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Quality infra devt necessary for present, future generations

Every infrastructure development in Sabah must be carefully planned, implemented to high standards, and managed with full integrity so its benefits can be enjoyed continuously by both the present and future generations.

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WORLD

All eight Indonesian airports reopen

All eight Indonesian airports temporarily shut due to volcanic ash from Mount Anak Krakatau, which disrupted hundreds of flights and affected thousands of passengers, are back in operation after the remaining four reopened on Tuesday.

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SPORTS

Para Sukma: Sabah slips behind hosts in medal tally

Sabah relinquished its lead at the Para Sukma medal table on Tuesday, with hosts Selangor taking over first place.

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(From right) Victor, Hazem and Hajiji in a photo-call with other members of Sawit Kinabalu's senior management, taken during the visit to Kunak Lipids Sdn Bhd phytonutrient extraction plant in Kunak.

Sabah won't stop reclaiming MA63 rights

Chief Minister assures continued push for outstanding claims, including 40 per cent revenue entitlement

Mariah Doksil

KUNAK: The Sabah government will continue pursuing outstanding claims and issues under the Malaysia Agreement 1963 (MA63), including the state's entitlement to 40 per cent of its net revenue.

Chief Minister Datuk Seri Panglima Hajiji Noor said the matter would be discussed at the MA63 meeting to be chaired by Prime Minister Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim in Sabah on Friday.

"We will discuss the claims and issues that still need to be resolved under MA63," he told reporters when met after a working visit to the Kunak

Lipids Sdn Bhd phytonutrient extraction plant here on Tuesday.

Hajiji said the Sabah government was grateful to the Prime Minister as nine matters under MA63 had been resolved during his administration, with several powers also devolved to the state.

"Previously, there were four matters, so altogether 13 matters have been resolved. However, there are still others, including the 40 per cent payment," he pointed out.

Zooming in on the 40 per cent entitlement, Hajiji said the federal government had agreed to Sabah's claim, but several technical issues still needed to be

resolved.

"This is a normal process because there is an appeal process, but it does not affect the decision for us to receive the 40 per cent payment," he added.

On the phytonutrient extraction plant, Hajiji was happy to note that it was nearing completion and should begin production before the end of the year. He hailed the plant as representing a positive development as a downstream activity and additional business venture for the Sawit Kinabalu Group, using palm-based materials in its production.

"I am very pleased to hear the briefing from Sawit Kinabalu and its partner company that the

plant built to produce vitamin E is almost complete, and will begin production before the end of the year," he said.

Hajiji said the project was touted to be the first of its kind in Malaysia and thus, he expressed hope that it would increase revenue for Sawit Kinabalu and its partner company.

Hajiji and his delegation were welcomed by Sawit Kinabalu chairman Datuk Hazem Mubarak Musa and group managing director and chief executive officer Datuk Victor Ationg.

Kunak Lipids Sdn Bhd is a subsidiary of the Sawit Kinabalu Group that operates the phytonutrient extraction plant in Kunak.

Over RM1 billion being spent on water supply projects across Sabah

SEMPORNA: The Sabah government is spending more than RM1 billion on various water supply projects statewide as it steps up efforts to address long-standing infrastructure problems.

According to Chief Minister Datuk Seri Panglima Hajiji Noor, several major water projects are nearing completion.

"Two or three will be completed soon. One is expected to be completed by the end of this year, while the one in the Tawau area is about 50 to 60 per cent complete," he said, adding that the state government was also replacing water pipes in many districts to address leakages and water theft.

Hajiji was speaking to reporters after launching 106 two-storey shopunits under Phase 1 and the groundbreaking ceremony for Phase 2 and 3 of the commercial development by the Sabah Housing and Town Development Authority (SHTDA) here on Tuesday.

Hajiji said the state's water woes were not a new problem or one that emerged under the current administration.

"It (water problem) was inherited from before. So, we have to do our best as a responsible government."

He said although politicians might blame the current administration when water supply problems occurred, the focus should instead be on

Two or three will be completed soon. One is expected to be completed by the end of this year, while the one in the Tawau area is about 50 to 60 per cent complete.

Datuk Seri Panglima Hajiji Noor

finding solutions and improving services for the people.

"We just have to remain positive."

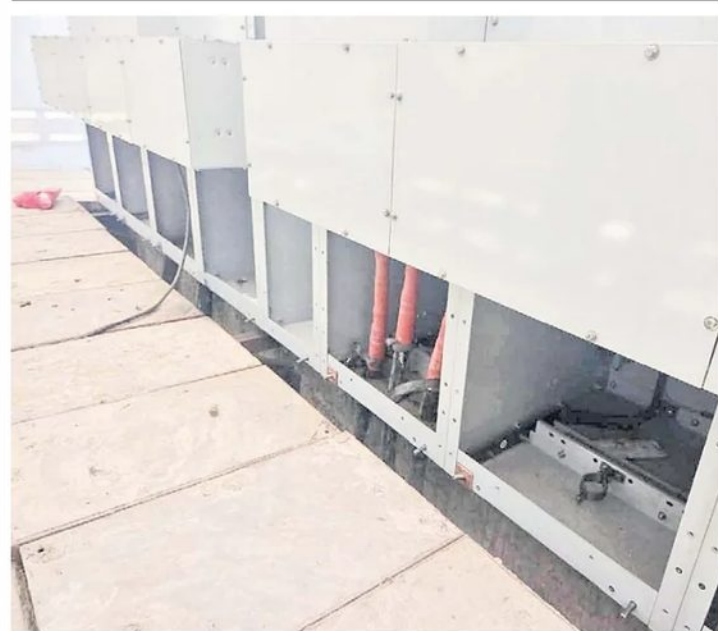
"We are doing our best and implementing measures for the benefit of the people."

On the commercial development, Hajiji said it should stimulate economic activities in Semporna and create more opportunities for the local residents.

"Semporna is a tourism district."

"I am confident that with these shops, there will be more space and opportunities for people to shop, eat, drink and so on," he added.

It is informed that the commercial project would also include the construction of a jetty, to be undertaken by the developer.



Copper components worth about RM25,000 were reportedly stolen from the Sabah Electricity substation at Bandar Mingo in Beaufort.

Police hunting parties responsible for Bandar Mingo substation copper theft

Elton Gomes

BEAUFORT: Copper components worth about RM25,000 were reportedly stolen from a Sabah Electricity substation at Bandar Mingo here.

Beaufort police chief Supt Champin Puih said theft was discovered after the substation door was found with signs of forced entry on Sept 6.

He said among the missing items included busbar earthing components and busbar connections.

"Copper component thefts at Sabah Electricity substations are becoming increasingly frequent in the district."

"Such acts cause substantial

losses to the company and could also potentially result in power supply disruptions to consumers," he said in a statement.

Champin said police are now in the process of tracking down those responsible.

The case is being investigated under Section 379 of the Penal Code for theft, with stern action to be taken against those found involved, he added.

Meanwhile, Champin advised scrap dealers and buyers not to accept or purchase copper at unreasonable prices, or items from suspicious sources.

He also urged members of the public with information on the theft to contact the police or Sabah Energy Corporation to assist investigations.

Cooperation, consensus in Cabinet contribute to political stability

PUTRAJAYA: Cooperation and consensus among members of the Cabinet are, as a whole, at a good level, thereby contributing to the country's political stability, said Prime Minister Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim.

He said this had enabled the government to plan and implement the country's development agenda based on clear policies and a stable political environment.

"True, we cannot deny that our performance has been commendable because we have clear policies, political stability and cooperation within the Cabinet, although sometimes on social media it is a little different."

"But in terms of cooperation, we generally have good consensus and this provides an indication of stability and allows us to plan for the country," he said when delivering his address during his meeting with the staff of the Ministry of Plantations and Commodities on Tuesday.

Anwar said the existing stability must be leveraged by the government to continue planning and implementing policies that benefit the country and the people as a whole.

At the same time, the Prime Minister reminded all parties not to become complacent with the achievements attained, but instead to continue striving to improve the government's



Prime Minister Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim, accompanied by Plantation and Commodities Minister Datuk Seri Dr Noraini Ahmad, visits exhibition booths after attending the Ministry of Plantation and Commodities' monthly assembly on Tuesday. — Bernama photo

performance. He said commendable achievements should not cause the government to "become complacent and bask in the comfort of success", but should instead serve as an encouragement to continue working hard for the national interest.

"It's true, it cannot be denied, our performance is commendable because of our clear policies, our political stability and the cooperation within the

ministries, although sometimes on social media things are a little different," he said.

Meanwhile, Anwar said that economic growth in the second quarter of this year also recorded a better performance than expected despite facing challenges. Malaysia is reported to have continued to record stronger-than-expected performance for three consecutive quarters, growing by six per cent in the second quarter

of 2026 compared with 5.4 per cent recorded in the previous quarter. This was the strongest second-quarter performance outside the pandemic period since 2014. The second quarter 2026 performance brought the country's first-half 2026 growth to 5.7 per cent, thus placing the Malaysian economy on a solid footing to achieve the government's projected growth of between 4.0 per cent and 5.0 per cent for 2026. — Bernama

Quality infra devt necessary for present, future generations

Jenne Lajjun

KOTA KINABALU: Every infrastructure development in Sabah must be carefully planned, implemented to high standards, and managed with full integrity so its benefits can be enjoyed continuously by both the present and future generations.

Deputy Chief Minister I Datuk Seri Panglima Dr Joachim Gunsalam said infrastructure development has always been among the key priorities of the Sabah government.

"Quality infrastructure is not merely about providing facilities for the people. More importantly, it creates economic opportunities, strengthens connectivity between urban and rural areas, improves the efficiency of service delivery and supports sustainable investment growth," he said when launching the Borneo Empowerment in Standards and Transformation (BEST) Conference 2026 at the Sabah International Convention Centre here yesterday.

He said nevertheless, efforts to build Sabah's future through infrastructure development are by no means easy.

"Among the key challenges we face are the vast size of Sabah, the dispersed population, as well as the hilly and swampy terrain and the risk of earthquakes. These factors make the implementation



Dr Joachim (second right) performs the gimmick for the launching of the conference.

of infrastructure projects more complex and costly.

"But the state government remains committed to continuing to provide and develop the best facilities and infrastructure within our capabilities and available resources for the wellbeing of all Sabahans," he said.

Dr Joachim said that people were now living in an era where technological change is taking place at an unprecedented pace.

"The construction and infrastructure sectors are changing as well. Working methods are becoming

increasingly modern. The use of technology is becoming more widespread. Data has become the basis for decision-making processes.

"However, as we pursue technological advancement, we must not compromise on standards. We cannot neglect the quality and standards that have been established. Standards and technology must move hand in hand. Standards ensure quality. Technology enhances efficiency," he said.

He also commended the organising of the conference, which carried the theme

"Strengthening Standards and Empowering Infrastructure Technology", which he said is highly relevant to the needs of the industry.

He also reminded that the state's development is not solely the responsibility of the government.

"It requires the cooperation of all parties—the government, industry, institutions of higher learning, professional bodies and the community. When all parties share the same goals, we can develop better solutions and accelerate the development of the state," he said.

'Take US-China military activities in South China Sea seriously'

KOTA KINABALU: Sabah must not take lightly escalating military activities involving the United States (US) and China in the South China Sea, particularly developments close to the state's northern waters, said Sabah State Legislative Assembly Backbenchers Club chairman Datuk Masiung Banah.

In a statement, he said increased military activity by the two major powers could affect cross-border security and pose a threat to Malaysia's sovereignty, particularly in Sabah and Sarawak.

Masiung urged Wisma Putra to initiate diplomatic discussions involving the US, China and the Philippines to ensure the South China Sea remains safe and stable, particularly as a vital route for regional trade.

The Kuamut assemblyman said he was particularly concerned about reports of large-scale military facilities and assets being developed by the Philippine government and the US on Balabac Island in the southern Philippines.

He noted that Balabac Island is located about 50 kilometres from Banggi Island, Sabah, and said it could be reached by boat in about 20 minutes.

"Given that the military operations are taking place so close to Sabah, the Malaysian government should take the matter seriously from the perspective of public security, particularly along Sabah's northern coast.

"The presence of a large number of US troops on Balabac Island has the potential to trigger an unforeseen situation. It must also be remembered that, to this day, the Philippines continues to claim sovereignty over Sabah," he said.

Masiung said military activities involving the US and China in



Datuk Masiung Banah

waters around Borneo appeared to be intensifying, with both powers continuing to strengthen their military presence and deploy additional defence assets.

He said the situation along Sabah's northern coast could become increasingly sensitive and volatile, warning that even a minor incident could potentially escalate into wider tensions.

While Malaysia and the Philippines currently maintain good bilateral and diplomatic relations, Masiung said Malaysia must nevertheless remain vigilant and prepared for any unforeseen developments.

He added that Prime Minister Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim had also expressed concern over US military activities on Balabac Island and the Philippines' continuing claim over Sabah.

Developments in the South China Sea have continued to draw the attention of countries in the region amid concerns that tensions could escalate further as the US and China increase the deployment of warships, combat aircraft, missile systems and other advanced military assets.

Masiung said Malaysia should continue to pursue diplomatic engagement and regional cooperation to ensure military tensions between the major powers do not undermine peace, security and stability in waters close to Sabah.

Elderly woman killed in hit-and-run accident

GEORGE TOWN: An elderly woman died after she was believed to have been knocked down by a car in a hit-and-run incident in the parking area of Desa Green Apartments on Tuesday.

Timur Laut district police chief

ACP Abdul Rozak Muhammad said the 81-year-old local victim was pronounced dead at the scene due to head injuries.

He said based on preliminary investigations, the incident occurred at 2.20 pm when the victim alighted from an e-hailing

vehicle and was walking towards her residential block before tripping and falling onto the road.

"After that, a car was believed to have moved straight ahead and hit the victim before the driver fled the scene," Abdul

Rozak said in a statement.

He said that so far, the driver of the car believed to be involved in the accident has not come forward to file a police report, and the case is being investigated under Section 41(i) of the Road Transport Act 1987. — Bernama

ASEAN needs to review mechanisms to handle transboundary haze

PUTRAJAYA: ASEAN needs to review the existing mechanisms in dealing with the issue of transboundary haze to avoid adverse impacts on the people's health, said Prime Minister Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim.

He said ASEAN ministers need to pay serious attention to the matter as the haze can have a direct impact on the health and lives of the people, especially children and babies.

"There is room for improvement. I think the ASEAN ministers must seriously look at it, because this is affecting lives, particularly of children, and babies, and if we have seen in Serian (it) is really concerning," he said.

Anwar, who is also the Minister of Finance, said this to the media after attending a Meeting with the staff of the Ministry of Plantations and Commodities on Tuesday.

Air quality in Serian was reported to have returned to hazardous levels when the monitoring station at the district police headquarters (IPD) in the area recorded an Air Pollutant Index (API) reading of 302 this morning.

