Salam Sarawakku Sayang, Salam *Segulai Sejalai*.

Tuan Speaker, saya ingin mengalu-alukan kehadiran Ahli Majlis Wanita dan Keluarga Sarawak, kakitangan daripada kementerian, OSEIC, SeDIDIK, Wanita PBB Pantai Damai, Demak Laut dan Tupong, Wanita PDP SUPP, Sarawak Women Chinese Federation, Special Olympics Kuching Chapter, Trafalgar, Pandu Puteri, Biro Wanita Rumah Tayang, Lepung Sarikei ke DUN untuk mendengar ucapan penggulungan Menteri KPWK... (*Applause*)...

Tuan Speaker, saya ingin merakamkan setinggi-tinggi penghargaan dan ucapan terima kasih kepada Tuan Speaker atas kebijaksanaan, ketegasan serta kepimpinan Tuan Speaker dalam mengendalikan persidangan Dewan yang mulia dengan penuh tertib, profesional dan berwibawa sepanjang perbahasan berlangsung dari pagi hingga senja.

Saya dengan penuh hormat dan takzim merakamkan setinggi-tinggi penghargaan dan terima kasih kepada Tuan Yang Terutama Yang di-Pertua Negeri Sarawak, Tun Pehin Sri Dr Haji Wan Junaidi bin Tuanku Jaafar atas titah ucapan pembukaan yang menggariskan hala tuju pembangunan Sarawak yang inklusif, mampan dan berteraskan kesejahteraan rakyat.

Kementerian kami menyambut baik penekanan Tuan Yang Terutama terhadap keutamaan aspek kebajikan dan kesejahteraan rakyat, khususnya melibatkan golongan warga emas, orang kurang upaya, kanak-kanak serta komuniti yang rentan.

Sehubungan itu, kerjasama strategik secara rentas agensi akan terus diperkukuhkan, bagi memastikan pelaksanaan agenda pembangunan kesejahteraan rakyat adalah lebih inklusif, holistik, berfokus dan berteraskan keperluan kumpulan sasar. Dalam ucapan penggulungan ini, saya akan melaporkan beberapa inisiatif, pencapaian serta langkah-langkah yang sedang dan akan dilaksanakan oleh kementerian bagi menyahut aspirasi dan penekanan yang telah disampaikan oleh Tuan Yang Terutama, dalam agenda Strategi Pembangunan Pasca COVID-19 (PCDS) 2030.

Tuan Speaker, I would also like to extend my heartfelt congratulations to the Right Honourable Datuk Patinggi Tan Sri (Dr) Abang Haji Abdul Rahman Zohari bin Tun Datuk Abang Haji Openg, Premier of Sarawak, on receiving the prestigious Forward Faster Sustainability Visionary Award 2026 by the UN Global Compact Network Malaysia and Brunei on 29th January 2026. This recognition acknowledges his visionary leadership in steering Sarawak towards sustainable, resilient and inclusive growth amid global geopolitical tensions, economic uncertainties and supply chain disruptions. Under his leadership, Sarawak has continued to strengthen its economy, advance renewable energy initiatives, attract strategic investments and enhance the wellbeing of its people while preserving environmental sustainability.

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

Tuan Speaker, izinkan saya melaporkan inisiatif dan pencapaian kementerian berdasarkan tiga bidang keberhasilan utama iaitu:

(a) Pemerkasaan Kanak-Kanak (Empowering Children);
(b) Pemerkasaan Wanita dan Keluarga (Empowering Women and Family); dan
(c) Pemerkasaan Komuniti Melalui Sistem Sokongan Sosial yang Inklusif (Empowering Community Through Inclusive Social Support System).

Pemerkasaan Kanak-Kanak (Empowering Children)

The ministry's aspiration goes beyond delivering programmes and services. It is about changing the lived realities of children, mothers, and families across Sarawak.

(a) One Stop Early Intervention Centre (OSEIC) –

The One Stop Early Intervention Centre (OSEIC), since 2020, has emerged as a cornerstone of Sarawak's inclusive early childhood agenda, supporting 1,368 children with developmental delays and special needs, where 518 children successfully completing the intervention programme. The successful transition of 145 children (28%) into the mainstream, 303 (58.5%) into Program Pendidikan Khas Integrasi (PPKI) and 70 (13.5%) into *Sekolah Pendidikan Khas*, demonstrates the transformative impact of early intervention in changing life trajectories and strengthening hope for families in Sarawak, especially those with children who have developmental delay issues.

The ministry is deeply blessed by the strong support and collaboration of strategic partners, including *Pertubuhan Ibu Bapa, Kanak-Kanak Keperluan Istimewa Sarawak* (PIBAKAT), Yayasan Sime Darby, and the Australian Institute of Technology Transfer (AITT). Through Yayasan Sime Darby's Corporate Social Responsibility contribution of RM350,000.00, 30 early Intervention Assistants are currently undergoing Executive Certification in Managing and Implementing Early Intervention Strategies and Practices in Culturally Diverse Environments to enhance quality early intervention services in Sarawak. The Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) signed on 8 January 2026, marks another meaningful milestone in building a skilled and sustainable workforce, ensuring that more children receive timely care, specialised support, and the opportunity to thrive during the most critical years of their development.

Digitalisation Initiatives to Strengthen Child and Family-Centred Service Delivery

In strengthening the agenda of Empowering Children, the Ministry continues to leverage digital innovation to enhance service delivery, improve accessibility and strengthen support systems for children and families.

(b) Bantuan Ibu Bersalin (BIB) Payment via S Pay Global –

Since its inception, BIB has supported 100,056 mothers. In line with Sarawak's digital aspirations, the ministry introduced BIB payments via SPay Global on 15th April 2026, to enhance efficiency, speed, and transparency. The process from application to payment has been reduced from three months*, tiga bulan* to just two weeks, *dua minggu sahaja*. This marks another important milestone in making government assistance more accessible, inclusive, and user-friendly. It also addresses challenges on the ground, especially for mothers who do not have bank accounts, who are unable to open bank accounts, or are underage.

Through this initiative, the ministry aims to further increase BIB application, *Bantuan Ibu Bersalin, permohonan untuk bantuan ibu bersalin* from the current 83% in 2025 to at least 90%, ensuring that more eligible mothers receive timely and meaningful assistance to ease the journey of motherhood, ensuring that more mothers and newborns receive the care and support that they deserve. In addressing connectivity limitations, the Ministry continues to provide manual application channels and direct bank account payment options to ensure that no eligible recipient is left behind.

MySedidik Apps

Since January 2026, SeDidik has achieved a significant milestone in its digital transformation journey through the introduction of MySedidik, an integrated digital ecosystem implemented across all 107 SeDidik centres statewide. This initiative marks a major step forward in modernising and digitalising Early Childhood Care and Education service delivery.

MySedidik comprises five integrated modules designed to strengthen operational efficiency, teaching quality, communication and parental engagement which are Contactless Attendance, Activity Feeds, Lesson Plan Management, Integrated Parent-Teacher Communication and Assessment Module and Simplified Billing System. For eight SeDidik centres with limited connectivity, two modules are currently operational to ensure continued access to essential digital services.

As of 12th May 2026, 5,975 out of 6,059, equivalent to 99% parents and guardians have utilised MySedidik to monitor their children's attendance, daily activities and developmental progress with greater ease and confidence, strengthening transparency and trust between parents and educators while assuring families that their children are learning in a safe, nurturing and well-monitored environment. These reflect SeDidik's commitment to a more connected, responsive and child-centred early childhood education ecosystem that places wellbeing, development and family engagement at the heart of service delivery.

TOY8 Early Developmental Screening Programme

The programme began as a pilot in 2023 through collaboration with a Japan-based company, TOY8, supported by the Sarawak Digital Economy Corporation. It leverages technology-driven developmental screening, enriched by the expertise of Japanese clinical developmental psychologists and former Nintendo game designers. Focusing on language, cognitive, and fine motor development, the initiative enables earlier identification of developmental needs and ensures that children receive timely, targeted intervention when support matters the most.

To date, 95 teachers have been trained, and 635 children have undergone structured developmental screening. Of these, 82 children were identified with developmental red flags. 70 children proceeded into intervention programmes, while 12 cases did not proceed due to parental consent considerations. Among those who received intervention, 12 children have successfully transitioned into mainstream primary education.

In 2026, with additional support from the Government of Japan and other national and international agencies, the initiative is being scaled up across all *SeDidik* centres. The expansion targets 140 teachers trained, and 1,800 children aged three to five screened. This scale-up is not only about reach, but also about the critical needs of early intervention. By enabling earlier detection and faster intervention pathways, the programme contributes to reducing the waiting-list backlog of 423 at One Stop Early Intervention Centre or OSEIC, ensuring that children are not left in prolonged queues while critical developmental windows pass.

The Memorandum of Agreement (MoA) between SeDidik and TOY8 on 21 April 2026, witnessed by His Excellency Noriyuki Shikata, Ambassador of Japan to Malaysia, underscores a significant milestone in innovation-driven collaboration. The initiative has also attracted Japan in leveraging technology to bridge service gaps and enhance accessibility, positioning it as an example of *"reverse innovation"*, where a developed nation looks to Sarawak for practical, scalable solutions.

*Strengthening Child Protection and Empowering Children's Vo*ices

Tuan Speaker, the government continues to strengthen child protection through advocacy and empowerment initiatives involving parents, educators, government agencies, Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs), and local communities. Under the *KASIH Kanak-kanak* Advocacy Programme, 23,871 participants from 167 schools statewide were reached through awareness initiatives promoting children's rights, children's dignity, children's safety, while encouraging early reporting of abuse, neglect, and exploitation through *Talian Kasih* 15999.

In conjunction with the 2025 Children's Day celebration, *Hari Ini, Suaraku* engaged 2,893 children across 12 divisions through talks and interactive activities that nurtured confidence, creativity, critical thinking, and teamwork in a safe and inclusive environment. These initiatives reflect the Government's commitment to ensuring every child is heard, protected, valued, and empowered.

Burung kenyalang terbang tinggi,
Hinggap sebentar di hujung dahan;
Anak dipelihara kasih diberi,
Generasi sejahtera menjadi harapan.

PEMERKASAAN WANITA DAN KELUARGA (EMPOWERING WOMEN AND FAMILY)

Tuan Speaker, seterusnya, izinkan saya meneruskan pelaporan kementerian kami bagi bidang keberhasilan utama yang kedua iaitu Pemerkasaan Wanita dan Keluarga (*Empowering Women and Family*).

Kerajaan Sarawak yakin bahawa pemerkasaan wanita perlu dilaksanakan secara holistik dengan memberi penekanan kepada pengukuhan kepimpinan dan peningkatan kapasiti agar wanita dapat menyumbang secara aktif kepada pembangunan komuniti, kemajuan sosial dan pertumbuhan ekonomi negeri.

Pemerkasaan Kepimpinan Wanita

Melalui pelaksanaan program seperti *Women Leadership Programme* (WLP), *Leadership Bootcamp for Youth* serta Program *Master of Arts in Leadership Development,* wanita daripada pelbagai lapisan termasuk NGO, Ketua Masyarakat dan Ketua Kaum wanita dan mahasiswa Insitusi

Pengajian Tinggi diberi peluang memperkukuh kemahiran kepimpinan, komunikasi strategik, pemikiran kritikal dan pembangunan kapasiti diri.