Last Friday, His Majesty, Sultan Ibrahim, King of Malaysia declared a haze emergency in the entire Serian division following air pollution that was hazardous to public health, before the declaration was lifted on Monday.

The Prime Minister stressed that the issue of open burning in Indonesia needs to be thoroughly investigated, including identifying the real cause of the fire before any action or accusations are made against any party.

Asked if there are Malaysian companies operating in the republic that have committed wrongdoings that have contributed to the haze issue, Anwar said the country respects any legal action by the Indonesian authorities.

"If there are Malaysian companies that are affected (involved), we will give Indonesia space to take action. We will certainly respect the actions

there and we will not defend (them)," he said.

He stressed that Malaysia will not intervene or protect any company if investigations prove they are responsible for open burning or other violations of the law in neighbouring countries.

The ASEAN Parliamentarians for Human Rights (APHR) had warned that the region's transboundary haze crisis has become a human rights emergency, one that ASEAN and its member states must address with urgency.

It urges ASEAN and its member states to treat the worsening transboundary haze problem as a human rights emergency, and to use the upcoming Conference of the Parties to the ASEAN Agreement on Transboundary Haze Pollution in Da Nang, Vietnam, this October to close the enforcement gap that has left the region breathing toxic air for nearly three decades.

Among others, APHR also urged ASEAN and member states to develop a regional legal framework to hold corporate entities accountable for forest fires due to peatland drainage, and commodity-driven deforestation and agricultural residue burning.

It also urged mandating all plantation companies with concession areas in flammable landscapes including peatland or forestland to publicly disclose and publish concession maps to be shared across all ASEAN member states to improve transparency in their supply chains.

Other than that, APHR urged the ASEAN member countries to regulate traceability requirements at every step of the supply chain of agribusiness and food industry to identify the origin of commodities and mitigate risks of deforestation, crop residue burning and transboundary haze at the source.

Lastly, it said the bloc should agree on a standardised air quality indicator to be used in all ASEAN member states to monitor and track air pollution based on a common methodology and act accordingly. — Bernama

Budget 2027 should prioritise high-quality jobs to boost income

KUALA LUMPUR: The government has been urged to focus on creating high-quality, high-impact job opportunities through Budget 2027 to increase the people's disposable income.

Prof Dr Mohd Abdullah Jusoh, of the Department of Logistics Management and Business Administration, Faculty of Defence Studies and Management, Universiti Pertahanan Nasional Malaysia (UPNM), said economic stimulus measures should shift towards empowering the workforce with skills that would enable them to become self-reliant and earn higher incomes.

He said financial assistance schemes such as Sumbangan

Tunai Rahmah (STR) and Sumbangan Asas Rahmah (SARA) are effective in easing the people's financial burden and providing an immediate economic boost, but a long-term strategy requires the development of new economic engines.

"Rather than merely providing aid, it is better to create new job opportunities for them so they can stand on their own feet," he said when appearing as a guest on the Malaysia Petang Ini programme produced by Bernama TV on Tuesday.

Commenting on the national economic outlook, Mohd Abdullah said Malaysia's Gross Domestic Product (GDP) growth of six per cent in the second

quarter of 2026 reflected an encouraging performance compared with World Bank and International Monetary Fund (IMF) estimates of between 2.5 and three per cent.

However, he stressed that aggregate economic growth must be balanced with efforts to ensure that the resulting prosperity directly benefits households through higher wages and stronger purchasing power.

On the national inflation rate of 1.8 per cent, he described government interventions as effective in preventing the prices of staple food items from rising sharply.

"Price increases for staple foods remain under control, perhaps at

around one or 1.5 per cent. While this may not have a drastic impact on consumers generally, any increase still affects the B40 and vulnerable groups," he said.

Mohd Abdullah also hoped that Budget 2027 would place greater emphasis on the Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET) ecosystem and the gig economy, enabling both to evolve into more sustainable professional career pathways for young people.

He said empowering both the private and public sectors to create job opportunities based on three key elements – growth, sustainability and value addition – is crucial to ensuring the nation's long-term economic prosperity. — Bernama

Minister: Improve access to free drinking water in remote schools

BELURAN: The Sabah government has been urged to consider providing free clean drinking water facilities at schools throughout the state, particularly those in rural and island areas to safeguard students' welfare and basic needs.

Minister of Education, Science, Technology and Innovation Datuk James Ratib said access to free drinking water was especially significant during hot weather and could help ease the financial burden on students from low-income families.

"Sometimes parents only give their children RM3.

"Buying nasi lemak and fried noodles at school already requires spending, so there may not be much left to buy drinking water.

"Some students also bring water from home, but sometimes the supply is insufficient," he told reporters after inspecting the construction site of SMK Balaban Jaya here on Monday.

James said the facilities should not be limited to selected schools but extended throughout Sabah.

"If possible, we hope this can be implemented throughout Sabah, involving approximately



James speaks to SK Sungai Nangka pupils during his recent visit.

1,300 schools.

"If possible, we should place at least one water dispenser in every school. At the very least, our children will have access to drinking water and a clean water supply, especially those in island areas," he said.

He expressed hope that the state government would take the initiative to provide the facilities

while related matters were being referred to the Ministry of Education Malaysia.

Meanwhile, James also inspected development projects at SK Sungai Nangka and the construction of SMK Balaban Jaya.

At SK Sungai Nangka, the construction of new modular classroom Blocks A and C has

been approved and is currently at the contractor appointment stage, with work expected to begin in mid-September.

The renovation and upgrading of Block B is also underway and is expected to be completed in early November.

Once completed, the facilities will accommodate SK Balaban Jaya students during the morning session, while SMK Balaban Jaya students will use them in the afternoon.

James said the arrangement would allow the facilities to be utilised optimally to meet the needs of both primary and secondary school students.

On the construction of SMK Balaban Jaya, he said the project was about 5.6 per cent behind schedule due partly to land development issues encountered during its early stages.

However, construction work is continuing and the project is expected to be completed by the end of 2027.

James also urged the Ministry of Education (MoE) to ensure that payments to contractors were made according to schedule to avoid delays that could affect the progress of construction projects.

Malaysian in Jakarta urges travellers to inform embassy of whereabouts

KUALA LUMPUR: A Malaysian stranded in Jakarta following flight disruptions caused by a volcanic eruption has ensured that the Malaysian Embassy in Indonesia is kept informed of her whereabouts at all times.

Siti Murni Abdul Aziz, who is in Indonesia with her husband and a few family members for business purposes,

was scheduled to return home on Sept 6 but became stranded after most airports in the country suspended operations.

“My advice is not to rely on information on social media, but to go directly to the authorities and ensure that you report your presence to the embassy.

“Themanagementhandlingmy flight has also been in constant

contact with my husband, providing the latest updates,” she said when contacted during the Reaksi programme titled “Malaysians stranded following the Anak Krakatau eruption”, produced by Bernama Radio on Tuesday.

Siti Murni, who is expected to return home soon, said she is avoiding land and ferry routes as the movement of volcanic ash

had begun to affect airspace in the area.

More than 1,000 Malaysians have been affected by flight cancellations and rescheduling in Jakarta following the eruption of Mount Anak Krakatau, located in the Sunda Strait between Java and Sumatra, which began at 11.07 pm local time last Friday. — Bernama

CM: Sabah’s development must go beyond KK

Mariah Doksil

SEMPORNA: The development in Sabah must extend beyond Kota Kinabalu and the major towns, with every district being given room to grow according to its respective needs and strengths.

In this regard, Chief Minister Datuk Seri Panglima Hajiji Noor said for Semporna, this would translate into leveraging its internationally-recognised natural and tourism assets, while ensuring the resulting economic growth could generate opportunities for local entrepreneurs and also the district’s young people.

He said the commercial development along Jalan Bubul here should be viewed as part of Sabah’s overall development journey rather than merely as a commercial project.

“Semporna has highly valuable natural assets. However, to ensure that this potential can be translated into greater economic benefits for the people, we need development that complements one another,” he said at the launch of 106 two-storey shoplot units of under Phase 1 and the groundbreaking ceremony for Phase 2 and 3 of the Sabah Housing and Town Development Authority (LPPB) commercial project at Jalan Bubul here on Tuesday.

Adding on, Hajiji said the tourism sector must grow in tandem with local businesses to create opportunities for local entrepreneurs, open up employment opportunities for Semporna’s youths and ensure local communities could benefit from such growth.

“Strategically located along the main Balung-Semporna route,



Hajiji being greeted by the residents upon his arrival for the launch of Phase 1 shoplot units and groundbreaking for the Phase 2 and 3 commercial development of the LPPB in Semporna.

the Jalan Bubul commercial area poses the potential of becoming one of the new trading and business hubs.

“I believe that if properly planned and implemented, this area can become one of the catalysts for economic growth in and around Semporna,” said the Chief Minister, also pointing out that the development area’s proximity to both a river and the sea could provide opportunities for additional amenities.

In this respect, Hajiji suggested Ampe (Semporna) Sdn Bhd to consider constructing a jetty, stating that a suitable and attractive facility could add value by allowing people to enjoy the river and sea views, relax, watch the sunset and take photographs.

“We want to make the best

possible use of the beauty that Allah has bestowed upon Semporna,” he added.

The development comes as Sabah begins a new phase under the Sabah Maju Jaya Development Plan 2.0 (SMJ 2.0) for 2026/2030, building on the efforts implemented under SMJ 1.0.

SMJ 2.0 aims to boost Sabah’s competitiveness, productivity and economic value while ensuring development remains inclusive and sustainable.

“We want a Sabah with a more diversified economy that provides more opportunities for the people, and we want human capital that is better prepared for the economy of the future.

“We also want development that ultimately improves the well-being of the people,” said

Hajiji.

He also stressed about Sabah’s development not being the sole responsibility of the government, but one requiring the cooperation from the private sector, the implementing agencies, the entrepreneurs and the people.

“We do not want Sabah to merely be a destination for investment. We want Sabahans to be part of that investment and growth,” he pointed out.

“Progress must be felt by communities in both urban and rural areas, large and small entrepreneurs, as well as younger and older generations.

“The state government would continue to give attention to the development of every district, he said, because no district is too far away and no potential should be left untapped,” he added.

Six missing climbers, SAR team safely out of Pos Kemas

IPOH: Six climbers who participated in the Trans Gerah Expedition in Gunung Gerah, Kelantan, who were found safe on Monday after being reported missing while climbing the mountain on August 29, have safely left Pos Kemas on Tuesday morning.

Perak Fire and Rescue Department (JBPM) director Datuk Sayani Saidon said Wan Ahmad Aslam Wan Zairudin, 39, and his wife Siti Zulaiha Norizan, 39, as well as children Diya Raisha, 13, and Ahmad Raef, 9, as well as two mountain guides Shafie Sidek, 49, and Hazman Mamat, 43, left Pos Kemas at 8.30 this morning and arrived at Trojan Jetty, Tasik Banded at 10.20 am.

“All the victims and the SAR (search and rescue) team

arrived safely at Pos Kemas at approximately 9.15pm last night. All the victims underwent a health check-up by medical officers at the Pos Kemas Health Clinic and rested at the facility.

“They were then taken to the Gerik IPD by police for documentation and further action,” he said in a statement.

Previously, the six victims involved were found safe last night before being taken for a health check-up by medical officers at the Pos Kemas Health Clinic.

Earlier, the six victims were reported missing after climbing the mountain on August 29, after reportedly failing to leave the forest on the scheduled date, which was Sept 3, and family members filed a police report on Sunday. — Bernama

PISA 2025: Malaysia’s education foundation solid — Fadhlina

PUTRAJAYA: The Programme for International Student Assessment (PISA) 2025 results indicate that Malaysia’s education system has a solid foundation, particularly in science, reading and computational problem-solving, as well as teacher support.

Education Minister Datuk Seri Fadhlina Sidek said Malaysian students’ performance in science improved by three points to 419 compared with 2022, while reading performance rose by five points to 393, even as the average performance among Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) countries declined.

She said PISA 2025 also found Malaysian students to be highly curious and resilient, with an increasing ability to manage their own learning.

“Another strength of Malaysian students is evident in computational problem-solving, where Malaysia scored 484 points and was among six countries whose performance exceeded expectations,” she said at a press conference on the PISA 2025 results on Tuesday.

Fadhlina said Malaysian students’ readiness to seek help when needed ranked highest globally, while their learning resilience ranked third highest in the world.

However, she acknowledged an 11-point decline in mathematics performance, bringing Malaysia’s score to 397, and stressed that the issue must be addressed more

seriously and intensively rather than defensively.

She said the Ministry of Education (MOE) had initiated the Mathematics Education Transformation Plan, which places greater emphasis on conceptual understanding, reasoning and problem-solving as interventions to address the decline.

“We do not want mathematics to become a race to find the answer. We want mathematics to train children to find the path to the answer,” she said.

Fadhlina also highlighted the need to strengthen family support for children’s learning, noting that PISA 2025 findings showed only 34 per cent of students reported discussing school issues with their parents weekly, down from 46 per cent in 2022.

Meanwhile, only 51 per cent said they discussed school activities with their parents at least once a week, compared with 57 per cent in 2022.

“PISA tells us that the potential already exists within our children, and now is the time for us to work towards ensuring that all our children receive quality educational opportunities and the chance to learn in schools across the board, without exception,” she said.

She also identified cyberbullying as a major concern requiring attention, as five per cent of Malaysian students reported experiencing cyberbullying, a rate higher than the OECD average. — Bernama

Research, community participation foundation for SCCA’s future

KOTA KINABALU: Scientific research and meaningful community participation must form the foundation for the future management and development of the Silam Coast Conservation Area (SCCA), said Assistant Minister to the Chief Minister Datuk Joniston Bangkuai.

He said the findings of the 2025 Scientific Survey would provide an essential foundation for the preparation of the SCCA Strategic Management Plan and help identify research priorities for the conservation landscape over the next decade.

“The survey has helped us better understand the SCCA.

“We must now determine what questions we need to answer next,” he said when officiating the Seminar on the Scientific Survey of the Silam Coast Conservation Area and the Research Direction Workshop for the Silam Coast Conservation Area 2027-2036 here on Tuesday.

Joniston said the research direction for the SCCA must be clear, practical and focused on actual management needs, rather than ending with reports and academic publications.

“Research should not end in the form of reports or academic publications alone.

“The knowledge produced must be translated into action, into better management, more effective conservation, wider education, more meaningful community participation and sustainable development,” he said.

Joniston said the 2025 Scientific Survey brought together 107 participants from the Sabah Foundation Group, government agencies, higher education



Sabah Foundation director Datuk Seri Gulamhaidar Khan Bahadar (second left) presents a token of appreciation to Joniston.

institutions and conservation organisations.

The survey covered a range of fields, including hydrology, birds, small mammals, arthropods, mangrove health and zoning, community livelihoods and socio-economic conditions, wildlife observation and ecotourism.

He said the diversity of research areas underscored the need for collaboration in conservation.

The SCCA, located near Lahad Datu and forming part of the Darvel Bay landscape, has evolved into an interconnected conservation area encompassing terrestrial forests, mangroves, coastal areas, islands and marine ecosystems.

Its location within the Coral Triangle also gives the area significant value for marine and coastal conservation, he said.

Joniston noted that

previous scientific surveys had demonstrated the area’s rich biodiversity.

The 2015 Scientific Expedition recorded 60 bird species, 24 mammal species, 60 mangrove flora species, 55 coral genera, 147 fish species and 40 marine invertebrate species, in addition to several tree species endemic to Borneo and Sabah.

He said the SCCA also possessed potential for terrestrial and marine research, biodiversity monitoring, ecosystem restoration, education, training, nature-based recreation and sustainable tourism.

At the same time, Joniston emphasised that conservation efforts could not succeed without the support and involvement of communities living around the SCCA.

“Communities are not merely stakeholders.

“They can also become partners in conservation efforts.

“Their knowledge, experience and understanding of the area are extremely valuable resources,” he said.

He said Sabah’s growing community-based tourism sector could also provide opportunities for local communities to benefit from conservation and tourism while promoting greater awareness of environmental protection.

Joniston said Sabah currently has more than 300 community-based tourism initiatives, generating several million ringgit in income.

Community-based tourism could provide an additional source of income for rural residents while strengthening cooperation within communities and increasing awareness of the importance of conservation, he



Joniston (right) and Sabah Foundation Director Datuk Seri Gulamhaidar Khan Bahadar listen to a briefing at the information booth.

said.

“We need to consider how communities can become part of the whole process so that this can become another source of income for our rural residents and communities,” he added.

Joniston also said Sabah had exceeded international targets for totally protected areas, describing the state’s conservation efforts as among the achievements that should be highlighted to the world.

He said Sabah should continue to build on its conservation and environmental restoration efforts to strengthen its appeal as a destination for nature and eco-tourism.

The Assistant Minister said the Sabah Foundation Group was also exploring closer collaboration and a possible co-management approach with Sabah Parks, given the close links

between the SCCA’s terrestrial, coastal and marine ecosystems.

The group is also continuing its collaboration with Preferred by Nature on forest restoration,” he said.

Joniston added that cooperation with the Eastern Sabah Security Command (ESSCOM) and other relevant security agencies was important to ensure that research, tourism and other activities in the coastal and marine areas could be carried out safely and responsibly.

He said the SCCA’s location along Darvel Bay and its links with surrounding islands and coastal ecosystems also presented opportunities for diving and marine tourism.

“What we protect and develop today is not only for us to enjoy now, but is a trust that must be passed on to future generations,” he added.

KK body parts case transferred to High Court

Suraini Andokong

KOTA KINABALU: The Magistrates' Court here yesterday transferred the case of an elderly fishmonger charged with murdering a woman, whose body parts were found at a communal rubbish bin in Indah Permai Sepanggar in February this year, to the High Court for

Senior medical officer remanded over alleged abuse of power

MELAKA: A senior medical officer at a hospital has been remanded for five days to assist investigations into an alleged abuse of power involving the supply of knee implants worth about RM1.5 million.

Magistrate Sharda Shienha Mohd Suleiman on Tuesday granted a five-day remand order until Sept 12 against the suspect, who is in his 50s, following an application by the Malaysian Anti-Corruption Commission (MACC) at the Ayer Keroh Magistrate's Court.

A source said the suspect was arrested at about 3.30 pm on Monday when he turned up at the Melaka MACC office to have his statement recorded.

"The suspect, who is a civil servant, is believed to have committed the offence between 2024 and 2026. He is also alleged to have an interest in the company supplying the knee implants, which is owned by one of his family members," she said.

Meanwhile, Melaka MACC director Datuk Adi Supian Shafie, when contacted, confirmed the arrest and said the case was being investigated under Section 23 of the MACC Act 2009. — Bernama

Seven from Vietnam fined for illegal entry, overstaying

KOTA KINABALU: Seven Vietnamese women were fined by the Sessions Court here yesterday after pleading guilty to separate charges under the Immigration Act 1959/63.

Judge Hurman Hussain fined four of the accused RM4,000 each in default four months in prison under Section 6(1)(c) of the Act for entering Sabah illegally.

The Section provides for a fine or up to five years' imprisonment, or both, as well as whipping, upon conviction.

The remaining three accused were each fined RM10,000 in default six months' jail under Section 15(1)(c) of the Act for overstaying in the state after their social visit passes had expired.

The Section provides for a fine not exceeding RM15,000 or up to five years in prison, or both, upon conviction.

All of the accused were arrested during separate operations by the authorities around the city here.

In addition to the fines, the court also ordered the accused to be referred to the Malaysian Immigration Department for further action.

Immigration Department prosecuting officer Mohd Hairul Bona prosecuted the cases, while none of the accused had legal representation.

his plea to be recorded.

Magistrate Dzul Elmy Yunus issued the order on Piluta Samad, 71, at the request of the prosecution, who informed the court that they had received instructions for the case to be transferred to the High Court here.

On April 15 this year, Piluta was referred to Hospital Mesra Bukit Padang for 30 days of



observation after the magistrate allowed an application by the accused' legal team.

The application was made

under Section 342 of the Criminal Procedure Code.

On July 23, a report from the mental hospital showed that the accused was fit to stand trial and did not suffer any mental illness.

He was charged under Section 302 of the Penal Code, which provides for the death sentence or a jail term of up to 40 years, and if not sentenced to death, is liable to up to 12 strokes of the

cane, upon conviction.

Piluta is accused of murdering Hamidah Husin @ Lisa, 44, at an unnumbered house in Kampung Sri Kenangan at Jalan Sepanggar at 7pm on Feb 11.

In the meantime, the court ordered the accused to be further detained in custody pending disposal of the case.

Deputy public prosecutor Ronnie Anthony appeared for the

prosecution, while the accused is represented by counsels Datuk Ram Singh, Joan Goh, Prem Elmer Ganasan and Ian Vun.

It was reported that on Feb 12, a woman was killed and her body dismembered before being discarded at the site, with a man believed to be her fiancé arrested on the same day.

The case was brought to court on Feb 27.

Court rejects bid to defer damages payment to Perlis Mufti

KUALA LUMPUR: The High Court on Tuesday dismissed an application by a Facebook account owner to defer payment of RM250,000 in damages awarded to Perlis Mufti Datuk Dr Mohd Asri Zainul Abidin in a defamation suit over posts linking him to GISB Holdings Sdn Bhd (GISBH).

Judicial Commissioner Rihaida Rafie also dismissed an application by defendant Mohd Nawawi Abdul Razak, 39, to defer the order requiring him to remove the defamatory post, refrain from publishing similar statements on social media and pay RM50,000 in costs.

However, the court allowed Mohd Nawawi's application to postpone the order requiring him to apologise to the plaintiff through his Facebook account pending the outcome of his appeal.

Earlier, lawyer Mahmud Abdul Jumaat, representing Mohd Nawawi, submitted that denying the postponement would prejudice his client, who had filed an appeal against the decision at the Court of Appeal on Aug 12.

"If the appeal is allowed later, the apology made will affect the defendant's reputation. As for the damages, my client is unable to pay due to financial difficulties,

and he has deleted the post," he said.

Mohd Asri's lawyer Fatima Zulaiha Ahmad Bashri objected to the application, arguing that financial problems did not amount to "special circumstances" warranting a stay of execution.

On July 31, Rihaida allowed part of the suit filed by Mohd Asri, 55, after finding that the first of the four statements published by the defendant was defamatory, while the plaintiff had failed to prove that the remaining three statements fulfilled the legal elements of defamation.

The court ordered Mohd Nawawi to pay RM250,000 in

global damages, with interest at five per cent per annum from the date of judgment until full settlement, as well as RM50,000 in costs to Mohd Asri.

It also granted the plaintiff's application requiring the defendant to publish an apology on his Facebook account within seven days from Tuesday, remove the defamatory posts from the same account, and refrain from publishing any further defamatory statements through the account, whether personally or through his employees.

Mohd Asri, who is also a lecturer, filed the suit on Oct 10, 2024, alleging that the defendant

had published four defamatory statements on the Facebook account 'Mohd Nawawi Abd Razak' on Sept 20, 2024, which were accessible to the public.

He claimed the posts implied, among other things, that he was a leader or supporter of the GISBH movement, had close ties with the group, and condoned superstitious practices in return for benefits from GISBH.

In his statement of defence filed on Nov 29, 2024, Mohd Nawawi denied the allegations, contending that the plaintiff's defamation claim was exaggerated, excessive and fabricated to gain the court's sympathy. — Bernama



The accused at the Kota Bharu Lower Syariah Court on Tuesday. — Bernama photo

Disabled man pleads not guilty to posing as woman

KOTA BHARU: A disabled man pleaded not guilty in the Lower Syariah Court on Tuesday to a charge of posing as a woman by wearing women's clothing in November last year.

Khairul Izwan Sidi Ahmad, 25, who has learning disabilities, entered the plea after the charge was read out before Judge Wan Mohd Firdaus W. Ibrahim.

According to the charge sheet, he was accused of wearing a slim-fit T-shirt, women's underwear and women's

slippers at the Kelantan Islamic Religious Affairs Department (JAHEAIK) here at 2.35 pm on Nov 9, 2025.

The charge was framed under Section 19(1) of the Syariah Criminal Code (I) Enactment 2019, which provides for a maximum fine of RM3,000, up to two years in prison, or both, upon conviction.

Kelantan Syarie Deputy Prosecutor Syafika Mat Husin prosecuted, while Syarie lawyers Muhammad Syarafi Mohd Salleh

and Mohd Faqqhurudin Mohd Nasir represented the accused.

Earlier, Syafika proposed bail of RM1,000 with one surety.

However, Muhammad Syarafi requested the amount be reduced to RM500, citing his client's status as a Persons with Disabilities (PwD) cardholder and his responsibility to help support his family.

The court then set bail at RM1,000 with one surety and fixed Dec 1 for mention. — Bernama

Sexual assault: Appeal results in 20-year jail term

PUTRAJAYA: A self-employed man who appealed for a shorter prison sentence for physically and sexually assaulting his four-year-old niece had his sentence increased to 20 years by the Court of Appeal on Tuesday.

A three-judge panel led by Justice Datuk Azman Abdullah said the court invoked Section 60 of the Courts of Judicature Act 1964 to increase the sentence imposed on the 45-year-old man.

Delivering the unanimous decision, Justice Azman said the increased sentence served as a warning to the appellant and society at large not to take lightly any opportunity to commit any offences, particularly sexual offences against young children.

For the sexual assault offence, the panel increased the jail term from 10 years to 15 years.

The court also increased the two-year jail term imposed on him under Section 16 (1) of the Sexual Offences against Children Act 2017 to five years.

Justice Azman ordered the sentences to run consecutively, bringing the man's total prison term to 20 years.

The panel, also comprising Justices Datuk Hayatul Akmal Abdul Aziz and K. Muniandy,

however, maintained the five strokes of rotan imposed on the man by the Klang Sessions Court.

The court also upheld the Sessions Court's order for the man to undergo counselling during his imprisonment and to be placed under police supervision for two years after completing sentence.

Previously, the man was sentenced to 12 years' imprisonment and five strokes of rotan by the Sessions Court on Dec 22, 2022, and the decision was upheld by the High Court on Nov 18 last year.

At the proceedings on Tuesday, lawyer K.A. Ramu told the court that his client is proceeding with his appeal against the sentence but withdrawing his appeal against conviction. He said he had initially advised his client against pursuing the appeal, but the man insisted on doing so.

Ramu then urged the court to reduce the sentence to between seven and eight years.

Deputy Public Prosecutor Solehah Noratikah Ismail, however, said the man's decision to proceed with the appeal showed that he was not remorseful. She further urged the court to invoke Section 60 to increase the sentence. — Bernama

Man found dead in room, cops say no foul play

Elton Gomes

KOTA BELUD: A 23-year-old local man was found dead in a room of an unnumbered house here on Monday.

Kota Belud police chief Supt Khairul Shah Peri said a report on the incident was received at about 4.20pm.

"Preliminary investigations found no criminal element in the incident. The case has been classified as Sudden Death Report

(SDR)," he said in a statement.

He said the body was sent to Kota Belud Hospital for a post-mortem to determine the cause of death.

He also advised the public against making any speculation that could affect the investigation, and urged witnesses with information to contact the Kota Belud district police headquarters.

Information can also be channelled to investigating officer Insp Frankie Pain on 019-2151132.

Interpol tracing Yusoff Rawther in UK to serve appeal notice

PUTRAJAYA: Interpol Manchester is currently tracing the whereabouts of former research assistant Muhammed Yusoff Rawther in the United Kingdom (UK) to facilitate service of the prosecution's notice of appeal, the Court of Appeal was told on Tuesday.

Deputy Public Prosecutor Mohd Asnawi Abu Hanipah said a request notice had been sent to Interpol on July 22, which subsequently sought additional information.

"Interpol Manchester is gathering information regarding the respondent's whereabouts. However, to date,

the respondent's location has not been confirmed, and attempts to serve the notice of appeal on the respondent have not yet succeeded.

"Therefore, we request that the court fix a mention date in two months," he said during proceedings before a three-judge panel comprising Datuk Azman Abdullah, Datuk Hayatul Akmal Abdul Aziz and K. Muniandy.

Mohd Asnawi also referred to the requirement to physically serve the notice of appeal on the respondent under Section 314 of the Criminal Procedure Code (CPC).

The prosecution is appealing

against the Kuala Lumpur High Court's decision last year to acquit Muhammed Yusoff of charges involving the trafficking of cannabis and possession of two imitation pistols at the close of the prosecution's case, without calling for his defence.

Earlier, Mohd Asnawi said the respondent's counsel had informed the court that Muhammed Yusoff was prepared to attend the appeal hearing online via Zoom.

However, Judge Azman said the respondent's physical presence was required as the appeal involved criminal proceedings.

"If we grant this privilege in

this case (attending via Zoom), what about other cases? We need the respondent's presence should the court decide to order him to enter his defence or otherwise," he said.

Meanwhile, lawyer Muhammad Rafique Rashid Ali, representing Muhammed Yusoff, said his client, who has been in the UK since June last year seeking asylum on human rights grounds, was prepared to proceed with the appeal hearing via Zoom.

The court subsequently fixed Nov 4 for mention.

On June 12, 2025, High Court Judge Datuk Muhammad Jamil Hussin acquitted Muhammed

Yusoff, 33, after finding that the prosecution had failed to establish a prima facie case against him.

The court held that based on witness testimony, the prosecution had failed to prove that Muhammed Yusoff had control, custody or possession of the two pistols and the drugs in question.

Muhammed Yusoff was charged with trafficking 305 grammes of cannabis in the vehicle he was travelling in, in front of the Kuala Lumpur Police Contingent Headquarters (IPK) surau at 10.15 am on Sept 6, 2024.