Women Leadership Programme (WLP)

Bermula tahun ini, WLP akan diadakan sebanyak tiga sesi. Program ini melibatkan wakil NGO serta diperluas kepada KMKK wanita. Sesi pertama program tersebut telah dilaksanakan di Bahagian Bintulu pada 17 hingga 19 April, dengan melibatkan seramai 30 peserta yang terdiri daripada 20 wakil NGO dan 10 wakil KMKK wanita dari tiga daerah, iaitu Bintulu, Sebauh dan Tatau. Dua sesi berikutnya dijadualkan akan diadakan di Bahagian Sibu dan Miri pada Ogos dan Oktober 2026.

Leadership Bootcamp for Youth

Seterusnya, *Leadership Bootcamp for Youth.* Program ini menyasarkan penyertaan mahasiswa wanita daripada IPT dalam usaha mengembangkan bakat dan potensi kepimpinan wanita muda terus diperkasa sejak awal. Dua sesi ini akan dilaksanakan untuk bahagian Miri dan Kuching pada Jun dan September 2026.

Program Master of Arts in Leadership Development

Seperti yang dilaporkan dalam persidangan lepas, Kerajaan Sarawak telah meluluskan pemberian biasiswa kepada wanita Sarawak untuk mengikuti pengajian Program *Master of Arts in Leadership Development di Asian Women Leadership University College* ataupun AWLUC, Pulau Pinang. Kementerian ingin memaklumkan bahawa tiga penerima biasiswa ini sedang mengikuti pengajian yang bermula pada 30 Januari 2026, dan dijangka akan tamat pada Mei 2027.

Pemantapan Institusi Keluarga dan Komuniti

Tuan Speaker, Kementerian kami turut memberi penekanan kepada usaha pengukuhan institusi keluarga dan komuniti sebagai asas penting dalam membina masyarakat yang harmoni, inklusif dan berdaya tahan. Selaras dengan sasaran Indeks Kesejahteraan Sosial Sarawak untuk mencapai skor 8.0 menjelang tahun 2030, kementerian melalui Jabatan Wanita dan Keluarga Sarawak terus komited dan memperluaskan pelaksanaan program pemantapan institusi keluarga yang merangkumi aspek keibubapaan, pengurusan keluarga dan hubungan kekeluargaan.

Untuk tahun 2026, sebanyak 12 kursus telah dirancang untuk dilaksanakan secara *hybrid* dan sasaran penyertaan sekitar 1,200 peserta di seluruh Sarawak. Sehingga kini, sebanyak lima kursus telah berjaya dianjurkan dengan penyertaan seramai 645 peserta di bahagian Sri Aman, Bintulu dan Kuching, dan kursus ini akan dilaksanakan juga di Miri, Sibu, Sarikei, Betong, Limbang, Mukah dan Samarahan pada bulan Ogos hingga November pada tahun ini.

Program Diversity, Equality, Equity & Inclusivity (D2EI)

Seterusnya, Program *Diversity, Equality, Equity & Inclusivity* atau singkatannya D2EI. Sukacita dimaklumkan bahawa Program Kepekaan Gender*:GENDERate Change @Workplace* akan dilaksanakan di tiga lokasi, iaitu Kuching, Sibu dan Miri mulai Jun 2026. Program yang julung kali diadakan ini merupakan inisiatif kementerian dalam usaha memperkukuh kesedaran dan kefahaman berkaitan isu gender di tempat kerja dan dalam masyarakat. Program ini yang menyasarkan penyertaan daripada kakitangan awam, *goverment-linked companies*, dan rakan komuniti daripada NGO diharapkan dapat meningkatkan kesedaran mengenai peranan setiap individu dalam mewujudkan persekitaran kerja yang selamat, profesional dan bebas daripada diskiminasi.

Sarawak Women @ Work

Tuan Speaker, program *Sarawak Women@Work* dilaksanakan selaras dengan *Sarawak Women@Work Initiative* di bawah Strategi 1; Sektor Perkhidmatan Sosial, PCDS 2030 yang memberi fokus kepada peningkatan penyertaan wanita dalam tenaga kerja serta pengembangan peluang ekonomi. Inisiatif ini memberi tumpuan kepada tiga komponen utama iaitu, membantu wanita mendapatkan peluang pekerjaan, memperluaskan akses kepada perkhidmatan agensi kerajaan dan memperkukuh keupayaan kapasiti usahawan.

Pada tahun ini, sebanyak enam program akan dilaksanakan di Mukah, Sibu, Kapit, Miri, Betong dan Kuching dengan kerjasama Pertubuhan Keselamatan Sosial (PERKESO), agensi pendaftar perniagaan, IPT dan juga NGO.

PEMERKASAAN KOMUNITI MELALUI SISTEM SOKONGAN SOSIAL YANG INKLUSIF
(EMPOWERING COMMUNITY THROUGH INCLUSIVE SOCIAL SUPPORT SYSTEM)

Tuan Speaker, seterusnya izinkan saya meneruskan pelaporan kementerian kami bagi bidang keberhasilan utama yang ketiga, iaitu Pemerkasaan Komuniti Melalui Sistem Sokongan Sosial yang Inklusif (*Empowering Community Through Inclusive Social Support System*).

Bantuan Kebajikan untuk Golongan Rentan

Kerajaan menyedari cabaran kos sara hidup golongan rentan dan telah menyalurkan pelbagai bantuan bagi meningkatkan sokongan dan memastikan mereka mendapat bantuan sewajarnya. Antara bantuan yang disediakan termasuk Bantuan Kewangan Bulanan Kebajikan dan Bantuan Kesihatan Bersasar:

(a) Bantuan Kewangan Bulanan Kebajikan

Sehingga 30 April 2026, seramai 56,585 penerima di seluruh negeri telah mendapatkan manfaat daripada Bantuan Kewangan Bulanan Jabatan Kebajikan Masyarakat, melibatkan peruntukan RM101.4 juta. Bantuan ini disalurkan terus kepada penerima bagi meringankan beban sara hidup mereka;

(b) Bantuan Kesihatan Bersasar

Sehingga 30 April 2026, inisiatif kesihatan bersasar ini telah memberi manfaat dalam bentuk Bantuan Pesakit Buah Pinggang kepada 334 penerima dengan kos perbelanjaan berjumlah RM7.53 juta, Bantuan Perubatan kepada 59 penerima dengan kos perbelanjaan berjumlah RM850,000.00 dan Bantuan Alat Tiruan/ Sokongan kepada 47 penerima dengan kos perbelanjaan berjumlah RM130,000.00. Ini Bantuan Kesihatan Bersasar.

Kerajaan Sarawak terus memperkukuhkan inisiatif kesihatan bersasar dengan menambah baik manfaat bantuan perubatan melalui pembayaran pengimejan *Positron Emission Tomography* atau *PET Scan* yang membolehkan pesakit mengakses teknologi diagnostik kanser. *This is a milestone ya.*

Kesiapsiagaan dalam Menghadapi Bencana

Bagi tahun 2026, Kerajaan Sarawak telah memperuntukkan sejumlah RM13.7 juta bagi tujuan pengurusan dan penyaluran bantuan bencana di seluruh Sarawak melalui Jabatan Kebajikan Masyarakat Sarawak (JKMS). Sepanjang tempoh Januari hingga April 2026, JKMS telah menyalurkan bantuan bencana berjumlah RM6.9 juta kepada 68,483 mangsa.

SOKONGAN SOSIAL DAN RUJUKAN INTERVENSI

Menangani Isu Penyalahgunaan Dadah dan Substans

Tuan Speaker, sokongan sosial dan rujukan intervensi. Menangani isu penyalahgunaan dadah dan substans. Melalui pendekatan penguatkuasaan bersepadu di bawah *One Stop Committee* bagi Menangani Isu Dadah dan Substans singkatannya OSC MIDS, Kerajaan Sarawak terus beriltizam untuk memperkukuh usaha membanteras pengedaran dadah dan substans melalui tindakan penguatkuasaan yang lebih agresif dan bersepadu.

Berdasarkan laporan yang diterima melalui OSC MIDS bagi tempoh Januari hingga April 2026, sebanyak 268kg pelbagai jenis dadah telah berjaya dirampas oleh Jabatan Siasatan Jenayah Narkotik (JSJN) dan Jabatan Kastam Diraja Malaysia di Sarawak berbanding hanya 14kg bagi tempoh yang sama pada tahun 2025. Ini boleh tepukan *ya*...(*Applause*)...Jumlah rampasan berkenaan dianggarkan berjaya menyekat lebih 2.6 juta kali penggunaan dadah serta melindungi kira-kira 254,000 individu daripada terlibat dengan penyalahgunaan dadah dalam tempoh sebulan.

Kejayaan rampasan yang dicapai turut disumbangkan oleh tahap kesedaran dan kerjasama masyarakat dalam menyalurkan maklumat berkaitan aktiviti penyalahgunaan dan pengedaran dadah kepada pihak berkuasa, hasil pelaksanaan pelbagai program kesedaran di bawah OSC MIDS. OSC MIDS turut dimaklumkan mengenai penghargaan yang dizahirkan oleh JSJN Polis Diraja Malaysia (PDRM) Bukit Aman terhadap sokongan berterusan Kerajaan Sarawak kepada JSJN PDRM Sarawak, khususnya dari aspek logistik, kenderaan dan peralatan operasi yang membantu memperkukuh pengoperasian, risikan serta koordinasi strategik penguatkuasaan di Sarawak.

Melalui OSC MIDS, Kerajaan Sarawak akan terus memperkukuh kerjasama strategik dan tindakan bersepadu antara agensi penguatkuasaan dan bukan penguatkuasaan serta komuniti bagi memastikan usaha pencegahan, pendidikan kesedaran dan intervensi dapat dilaksanakan dan secara menyeluruh dan berkesan demi melindungi kesejahteraan rakyat serta masa depan generasi muda.

Isu Dokumen Pengenalan Diri Kanak-Kanak

Kementerian kami sentiasa prihatin terhadap kebajikan setiap kanak-kanak yang berdepan dengan isu dokumen pengenalan diri. Sehubungan itu, kementerian telah mengambil pendekatan yang menyeluruh, proaktif dan berperikemanusiaan bagi memastikan kanak kanak ini mendapat hak dan perlindungan sewajarnya. Antara pendekatan yang diambil adalah:

(a) Memastikan Jawatankuasa Khas Status Kewarganegaraan (JKKSK) di bawah Perkara 15A Perlembagaan Persekutuan Peringkat Sarawak terus berfungsi secara efektif bagi mempercepatkan proses pertimbangan dengan memberi fokus kepada: urusan verifikasi permohonan; urusan fasilitasi proses permohonan; dan mengemukakan syor kepada JKKSK di peringkat Kementerian Dalam Negeri di Putrajaya.

Bagi tempoh 2024 hingga 8 Mei 2026, sebanyak 314 permohonan kewarganegaraan di bawah Perkara 15A Perlembagaan Persekutuan telah diterima dan dibentangkan dalam mesyuarat JKKSK Peringkat Negeri Sarawak; dan

(b) Melaksanakan Sementara inisiatif Individu Dokumen Tanpa Kewarganegaraan di Sarawak (DSITKS) bagi membolehkan kanak-kanak tanpa kewarganegaraan atau sementara menunggu permohonan kewarganegaraan diluluskan mendapat akses pendidikan dan perkhidmatan kesihatan. Sejak pelaksanaannya pada 1 November 2022 hingga 30 April 2026, Kementerian telah menerima sebanyak 790 permohonan dan daripada jumlah tersebut, sebanyak 258 permohonan yang lengkap dan yang memenuhi syarat telah diluluskan dengan pengeluaran sijil DSITKS kepada kanak-kanak tersebut.