The charge was framed

under Section 39B(1)(a) of the Dangerous Drugs Act 1952 and is punishable under Section 39B(2) of the same Act, which provides for life imprisonment and whipping of not less than 12 strokes upon conviction.

He was also charged with possessing two imitation pistols by the roadside near a condominium on Jalan Bukit Kiara at 9.25 am on the same date.

The charge, framed under Section 36(1) of the Arms Act 1960, carries a maximum penalty of one year's imprisonment or a fine of up to RM5,000, or both, upon conviction. — Bernama

Harness AI, social media to preserve indigenous culture

KOTA MARUDU: Sabah's ethnic and cultural associations should harness artificial intelligence (AI) and social media to help preserve and document the languages, customs and cultural identities of the state's indigenous communities, said Datuk Ewon Benedick.

The Deputy Chief Minister III said preservation efforts should move beyond relying solely on conventional printed materials such as books and dictionaries, with digital approaches needed to reach younger generations.

"Preservation methods need to be diversified through digital approaches that are closer to the younger generation. We can use AI and social media to develop digital dictionaries and produce suitable content on the languages, customs and culture of our communities that can be more easily accessed, especially by the younger generation," he said.

Ewon, who is also Minister of Industrial Development, Entrepreneurship and Transport, said this when officiating at the Mongompok Batas ceremony organised by the United Sabah Tindal Organisation (USTO) at the Kampung Tagaroh Open Field here recently.

Also present were Assistant Minister of Local Government and Bandau assemblyman, as well as USTO patron, Datuk Dr Majjol Mahap, leaders of ethnic associations and local community leaders.

He encouraged ethnic associations to collaborate in producing more digital content to showcase the unique identities of Sabah's indigenous communities and ensure their languages and cultural heritage are not lost over time.

"We must adopt new approaches in developing our



Ewon (fourth left) with USTO leaders at the event.

communities and ensuring that our identity continues to be preserved. Who else will promote our languages, customs and culture if not ourselves?" he said.

Ewon said efforts to preserve indigenous identity should also go hand in hand with economic development and entrepreneurship.

He said programmes organised by ethnic associations could be strengthened by incorporating entrepreneurial activities, including expos and village markets in collaboration with the Ministry of Industrial Development, Entrepreneurship

and Transport Sabah (MINDET).

"We do not only want to defend and preserve our customary systems, identity and languages, but at the same time, we want our communities to progress and become entrepreneurs," he said.

Meanwhile, USTO president James Baga said the organisation was working on publishing a trilingual dictionary in the Tindal, Malay and English languages.

He said the dictionary would provide a reference for younger generations to learn and better understand their mother tongue.

"I believe this dictionary will

become a reference for our children in the future and help ensure that the Dusun Tindal language does not disappear with time," he said.

James said concerns over the survival of indigenous languages were growing, particularly as younger generations increasingly turned to Malay and English, even in their daily communication at home.

He added that USTO was also documenting Tindal customs and traditions, including wedding and engagement practices, in book form to ensure they could be preserved and passed down to future generations.

Johor MACC detains housing committee chairman over alleged bribery

KUALA LUMPUR: The Malaysian Anti-Corruption Commission (MACC) has detained a chairman of a housing committee of a federal statutory body in Johor for allegedly soliciting and accepting bribes as well as abusing his position in matters involving applications for housing lots.

According to sources, the man, in his 40s, was detained when he turned up to give his statement at the Johor MACC office at about 7.30 pm on Monday.

"Preliminary investigations found that the suspect allegedly committed the offences between 2016 and 2025," added the sources.

The sources said the suspect was believed to have solicited

about RM4,000 from each of 400 applicants for housing lots, involving a total of about RM1.6million.

The money was then allegedly misappropriated for personal use through withdrawals from the committee's bank account using fake invoices.

Meanwhile, Johor MACC director Datuk Hairuzam Mohmad Amin@Hamim, when contacted, confirmed the arrest and said the case was being investigated under Sections 16(a)(A), 18 and 23 of the MACC Act 2009.

He added that the suspect would be released on MACC bail after his statement had been recorded. — Bernama

KK Community Hall restoration not neglected — Jafry

KOTA KINABALU: The restoration of the Kota Kinabalu Community Hall has not been neglected, with efforts to restore the protected heritage building being actively coordinated by the State Government and relevant authorities, said Datuk Jafry Ariffin.

The Minister of Tourism, Culture and Environment said his ministry, through the Sabah Heritage Council and Sabah Museum Department, has been working closely with Kota Kinabalu City Hall (DBKK), which is responsible for the building, to ensure the restoration is carried out properly and in accordance with heritage conservation requirements.

He said the restoration could not be treated in the same manner as an ordinary building repair due to the Community Hall's status as a protected heritage site.

"All works must comply with the Sabah Heritage Enactment 2017 and appropriate conservation principles to safeguard its original architecture, historical integrity and heritage value," he said in a statement on Tuesday.

Jafry said the Sabah Museum Department had advised DBKK on the technical documentation required, the scope of works and the appropriate restoration methodology.

He said the cost of the project would subsequently have to be determined based on the conservation requirements.

According to Jafry, DBKK is currently in the process of applying for the necessary funding to carry out the restoration works.

"The State Government

understands the public's concern and appreciates the strong interest in safeguarding this important Kota Kinabalu landmark. Our priority is not simply to repair a building, but to restore it correctly, preserving its history, character and heritage value for future generations," he said.

Jafry said his ministry would continue working closely with the Sabah Heritage Council, Sabah Museum Department and DBKK to facilitate the necessary processes and ensure the restoration moves forward responsibly.

He gave the assurance amid public concern and growing interest in efforts to preserve the historic Kota Kinabalu Community Hall, which is regarded as one of the city's important heritage landmarks.

Jafry's statement came after former chief minister Datuk Yong Teck Lee called for immediate action to restore and rehabilitate the historic building, more than a year after it was damaged in a fire.

Following a site inspection on Monday, Yong said the building remained in a dilapidated condition and questioned whether sufficient action had been taken to protect and conserve the heritage site.

"It is a very heartbreaking and sorrowful sight right in the centre of Kota Kinabalu City," he said.

Yong urged the Sabah Heritage Council and the Ministry of Tourism, Culture and Environment to disclose their planned course of action for the building and to expedite restoration efforts.

PBRs: Consider free drinking water for students under Budget 2027

KOTA KINABALU: The Parti Bersatu Rakyat Sabah (PBRs) Women and Youth movements have called on the government to consider allocations under Budget 2027 to strengthen access to clean and free drinking water for students.

PBRs Women chief Datin Zainon Kayum Khan said access to safe drinking water should be regarded as a basic need rather than an additional facility, particularly for students from low-income families.

"We hear the voices of students and understand the pressures they face in dealing with the rising cost of living, including daily expenses that may seem small but can have an impact on those who need to manage their finances carefully," she said in a joint statement with PBRs Youth chief Jessel Cyrill Yansalang.



Datin Zainon Kayum Khan

Zainon said while spending RM1 or RM2 on a bottle of water might appear insignificant to some, recurring daily expenses could become a burden for students who also had to pay for food, transportation, academic needs and other necessities.

She said the movements appreciated higher education institutions that had provided free drinking water facilities and called for such initiatives to be continued and strengthened.

"Free drinking water for



Jessel Cyrill Yansalang

students is not a luxury.

"Basic necessities should not become a burden," she said.

Meanwhile, Jessel said Budget 2027 should consider appropriate support for the maintenance, repair and replacement of drinking water facilities, as well as water quality monitoring.

"Based on the feedback we have received, there is room to further strengthen these facilities in terms of adequacy, maintenance, repairs and water quality so that students can

enjoy consistent access," he said.

Jessel said providing basic facilities for students should be viewed as a shared responsibility, with existing initiatives maintained while areas requiring improvement were strengthened.

"We must ensure that every ringgit allocated truly benefits students.

"Student welfare is not only about substantial assistance.

"Sometimes, it begins with ensuring that our children do not have to worry about affording a glass of water," he said.

They also urged the government to establish appropriate minimum standards and encourage continuous monitoring and maintenance of free drinking water facilities at educational institutions.

DAP wants two key reforms debated in upcoming Parliament session

KUALA LUMPUR: DAP wants two crucial reform agendas that require Federal Constitution amendments – namely the separation of powers between the Attorney-General and the Public Prosecutor, and a term limit for the Prime Minister – to be debated and decided upon in Parliament during the upcoming October session.

DAP Secretary-General Anthony Loke said in a statement on Tuesday that this stance was decided by the party's Central Executive Committee (CEC) during its meeting on Monday, which was the party's first CEC meeting following the DAP National Conference on August 16.

The Constitution (Amendment) (No. 2) Bill 2026 to separate the roles of the Attorney General and the Public Prosecutor aims to provide for the appointment of a Public Prosecutor in line with the separation of the

Public Prosecutor's role from the Attorney-General.

It also aims to provide safeguarding provisions for the Public Prosecutor and amend related matters in accordance with that separation of roles.

Meanwhile, the Bill to limit the Prime Minister's tenure aims, among other things, to restrict the office of the Prime Minister to a maximum of 10 years.

Loke said the CEC meeting also discussed the outcome of the National Conference regarding the motion passed by delegates to mandate the party leadership for DAP to remain in the MADANI Government until the end of the 15th Parliament term.

"The CEC respects the decision made by the delegates and is determined to carry out that mandate with full responsibility. DAP will continue striving to ensure that various reform agendas can be implemented," he said. — Bernama

Health drive set to raise prostate cancer awareness

KOTA KINABALU: Raising awareness and encouraging early detection of prostate cancer will be the focus of a public awareness programme to be held here on Sept 19.

The initiative, organised by the Prostate Cancer Society Malaysia (PCSM) in conjunction with Prostate Cancer Awareness Month, aims to encourage greater awareness among men about the significance of early detection and seeking medical advice.

The health programme will be held at Ujana Tropika Rimba Park and later at Por Kee Restaurant in Taman Fortuna, in collaboration with Gleneagles

Hospital Kota Kinabalu, the Rotary Club of Kota Kinabalu (RCKK) and Queen Elizabeth Hospital 1 (QEH1).

Organising chairman Lawrence Thien said participants are scheduled to gather at Ujana Tropika Rimba Park from 5.30am, followed by a briefing at 6am.

Participants wearing PCSM T-shirts will then take part in a walk around the park beginning at 6.15am.

The event will continue at 7.15am with opening remarks by the PCSM chairman and Gleneagles chief operating officer, followed by a symbolic banner-holding session and

group photograph at 7.35am.

A performance by the Rimba Tropika Line Dance Group will follow at 7.45am before a men's health talk session at 8am.

Representatives from Gleneagles will deliver a talk titled 'Prostate Cancer: Early Detection Saves Lives', highlighting the importance of detecting the disease at an early stage.

Meanwhile, representatives from QEH1 will address misconceptions surrounding the disease in a talk titled '10 Myths About Prostate Cancer'.

The programme is aimed at improving public

understanding of prostate cancer and encouraging men to take proactive steps towards safeguarding their health through greater awareness and early detection.

Participants and members of the organising committee will later adjourn to Por Kee Restaurant in Taman Fortuna for a fellowship session at 9.45am.

Prostate Cancer Awareness Month is observed every September to promote greater awareness and public understanding of prostate cancer, particularly the importance of early detection.

Communications Ministry to curb online sale of prohibited goods

KUALA LUMPUR: The Communications Ministry

is prepared to work with the Home Ministry, the Domestic Trade and Cost of Living Ministry, police and relevant agencies to strengthen e-commerce regulation and curb the sale of prohibited goods,

said Communications Minister Datuk Seri Fahmi Fadzil.

He said such cooperation was important as there were still gaps in the country's e-commerce ecosystem, particularly as e-commerce platforms are currently not subject to licensing.

"There are indeed gaps in the e-commerce system. At present, e-commerce is not yet licensed, so we need to look into this matter," he told reporters on the sidelines of the Huawei WAIC Connect Malaysia 2026 Symposium on Tuesday.

Fahmi said the Malaysian Communications and Multimedia Commission (MCMC) had held a meeting with a major platform yesterday, but he had yet to receive an update on the outcome of the meeting as of this morning. — Bernama



(From left) Video screengrabs and a photo from social media shows the distressed helicopter and its eventual crash at the Long Lellang STOLport.

Five dead in Long Lellang heli tragedy

MIRI: A four-member Flying Doctor Service (FDS) team and their pilot were killed yesterday after their helicopter crashed at the Long Lellang Short Take-off and Landing Airport (STOLport) in the interior of Baram.

Miri Resident Galong Luang confirmed that the incident occurred at the end of the runway at about 3.40pm.

"Unfortunately, all five onboard are deceased as confirmed by reports from the Fire and Rescue Department (Bomba) and Ministry of Health (MoH).

"However, I am not able to provide the names of the deceased now," Galong, who is also Miri Divisional Disaster Management Committee chairman, told The Borneo Post when contacted.

The German-made BO-105 helicopter, bearing registration 9M-LLF and operated by Layang-Layang Aerospace, was flying from Miri Airport to Long Lellang when it crashed.

The company provides helicopter and fixed-wing aircraft services for the MoH's FDS in remote and interior areas.

In a separate statement, Health Minister Datuk Seri Dr Dzulkefly Ahmad confirmed that the four passengers were MoH personnel – a medical officer, a medical assistant, and two nurses – who were on official duty.

Dr Dzulkefly said search-and-rescue (SAR) teams, together with medical personnel and Bomba, had reached the crash site near the Long Lellang STOLport.

"The operation is currently underway," he said.

He said the ministry was closely monitoring the situation and working with security authorities, rescue teams, and relevant aviation agencies to obtain accurate and up-to-date



information from the scene.

The MoH was also contacting the next-of-kin and family members of those involved to provide the necessary support, he added.

Dr Dzulkefly urged the media and public not to speculate or circulate unverified information while the SAR operation was ongoing out of respect for the families of those involved.

"Any further developments will be announced from time to time after official confirmation is received from the authorities," he said.

Meanwhile, Galong said approval had been granted by Bomba's top brass for its MI-17 helicopter to be used to retrieve the remains.

The Bomba helicopter is expected to depart from Miri for Long Lellang carrying representatives from relevant government agencies.

Deputy Minister in the Premier's Department Datuk Gerawat Gala, who is Mulu assemblyman, will join the mission.

Galong said the take-off would depend on weather conditions and instructions from the aviation and other relevant authorities overseeing the operation.

The mission will be conducted under the command of Marudi police chief DSP Nor Aizan Mohd Jamil, who will also oversee

police investigations into the incident.

"All the remains are expected to be retrieved and sent back to Miri on the same sortie, and the aircraft is likely to land at Miri Airport instead of the helipad at Miri Hospital," he said.

Meanwhile, the Civil Aviation Authority of Malaysia (CAAM) in a statement said it received notification of the incident from the Flight Information Service at 3.58pm.

It said the Air Accident Investigation Bureau under the Ministry of Transport will investigate the incident in accordance with Part XXVI of the Civil Aviation Regulations 2016.

Meanwhile, Sarawak Police Commissioner Datuk Mohamad Zainal Abdullah confirmed that a search-and-rescue (SAR) operation was underway to locate the five victims.

He said the SAR currently involves local villagers, personnel from the People's Volunteer Corps (Rela), and auxiliary police stationed at the Long Lellang STOLport.

"The operation is being hampered by the remoteness of the crash site, which lies roughly 10 hours' overland travel from Marudi.

"Air support using helicopters has not been possible owing to hazy weather conditions and the fact that the CAAM has not granted clearance for flights to depart from the Royal Malaysian Police airbase in Kuching," he said in a statement.

Mohamad Zainal said a dedicated search-and-rescue team was expected to reach the scene as soon as possible, while details of those on board would be confirmed in due course.

Shopkeeper recalls chat with Flying Doctor team

MIRI: A shopkeeper in Long Siut recalled a conversation she had with a member of the Flying Doctor Service (FDS), who boarded the ill-fated helicopter that crashed near the Short-Take Off and Landing airport (STOLport) in Long Lellang yesterday.

Bungan Tegong, 61, said the team made a stop in Long Siut around noon for refuelling before continuing their journey to Long Lellang.

She said the crew members went to her sundry shop to rest, have drinks and buy some items.

"They spent about an hour at my shop, during which I spoke to one of the women wearing a 'tudung' (headscarf). She told me they were going to Long Lellang. She asked me if I had ever gone there.

"I told her I had never been

there. I then asked how long it would take to fly from Long Siut to Long Lellang, and she said about 10 minutes," she recalled.

Bungan said she recognised the pilot as he frequently operated the FDS flights and would stop at Long Siut to refuel.

She said shortly before they left, the crew also spoke about the weather conditions being unfavourable due to the haze.

"I asked them why they were still continuing the journey if they knew the weather conditions were affected by the haze.

"One of them replied: 'Tak boleh, aunty, sebab kami sudah ada janji dengan pesakit (We cannot, aunty, because we already have an appointment with patients there),' she said.

Long Siut is a Kenyah settlement in rural Baram, and

it takes about one day to get to Long Lellang on board a four-wheel-drive vehicle.

Earlier, the Civil Aviation Authority of Malaysia (CAAM) confirmed that five people were on board the BO-105 helicopter that crashed near the Long Lellang STOLport.

In a statement, it said that it received notification from the Flight Information Service at 3.58pm.

CAAM identified the registration number of the German-made helicopter as 9M-LLF.

"The helicopter was operating a Flying Doctor Service flight with five persons on board including the pilot," it said.

However, at the time the statement was issued, it did not mention the condition of the five people on board.

ADB partnership crucial in supporting Sarawak's mega devt projects — Premier

KUCHING: Sarawak's strategic partnership with the Asian Development Bank (ADB) is crucial in supporting the state's efforts towards realising large-scale development projects, particularly in energy, technology and low-carbon development.

This was highlighted by Premier Datuk Patinggi Tan Sri Abang Johari Tun Openg during a Fireside Chat session at the ADB headquarters in Manila, the Philippines yesterday.

According to him, the partnership enables new ideas and technologies to be translated into viable projects through access to expertise, technology and competitive financing.

"When we implement new ideas, it is not easy. We need to convince stakeholders, and the next question is the cost," he said, according to a Sarawak Public Communications Unit report.

The Premier regarded implementing large-scale projects as challenging as it would require careful planning, stakeholder confidence, as well as solutions to cost and financing considerations.

In this respect, he stressed that continued collaboration with



Abang Johari highlights some points during the Fireside Chat session. — Sarawak Public Communications Unit photo

ADB was important in ensuring every project undertaken would have a sound economic and technological foundation, as well as being financially viable.

On Sarawak's development direction, Abang Johari said the state was becoming increasingly selective in deciding which industries to attract, taking into account their value-added contribution to the state's economy.

He cited the data centre industry as an example, saying that such investments should

not be assessed solely based on their investment value, but also in terms of job creation, energy consumption and long-term technological resilience.

"A data centre is only like a warehouse that stores data. In terms of job creation, I don't think it creates that many," he added.

He also pointed out that Sarawak needed to focus on future industries with potential for technological growth, rather than merely responding to the current needs.



Ngot passed away at the age of 94. – Photo from Facebook/Tanoti

Crafts community mourns passing of renowned weaver Ngot Bi

KUCHING: Renowned 'tikar bergerang' weaver, Adiguru (Grandmaster) Ngot Bi – also endearingly called Ibu Ngot – has passed away at the age of 94.

Tanoti Crafts confirmed the news via a Facebook post published early yesterday.

"We mourn the passing of a true custodian of tikar bergerang, a precious and increasingly endangered weaving tradition of the Sarawak Malay community.

"Appointed 'Adiguru Kraf Anyaman Tikar Bergerang' by Kraftangan Malaysia in 2014, Ibu Ngot devoted her life to keeping this intricate art alive and passing its knowledge to future generations," read the post.

In 2024, Ibu Ngot was honoured with the Hasanah Gold Award (Lifetime Achievement Awards) at the Hasanah Gold Threads Awards (HGTA) in Kuala Lumpur.

The Hasanah Gold Awards serves to honour individuals who have made significant contributions to the nation's

textile heritage.

Ibu Ngot's exquisite plaitings also earned the 'Plaiting Traditional Award' in that same year.

According to Tanoti Crafts, the appointed Adiguru Kraf Anyaman Tikar Bergerang by Kraftangan Malaysia 2014 had devoted her life to keeping the intricate art alive and passing the knowledge to future generations.

"Her mastery was recognised through numerous accolades, including the Unesco Seal of Excellence.

"At Tanoti, we honour Ibu Ngot not only for the beautiful mats that she created, but for the knowledge, identity and heritage that she carried in her hands.

"As tikar bergerang faces the risk of disappearing, her legacy reminds us that preserving heritage means keeping the knowledge alive and passing it forward.

"May her craft continue to speak across generations," wrote Tanoti Crafts.

Former rep questions disparity in electorate sizes under EC's proposed redelineation of state constituencies

SIBU: The Election Commission's (EC) proposed redelineation of Sarawak state constituencies warrants serious scrutiny because of the wide disparity in electorate sizes, said former Bukit Assek assemblywoman Irene Chang.

According to her, the electorate sizes range from 10,372 voters in Pelagus to 34,546 voters in Piasau.

She said such a wide disparity raises legitimate questions about whether the proposed boundaries provide a sufficiently balanced basis for representation and whether the differences can be justified by geographical, accessibility, community, or other relevant considerations.

However, she concurred it is neither possible nor practical to expect every constituency to have exactly the same number of voters as other factors must also be taken into account.

"As such, the EC should be able to clearly explain and justify the large differences in

the number of voters between constituencies, especially when the constituencies are close to each other and have similar characteristics," she said in a statement.

Chang cited figures within the proposed Sibu constituencies, which have a combined electorate of 115,270 voters, giving an average of 23,054 voters per constituency.

"By comparison, the three proposed Lanang constituencies have 87,071 voters, averaging 29,024 voters per constituency, almost 26 per cent higher," she said.

She claimed the disparity is even more pronounced between individual proposed state constituencies, where Nangka has only 17,493 voters, compared with 29,371 in Tanah Mas, a difference of 11,878 voters, while Pelawan has 27,215 voters.

"These differences matter not only in terms of electoral representation, but also in considering constituency-based

resources and allocations.

"Where resources are provided substantially on a constituency basis, a significantly smaller constituency may effectively receive more resources per voter than a much larger constituency," she claimed.

Chang said this is not to suggest that allocations should be determined purely by voter numbers, but it reinforces the need to examine whether such large disparities are justified.

She said the proposed changes between Sibu and Lanang provide another example that deserves explanation.

"As rightly pointed out earlier by Sibu MP Oscar Ling, the transfer of Sentosa and Usaha Jaya from Lanang to the proposed Bukit Kemuyang constituency in Sibu would increase Sibu's electorate from 110,857 to 115,270, while reducing Lanang's from 91,484 to 87,071," she said.

She called on the EC to explain the rationale for this adjustment

and demonstrate how it contributes to a more rational overall distribution of voters.

"The issue is not whether voters can be moved between parliamentary areas and/or state seats, but whether the resulting configuration improves the fairness and coherence of representation, both at parliamentary and state levels."

Chang also said the creation of 17 additional state seats should be an opportunity for EC to correct disparities and not to simply reproduce and perpetuate them under new boundaries.

She said the redelineation exercise should be used to produce more balanced, rational, and workable constituencies and to address disparities wherever the boundaries can reasonably be improved.

"Ultimately, redelineation should be about improving representation and not merely increasing the number of representatives," she added.

China duo fined for harvesting wild plants at national park

KUCHING: Two Chinese nationals were each fined a total of RM14,300 in default nine months' imprisonment by the Sessions Court here yesterday for the illegal collection and possession of wild plants at Santubong National Park.

Judge Iris Awen Jon convicted Shih Kuan-Yu and Sun Dayong on their own guilty pleas to all three charges.

For the first charge, the two were charged under Section

26(c) of the National Parks and Nature Reserves Ordinance 1998 read together with Section 32(a) of the same Ordinance, for taking plants from Santubong National Park without the permission of the Controller of National Parks and Nature Reserves.

They were each fined RM3,500 in default three months' imprisonment.

For the second charge, they were charged under Section 26(f)

of the National Parks and Nature Reserves Ordinance 1998 read together with Section 32(a) of the same Ordinance and Section 38 of the Interpretation Ordinance 2005, for attempting to remove plants from the national park without permission.

They were each fined RM3,800 in default three months' jail.

For the third charge, they were jointly charged under Section 30(2) of the Wild Life Protection

Ordinance 1998 for possessing a protected plant belonging to the Orchidaceae species without a licence.

They were each fined RM7,000 in default three months' imprisonment.

The offences took place at about 1.50pm on Sept 3 when a team of park rangers inspected the two visitors at Santubong National Park on suspicion of collecting wild plants there without permission.

Is Euro three-peat really possible for PSG?

PARIS, France: Luis Enrique's Paris Saint-Germain have already secured their status as one of the Champions League's greatest teams by winning the trophy in back-to-back years, and now they have their sights set on a rare treble.

"Doing the treble is the objective, but we know it's going to be very difficult and that there will be obstacles in our way," said PSG captain Marquinhos on the eve of the campaign.

After years of disappointment in Europe for the Qatar-owned club, PSG became the real deal after former Barcelona and Spain coach Luis Enrique was appointed in 2023.

They reached the semi-finals in his first season, then kicked on following the departure of Kylian Mbappe in 2024.

No longer beholden to one or two superstar names, PSG went on to blow the rest of Europe away en route to winning a first Champions League title in 2025 as they destroyed Inter Milan 5-0 in the final.

They followed that up by edging Premier League champions Arsenal on penalties in last season's final in Budapest, becoming just the second side to retain the trophy since the inception of the modern Champions League in 1992.

But a three-peat at this level would be an achievement on another scale again.

Doing the treble is the objective, but we know it's going to be very difficult and that there will be obstacles in our way.

Marquinhos

Real Madrid did it under Zinedine Zidane, reigning over the continent from 2016 to 2018.

Johan Cruyff's Ajax and Franz Beckenbauer's Bayern Munich both won three successive European Cups in the 1970s, while Alfredo Di Stefano's Madrid won five on the bounce at the dawn of the competition between 1956 and 1960.

That is the kind of exalted company PSG are hoping to join, but the demands in Europe's elite club competition are now greater than ever – the new Champions League format led to the Parisians playing a total of 17 games in order to win the trophy in each of the last two campaigns.

When at their best, they are utterly thrilling. Their pace in an attack led by Ousmane Dembele and Khvicha Kvaratskhelia is utterly terrifying, and is supported by flying full-backs Achraf Hakimi and Nuno



Paris Saint-Germain's players (from left) Desire Doue, Ousmane Dembele and Marquinhos take part in a training session at the Campus Paris Saint-Germain in Poissy. — AFP photo

Mendes.

Meanwhile their midfield three, led by diminutive Portuguese playmaker Vitinha, can dominate games against far more physical opponents.

Hence PSG winning their two titles, and two UEFA Super Cups, despite playing 18 matches against Premier League teams in the last two years.

The number of games might be the biggest danger for PSG, who played 121 competitive matches across the last two seasons with a meagre three-week break in between because of the Club World Cup.

Either side of that, the majority of their squad were involved in major tournaments in 2024 and have had another shortened

summer holiday due to the World Cup.

That may explain why they have looked rusty at the beginning of this campaign. However, their margin over the rest of France's top flight is so great that they are still favourites to win Ligue 1 again, even if they choose to regularly rest key players to keep them

fresh for the Champions League.

Their European campaign could not start with a kinder fixture either, with Slovan Bratislava up first – things will quickly move up a notch, though, as they visit Manchester City and host Barcelona in October.

PSG do not often sell one of their star players but that is what they have done with Bradley Barcola, who joined Liverpool for huge money.

Goncalo Ramos, Lee Kang-in and Ibrahim Mbaye, all useful squad options last season, have been sold too.

However, Maghnes Aklouche, who played for France at the World Cup, and Ferran Torres – Spain's final match-winner in North America – are headline new arrivals. The latter played under Luis Enrique for his country.

"He was like a footballing father for me when I played for him in the national team," Torres said after signing from Barcelona.

Luis Enrique is the star now, more than any individual player, and he has just signed a new contract to stay in Paris until 2030.

"It is the first time I have stayed four years at the same club, and I am more motivated than I was in my first year," he said, insisting that he has lost none of his hunger. That is ominous for PSG's rivals. — AFP

Mbappe embraces talk of Ballon d'Or potential

MADRID: Real Madrid striker Kylian Mbappe said Monday it was natural for people to consider him a potential Ballon d'Or winner this year after his World Cup exploits.

The France captain scored 10 goals at the tournament this summer to win the Golden Boot, with his country finishing fourth. He has netted 22 in the competition, making him the World Cup's all-time top scorer.

Mbappe, 27, has not yet won the prestigious trophy given to the world's best player.

"I think that when you play for Real Madrid, which is the best club in the world, naturally people associate you with that kind of award, they associate you with collective awards, individual awards," Mbappe told reporters.

"A lot of people, when they see me in the street, talk to me about the Ballon d'Or, a lot of people talk about me as a possible Ballon d'Or winner..."

"Of course, I made a lot of history this summer in the most important competition in sport, but we'll see.

"I have the feeling that it's a good year for that, but there's still a long time to go and people are free to vote for whoever they think is the best player in the world."

Since joining Real Madrid in 2024 Mbappe has scored huge quantities of goals but the club has failed to win a major trophy.

On Tuesday the record 15-time European champions host Inter Milan in the Champions League in the first match of the league phase.