Bagi menjawab soalan Yang Berhormat bagi Pending berkenaan *"recognition of children of Sarawakian Fathers as Sarawakian by allowing the "K" indicator in their identity cards"* yang dibangkitkan semasa usul perbahasan pada 13 Mei 2026, dimaklumkan bahawa perkara tersebut akan dijawab secara bertulis memandangkan Yang Berhormat turut telah mengemukakan soalan yang sama dan minta jawapan bentuk bertulis. *So, we will,* Insya-Allah, *furnish* Yang Berhormat *with the written reply.*

Dalam hal ini, Kementerian menyeru semua Ahli Yang Berhormat untuk bersama-sama membantu menyampaikan mesej iaitu mesej kepada masyarakat mengenai kepentingan perkahwinan yang didaftarkan secara teratur mengikut peruntukan undang-undang, supaya tiada lagi anak-anak kita berdepan dengan isu kewarganegaraan serta status sebagai anak Sarawak pada masa hadapan.

Menangani Jenayah Siber

Tuan Speaker, kementerian melalui Jabatan Wanita dan Keluarga Sarawak terus memperkukuh literasi digital masyarakat menerusi Kursus Anti-Scam Literacy, dan Digital Literacy for Elderly Women sebagai platform pendidikan bagi meningkatkan kesedaran penggunaan teknologi secara selamat. Susulan peningkatan keperluan semasa serta sambutan yang memberangsangkan, sasaran penyertaan bagi tahun 2026 telah ditingkatkan oleh JWKS kepada 700 peserta menerusi pelaksanaan lapan kursus berbanding 550 peserta dan tujuh kursus pada tahun sebelumnya.

Mengenai perkara yang sama, sukacita saya memaklumkan juga bahawa kesedaran berkaitan *scam* dan *literacy cyber* turun diterapkan melalui Program Randau Pembangunan Sosial (RPS) yang dilaksanakan sejak tahun 2019. Program ini memberi pendedahan tentang isu *scam* kepada komuniti pelbagai peringkat umur oleh Suruhanjaya Komunikasi dan Multimedia Malaysia dan Jabatan Siasatan Jenayah Komersil PDRM Sarawak melalui ceramah, pameran dan kaunter khidmat nasihat.

Pada tahun 2025, sebanyak tiga sesi Program Randau Pembangunan Sosial telah dilaksanakan melibatkan 702 orang peserta. Manakala bagi tahun 2026, sebanyak 12 program telah dirancang dengan sasaran. 3,600 peserta sebagai usaha berterusan meningkatkan kesedaran masyarakat terhadap ancaman *scam* dan jenayah siber.

Integrated Social Issue Case Management System (ISICMS)

Selaras dengan usaha mempertingkatkan penyampaian perkhidmatan sosial, kementerian telah memperkenalkan ISICMS bagi memastikan pengurusan dan rujukan kes sosial dilaksana secara lebih cepat, bersepadu dan sistematik. Melalui sistem ini, golongan rentan dapat memperoleh akses kepada bantuan dan intervensi sosial secara lebih cekap melalui kerjasama pelbagai pihak yang berkaitan.

Bagi tempoh 1 Januari hingga 30 April 2026, sebanyak 4,558 kes berjaya dirujuk melalui ISICMS, hasil kerjasama erat antara kementerian dan rakan-rakan strategik. Dan daripada jumlah tersebut, seramai 4,315 individu telah berjaya menerima intervensi dan bantuan yang diperlukan. Pencapaian ini mencerminkan komitmen berterusan agensi kerajaan dan NGO dalam memperkasakan ekosistem sokongan sosial yang lebih holistik dan berkesan.

Bagi memastikan sistem ISICMS ini terus berfungsi secara efektif, kementerian turut melaksanakan latihan secara *hybrid* melibatkan seramai 227 peserta daripada 87 agensi kerajaan dan NGO yang dilantik sebagai penyelaras di peringkat agensi. Jaringan penyelaras ini akan membantu memastikan setiap rujukan kes dapat diuruskan secara sistematik dan responsif.

Program Pembangunan Ekonomi

Dalam usaha memperkukuh pembangunan kemahiran dan pemerkasaan ekonomi kumpulan sasar, kementerian melalui Jabatan Wanita dan Keluarga Sarawak terus melaksanakan pelbagai inisiatif yang meliputi peluang latihan dan sokongan keusahawanan yang disasarkan bagi membina keupayaan peserta dan menjana pendapatan:

(a) Latihan Kemahiran

(i) *Women Vocational Skills Training*

Women Vocational Skills Training, contoh latihan kemahiran. Pelaksanaan WST diteruskan pada tahun ini di Wisma Wanita Kuching dan juga tujuh Pusat Kemahiran Jahitan Komuniti di Kuching, Serian, Sarikei, Sibu, Dalat, Bintulu dan Limbang. Setakat 30 April 2026, seramai 1,497 peserta telah menyertai 60 sesi kursus dan dua sesi WST *Outreach* dalam bidang jahitan, kecantikan, spa dan urutan, serta kulinari.

Laporan penilaian keberkesanan kursus mendapati bahawa seramai 762 peserta menggunakan kemahiran yang diperolehi dari WST untuk tujuan meningkat kemahiran diri, 641 peserta menambah pendapatan, 75 peserta memulakan perniagaan dan 19 peserta memperoleh peluang pekerjaan.

(b) Bantuan Keusahawanan

(i) Bantuan Ketua Isi Rumah Wanita Sarawak

Bantuan Ketua Isi Rumah Wanita Sarawak atau KIRWaS. Sebagai kesinambungan kepada pelaksanaan program dalam tempoh Rancangan Malaysia Ke-12, sejumlah RM1.5 juta telah diperuntukkan bagi meneruskan inisiatif Bantuan KIRWaS, Bantuan Ketua Isi Rumah Wanita Sarawak. Pada Rancangan Malaysia Ke-13, yang akan memberi manfaat kepada 1,500 penerima terbaharu.

Setakat 30 April 2026, seramai 159 usahawan ketua isi rumah wanita Sarawak telah disalurkan Bantuan KIRWaS dengan rekod pendapatan tertinggi RM4,500.00 sebulan.

(ii) Geran Modal Pemerkasaan Wanita Sarawak

Selari dengan aspirasi PCDS 2030, kementerian menerusi Jabatan Wanita dan Keluarga Sarawak telah melaksanakan Geran Modal Pemerkasaan Wanita Sarawak sebagai inisiatif yang menyasarkan golongan wanita berpendapatan rendah untuk menjana pendapatan, dan seterusnya keluar daripada kemiskinan.

Pelaksanaan program pada tahun 2025 mendapati bahawa 21 penerima telah berjaya mencapai sasaran iaitu penjanaan pendapatan melebihi RM2,150 sebulan. Pada masa yang sama, seramai 68 penerima menjana pendapatan bulanan melebihi Pendapatan Garis Kemiskinan atau PGK, RM1,298 dan tidak lagi tergolong dalam kategori miskin. Pada tahun 2026, sebanyak RM2.5 juta telah diperuntukkan kepada 470 penerima baharu.

Kesejahteraan Warga Emas

Tuan Speaker, kementerian menyambut baik penekanan Tuan Yang Terutama berhubung kesejahteraan warga emas. Saranan tersebut adalah bertepatan dengan tunjang Keterangkuman Sosial di bawah aspirasi PCDS 2030 dan turut disokong melalui dapatan kajian *Research on*

Preparation for an Ageing Sarawak: The Profile of and Ageing Issues of Older Persons in Sarawak serta resolusi *Sarawak International Conference on Ageing* (SICA) 2025.

Kajian yang dilaksanakan bersama Swinburne University of Technology Sarawak yang melibatkan 6,094 responden di semua 12 bahagian dan 45 daerah di Sarawak telah mengenal pasti keperluan untuk memperkukuh aspek kesihatan komuniti, perlindungan sosial, sokongan kepada penjaga keluarga, pembangunan infrastruktur, persekitaran mesra usia, dan penglibatan aktif warga emas dalam komuniti.

Sehubungan itu, kementerian telah melaksanakan sesi libat urus, *engagement,* dan bengkel bersama dengan rakan strategik dan pemegang taruh berkaitan bagi meneliti serta menyelaras pelan tindakan dan langkah susulan secara bersepadu sebagai persediaan Sarawak ke arah negeri menua.

Di samping itu, kementerian turut meneruskan pelaksanaan pelbagai program dan inisiatif berkaitan kesejahteraan warga emas seperti yang berikut:

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

Sehingga 30 April 2026, sebanyak 30 PAWE dan lapan PPWE giat beroperasi di seluruh Sarawak. Inisiatif ini berjaya menghimpunkan seramai 20,234 orang warga emas melalui pelbagai aktiviti komuniti, dengan sokongan peruntukan dari kerajaan bagi memperkasa kesejahteraan, penglibatan sosial, dan pembangunan aktif warga emas.

(b) Kenyalang Gold Card (KGC)

Sejak inisiatif ini diperkenalkan pada tahun 2020, seramai 380,626 orang warga emas adalah pemegang KGC dan daripada jumlah tersebut, seramai 14,517 orang pemegang KGC telah mengaktifkan kad digital menerusi aplikasi *SarawakPASS*. Warga emas kini boleh menikmati diskaun, rebat dan perkhidmatan yang ditawarkan oleh 1,290 rakan niaga strategik KGC di seluruh Sarawak.

Dalam tempoh yang sama, seramai 30,752 orang waris pemegang KGC telah menerima manfaat Bantuan Ihsan Kematian (BIK), yang melibatkan peruntukan sebanyak RM79.9 juta. Selaras dengan peralihan perkhidmatan Kerajaan Sarawak ke arah pendigitalan, mulai Januari 2026, permohonan BIK telah dilaksanakan secara atas talian menerusi aplikasi *SarawakPASS*, sekali gus memudahkan pencapaian akses perkhidmatan, di samping meneruskan pengurusan permohonan secara manual.

(c) Senior Citizen Health Benefit (SCHB)

Sejak diperkenalkan pada Ogos 2024 hingga April 2026, seramai 226,801 orang warga emas telah berdaftar sebagai penerima manfaat *Senior Citizen Health Benefit*. Sehingga kini, pelaksanaan skim ini telah melibatkan perbelanjaan keseluruhan sebanyak RM86.3 juta. Sebanyak 257 daripada 477 klinik dan hospital swasta di Sarawak telah berdaftar sebagai panel SCHB bagi memberi akses perkhidmatan kesihatan kepada warga emas.

(d) Penjagaan Asas Warga Emas

Kementerian melalui Jabatan Wanita dan Keluarga Sarawak pada tahun ini, akan melaksanakan sebanyak dua kursus penjagaan asas warga emas di Kabong dan Kanowit dengan sasaran penyertaan seramai 60 orang peserta di setiap daerah. Kursus ini akan memberi pendedahan menyeluruh kepada peserta mengenai aspek penjagaan asas dan pengurusan warga emas melalui pendekatan pembelajaran yang menggabungkan elemen teori dan praktikal.