During Mbappe's first two years at Madrid the team has appeared unbalanced, with too many star names, including the Frenchman and Brazilian winger Vinicius Junior, widely considered not to be contributing enough to the team effort – in contrast to Ousmane Dembele at Paris Saint-Germain and Raphinha at Barcelona.

"We have to improve," admitted Mbappe. "But I could play dumb and tell you that I score more goals than (Dembele and



Mbappe (right) and teammates attend a training session in Madrid. — AFP photo



Jose Mourinho

Raphinha), and that they need to score more goals to be like me.

"Everyone is different, but I want to do things intelligently and say that of course I have to improve and all that, but I don't like comparisons because I think I do a lot of things that others don't do."

Real Madrid coach Jose Mourinho recently said he would prefer if Mbappe scored fewer goals but also worked hard to help the team win titles.

Mbappe said he would accept

lower numbers if it led to trophies, but noted they were not mutually exclusive.

"I'd take 30 goals with titles, yes, but... for me it's an absurd debate," said Mbappe.

"I always want to score goals and win titles... you don't have to choose, you can do both things."

Veteran Portuguese coach Mourinho led Inter to Champions League glory in 2010 at the Santiago Bernabeu before he departed to take over at Real Madrid.

Despite his history with the Italian side, whom he steered to the treble that year, the coach said that only mattered before and after, but not during the match.

"There aren't many (people) left from my time, but it'll always be a pleasure to see people, even if I don't know them, but people who defend Inter, before and after," said Mourinho.

"During the game I want to

win, they want to win, and there won't be time to think about things from a wonderful past."

Inter coach Cristian Chivu started the 2010 final playing under his opposite number on Tuesday at the Bernabeu.

"Mourinho is a special person and I was lucky to have encountered him," said Chivu, who described the Portuguese as a "winner".

"There are few in the world like him," continued the Romanian coach.

"He showed it here but at other big clubs too. I'm sure Real Madrid will have a great season."

Mourinho wants his Madrid players to bounce back from their first defeat of the season, 1-0 at Real Betis on Friday in La Liga.

"I want to win. I could tell you I want to play well, but I don't want to play well like we did against Betis and lose," added Mourinho. — AFP

New China badminton chief vows to fight graft

BEIJING: China's new badminton chief vowed Tuesday to crack down on corruption after the man he replaced was put under investigation and hasn't been seen in months.

Two-time Olympic gold medalist Zhang Jun, then president of the Chinese Badminton Association (CBA), was accused in April of "serious violations of discipline and law".

The phrase is commonly used in China when referring to corruption.

On Tuesday the CBA said Zhang Xin – an official from China's General Administration of Sport – will be the new president. The CBA will "resolutely see through the fight against corruption, drawing lessons from previous

cases", Zhang said after being appointed.

He warned people should "not dare to be corrupt, not be corrupt and not want to be corrupt".

Under Chinese President Xi Jinping there has been a widespread crackdown on officials, extending into sport.

Just as Zhang Xin came in Tuesday, CBA vice-president Xia Xuanze was removed from his post.

Xia, an Olympic bronze medalist in 2000, was placed under investigation for suspected "serious violations of the law" in August.

China is a badminton superpower and consistently the most successful country in the sport at the Olympics. — AFP

Coach: Pakistan's off-field issues nothing new

LONDON: Bowling coach Ashley Noffke said on Monday there was "always something going on in the background" of Pakistan cricket after officials announced an investigation into the squad's conduct during their woeful tour of England.

Pakistan head into this week's third and final Test at Edgbaston desperately trying to avoid a whitewash after thumping defeats in the first two matches, at Headingley and Lord's.

The Pakistan Cricket Board (PCB) took the extraordinary step of sending seven players home after the second Test and sacking Test coach Sarfaraz Ahmed, with white-ball boss Mike Hesson replacing him.

Noffke too has been drafted in from his limited-overs role to replace the axed Umar Gul as Pakistan's bowling coach.

Seven players have been added to the Test squad, five of whom have yet to make their Test debuts.

Amir Mir, the PCB's head of communications, announced earlier Monday that cricket chiefs had launched a probe.

"The Pakistan Cricket Board has initiated an internal disciplinary inquiry following media reports concerning discipline and conduct, which are currently being reviewed internally," he said.

Hesson, a former coach of his native New Zealand, said last week Pakistan's cricketers were used to "chaos".

Speaking after training at Edgbaston, the recently arrived Noffke agreed off-field issues in Pakistan cricket were nothing new.

"I sit outside that decision-making model above us as coaches," he said.

"We try to keep the players focused on what they need to worry about."

The former Australia international added: "I guess that's one thing I've learned about being in Pakistan and coaching for a period of time – nearly 15 months with the white-ball team – there's always something going on in the background, whether or not it's in or out of our control, and most of the time it's out of the players' control." —AFP



Maresca reacts during a match. — AFP file photo

Maresca concurs his players started season jaded

PORTO, Portugal: Manchester City coach Enzo Maresca said on Monday finding form early in the season "was not easy" for his World Cup players ahead of the club's Champions League opener at Porto.

"I think it's correct that you see these kind of players that they start to be tired," Maresca said at the Dragao Stadium before Tuesday's match.

Maresca was responding to remarks by Erling Haaland posted on the striker's his YouTube channel earlier in the

day.

The Norwegian has three goals in three league matches but did not play in warm up games, following Norway's run to the World Cup quarterfinals.

"The new season started and I didn't even have a pre-season. I normally have a bit of pre-season but this time, just nothing," said Haaland. "The physical side will come, if you manage to stay injury free, but you need to be sharp mentally as well, and that's not easy."

"We need to have that eager

feeling to go back but we don't because there is no time to properly stay away from football because there are so many games and the season is longer.

"I'm not complaining because it's still a positive thing that you get to play football throughout the whole year and live off it."

"But sometimes we need a break as well."

"I never played a World Cup so I don't know how it is."

Maresca was sympathetic.

"It's it's not easy for them it's not easy for Erling, it's not easy

for most of the players that they continue to play for their international team," said the coach.

"It's correct to give them some rest that can be one game out or can be one week away depends a little bit in which moment we are. To be focused on the day by day makes it very complicated to think where we can be in February, March, April in terms of expectation."

"The most important thing is to see that we are improving game after game." — AFP

China's Zhang dwarfs cagers at World Cup

BEIJING: Chinese teenage basketball player Zhang Ziyu stands 223cm (7ft 4in) and towers over opponents at the Women's World Cup – but off the court she's "just a little girl".

That was the assessment of the giant 19-year-old by teammate Han Xu after China's 74-70 overtime win over the Czech Republic on Sunday in Germany.

The teenage centre scored three points in just over 10 minutes on court against a physical Czech side, having been more of a threat against reigning champions the United States in a 94-61 loss to start the tournament.

After that defeat, USA superstar Caitlin Clark had warm words for Zhang, saying: "I've never played against a woman of that size and she obviously presented some challenges for us."

"I think she's a wonderful player and you see how young she is. You can tell she's still growing and learning how to play and how to leverage her advantage, which is her size."

"There's not much you can do to stop her when she gets it really close to the basket."

Zhang's height is listed at 223cm on the website of world governing body FIBA, making her already taller than NBA great Shaquille O'Neal, and even in a sport where height matters, she stands out in women's basketball.

Zhang might be destined for the WNBA, but Clark and Han warned against placing too many expectations on the teenager.



Zhang tries to block USA's Napheesa Collier during the Group D match. — AFP photo

"In life she's just a little girl," said Han, who top-scored for China with 22 points against the Czechs.

"I always want to give her good energy... she can finish to the rim and protect the paint."

"I think she is a great player and we just keep thinking (about) how to use her better and hope she can be more aggressive."

The official website for the Women's Basketball World Cup describes Zhang as "epically tall", noting she first came to international prominence when she was crowned MVP at the U18 Women's Asia Cup two years ago.

Footage and images of Zhang looming over her opponents have gone viral online, but Clark

said there was more to her than just that.

"She's still a very young player, but to be this young and to be in a World Cup and to go up against the top players is only going to help her continue to grow," said Clark.

"So I think if she continues to develop, then there's definitely a place for her." — AFP

Zheng shocks Swiatek with another comeback

NEW YORK: Olympic gold medallist Zheng Qinwen, who had to come through US Open qualifying, stunned six-time Grand Slam champion Iga Swiatek 7-5, 6-3 to reach the quarter-finals on Monday.

It was another gritty win for the Chinese star, a former world number four now ranked 121st in the wake of elbow surgery last year.

Zheng had won the last seven games to stun Madison Keys in her previous match.

After falling behind 5-0 in the first set against Swiatek she again reeled off seven straight.

She broke the Polish star twice in the second set to clinch the win over the player she beat in the gold medal match in Paris two years ago.

"I would say I start the match really slow. That's why she's able to lead 5-0," Zheng said. "After that, I start to play more freely because I think I need to try to find my rhythm at least for the second set."

"I think that's the key for me to come back," she said. "I didn't expect that today, but somehow it's just happening again."

As her rhythm built, Zheng said she was so in the moment that at one point she lost track of the score.

"At 4-5 I went to the towel, because I thought it was 3-5, and I thought I needed to play one more game."

"But when I saw the scoreboard, I was, like, oh, 4-5, I need to go to my place to sit down."

"I was so focusing every single point, I just said, OK, this ball have to play here, that ball there, next point, just keep repeating," added Zheng, who saved three set points in the opening set.

Zheng was already the first qualifier to reach the US Open women's fourth round since Emma Raducanu – who went on to win the title in 2021.

She will next face world number two Elena Rybakina, who cruised past two-time US Open winner Naomi Osaka 6-1, 6-4.

Rybakina leads their head-to-head 4-1 and has won both meetings this year, in Doha and Madrid. She'll also have even more than a semi-final berth at stake since she's assured of climbing to world number one if she makes it to the final four.

Zheng, meanwhile, is fighting to get back to the top 10, admitting she's found it hard to accept her rankings plunge as she struggled to regain her form after her lengthy injury layoff.

"Psychologically it is very difficult to accept," she said. "I used to be top 10, Olympic champion."

"It is really, really tough process," Zheng added. "I suffered a lot, and I have been through a lot of pain every single loss I have."

Swiatek left the court in tears after another bitter Grand Slam disappointment.

She won her most recent major at Wimbledon last year but fell in the quarter-finals at the Australian Open in January before a fourth-round exit at Roland Garros and a third-round defeat in her Wimbledon title defense.

"I didn't have good timing," Swiatek said. "I wasn't hitting the ball right."

"Maybe I could have played more safe or something, but I also didn't feel like I had space with Qinwen to do that." — AFP



Zheng celebrates match point against Swiatek. — AFP photo

Blockx first Belgian man to reach US Open last eight

NEW YORK: Alexander Blockx beat Francisco Cerundolo in four sets on Monday to become the first Belgian man ever to reach the US Open quarter-finals.

The 21-year-old Blockx, seeded 28th in his Flushing Meadows debut, out-last 24th-seeded Cerundolo 6-3, 4-6, 7-5, 7-5.

Blockx, who upset fifth-seeded Flavio Cobolli in the third round, backed up that win with a determined performance during which he received "magical medication" from the doctor to combat a "sharp pain in my rib."

"I was just holding on to be honest," Blockx said. "Even though I won that first set 6-3, it could have been the other way round."

Later, Blockx told reporters he might have retired had he lost the third set.

"I was really close to retiring, to be honest," he said. "I was just hanging in there, but I think if I would have lost the third set, I think the chances were really high of me retiring."

"Even before the match I was already under medication, and during the match I had medication."

"So if you feel that much pain while having a lot of medication, that's not a good sign."

But "eventually it got better," he said. "It would have been a shame if I would have retired and then it got better afterwards. I was just lucky."

The win marks the latest stepping stone for Blockx, who began the year outside the top 100 and had to qualify for the Australian Open.

After splitting the first two sets, Blockx and Cerundolo stood level at 5-5 when the Belgian fell behind 0-40 on his serve.

Blockx worked his way back with big serves and booming strokes, holding serve and breaking Cerundolo in the next game to take the third set.

A tight fourth set went with serve until Blockx gained the winning break in the final game, falling to the ground in delight when a shot from the Argentine landed out.

Blockx next faces Russian Karen Khachanov, who edged 14th-seeded American Learner Tien in five sets, 7-5, 4-6, 6-7 (6/8), 6-1, 6-4. — AFP

MALAYSIA
IN THE HIGH COURT IN SABAH AND SARAWAK AT KOTA KINABALU
THE PROBATE OF ADMINISTRATION ORDINANCE
CAP. 109
PETITION NO. BKI-40-2-1/2026

IN THE ESTATE OF NG FOOK BEE
[NRIC NO. 531020-05-5205 (8391309)]

PUBLIC NOTICE

All persons having claims against the Estate of the abovenamed Deceased who died intestate at No. 6, Jalan 7A, BK 6B, Bandar Kinrara, Selangor on the 13th day of November 2025, are required to submit their claims in writing to the Executor at the address stated below within three (3) months from the date of the publication of this Notice, after which the Estate will be distributed among the persons entitled thereto subject only to claims received within the said period.

Dated the 9th day of September 2026.

BETRAND NG TECK PING
(NRIC NO. 860508-49-5797)
(Executor)

C/o Chee & Co.
Advocates & Solicitors
MPKK No. 19-2, 2nd Floor, Block D,
Lintas Square, Jalan Lintas,
88300 Kota Kinabalu, Sabah, Malaysia
Telephone: +60 88 266077;
Email cheeco.kk@gmail.com
[CC(KK)/P/768/2026/NL/cg]

287657/KKK/KAG

TUG FOR IMMEDIATE SALE
"AS IS WHERE IS"



1. L x B x D = 20.88m x 5.50m x 2.60m
2. Engine = 350hp x 2 unit cummins



1. L x B x D = 15.33m x 4.27m x 2.13m
2. Engine = 165hp x 1 unit yanmar

FURTHER INFO CAN CALL 010-355 0095

287440/KKK/KAG

MALAYSIA
IN THE HIGH COURT IN SABAH AND SARAWAK AT KOTA KINABALU
PETITION NO. BKI-31NCV-132-7/2026 (HC2)

IN THE ESTATE OF AIDAN DYLAN GEORGE GARCES LIM
[NRIC NO. 081207-12-01631 (M), DECEASED]

PUBLIC NOTICE

All persons having claims against the Estate of the abovenamed Deceased who died intestate at Jalan Papar Lama, Kem Lok Kawi, Kota Kinabalu, Sabah on the 21st day of June 2026, are required to submit their claims in writing to the Administrator at the address stated below within three (3) months from the date of the publication of this Notice, after which the Estate will be distributed among the persons entitled thereto subject only to claims received within the said period.

Dated 9th day of September 2026.

APRIL-MARIE CHIN GARCES
(NRIC No. 800419-12-5140)
(Administrator)

C/o Chee & Co.
Advocates & Solicitors
MPKK No. 19-2, 2nd Floor, Block D,
Lintas Square, Jalan Lintas,
88300 Kota Kinabalu, Sabah, Malaysia
Telephone: +60 88 266077; Facsimile: +60 88 261480
Email cheeco.kk@gmail.com
[CC(KK)/P/803/2026/YFC]

287657/KKK/KAG

SABAH, MALAYSIA
PENOLONG PEMUNGUT HASIL TANAH
PENAMPANG
SIASATAN TANAH PPHT PENAMPANG NO. 102 TAHUN 2019

PERINTAH PERLELONGAN SEMULA
(Kaedah 14(16) DI BAWAH KAEDAH-KAEDAH TANAH 1930)

MBSB BANK BERHAD ... **PEMEGANG CAGARAN**
SALINAH BINTI AWANG ALI ... **PENCAGAR**

BAHAWA, hartanah **CL.215353987** yang telah ditetapkan untuk dilelong pada **16/06/2026** telah ditangguhkan oleh pemohon kerana **TIDAK ADA PEMBIDA**. Saya dengan ini membuat Perintah untuk melelong semula hartanah tersebut pada **05/11/2026** pukul **09.30** pagi di Bilik Mesyuarat Tanah, Penampang.

Harga simpanan ditetapkan pada **RM603,612.00**

Saya dengan ini melantik **TIME AUCTIONEER** untuk menjalankan perlelongan tersebut.

Pengistiharan Penjualan hendaklah disiarkan di akhbar tempatan oleh pemegang cagaran pada **14** dan **3** hari sebelum tarikh perlelongan.

Bertarikh di **PENAMPANG** pada **10 OGOS, 2026**

T.T

(**DIANA @ DYMPHANA STEPHEN TUNING**)
PENOLONG PEMUNGUT HASIL TANAH
PENAMPANG

S.k **TIME AUCTIONEER**,
Lot 12, 1st Floor,
P.O.Box No. A206,
89357 INANAM.
Tel: 016-8217879 / 019-8104609

286824/KKK/FNC


KENYATAAN SEBUTHARGA
JABATAN TANAH DAN UKUR SABAH

KENYATAAN SEBUTHARGA NO : JTU 65/2026 (RECALL)

Sebutharga adalah dipelawa daripada pembekal-pembekal tempatan yang berdaftar dengan Pusat Pendaftaran Kontraktor Kerja, Bekalan dan Perkhidmatan Negeri Sabah (PUKONSA) dengan kod yang berkenaan bagi sebutharga berikut:-

No Sebutharga	Tajuk Sebutharga	Kod Bidang	Tempoh Penyiapan
JTU 65/2026 (RECALL)	PROCUREMENT OF NAS STORAGE, DATA MIGRATION AND APPLICATION DEPLOYMENT FOR JABATAN TANAH DAN UKUR	210100 – 210106	15 Minggu

1. Borang sebut harga, syarat-syarat dan spesifikasi akan dijual secara online melalui e-Commerce JTU di www.jtu.sabah.gov.my (Gateway to JTU e-Service) mulai tarikh **08 Sept 2026** sehingga **14 Sept 2026** secara online sahaja. Borang sebut harga tidak akan dijual selepas tempoh dinyatakan.

2. Pembekal yang ingin menyertai sebut harga di atas adalah dikehendaki menyediakan resit cetakan FPX/ Sabah Pay bernilai **RM 20.00** sebagai bukti bayaran borang sebut harga.

3. Pembelian borang sebut harga secara online adalah hanya kepada pembekal. Untuk maksud ini, pihak pembekal hendaklah mendaftar ke Sistem e-Commerce (sekali sahaja) serta memasukkan kod bidang bekalan/perkhidmatan Pukonsa dan tarikh tempoh sah sijil pendaftaran Pukonsa di dalam Sistem e-Commerce. Salinan sijil pendaftaran asal Pusat Pendaftaran Kontraktor Kerja, Bekalan dan Perkhidmatan Negeri Sabah (PUKONSA) hendaklah dimasukkan ke dalam sistem (format pdf).

4. Borang sebut harga yang telah lengkap diisi hendaklah dimasukkan ke dalam sampul surat yang berlakri (sealed envelope) dan ditulis pada ruangan di atas dengan butiran seperti berikut:-

No Sebutharga	Tajuk Sebutharga	Tempoh Penyiapan
JTU 65/2026(RECALL)	PROCUREMENT OF NAS STORAGE, DATA MIGRATION AND APPLICATION DEPLOYMENT FOR JABATAN TANAH DAN UKUR	15 Minggu

SETIAUSAHA
JAWATANKUASA SEBUT HARGA
JABATAN TANAH DAN UKUR
KOTA KINABALU

5. Borang sebut harga hendaklah dihantar dan dimasukkan terus ke dalam peti sebut harga (quotation box) di Tingkat Bawah, Wisma Tanah dan Ukur, Kota Kinabalu sebelum jam **10.00** pagi pada **15 Sept 2026**.

6. Borang sebut harga yang lewat diterima pada waktu yang ditetapkan di atas akan ditolak.

7. Kerajaan tidak terikat untuk tawaran terendah atau mana-mana tawaran.

PENGARAH
JABATAN TANAH DAN UKUR
WISMA TANAH DAN UKUR
JALAN PERWIRA,
88200 KOTA KINABALU

287654/KKK/KAG

The Borneo Post
Reaching Out to you

The Borneo Post Reaching Out to you

DALAM MAHKAMAH MAJISTRET LAHAD DATU
DALAM NEGERI SABAH, MALAYSIA

WRIT SAMAN NO LHD-A72NCVC-72-7/2026 (MC)

ANTARA ...PLAINTIF
MAYBANK ISLAMIC BERHAD
(No Pendaftaran Syarikat 200701029411 (787435-M))

DAN ...DEFENDAN
ABDUL KARIM BIN RAKIM
(No K/P 731114-12-5987/H0838433)

NOTIS PENYAMPAIAN GANTI MENURUT
PERINTAH MAHKAMAH

Kepada: ABDUL KARIM BIN RAKIM
Staff Quarters
Hap Seng Plantations Sdn Bhd
Locked Bag No. 5
91109 Lahad Datu, Sabah

AMBIL PERHATIAN bahawa suatu tindakan Writ Saman dan Penyataan Tututan LHD-A72NCVC-72-7/2026 (MC) bertarikh **23hb Julai 2026** telah dimulakan terhadap kamu di Mahkamah Majistret Lahad Datu, Sabah oleh Maybank Islamic Berhad yang beralamat di Tingkat Bawah & 3, Lot 14-16, Blok K, Jalan Ikn Juara 1, Sadong Jaya, 88100 Kota Kinabalu, Sabah yang mana tututan Plaintiff adalah bagi jumlah sebanyak **RM63,056.17** setakat **01hb Mei 2026**. Sekiranya penyelesaian penuh ke atas Kemudahan tersebut dibuat sebelum tarikh matang, Plaintiff akan membenarkan suatu rebat ("brb") jika ada, yang dikira dari tarikh penyelesaian penuh oleh kamu hingga tarikh matang bagi Kemudahan tersebut. Caj lewat bayar (LPC) pada kadar 1% setahun ke atas jumlah pembayaran tertunggak sehingga tarikh matang Kemudahan atau sehingga tarikh Penghakiman yang mana lebih dahulu dan selanjutnya atas kadar semasa semalam harian Pasaran Wang Antara Bank Secara Islam (Islamic Interbank Money Market (IIMM)) setahun sehingga tarikh penyelesaian penuh. Kadar IIMM adalah 2.76% dari 16hb April 2026 sehingga 15hb Mei 2026 terakik kepada perubahan dari semasa ke semasa; kos atas dasar peguamban dan anakgum; kos tetap sebanyak RM 1,338.00; roll-off lain dan/atau seperti yang dianggap sesuai dan suaimanfaat oleh Mahkamah dan kos untuk pengiklanan ini.

DAN MAHKAMAH TELAH MEMERINTAHKAN bahawa Writ Saman dan Penyataan Tututan bertarikh **23hb Julai 2026** tersebut disampaikan ke atas kamu dengan mengiklankan Notis ini di dalam akhbar tempatan bernama "Borneo Post" dalam Bahasa Melayu sebanyak satu kali menurut Perintah Mahkamah bertarikh **01hb September 2026** dan penyampaian ini dianggap sempurna dan mencukupi terhadap kamu.

DAN SELANJUTNYA AMBIL PERHATIAN bahawa jika kamu berhasrat untuk membela dalam tindakan tersebut, kamu mestilah dalam tempoh **14 hari** selepas penyampaian ganti Writ Saman dan Penyataan Tututan bertarikh **23hb Julai 2026** ini ke atas kamu termasuklah hari penyampaian itu, memasukkan di **Pejabat Pendaftar Mahkamah Majistret Lahad Datu** kehadiran ADUA hadir samada secara sendiri atau melalui Peguambela di **Mahkamah Majistret Lahad Datu**, jika kamu ingkar hadir maka Penghakiman boleh dicatitkan terhadap kamu.

Bertarikh 09hb September 2026

PENDAFTAR
MAHKAMAH MAJISTRET
LAHAD DATU

Notis Penyampaian Ganti menurut Perintah Mahkamah ini dikeluarkan oleh **Tetuan Hiew Chin & Lo**, Peguambela dan Peguambela beralamat di T20, Tingkat 2 dan 3, Jalan Dunlop, Peti Surat 783, 91008 Tawau, Sabah, Malaysia. Tel: 089-772934.

PROCLAMATION OF SALE

IN THE MATTER OF A LOAN AGREEMENT,
DEED OF ASSIGNMENT AND POWER OF ATTORNEY
ALL DATED THE 16TH DAY OF AUGUST 2019

BETWEEN
HAP SENG CREDIT SDN BHD
(88601-H)

- ASSIGNEE/LENDER

AND
ABDUL MALIK BIN MADE
(NRIC NO. 850918-12-6135)

- ASSIGNOR/S

In exercise if the rights and powers conferred upon the Assignee/Lender under the Loan Agreement, Deed of Assignment and Power of Attorney all dated the 16th August 2019, entered into between the Assignee/Lender and the said Assignor/Borrowers it is hereby proclaimed that the said Assignee/Lender with the assistance of the under mentioned Auctioneer

WILL SELL THE PROPERTY DESCRIBED BELOW BY
PUBLIC AUCTION
On Wednesday, The 23rd day of September, 2026
At 10.00 a.m. at Block A, Lot 8, 2nd Floor, Bandar Maju,
Mile 1 1/2, North Road, 90000 Sandakan, Sabah

NOTE: Prospective bidders are advised to:

- (i) Inspect the subject property and check on the issuance of separate individual strata title
- (ii) Seek independent legal advice on all matters in connection with the auction sale including the Conditions of Sale herein
- (iii) conduct an official search on the Parent Title at the relevant Land Office and/or other relevant authorities and
- (iv) make the necessary enquiries with the relevant authorities as to whether the sale is open to all races or to Malaysian Citizens who are Bumiputera or Malay only and also on the other terms of consent to the sale herein prior to the auction sale. The successful bidder ("the Purchaser") shall immediately upon the sale undertake to apply for and obtain the consent to transfer (if any) from the Developer and/or the Proprietor and/or State Authorities or relevant bodies.

PARTICULARS OF PROPERTY:-

Description of Property: The subject property is one (1) unit

(as per Original SPA)
: Identified as Lot No. A1-13-11,
Block A1, Level 13, Type C3,
Aстана Heights, Phase 5C -
Kingsfisher, Jalan Lalang, 90000
Sandakan, Sabah.

Postal Address of unit : Astana Heights, Lot No. A1, 13-11,
Block A1, Level 13, Type C3,
Aстана Heights, Phase 5C, 90000
Sandakan, Sabah.

Parent Title No. : Sandakan C.L. 075145103

District /State : Sandakan, Sabah

Land Area : Approximately 770.80 sq. ft.

Tenure : Assumed Leasehold -99 years

Developer/Vendor : Hap Seng Properties Development
Sdn Bhd (11995-D)

Proprietor : Hap Seng Properties Development
Sdn Bhd (11995-D)

Encumbrance : Assigned to Hap Seng Credit Sdn
Bhd pursuant to the said
Agreements and subject to all
easements, leases, tenancies,
occupiers, charges, caveats,
previous sale and purchase,
previous assignment, covenants,
liabilities subsisting thereon or
thereover.

Subsidiary Title : Subsidiary title is yet to be issued.

The property will be sold on an "as is where is" basis, subject to a reserve price of RM275,000.00 (Ringgit Malaysia Two Hundred and Seventy-Five Thousand) only subject to the Conditions of Sale and by way of an assignment from the above Assignee/Lender subject to consent being obtained by the successful bidder ("the Purchaser") from the developer/proprietor and relevant authorities, if any, including all terms, conditions, stipulations and covenants which were and may be imposed by the relevant authority.

All intending bidders are required to deposit 5% of the reserve price by bank draft or cashier's order only in favour of Hap Seng Credit Sdn Bhd prior to the sale with the under mentioned Auctioneer.

The balance of the purchase price is to be settled within Ninety (90) days from the date of auction sale by Bank Draft or Cashier's Order drawn in favour of Hap Seng Credit Sdn Bhd.

For further particulars, please contact M/s S K Pang & Co. Solicitors for the Assignee/ Lender herein whose address Lot 41, Ground Floor, Lot 42, First Floor, Block F, Utama Place Phase 1, Bandar Utama, Mile 6, North Road, 90000 Sandakan, Sabah, Telephone No. 089-221126, 221128, 221129, Fax No. 089-221127 or the under mentioned Auctioneer.

Mr. Lo Cheng Sang,
Licensed Auctioneer,
Block A, Lot 8, 2nd Floor,
Bandar Maju, Mile 1.5, North Road,
90000 Sandakan, Sabah.
Tel No. 019-8336188

238026MEX

LOOKING FOR... SERVICES?
? JOBS? ?
ENTERTAINMENT NEWS?

IN THE HIGH COURT OF SABAH AND SARAWAK
AT KOTA KINABALU
IN THE STATE OF SABAH, MALAYSIA
BANKRUPTCY MATTER NO.BKI-29NCVC-258-4/2026 (HC3)

RE : EDWARD ANSIBIL
(NRIC NO. 750702-12-5143),
A JUDGMENT DEBTOR

EX-PARTE : BANK ISLAM MALAYSIA BERHAD
(COMPANY NO. 198301002944(98127-X)),
A JUDGMENT CREDITOR

SUBSTITUTED SERVICE OF CREDITOR'S
PETITION

In the matter of Creditor's Petition dated on 10th day of August 2026 and an Order granted by this Honourable Court on 4th day of September, 2026.

To: EDWARD ANSIBIL
Kuartern, hospital Keningau, 89650 Tambunan, Sabah.