Selain itu, kementerian melalui Majlis Pembangunan Sosial juga akan melaksanakan dua program *Dementia Care Skills – Train the Trainer* dan Program *Dementia Care Skills* untuk *family* yang mensasarkan seramai 100 orang peserta di Kuching dan program ini memberi fokus kepada peningkatan kesedaran berkaitan demensia, memperkukuhkan sokongan dan pendidikan kepada penjaga serta memperluaskan pemahaman komuniti terhadap penjagaan demensia.

Pemerkasaan Orang Kurang Upaya (OKU) dalam Bidang Sukan

Pelbagai inisiatif dilaksanakan bagi menggalakkan penyertaan aktif OKU dalam bidang sukan, sama ada di peringkat kebangsaan mahupun antarabangsa. Usaha ini bukan sahaja membuka peluang, malah mengangkat potensi dan *dignity* OKU di persada dunia. Pada tahun ini, pemerkasaan OKU dilaksanakan melalui dua platform penganjuran dan penyertaan sukan iaitu:

(a) Penganjuran Special Olympics Malaysia 6th National Games Sarawak 2026

Kementerian melalui Jabatan Kebajikan Masyarakat Sarawak dengan kerjasama *Special Olympics Sarawak* yang mana *Special Olympic Bintulu Chapter* telah diamanahkan sebagai tuan rumah bagi menganjurkan Temasya Special Olympics Malaysia 6th National Games Sarawak 2026. Temasya telah berlangsung pada 24 hingga 26 April 2026 di Bintulu Sarawak dengan ikrar, *"Let Me Win. But If I Cannot Win, Let Me Be Brave in The Attempt"*.

Temasya dwi tahunan ini telah menghimpunkan seramai 778 orang termasuk atlet, jurulatih, pegawai dan petugas dari 11 buah negeri dan wilayah persekutuan, iaitu Sarawak, Sabah, Pulau Pinang, Kedah, Perak, Selangor, Melaka, Pahang, Wilayah Persekutuan Putrajaya, Wilayah Persekutuan Kuala Lumpur dan Wilayah Persekutuan Labuan.

Sebanyak lapan acara sukan yang dipertandingkan, iaitu olahraga, renang, bocce, ping pong, badminton, tenpin boling dan bola sepak lima sebelah *(unified football)*. Kontinjen *Special Olympics Sarawak* telah dinobatkan sebagai juara keseluruhan... *(Applause)...*dengan memperolehi 176 pingat, iaitu 56 pingat emas, 68 pingat perak dan 52 pingat gangsa. Selaras dengan semangat dan ikrar Special Olympics, *"Let Me Win. But If I Cannot Win, Let Me Be Brave in The Attempt"*, *Special Olympics Sarawak* memperkenalkan *Bravery Medal* di mana medal ini dianugerahkan kepada semua atlet yang mengambil bahagian, asal mengambil bahagian, jadi diberi *Bravery Medal* sebagai simbol penghargaan terhadap keberanian mereka untuk mencuba.

Sepanjang temasya, sebanyak 224 orang atlet telah menerima *Bravery Medal,* di mana 65 orang atlet adalah dari Sarawak. Semasa temasya berlangsung, Healthy Athletes Programme (HAP) juga telah diadakan. Program ini menyediakan saringan kesihatan percuma, pemeriksaan oleh doktor dan pakar kesihatan serta memberikan pendidikan kesihatan kepada atlet. Sepanjang kejohanan *Special Olympics National Games 2026* di Bintulu, seramai 391 orang atlet telah menyertai program tersebut, dan sebanyak 2,321 saringan kesihatan telah dibuat.

(b) Penyertaan Atlet OKU Sarawak ke 13th ASEAN Para Games, Korat Thailand 2025

Kontinjen Malaysia telah menghantar seramai 222 orang atlet bagi menyertai Temasya 13th ASEAN Para Games, Korat Thailand 2025 pada 20 hingga 26 Januari 2026. Seramai 31 orang atlet para Sarawak telah terpilih untuk mewakili Malaysia dan mencatat pencapaian membanggakan. Mereka telah mengharumkan nama negara dengan menyumbang 13 pingat emas, 14 pingat perak dan 10 pingat gangsa melalui lapan acara, iaitu olahraga, *powerlifting*, renang, ping pong, tenpin boling, memanah, boccia dan *wheelchair basketball*. Penyertaan dan kejayaan ini bukan sahaja mengharumkan nama negara, malah meningkatkan imej Sarawak sebagai kuasa besar sukan para.

Sehubungan itu, kementerian amat menghargai keprihatinan Yang Amat Berhormat Premier Sarawak melalui penyediaan peruntukan pengelolaan Temasya Special Olympics Malaysia 6th National Games Sarawak 2026 di Bintulu berjumlah RM2 juta, di samping pengiktirafan atas pencapaian cemerlang atlet para kita menerusi pemberian insentif berjumlah RM143,000 kepada 19 orang atlet para Sarawak yang memenangi pingat pada Temasya ASEAN Para Games Ke-13 di Korat, Thailand.

Bersama dalam Kepelbagaian: Menyemai Kasih di Hari Perayaan

Musim perayaan bukan sekadar lambang tradisi dan budaya, tetapi juga ruang untuk menyemai nilai kasih sayang, perpaduan dan keprihatinan sesama masyarakat. Dalam kepelbagaian kaum dan agama di Sarawak, semangat kebersamaan terus diperkukuh melalui pelbagai inisiatif yang menyentuh hati rakyat serta mencerminkan nilai kemanusiaan yang menjadi asas keharmonian negeri ini.

Kerajaan Sarawak percaya bahawa kesejahteraan rakyat bukan hanya diukur melalui pembangunan fizikal dan ekonomi, tetapi juga melalui keupayaan untuk menyantuni mereka yang berkorban demi masyarakat serta golongan yang memerlukan perhatian dan sokongan, khususnya ketika musim perayaan. Pendekatan ini bukan sahaja menyentuh hati rakyat, malah membentuk masyarakat yang lebih prihatin, inklusif dan saling menghargai antara satu sama lain.

(a) Program Sumbangsih Tahun Baru Cina, Hari Raya Aidilfitri, dan Gawai Dayak

Sebagai tanda penghargaan terhadap pengorbanan anggota keselamatan, penguatkuasa dan badan beruniform yang bertugas semasa musim perayaan di Sarawak, program sumbangsih yang diperkenalkan sejak tahun 1990 terus dilaksanakan. Pada tahun 2026, Jabatan Wanita dan Keluarga Sarawak telah menganjurkan tiga program sumbangsih sempena Hari Raya Aidilfitri, Tahun Baru Cina dan Gawai Dayak, melibatkan 11 agensi penerima dengan agihan keseluruhan sebanyak 36,000 kotak sumbangan.

(b) Program Majlis Sejambak Kasih: Keprihatinan Sempena Musim Perayaan

Program Majlis Sejambak Kasih menzahirkan keprihatinan Kerajaan Sarawak untuk membantu penerima bulanan kebajikan menyambut perayaan. Sehingga April 2026, sebanyak RM2.46 juta telah dibelanjakan dan memberi manfaat kepada 23,037 orang penerima bantuan bulanan Jabatan Kebajikan.

PENUTUP

Tuan Speaker, today, as we embark on implementing PCDS 2030 initiatives, we stand at the intersection of ambition and responsibility. Sarawak is blessed with natural resources, a rich cultural heritage, and a vibrant community. However, our true strength lies not in the resources beneath our feet but in the people who call this land home. Therefore, as we forge ahead in our development plans, we must prioritize initiatives that enhance wellbeing of our people which form the foundation upon which sustainable progress is built.

Investing in early childhood education, empowering women, empowering social support services, and enhancing community engagement is not merely an obligation. It is a strategic imperative that fuels our physical infrastructure projects.

By empowering our citizens and future generations, we are actually ensuring that they are not just beneficiaries of development but active participants in shaping our future. A healthy, educated, and engaged populace is essential for maximizing the benefits of the infrastructure we create, enabling us to develop resilient communities that thrive, even during difficult times. Simultaneously, we must recognize that our infrastructure, the roads, bridges, schools, and healthcare facilities, acts

as a backbone for these wellbeing initiatives as quality infrastructure promotes accessibility and connectivity, ensuring that every individual has opportunity to improve their lives.

It is through this delicate balance that we can create holistic growth, one that elevates Sarawak as a model of inclusive development, where no one is left behind. On this occasion, I would also like to convey my sincere prayers and best wishes to His Excellency, the Governor of Sarawak and his wife as they perform the Hajj pilgrimage. May His Excellency and Toh Puan be blessed with good health, ease in every undertaking, and a blessed Hajj *Mabrur,* while remaining under the mercy and protection of Allah S.W.T. at all times. Ameen. I would also like to extend my warmest wishes to all Sarawakians celebrating Mother's Day, Nurses Day, Teacher's Day, Hari Raya Aidiladha, Wesak Day and Gawai Dayak.

May these celebrations continue to strengthen unity, mutual respect and harmony among the people of Sarawak. *Gayu Guru Gerai Nyamai, Lantang Senang Nguan Menua*.

Anak merpati di tepi paya,
Burung tempua hinggap di huma;
Semangat parti terus menyala,
Siaga menghadapi pilihan raya.

Alang-alang menyeluk pekasam,
Biar sampai ke pangkal lengan;
Ke medan perang penuh azam,
Agar kemenangan dalam genggaman.

With this, I support the Motion of Thanks to the Tuan Yang Terutama Yang di-Pertua Negeri Sarawak for his Opening Address in this Mesyuarat Pertama bagi Penggal Kelima Dewan Undangan Negeri Sarawak Ke-19. Thank you.

Tuan Speaker: Ahli-ahli Yang Berhormat, under Standing Order 9(1), I determine to this sitting goes beyond 6:30 p.m. Dengan hormatnya saya menjemput Yang Berhormat Datuk Amar Prof. Dr. Sim Kui Hian, Timbalan Premier dan Menteri Kesihatan Awam, Perumahan dan Kerajaan Tempatan untuk menyampaikan ucapan penggulungan.

Timbalan Premier Sarawak; Menteri Kesihatan Awam, Perumahan dan Kerajaan Tempatan Sarawak; dan Ahli Dewan Undangan Negeri N. 14 Batu Kawah (YB Datuk Amar Dr Sim Kui Hian): Thank you very much, Tuan Speaker. First and foremost, I would like to thanks Tuan Yang Terutama Yang di-Pertua Negeri Sarawak for his address during the opening on the First Meeting of the Fifth Session of the 19th sitting of the Dewan Undangan Sarawak on 11th May 2026.

Tuan Yang Terutama in his address emphasised the importance of Sarawak maintaining stability, while managing geopolitical uncertainty, the global economic and international conflicts that affect Sarawakian economic development momentum. Despite facing many challenges, the Sarawak Government continues to sustain economic stability through some financial management as well as clear and focused development policies.

I would also like to record my greatest appreciation to the Ahli-ahli Yang Berhormat, who has commented or raised matters related to my ministry as well as agencies and departments under my purview or watching brief during the debates. I would also like to thank Yang Amat Berhormat Premier for approving the increase in allowances of counsellor monthly allowances from RM300 to RM1,000.00 as well as annual medical benefit of RM1,000. This will surely motivate the counsellors work for a better Sarawak.

Development Projects and Programmes Under the Local Authorities

Tuan Speaker, for the information Ahli-ahli Yang Berhormat in this august House, under RMK-12, my ministry has disbursed RM382.92 million to local authorities for the completions of 206 projects. Under RMK-13, my ministry has given a ceiling of RM571.29 million whereby 150.76 million has been allocated for 25 local authorities this year. In addition, a total 173 *Projek Rakyat* since 2018 amounting to RM447.8 million under *Projek Khas* are also being implemented as well.

These covers various infrastructure projects such as upgrading of road and drainage, improvements of waterfront, upgrading of markets, installation of street lighting and traffic light, public toilet, public libraries, landscape beautification and also rural facilities and amenities. All of these projects are progressing at various stages of implementation under the respective local authorities.

As for Rural Transformation Projects (RTP), the Sarawak Government has approved a total of 8,600 projects from 2015 to 2026, amounting to RM1.39 billion. Out of the 8,600 projects, 7,117 projects have been completed representing 83%. For 2026, the local authorities are currently implementing 739 projects amounting to RM101 million. In 2026, the ministry has received RM276.02 million under the MARRIS for the maintenance of council roads including road furniture, road shoulders, roadside drains and related components within the local authority's jurisdiction. Hence, on 30th April 2026, a total RM85.86 million has been disbursed.

For the information of Ahli-ahli Yang Berhormat, 15 of our local authorities are also implementing projects worth a total of RM1.18 billion comprising of 196 projects under the Regional Corridor Development Authority (RECODA) and also other Regional Development Authorities such as Sri Aman Development Agency (SADA), Integrated Regional Samarahan Development Agency (IRSDA), Rajang Delta Development Agency (RADDA), Betong Division Development Agency (BDDA) and Greater Kuching Coordinated Development Agency (GKCDA).

SMART Community Development and Engagement Programmes

Tuan Speaker, community engagement remains a cornerstone of Sarawak's development agenda, particularly in strengthening the role of local authorities as the government closest to the rakyat. Guided by the Post COVID-19 Development Strategy 2030 (PCDS 2030) aspiration towards social inclusivity and sustainable development, community engagement ensures development initiatives are responsive to local needs, encourages public participation, strengthens social cohesion, and supports Sustainable Development Goal (SDG).

For 2026, my ministry has been entrusted with an allocation of RM2.94 million to support community programmes across 27 local authorities in Sarawak, compared to RM2 million in 2025. In 2025, 201 community programmes have been implemented, while for 2026, a total of 222 programmes have been approved involving a total disbursement of RM1.49 million.

Child Friendly City Initiative (CFCI)

I am also proud to highlight a significant milestone achieved through the Child Friendly Cities Initiative (CFCI), beginning with the official recognition of the Council of the City of Kuching South (MBKS) as a CFCI Candidate City on 4th December 2025, followed by Commission of the City of Kuching North (DBKU), Bintulu Development Authority (BDA), Miri City Council (MCC), Padawan Municipal Council (MPP), Sibu Municipal Council (SMC) and Kota Samarahan Municipal Council (MPKS) as candidate cities on 8th February 2026.

Currently, seven councils in collaboration with United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) and strategic stakeholders, has successfully developed seven CFCI Action Plans 2026–2028 as a strategic roadmap to guide long-term implementation beyond political cycles and ensure sustainable, measurable outcomes for children. The action plans are guided by four key themes*, "Every Child Survives and Thrives", "Every Child Learns", "Every Child is Protected",* and *"Every Child*

Participates". Under these themes, various initiatives such as safer public spaces, digital literacy programmes, inclusive recreational facilities, child protection measures, and the establishment of Child Councils are being implemented to empower children and strengthen child-friendly communities throughout Sarawak.

This places Sarawak at the forefront of child-centred urban development in Malaysia with seven out of 11 cities from Sarawak. We aspire not just jungle of Sarawak standard, but international standard benchmarked to international organisations like UNICEF and WHO. My ministry is considering potential expansion of the CFCI initiative to selected district council's level to further strengthen child-friendly communities across Sarawak.

Tribunal for Housing Purchaser Claims (THPC) and Strata Management Tribunal (SMT)

Between 2025 and May 2026, both Tribunals recorded a combined total of 412 filings. Within the same reporting period, 274 cases were resolved through awards, dismissals or withdrawals before the Tribunals.

Digital Community Centre (DCC)

Tuan Speaker, in support of the Sarawak Digital Economic Blueprint 2030, my ministry, has implemented a total of 4,293 digital-based programmes including e-commerce start-up, digital marketing skills, product branding, content creation, cyber security between 2020 until 2025. This involved the 58 DCCs under the various local authorities and has benefited 98,331 local participants.

This year, we will be implementing Sarawak Digital Champion programme under Sarawak Digital Economy Corporation (SDEC) to equip local entrepreneurs with digital themed programmes. Similar collaborations will also be conducted with other government and non-government agencies to enhance digital awareness and literacy, especially in rural communities to reduce the rural-urban digital gap.

FREE DOG LICENSING PROGRAMME 2026

Tuan Speaker, my ministry remains committed in strengthening responsible pet ownership through the implementation of the Free Dog Licensing Program 2026 across all local authorities in Sarawak. This involves in the exemption of payment for both new applications and renewal of dog licenses for a period of three years to encourage public participation. This will allow us to monitor pet ownership, reduce roaming strays and address animal related disease outbreak with a view to ensure better public health management. My ministry has implemented proactive programmes namely:

(a) Mass Vaccination, Licensing and Microchipping Programmes across 29 local authorities;
(b) Door-to-door licensing initiatives by District Councils;
(c) Open Counter services in collaboration with programmes such as the Sarawakku Sayang Programme; and
(d) Provision of online application facilities.

LOCAL AUTHORITIES' LEGISLATION DEVELOPMENTS AND REFORMS SINCE 2016

Since I have been appointed as Minister to this Ministry numerous legislations namely Ordinances, Regulations and By-laws have been enacted, reviewed and amended. In 2017, Sarawak was confronted with the outbreak of rabies, decisive and coordinated measures became imperative. In response, my ministry introduced the Local Authorities (Dog Licensing and Control) By-Laws, 2018, which repealed the outdated dog by-laws enacted between 1961 and 1962. The primary objective of this new by-law was to ensure uniformity and consistency across Sarawak in the regulation of dog licensing and the control of the dog population.

Prior to this, there are 26 separate dog licensing by-laws administered by different local authorities, resulting in fragmentation and inconsistency in enforcement. The consolidation into a single, comprehensive legal framework marked a significant step towards more effective governance and public health protection. Amongst significance provisions in these by laws, the local authorities may require the evidence of vaccination before issuance or renewal of license and for the dog to be implanted with any form of electronic identification and data storage devices. However, the owners are encouraged to have their dogs implanted with an electronic identification device or microchipping.

The Strata Management Ordinance, 2019 [Cap.76] was passed by this august House on the 4th November 2019 to regulate management and maintenance of building. Previously, there was no dedicated law that regulated the management of strata buildings in Sarawak. The old Strata Titles Ordinance, 1995 Chapter 18 is inadequate in addressing the needs of strata building maintenance and management in Sarawak. Pursuant to power under Section 137, SMO 2019, my ministry enacted another three subsidiary legislations namely:

(a) Strata Management (Management and Maintenance) Regulations 2022;
(b) Strata Management (Compounding of Offences) Regulations 2023; and
(c) Strata Management (Strata Management Tribunal) Regulations, 2024.

Amendment to Local Authorities Ordinance was done in 2020 and 2025. While amendment to Protection of Public Health Ordinance was passed by the august House on the 7th of May 2024 to ensure food safety and maintain cleanliness of food premises. The amendments to these two ordinances are to update the provisions to meet the changes and expectations of the present situation. My ministry has enacted Protection of Public Health (Compounding of Offences) Regulations, 2020, which gives power to authorize local authority officers to issue compound to those violating the standard operating procedures during Covid times.

The Building (Amendment) Ordinance, 2025 was passed in November 2025 by this august House. The Building (Amendment) Ordinance, 2025 is to update the Buildings Ordinance, 1994 and to modernize Sarawak's construction industry. Among the key features included in the amendment are green building index standards, strengthening regulatory authority of professionals including registration and accreditation of architects, engineers, checkers, establishing the Sarawak Building Board (SBB), and increasing penalties for violations. The date of commencement for Building (Amendment) 2025 is on 15th May 2026.

ISSUES RAISED BY THE AHLI-AHLI YANG BERHORMAT

Solid Waste Management

For the information of the Ahli Yang Berhormat bagi Balingian, Sarawak Government remains committed to strengthening solid waste management and promoting sustainable waste management approaches, including landfill management and recycling initiatives in line with the development needs of local communities in Balingian Sub-District. The proposed development of the Level 3 Mudan sanitary landfill by Mukah and Dalat District Council has been approved under RMK-13. The sanitary landfill will be relocated near Kampung Senau Oya along Jalan Oya-Igan. It is intended to serve Mukah, Oya, Dalat, Balingian and Kuala Balingian, while supporting more systematic and sustainable waste management in the area.

The Sarawak Government is currently finalizing the Sarawak Integrated Waste Management Master Plan 2025 to 2050, which will serve as the main strategic direction for enhancing waste management infrastructure, operational efficiency, and sustainable waste management practices throughout Sarawak. The master plan emphasizes a circular economy approach through initiatives such as Waste-to-Energy and Waste-to-Resource technologies to reduce dependency on conventional landfill disposal while strengthening recycling and resource recovery activities.

In addition, the Sustainable Resources and Wastes Management Ordinance 2025 which was passed by this august House on 25th November 2025 will further strengthen the regulatory, monitoring and management framework for waste facilities to ensure waste management is implemented in a more systematic and environmentally sustainable manner.

Shortage of Manpower

On the manpower concerns raised by the Ahli Yang Berhormat bagi Bukit Semuja and Ahli Yang Berhormat bagi Stakan, my ministry, together with Human Resource Development and Management Unit, Premier's Department, is reviewing the manpower requirements of local authorities as part of the ongoing organization restructuring exercise. At present, for the critical technical functions, the ministry is optimizing available resources by assigning 23 JBC technical staff at the ministry to support local authorities. These technical staff comprise civil engineers, quantity surveyors (QS), assistant engineers, draughts men to provide support in areas such as technical design, drawing preparation, project management, project monitoring and other technical matters, as well as subject-matter input. This approach may be further expanded.

Meanwhile, the recruitment process is continuous and ongoing. Intakes involving 149 vacancies, including 23 technical posts, across various local authorities under my Ministry are actively underway. The ministry and local authorities under its purview will also pursue other approaches, including automation, outsourcing of suitable tasks, and cooperation with relevant technical agencies, including JKR Sarawak to source manpower and technical expertise where required.

Road Maintenance and Upgrading

For the information of the Ahli Yang Berhormat bagi Jepak, the BDA has identified several areas for purpose of upgrading the drainage system, including Kampung Warisan Jepak, Kampung Sungai Plan, Bintulu. The initiative is aimed at ensuring the long-term effectiveness, resilience and sustainability of flood mitigation measures, while also enhancing the overall capacity of the drainage system. The implementation of the drainage upgrading works will be carried out continuously in phases.

For the information of the Ahli Yang Berhormat bagi Machan, Kanowit District Council will be upgrading the affected roads from Jalan Muhibbah to Jalan Durian, Kampung Muhibbah highlighted by Ahli Yang Berhormat, under the RMK-13 Road Rehabilitation Programme.

Rural Road and Connectivity

For the information of the Ahli-ahli Yang Berhormat bagi Krian, Bukit Begunan, under MARRIS allocation, the roads leading to *Tuai Rumah* Teria at Stutong, Sri Aman have been resurfaced last year. Whilst, roads leading to *Tuai Rumah* Alia, Kandis, Lachau and the roads to *Rumah* Anthony, Sungai Sarang, Lichok, Saratok are currently undergoing improvement works this year. Roads leading to *Rumah* Ason, Tembawai Kapok, Awik, *Rumah* Dius, Kedoh, and *Rumah* Nyambar, Dabai, Roban are planned to be upgraded next year.

LED Street Lighting Projects

For the information of the Ahli Yang Berhormat bagi Pujut, in line with the PCDS 2030 strategy and Sarawak's vision for sustainable and low-carbon development, my ministry has issued a circular on 25th September 2025 requiring the installation of LED streetlights for all new street lighting projects in local authority areas starting this year, using technical specifications and products approved by SEB. Existing streetlights will be gradually replaced with LED by SEB.

HOUSING

Sarawak Housing Contribution Trust Fund (SHCTF)

Tuan Speaker, I will now deliberate on housing. The Sarawak Housing Contribution Trust Fund (SHCTF) was established to serve as a dedicated and sustainable financial mechanism to support the Sarawak Government's agenda of delivering well-planned, affordable housing throughout Sarawak.

Since the implementation until 30th April 2026, the total collection under the Trust Fund is amounted to RM5.68 million. My ministry is committed to enhance its collection and monitoring processes by adopting digitalization transformation through improvement to the Housing Development and Maintenance System (HOMEAPPS). It is anticipated that the digitization of Sarawak Housing Contribution Trust Fund collection and disbursement processes will enhance overall transparency, improve operational efficiency, and expedite processing timelines.

We remain steadfast in ensuring that this fund becomes a reliable financial instrument to support the Sarawak Government's agenda to deliver 20,000 affordable houses by the year 2030. In addition, several agencies such as Land Custody and Development Authority (LCDA), Housing Development Corporation (HDC), Bintulu Development Authority (BDA) and Ministry of Food Industry, Commodity and Regional Development (M-FICORD) are implementing the affordable housing initiatives and programs in Sarawak.

Sarawak Government Funded Project

For the information of the Ahli-ahli Yang Berhormat in this august House, under the RMK-12, my ministry through HDC, has successfully implemented a total of 12 projects comprising 679 units of affordable housing across Kuching, Serian, Betong, Sarikei, Sibu, Mukah, Miri and Limbang with a total ceiling allocation of RM147.97 million.

Meanwhile, under RMK-13, HDC has been allocated a ceiling sum of RM105 million in 2026 for the implementation of 12 physical projects comprising 1,052 affordable housing units across Kuching, Betong, Sibu, Mukah, Bintulu, Miri, Limbang and Lawas, including two non-physical projects namely Grant for Mutiara Mortgage and Credit and issuance of Strata Title.

Projek Rakyat

Under the *Projek Rakyat* initiative, HDC has successfully implemented four projects comprising 154 units of Rumah SPEKTRA Permata (RSP). These consist of 62 units at the *Skim Pembesaran Kampung* (SPK) Santubong, 50 units at SPK Hulu Kabong, 20 units at SPK Tian, and 22 units at SPK Igan, with a total ceiling allocation of RM69.2 million.

In addition, under the RMK-13, HDC has been allocated a ceiling of RM36 million in 2026 to implement a total of 276 units of Rumah SPEKTRA Permata (RSP) comprising 50 units in the *Skim Pembesaran Kampung* (SPK) Gedong, 100 units in SPK Sambir, 47 units in SPS Limbang, and 79 units in SPS Banting, Lawas. All four projects are currently ongoing.

Sarawak Rental Assistance Scheme (SRAS)

Tuan Speaker, since the year 2021 up to April 2026, the SRAS Selection Committee has approved 7,302 applications involving a lock amount of RM35.36 million. Of these applications, 4,720 are from Kuching, 1,214 are from Bintulu, 952 are from Sibu, 213 are from Samarahan and 203 are from Miri. The overall approval also includes 581 students from higher education institutions and 124 applicants from the Sarawak and Federal Civil Service occupying government quarters.

Moving forward, in 2026, the Terms of Reference for SRAS has been further enhanced which includes the increase in the monthly household gross income eligibility limit from RM4,556 to RM5,504, extension of the maximum duration of assistance from three years to four years to provide more sustained support and finally, SRAS will be expanded to five other districts including Serian, Siburan, Sri Aman, Betong and Mukah.

Longhouse Loan Scheme

For the information of the Ahli-ahli Yang Berhormat, since the year 2020 and up to date, a total of RM275.39 million has been disbursed under the Longhouse Loan Scheme, benefiting 396 longhouses and comprising 8,148 doors. This year, the *Jawatankuasa Kelulusan Permohonan Skim Pinjaman Perumahan Untuk Golongan Berpendapatan Rendah (Rumah Panjang)* has approved the implementation of 66 longhouses comprising 1,310 doors, involving a total loan value of RM61.38 million. Currently, 351 longhouses involving 7,254 doors remain on the waiting list.

Housing Deposit and Repayment Assistance Scheme

From the year 2022 to March 2026, MUTIARA has received 3,422 applications of which 3,160 applications have been approved amounting to RM30.56 million. The encouraging approval rate reflects the strong demand and effectiveness of HDRAS as a targeted intervention to improve homeownership accessibility, particularly among first-time homebuyers in Sarawak.

Mutiara Home Financing

On home financing, MUTIARA has approved 2,491 applications involving financial allocation of RM211.76 million from the year 2016 to March 2026. A total of RM128.95 million has been disbursed to 1,803 house buyers at an annual interest rate of 1% for B40 and 3% for M40.

Rumah Spektra Mutiara (RSM) - PBT Programme

For the information of Ahli-ahli Yang Berhormat, the Rumah Spektra Mutiara – PBT Programme is new and was first introduced to support the access to first-time homebuyer among Sarawakians from the B40 and M40 income groups by enabling them to build houses on individually owned land titles including those under the *Skim Pembesaran Kampung* (SPK) and *Skim Penempatan Semula* (SPS).

The programme provides affordable housing solutions through the Mutiara Dream Home Financing Scheme, whereby eligible landowners may obtain financing from MUTIARA, while construction works are carried out by registered contractors appointed by the local authorities monitored by my ministry.

As an initial phase, MUTIARA will commence a pilot project in the Samarahan division through the Kota Samarahan Municipal Council (MPKS) and now in tendering stage, involving approximately eight applicants. The pilot project will test the operational workflow, technical processes, and financing mechanisms before the programme is expanded statewide. The approved house type is a single-storey unit with a built-up area of 750 square feet, comprising three bedrooms and two bathrooms, designed to provide comfortable and practical living accommodation with a minimum ceiling height of 10 feet.

Affordable Home

For the information of Ahli-ahli Yang Berhormat, from 2019 to March 2026, my ministry has approved a total of 7,662 private affordable housing applications across all categories. My ministry observes that the approval rates are constrained, not due to lack of interest, but due to global instability factors driven by ongoing Middle East war crisis in 2026. The war-driven increase in fuel

and energy prices has raised the cost of transporting construction materials such as cement, steel, and aggregates.

This has consequently pushed up housing development costs, making it more difficult for developers to maintain the development of ongoing and new housing projects.

Housing Development Licence and Advertisement and Sales Permit

From 1st January 2026 until 4th May 2026, my ministry has approved a total of 111 Housing Development License applications and 83 Advertisement and Sales Permit applications. The total license fees collected amount to RM83,000, while Advertisement and Sales permit fees collected stand at RM62,000. In addition, a total of RM102,000 has been collected in compounds arising from offences of non-compliance with the requirement to submit progress reports. This year, my ministry is also in the process of preparing for the proposed amendments to the Housing Development (Control and Licensing) Regulation, 2014, aimed at strengthening regulatory oversight and also to streamline the changes in the housing industry.

Problematic Privates Housing Development Project

From 2016 until 16th May 2026, a total of 1,317 developer licences were issued throughout Sarawak. As of 30th April 2026, my ministry has identified 59 out of 1,317 statewide projects that are problematic. Of these, 22 sick housing projects have been successfully completed through my Ministry's intervention, four projects are partially completed, and two projects have been resolved. The remaining 30 projects are currently under close monitoring and at various stages of intervention while one project has been declared abandoned last year.

This means that only about 4.5% of all licensed housing developments have been identified as problematic projects which remain relatively low compared to the overall number of licenses issued. Furthermore, my ministry has achieved positive intervention outcomes in 28 projects, which means that the problematic project is further reduced to 2.35%. This reflects the Sarawak Government's continued commitment towards rehabilitating affected developments and protecting homebuyers' interests. My ministry will continue to monitor these projects closely and work with all relevant stakeholders to ensure that appropriate recovery measures are implemented responsibly and effectively.

ISSUES RAISED BY AHLI-AHLI YANG BERHORMAT

Treetops Condominium Project in Bintulu

For the information of Ahli-ahli Yang Berhormat for Pending, unfortunately not around again, and Tanjong Batu, as reported in the local newspaper on 12 May 2026, Treetops Apartments Project is developed by Twin Revenue Sdn Bhd. Following a coordination meeting on 8th May 2026, the remaining work required for the issuance of Occupation Permit (OP) for Block A, B and C targeted for completion by third or fourth quarter of 2026, following the resolution of Sarawak Energy 33KV substation infrastructure requirements.

The Tribunal for Housing Purchaser Claims provides an avenue for purchasers seeking redress in respect of Liquidated Ascertained Damages (LAD) arising from delayed delivery of vacant possession. To date, three purchasers from this project have filed claims with the Tribunal, including one recently filed. Awards have been duly issued for the two claims. In addition, my ministry will suspend the developer's license and sales permit pending compliance, in order to safeguard the interests of the house purchasers.

Affordable Housing Development in Selangau

For the information of the Ahli Yang Berhormat bagi Tamin, the HDC, currently has no plans to build affordable housing in Selangau because there is no HDC-owned land available there. However, HDC will work with the Land and Survey Department to look for suitable land for future housing projects.

Housing Issue in Mukah

For the information of the Ahli Yang Berhormat bagi Tellian, my ministry is actively monitoring three housing projects undertaken by KS Tiong Sdn. Bhd. in Mukah and continues to collaborate with the developers, financial institutions and relevant agencies to facilitate recovery efforts and protect the interests of house purchasers. The projects, namely Taman Kingsum, Taman Indah and Taman Qinrara, are currently at various stages of recovery.

For Taman Kingsum and Taman Indah, the construction of most housing units is nearing completion, only the infrastructure works remain outstanding. The developer is currently undertaking project restructuring and sourcing additional financing to accelerate completion. Meanwhile, Taman Qinrara has recorded only two unit sales due to weak market demand, and the developer is exploring possible solutions including joint venture collaborations and refund arrangements for the affected purchasers. House purchasers may also lodge claims with the Tribunal for Housing Purchaser Claims, subject to its jurisdiction, and all decisions issued by the Tribunal are legally binding and must be adhered to.

Relocation and House Design for Skim Pembesaran Kampung (SPK), Kampung Tebakang Melayu

For the information of Ahli Yang Berhormat for Bukit Semuja, the physical construction works of 20 units of Rumah SPEKTRA Permata (RSP) at Skim Pembesaran Kampung (SPK) Tebekang Melayu have been fully completed, and the Occupation Permit (OP) was issued on 3rd September 2025.

Currently, Sarawak Energy Berhad (SEB) is in the process of constructing a substation at the project site to enable the connection of electricity supply to the completed houses. The handover of house keys to eligible applicants will be carried out once the electrical supply to the individual houses has been completed by SEB.

Affordable Housing Scheme, Homebuyer Protection and Future Housing Development

For the information of Ahli-ahli Yang Berhormat for Tanjong Batu, Tellian, Tupong, Opar, Jepak, the government is addressing rising housing costs affecting first-time buyers, young families, LCDA, and Bintulu Development Authority (BDA). Programmes such as RSP and RSM, RM10,000 deposit assistance under HDRAS, low-interest loans, and anti-speculation measures are aimed to improving housing affordability. The government is also exploring additional financing support for the *"missing middle"* group to ensure affordable and accessible housing in Sarawak.

DEPARTMENT OF IRRIGATION AND DRAINAGE SARAWAK (DID)

Tuan Speaker, The Department of Irrigation and Drainage (DID), as the Sarawak Government's main technical agency, but 50% of staff salaries are by Federal Goverment remains committed in delivering innovative engineering solutions in water resources in steadfast pursuit of economic growth, environmental sustainability towards a better quality of life for the people of Sarawak.

In this regard, the department is firmly committed in strengthening Sarawak's preparedness, adaptability and resilience through the prudent planning, design, management, and implementation

of water resources, stormwater, flood mitigation and related infrastructures. These initiatives, funded under both Federal and Sarawak Government allocations, are undertaken to reduce flood risks, safeguard communities, support sustainable development, and ensure that infrastructure delivery remains aligned with Sarawak long-term resilience and development agenda.

State Funded Projects

Tuan Speaker, under the RMK-12, DID was allocated RM97.35 million by the Sarawak Government for the implementation of the 24 flood mitigation and urban drainage projects throughout Sarawak. The status of these projects are as follows:

(a) Three projects have been completed;
(b) One project under construction; and
(c) Twenty projects are at various stages of design and are targeted to proceed with physical implementation from 2026 onwards

Under *Projek Rakyat*, since its rollout in 2018, a total of 147 projects has been approved totaling RM1.1 billion. The projects are currently at the following stages of implementation.

(a) 114 projects have been completed;
(b) 14 projects under construction; and
(c) 19 projects are at various stages of design and are targeted to proceed with physical implementation from 2026 onwards.

RMK-13 State Funded Projects

As we transition from RMK-12 to RMK-13, DID Sarawak will prioritize the roll-over of high-impact projects to ensure that the preliminary works undertaken during RMK-12 are successfully translated into physical implementation under RMK-13.

Under RMK-13, DID has been allocated an approved ceiling of RM265.29 million for the implementation of 45 projects. The progress on these projects is on track as follows:

(a) 15 projects under construction; and
(b) 30 projects at various design stages are being prepared for procurement, subject to required approvals from the relevant authorities.

RMK-13 Federal Funded Projects

For the federal funded initiatives, under First Rolling Plan, an allocation of RM106.94 million has been approved to implement projects to support ongoing efforts to reduce flood risks and strengthen protection for communities across Sarawak.

The Federal Government has also approved the implementation of RTB *Bandaraya Kuching Fasa 2 Pakej Penuh*, with an allocation of RM2.48 billion. The project is scheduled to be implemented from 2027 to 2033 and represents a major investment in strengthening flood mitigation infrastructure for Kuching.

I like to put on record my appreciation to Yang Amat Berhormat Datuk Amar Fadhillah, Deputy Prime Minister of Malaysia and Minister for PETRA for the RM2.48 billion

Under the PLSB Sungai Sarawak comprising of Package 1, Package 2 and Package 3 are in the various stages of physical implementation and expected for completion by September 2026, September 2027 and October 2027 respectively. RTB Sungai Miri and RTB Daerah Limbang are currently under implementation stage which is expected to complete by November 2026 and first

quarter of 2028 respectively. Meanwhile, RTB Kampung Beradek Semilang, remains at the pre-implementation stage.

The Federal Government has also approved the implementation of flood forecasting and warning systems throughout Sarawak under the PRAB. PRAB Phase 2, covering Batang Rajang and Sungai Sarawak, with a project cost of RM38 million is currently under evaluation stage and is expected to be appointed in May 2026. Meanwhile, PRAB Phase 3 has been awarded on 26th March 2026 involves a project cost of RM169.99 million.

Rural Transformation Projects (RTP)

Since its introduction in 2015, the RTP has delivered meaningful outcomes throughout the provision of infrastructure facilities and social amenities in the rural areas. Under this initiative, DID Sarawak has been approved the implement 4,934 projects. Of this total, 4,118 project or 83% have been completed. The remaining 816 projects are currently in various stages of implementation.

Projects under Regional Development Authorities

Tuan Speaker, for the information of the Ahli-ahli Yang Berhormat in this august House, DID has also been entrusted by various development agencies such as SADA, BDDA, IRSDA, and RADDA which together have allocated RM188.87 million for 75 flood mitigation and drainage related projects throughout Sarawak. Of these, 15 have been completed; while the remaining 60 are still in various pre-implementation stages.

ISSUES RAISED BY AHLI-AHLI YANG BERHORMAT

Flood Mitigation Master Plan for Bintulu

For the information of the Ahli Yang Berhormat bagi Tanjong Batu, BDA is planning to conduct a comprehensive study that is *"Bintulu Town Flood Resilience Study and Masterplan"* under the Ministry of Natural Resources and Urban Development (MUDeNR) via RMK-13 Funding. This study will cover overall catchment areas in Bintulu including Sungai Plan, Sungai Sebiew and Jepak Jaya. The proposed masterplan is also intended to support future urban growth, enhance climate resilience, improve stormwater management, and reduce flood risks to residential, commercial, and industrial areas in the long term. In the meantime, BDA and the relevant agencies will continue implementing routine drainage maintenance, river cleaning, and localized flood mitigation works in identified hotspot areas while awaiting the completion of the comprehensive study.

Waterfront di Kampung Tupong Jaya

For the information of the Ahli Yang Berhormat bagi Tupong, the DID Sarawak takes note of the proposal to extend the on-going waterfront development from Kampung Tupong Tengah to Kampung Tupong Jaya. In this regard, DID Sarawak will submit a new project proposal under the Mid-Term Review of RMK-13 for consideration under both State and Federal funding allocations with an estimated cost of RM80 million. In the meantime, DID Sarawak will conduct regular monitoring along the area to identify any new riverbank erosion or related issues requiring further attention, in order to ensure the safety and well-being of the local community.

Flooding and More Funding and Resources from Local Councils

For the information of the Ahli Yang Berhormat bagi Pujut, my ministry understands the urgent needs for a coordination of multi-disciplinary and multi-stakeholder approach that incorporates engineering expertise, environmental science, digital innovation and active community involvement. A holistic and forward-looking strategy, backed by adequate financial resources and strong political commitment, is crucial not only to mitigate flood risks but also to enhance water security, environmental sustainability and climate resilience throughout Sarawak.

SEWERAGE SERVICES DEPARTMENT SARAWAK (SSD)

Urban Sewerage

Tuan Speaker, I will also update the various sewerage projects implemented in Sarawak which are funded by both the Sarawak Government and Federal Government.

Centralised Sewerage Systems

Tuan Speaker, design for Miri Centralised Sewerage System Phase 2 with a scheme value of RM450 million as previously reported, has been completed and is now in final tender documentation stage and scheduled to be tendered within second quarter of 2026. The progress for Kuching Centralised Sewerage System Package 2 project costing RM750 million has been revised to 92.4% completion from 99.7% completion as previously reported and is expected to be completed by August 2026. The downward revision is due to the critical additional number of property connection works towards the end of the project. As for Kuching Centralised Sewerage System Zone 1 Package 3 project with a scheme value of RM382 million, the detailed design stage is now at 85% completion.

The Kota Samarahan Centralised Sewerage System Phase 1 project with a scheme value of RM650 million is now in the preliminary design stage. Value Assessment Lab is scheduled to be held in June 2026 and tender for works is expected to be called in 2027. The Federal Government loan agreement for the rationalization of sewerage system for North-South catchment, Bintulu with a scheme value of RM225 million has been finalised. The project is currently in the consultancy services procurement stage. The Federal Government has also approved the application for the improvement of the sewage treatment system in Uma Bakah, Sungai Asap with a scheme value of RM4.4 million. This improvement project will commence once the Federal Government's loan agreement is finalised.

Septic Sludge Treatment Plants

Tuan Speaker, the physical works for the four Septic Sludge Treatment Plant (SSTP) projects in Betong, Sarikei, Kapit and Limbang with a total cost of RM60 million are expected to fully commence in 2026.

Master Plan Study

Tuan Speaker, the Sewerage Master Plan Study is critical in charting the direction and expansion of centralised sewerage system in Sarawak. Under RMK-13 RP1, the Federal Government has approved Wastewater Management Master Plan Study for Bintulu with a scheme value of RM2 million. The Federal Government Loan Agreement is currently under process. The procurement of consultancy services will commence once the loan is finalised.

SARAWAK HEALTH DEPARTMENT

Health Services and Dilapidated Health facilities

Tuan Speaker, I will now proceed to update on the health services and development provided by Sarawak Health Department, an agency under the Ministry of Health Malaysia (MOH) for which we aspire for the delegation of power from Federal Government to Sarawak Government through Sarawak Health Autonomy under MA63. For 2026, as of 30th April 2026, the Department has received RM2.75 billion operating funds and RM507.3 billion development funds from the MOH.

These funds are allocated for operational expenses, human capital development, minor upgrading and repair on health facilities as well as for hospital and clinic support services including procurement of medical equipment.

Healthcare Development Projects

For the information of this august House, I would like to touch on the encouraging progress of the of healthcare development projects I reported in last November's Sitting. As of 20th April 2026, the new Lawas Hospital physical progress in 97.39% complete and is projected to be completed and fully operationalised by December 2026. MOH will be conducting door-to-door inspection, followed by a partial handover prior to the relocation of hospital services to the new facility.

As for the Petra Jaya Hospital, the project's physical progress stands at 91.55% as at 25th April 2026. The revised date of completion after EOT No. 5 is 14th July 2026. The contractors are finalizing the internal finishing preparing for the installation of medical equipment. Upon handing over, Petra Jaya Hospital can begin operating in phases.

For the information of this august House, the upgrading and repair works for two (2) Klinik Kesihatan (KK) have been approved under RMK-12 namely KK Nanga Budu, which received a total allocation RM582,055 and KK Roban received an allocation of RM779,024 under the Bitara Madani initiative.

With these improvements it will be able to enhance operational efficiency, increase service capacity, and improve the overall quality of healthcare services provided to the surrounding population. Two new clinics, under Rintis Project initiative, KK Nanga Atoi in Saratok and KK Nanga Ngungun in Kanowit, were approved with a total estimated cost of RM12.8 million. KK Nanga Atoi was successfully completed and handed over on 15th April 2026 while KK Nanga Ngugun is expected to be completed in 2027. Meanwhile, another two projects that are in the final phase, KK Lawas and KK Tabuan Jaya, are expected to be operational by the third quarter of 2026.

The Federal Government has allocated RM50 million for six dilapidated health facility projects in Sarawak. Currently, all these projects are in the pre-implementation stage and are pending tender advertisement upon completion of the design process by JKR. The projects involved are KK Santubong in Santubong, KK Tepus in Selangau, KK Kuala Lawas in Lawas, KK Tun Abang Haji Openg in Subis, KK Tanjung Bijat in Sri Aman, and the Isolation Ward at the Emergency and Trauma Department of Sarawak General Hospital.

For the year 2026, MOH has allocated RM5.7 million budget for upgrading, renovation and repair work of 15 health clinics and one District Health Office in Sarawak. Apart from that, MOH has also allocated RM2.4 million for repair and upgrading works for 14 medical quarters and eight unit barracks in KK Bario in Bario, KK Nanga Mujong in Kapit and KK Belawai in Tanjung Manis.

Sarawak Cancer Centre

The 310 bed Sarawak Cancer Centre is currently at the tender procurement stage with JKR Malaysia in KL. The contract is expected to be awarded with the issuance of the Letter of Acceptance *(Surat Setuju Terima*, SST) in the first quarter of 2027. The project duration is five years, and it is scheduled to be completed in 2032. I urge the Federal JKR to expedite the project at the end of the project by the end of 2030 because there are 3000 new cancer cases in Sarawak every year now.

I would like to thanks Yang Amat Berhormat Premier for approving an advance of RM1 billion for the project, which will be reimbursed by Federal Government later. On top of that, the YAB Premier also approved an additional RM500 million plus RM500 million for the procurement of medical equipment for the project. The RM500 million equipment will be later given to the Federal Government as donation from Sarawak. From here we can see the commitment and determination of the Sarawak Government in bringing the comprehensive and modern cancer treatment and research facilities to Sarawak for the good of the people in Sarawak.

Sarawak Medical Committee (SMC)

Sarawak Medical Committee is fully functioning as of March 2026, and the details which have been deliberated by my Deputy Minister during DUN question and answer session on the 14th of May 2026.

I would like to thank the MMC for approving the setup of SMC in Sarawak. SMC will help to ease part of the doctor shortage problem that Sarawak is facing. We will continue to support SMC and facilitate the registration of medical practitioners to work in Sarawak.

Private Clinic Registration and Licensing of Private Hospital and Healthcare Facilities

We continue to pursue the request for the delegation of selected executive functions under the Private Healthcare Facilities and Services Act 1998 by MOH to Sarawak State Health Department. The aim is to enable the department to carry out the functions of private clinic registration and licensing of private hospitals and healthcare facilities in Sarawak. We expect the delegation will allow faster processing and approval of applications, while making sure that the applications comply with local Sarawak laws and regulation, thus facilitating the setting up and operation of private healthcare facilities and services in Sarawak.

Dengue

Tuan Speaker, dengue fever remains an important public health issue for Sarawak. The year 2025 had recorded lower cases compared to 2024, but the numbers are picking up again in 2026. As of 2nd May 2026, a total of 393 dengue cases were reported in Sarawak, compared to 274 cases during the same period in 2025 with an increase of 43.4% and 70% of those cases were from Kuching, Samarahan and Serian.

Fortunately, there have been zero deaths due to dengue so far, and we should keep it that way. The department, in collaboration with local state and federal agencies, will continue to implement various control strategies, including source reduction, integrated vector management and health promotion efforts, to keep our risks manageable. The state level *Gotong-Royong Mega* is planned to be held in Sarikei in the coming month of June.

ISSUES RAISED BY THE AHLI-AHLI YANG BERHORMAT

Healthcare Services

For the information of the Ahli-ahli Yang Berhormat bagi Engkilili, Kalaka, Daro, Murum, Repok, Tanjong Batu, Tellian, Stakan, Opar, Bukit Begunan and Batu Danau who have actively raised healthcare issues related to infrastructure development, human resources as well as dental and haemodialysis service. Healthcare quality, accessibility and inclusivity is close to my heart, and my Ministry is working diligently and closely with the MOH through JKNS to expedite the upgrading of federal health infrastructure in Ahli-ahli Yang Berhormat's respective areas.

Many of the Health Clinics raised during the debates has already been identified for redevelopment and refurbishment works involving repair, upgrading and expansions and also reconstruction. Efforts to address the shortage of human resources will continue through close collaboration between the Sarawak Government and the Ministry of Health Malaysia (MOH), particularly in matters relating to the welfare and wellbeing of medical officers serving in Sarawak. This includes exploring suitable supportive measures and incentives to enhance the attractiveness of service in the state.

The Sarawak Government has also provided financial support towards the Ministry of Health Malaysia digitalisation initiatives aimed at enhancing the quality and efficiency of healthcare service delivery. In addition, discussions have been undertaken with the ministry on possible financing

mechanisms that would enable the State Government to utilise its own funds to implement urgent healthcare projects upfront, subject to subsequent reimbursement by the Federal Government.

I am also made to understand that several of the Ahli Yang Berhormat are considering utilising their Rural Transformation Programme (RTP) allocations to improve existing healthcare facilities for the benefit of their respective constituencies. It is hoped that the ongoing negotiations on health autonomy under the Malaysia Agreement 1963 framework will yield positive outcomes, thereby enabling the State to expedite critical healthcare needs and ensure that healthcare facilities in Sarawak continue to meet, if not surpass, national standards.

Zoonotic Disease Preparedness

For the information of the Ahli Yang Berhormat bagi Tellian, for the issue raised regarding zoonotic disease such as Hantavirus, the MOH will continue to monitor the current situation, and any further information will be communicated from time to time.

FIRE AND RESCUE DEPARTMENT MALAYSIA (SARAWAK)

Fire Safety Awareness Programme and Enforcement

Tuan Speaker, Fire and Rescue Department Malaysia (JBPM) Sarawak has been committed to implementing public educational and awareness programs in fire safety for the communities of Sarawak. Between 1st January and 30th April 2026, the department has carried out 733 Public Awareness Programs involving 48,959 participants.

Statistic of Emergency Calls

Between 1st January and 30th April 2026, the Department responded to a total of 3,110 emergency calls, comprising 1,132 fire-related incidents, 496 rescue operations and 1,448 special service cases. This action has resulted in the successful preservation of assets valued at RM443.27 million.

Furthermore, for the same period of January to April 2026 had recorded 850 cases of open and forest fire, which had affected 1,265.75 hectares of land across this region. The monthly average for open and forest fire calls had reached 212 cases, a significant increase compared to the monthly average of 85 cases recorded for the previous year.

For the record, this was further reflected in the annual value of asset preservation over recent years with RM2.03 billion in 2023, RM751.1 million in 2024 and RM551.03 million in 2025; highlighting the department efforts and interventions in mitigating losses to the public and the nation.

ISSUES RAISED BY THE AHLI-AHLI YANG BERHORMAT

Fire and Rescue Station in Engkilili

For the information of Ahli Yang Berhormat for Engkilili, the proposed project was delayed due to the existing site at Lot 981, Engkilili Town District, which was acquired in 2021, was found to be unsuitable. A new site at Lot 216, Jalan Engkilili, Saratok was identified and subsequently approved on 18th December 2025 by the Sarawak Land and Survey Department. The department is currently awaiting additional funding approval from the Ministry of Economy for the procurement of the new site.

Sarawak's Nation Building

Tuan Speaker, in 2026, unfortunately and very sad, not only in West Malaysia but more and more places of the world is facing more and more uncertainty, division, polarisation, politicking

resulting in unprecedented chaos, hardship and suffering in Malaysia and the world. Even in Sarawak because of the middle east war, my *laksa* has gone up in prices. In 2025, I thought is bad. In 2026 is worse. I think the worst is yet to come.

Sarawak is blessed with strong unity of *anak-anak* Sarawak. In 2026, many Sarawakian felt proud to be a Sarawakian. Though our IC is number 13, the last in Malaysia but we have a *"K"* – stand for king, stand for *hormat* in which people respect us as Sarawakian, looking up to us as Sarawakian, putting their hope in Sarawak.

Sarawak is also blessed with political stability under the visionary, forward looking Premier Abg Jo's leadership. Political stability is because we do not have DAP in Sarawak Government as they are always divisive, polarising, politicking; disguise as championing for the *rakyat*. We have witness in this august House their behaviours in every session, every sitting as indeed one's character can not change.

Tuan Speaker, DAP Sarawak is also bankrupts of ideas, disguise as championing check and balance in democracy. With 40 DAP YB MP, second largest after PAS with 43 MP, they fail to check and balance in Parliament of Malaysia. Its not just *tengook saja* but just *tengook saja* on check and balance in KL. As Sarawak undergoes unprecedented progress towards 2030, Sarawak need to remain united and stand together in solidarity for these few critical years till 2030.

We must be on high alert for *anai-anai* from both within and outside Sarawak and also *anai-anai* inside GPS. I call upon every Sarawakian playing their roles and doing their parts no matter where they are in the world, to contribute, to support the GPS Government under Premier Abg Jo in building a stronger and prosperous Sarawak, an inclusive Sarawak, an environmentally sustainable Sarawak. By 2030, we are proud Sarawakian not just growing up into adulthood but standing tall, not just in Malaysia but regionally.

Yesterday, Ho Ching, the Chairperson of Temasek Trust, the *mantan* CEO of Temasek, for multiple years, she was consistently named among the *"World's 100 Most Powerful Women"*, post in her Facebook, *"Sarawak is a pace setter in Asia for a green economy. Kudos to YAB Datuk Tan Sri (Dr) Abang Johari and his team and the people".* It is not good enough Premier Abg Jo doing well but every Sarawak agency, every Sarawak NGO, every Sarawakian to do well also. *Jangan tengooOk saja.* Even the political chaos in West Malaysia the last few days, the Malaysian General Election maybe sooner than Sarawak election.

Let's *"tolak"* West Malaysia toxic cultures, chaotic politics and all the "Malayan Political Parties" from Sarawak. For those who are not voting for Sarawak, *jangan tengooooOK Saja* but actively support and help us in our cybermedia war in which ever way you can. Let's Sarawak be different from Malaysia politics which has gone from bad to worse for the last 10 years as they thrived on divisive, polarising, negative, toxic narrative and tearing down the nation instead of nation building.

Conclusion

Tuan Speaker, before I conclude, I wish to take this opportunity to congratulate and thank 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 my two Deputy Ministers, Yang Berhormat Datuk Amar State Secretary of Sarawak (SS), Sarawak Financial Secretary (SFS), Sarawak Attorney General (SAG), DUN Secretary 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 Raya Aidiadha, Hari Wesak and Hari Gawai Dayak 2026, *Gayu Guru Gerai Nyamai…Ooohaa!*

Sekian, terima kasih *and* Salam Sarawak Maju and Makmur.Thank you, very much Tuan Speaker.

Tuan Speaker: Ahli-ahli Yang Berhormat, the sitting is now adjourned, and the House shall resume it sitting at 9:00 a.m. tomorrow.

(Mesyuarat ditangguhkan pada jam 5:57 petang)