TAKE NOTICE that a Creditor's Petition has been issued against you in the High Court of Sabah and Sarawak at Kota Kinabalu, Sabah by BANK ISLAM MALAYSIA BERHAD c/o WV & Partners, Advocates & Solicitors of TB16331, 1st Floor, Lot No. 34, Perdanaajaya Commercial Centre, Jalan Apas, 91000 Tawau, Sabah, Malaysia and the Honourable Court has on 4th day of September, 2026 ordered that the said Creditor's Petition to be served on you by publishing the particulars thereof in "The Borneo Post" newspaper in English language for one (1) day only, by affixing the Creditor's Petition on the notice board of the High Court of Sabah and Sarawak at Kota Kinabalu and at your last known address at Kuartern, hospital Keningau, 89650 Tambunan, Sabah and such publication, affixation and posting shall be deemed good and sufficient service of the Creditor's Petition herein on you.

Dated this 9th day of September, 2026.

The Creditor's Petition can be inspected by you on application to the High Court of Sabah and Sarawak at Kota Kinabalu

By Order of
Deputy/Senior Assistant Registrar,
High Court of Sabah and Sarawak at Kota Kinabalu.

This Notice is inserted by Messrs. WV & Partners solicitors for the abovenamed Judgment Creditor whose address for service is at TB16331, 1st Floor, Lot No. 34, Perdanaajaya Commercial Centre, Jalan Apas, 91000 Tawau, Sabah, Malaysia

(Ref. No. T26/L052/BIMB/GW)

PROCLAMATION OF SALE

IN THE MATTER OF A LOAN AGREEMENT,
DEED OF ASSIGNMENT AND POWER OF ATTORNEY
ALL DATED THE 12TH DAY OF OCTOBER 2017

BETWEEN
HAP SENG CREDIT SDN BHD
(88601-H)

- ASSIGNEE/LENDER

AND
WAN MUDHAWI BINTI FAISAR
(NRIC NO. 851116-12-5522)

- ASSIGNOR(S)/
BORROWER(S)

In exercise if the rights and powers conferred upon the Assignee/Lender under the Loan Agreement, Deed of Assignment and Power of Attorney all dated the 12th October 2017, entered into between the Assignee/Lender and the said Assignor/Borrower it is hereby proclaimed that the said Assignee/Lender with the assistance of the under mentioned Auctioneer

WILL SELL THE PROPERTY DESCRIBED BELOW BY
PUBLIC AUCTION
On Wednesday, The 23rd day of September, 2026
At 10.00 a.m. at Block A, Lot 8, 2nd Floor, Bandar Maju,
Mile 1 1/2, North Road, 90000 Sandakan, Sabah

NOTE: Prospective bidders are advised to:

- (i) Inspect the subject property and check on the issuance of separate individual strata title
- (ii) Seek independent legal advice on all matters in connection with the auction sale including the Conditions of Sale herein
- (iii) conduct an official search on the Parent Title at the relevant Land Office and/or other relevant authorities and
- (iv) make the necessary enquiries with the relevant authorities as to whether the sale is open to all races or to Malaysian Citizens who are Bumiputera or Malay only and also on the other terms of consent to the sale herein prior to the auction sale. The successful bidder ("the Purchaser") shall immediately upon the sale undertake to apply for and obtain the consent to transfer (if any) from the Developer and/or the Proprietor and/or State Authorities or relevant bodies.

PARTICULARS OF PROPERTY:-

Description of Property: The subject property is one (1) unit

(as per Original SPA)
: Identified as Lot No. 315,
(Bumiputera Lot), Astana Heights,
Phase 5B, Jalan Lalang, 90000
Sandakan, Sabah.

Postal Address of unit : Astana Heights, Lorong 16, Lot
315, Phase 5B, 90000 Sandakan,
Sabah.

Parent Title No. : Sandakan C.L. 075145103

District /State : Sandakan, Sabah

Land Area : Approximately 1,670.57 sq. ft.

Tenure : Assumed Leasehold - 99 years

Developer/Vendor : Hap Seng Properties Development
Sdn Bhd (11995-D)

Proprietor : Hap Seng Properties Development
Sdn Bhd (11995-D)

Encumbrance : Assigned to Hap Seng Credit Sdn
Bhd pursuant to the said
Agreements and subject to all
easements, leases, tenancies,
occupiers, charges, caveats,
previous sale and purchase,
previous assignment, covenants,
liabilities subsisting thereon or
thereover.

Subsidiary Title : Subsidiary title is yet to be issued.

The property will be sold on an "as is where is" basis, subject to a reserve price of RM348,300.00 (Ringgit Malaysia Three Hundred Forty-Eight Thousand and Three Hundred) only subject to the Conditions of Sale and by way of an assignment from the above Assignee/Lender subject to consent being obtained by the successful bidder ("the Purchaser") from the developer/proprietor and relevant authorities, if any, including all terms, conditions, stipulations and covenants which were and may be imposed by the relevant authority.

All intending bidders are required to deposit 10% of the reserve price by bank draft or cashier's order only in favour of Hap Seng Credit Sdn Bhd prior to the sale with the under mentioned Auctioneer.

The balance of the purchase price is to be settled within Ninety (90) days from the date of auction sale by Bank Draft or Cashier's Order drawn in favour of Hap Seng Credit Sdn Bhd.

For further particulars, please contact M/s S K Pang & Co. Solicitors for the Assignee/ Lender herein whose address Lot 41, Ground Floor, Lot 42, First Floor, Block F, Utama Place Phase 1, Bandar Utama, Mile 6, North Road, 90000 Sandakan, Sabah, Telephone No. 089-221126, 221128, 221129, Fax No. 089-221127 or the under mentioned Auctioneer.

Mr. Lo Cheng Sang,
Licensed Auctioneer,
Block A, Lot 8, 2nd Floor,
Bandar Maju, Mile 1.5, North Road,
90000 Sandakan, Sabah.
Tel No. 019-8336188

238026MEX

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website: https://www.seehuamarketing.com shbpmarketingsbh@gmail.com

MALAYSIA
IN THE HIGH COURT OF SABAH AND SARAWAK COURT AT
KOTA KINABALU
APPLICATION FOR EXECUTION NO. BKI-36-6-3/2025 (HC1)
(SUIT NO. BKI-652NCVC-104-7/2024 (SC8))

BETWEEN
TENZA RESOURCES SDN BHD
(COMPANY NO. 908790-H) ... JUDGMENT CREDITOR

AND
KAYA BERSAMA SDN BHD
(COMPANY NO. 201901022212 (1331541-A)) ... 1ST JUDGEMENT DEBTOR

BORNEO PERFECT SDN BHD
(COMPANY NO. 199501024546 (353751-K)) ... 2ND JUDGEMENT DEBTOR

LEE YOON LEE ... 3RD JUDGEMENT DEBTOR
(NRIC NO. 650712-05-5005)

PROCLAMATION OF SALE
IN PURSUANT to an Order for Sale by the High Court at Kota Kinabalu made on 8th day of June 2026, NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN to sell the undermentioned property by Public Auction to be held at the Court House, Kota Kinabalu on 22nd September 2026 at 10.00 a.m. to be conducted by Messrs Property Auction House Sdn Bhd under the supervision of the Court Bailiff.

DESCRIPTION OF PROPERTY
Title No. : Provisional Lease No. 025717451
Titled Land Area : 10.30 acres (4.168 hectares), more or less
The Property : Vacant agriculture land
Tenure : Leasehold 99 years commencing from 01st January 1955
Location : Within locality of Kampung Labak, Kinarut, Papar, Sabah
Reserved Price : RM 1,008,000.00

All interested bidders are required to register with the Auctioneer appointed by the Sheriff who shall submit the following:

- (1) An amount equivalent to 10% of the reserved price to be paid to AKAUNTAN NEGARA MALAYSIA
- (2) Board of Directors' Resolution and Written Authorisation where the bidder is a company bidding through an authorized person
- (3) Written authorization where the bidder is acting as a proxy

A deposit of 10% of the reserved price to be paid by BANKER'S CHEQUE, CASHIER'S ORDER or BANK DRAFT ONLY in favour of AKAUNTAN NEGARA MALAYSIA immediately after the fall of the hammer and the balance of the purchase price is to be made to AKAUNTAN NEGARA MALAYSIA shall be paid WITHIN NINETY (90) DAYS from the date of auction.

Failure to pay the balance as stipulated above will result in FORFEITURE of the deposit.

The auction and all bidders shall be SUBJECT TO the Conditions of Sale, details of which may be obtained from:

- 1. The Sheriff
High Court
Kota Kinabalu, Sabah
Tel: 088-286100
- 2. Messrs. K F Chong & Co
Advocates & Solicitors
Lot 31, 1st Floor, Block C,
Damai Plaza Phase 1, Luyang Commercial Centre
88300 Kota Kinabalu, Sabah
- 3. Messrs. Property Auction House Sdn Bhd
Unit A-3-6, 3rd Floor, Block E,
Piazza Tanjung Anu, Jalan Mat Salleh,
81150 Kota Kinabalu, Sabah
Tel: 088-221266/088-221262

Dated the 2nd DAY OF SEPTEMBER, 2026.

PROCLAMATION OF SALE

IN THE MATTER OF A LOAN AGREEMENT,
DEED OF ASSIGNMENT AND POWER OF ATTORNEY
ALL DATED THE 28TH DAY OF MARCH 2017

BETWEEN
HAP SENG CREDIT SDN BHD
(88601-H)

- ASSIGNEE/LENDER

AND
AZLYANASHENA BINTI ABDUL HAMID
(NRIC NO. 831027-12-5354)

- ASSIGNOR/S

In exercise if the rights and powers conferred upon the Assignee/Lender under the Loan Agreement, Deed of Assignment and Power of Attorney all dated the 28th March 2017, entered into between the Assignee/Lender and the said Assignor/Borrower it is hereby proclaimed that the said Assignee/Lender with the assistance of the under mentioned Auctioneer

WILL SELL THE PROPERTY DESCRIBED BELOW BY
PUBLIC AUCTION
On Wednesday, The 23rd day of September, 2026
At 10.00 a.m. at Block A, Lot 8, 2nd Floor, Bandar Maju,
Mile 1 1/2, North Road, 90000 Sandakan, Sabah

NOTE: Prospective bidders are advised to:

- (i) Inspect the subject property and check on the issuance of separate individual strata title
- (ii) Seek independent legal advice on all matters in connection with the auction sale including the Conditions of Sale herein
- (iii) conduct an official search on the Parent Title at the relevant Land Office and/or other relevant authorities and
- (iv) make the necessary enquiries with the relevant authorities as to whether the sale is open to all races or to Malaysian Citizens who are Bumiputera or Malay only and also on the other terms of consent to the sale herein prior to the auction sale. The successful bidder ("the Purchaser") shall immediately upon the sale undertake to apply for and obtain the consent to transfer (if any) from the Developer and/or the Proprietor and/or State Authorities or relevant bodies.

PARTICULARS OF PROPERTY:-

Description of Property: The subject property is one (1) unit

(as per Original SPA)
: Identified as Lot No. 381,
(Bumiputera Lot), Astana Heights,
Phase 5B, Jalan Lalang, 90000
Sandakan, Sabah.

Postal Address of unit : Astana Heights, Lorong 18, Lot
381, Phase 5B, 90000 Sandakan,
Sabah.

Parent Title No. : Sandakan C.L. 075145103

District /State : Sandakan, Sabah

Land Area : Approximately 3,315.31 sq. ft.

Tenure : Assumed Leasehold - 99 years

Developer/Vendor : Hap Seng Properties Development
Sdn Bhd (11995-D)

Proprietor : Hap Seng Properties Development
Sdn Bhd (11995-D)

Encumbrance : Assigned to Hap Seng Credit Sdn
Bhd pursuant to the said
Agreements and subject to all
easements, leases, tenancies,
occupiers, charges, caveats,
previous sale and purchase,
previous assignment, covenants,
liabilities subsisting thereon or
thereover.

Subsidiary Title : Subsidiary title is yet to be issued.

The property will be sold on an "as is where is" basis, subject to a reserve price of RM494,000.00 (Ringgit Malaysia Four Hundred and Ninety-Four Thousand) only subject to the Conditions of Sale and by way of an assignment from the above Assignee/Lender subject to consent being obtained by the successful bidder ("the Purchaser") from the developer/proprietor and relevant authorities, if any, including all terms, conditions, stipulations and covenants which were and may be imposed by the relevant authority.

All intending bidders are required to deposit 10% of the reserve price by bank draft or cashier's order only in favour of Hap Seng Credit Sdn Bhd prior to the sale with the under mentioned Auctioneer.

The balance of the purchase price is to be settled within Ninety (90) days from the date of auction sale by Bank Draft or Cashier's Order drawn in favour of Hap Seng Credit Sdn Bhd.

For further particulars, please contact M/s S K Pang & Co. Solicitors for the Assignee/ Lender herein whose address Lot 41, Ground Floor, Lot 42, First Floor, Block F, Utama Place Phase 1, Bandar Utama, Mile 6, North Road, 90000 Sandakan, Sabah, Telephone No. 089-221126, 221128, 221129, Fax No. 089-221127 or the under mentioned Auctioneer.

Mr. Lo Cheng Sang,
Licensed Auctioneer,
Block A, Lot 8, 2nd Floor,
Bandar Maju, Mile 1.5, North Road,
90000 Sandakan, Sabah.
Tel No. 019-8336188

238026MEX

IN THE MATTER OF A LOAN AGREEMENT, A DEED
OF ASSIGNMENT AND POWER OF ATTORNEY ALL
DATED 16TH JANUARY 2004

BETWEEN
BORNEO HOUSING MORTGAGE FINANCE BERHAD
(Company No. 025457-V) ... ASSIGNEE

AND
HAMJA BIN MUHAMAD (NRIC NO. RF/123146) (Deceased)

ARBAYAH BINTI HAMJA (NRIC NO. 820804-12-5874) ... ASSIGNORS

PROCLAMATION OF SALE

Pursuant to a Loan Agreement, a Deed of Assignment and a Power of Attorney all dated 16th day of January 2004 made herein between the Assignors and the Assignee and further to the instructions and authorization given by the Assignee to their Solicitors, Messrs Lawrence Chai, Peter Soong & Partners of 2nd Floor, TB 1025, Jalan Dunlop, 91000 Tawau, Sabah, IT IS HEREBY PROCLAIMED that the under-mentioned property will be sold by public auction on the 23rd day of September 2026 at 10.00 a.m. at the conference room of Messrs Lawrence Chai, Peter Soong & Partners of 1st Floor, TB 1025, Jalan Dunlop, 91000 Tawau, Sabah.

DESCRIPTION OF THE PROPERTY REFERRED TO:-

Title : Subdivided title is not yet issued.
The Property is constructed on land held under Parent Title No. PL 106292871
The Property : TB 11739, Lot No. 243C, Taman Semarak II, Phase C, Jalan Kuching, 91000 Tawau, Sabah
Description : One (1) unit of low-cost four storey corner terraced dwelling house of permanent construction
Total Built Up Area : 1,392 square feet more or less
Reserved Price : RM200,000.00

IMPORTANT NOTICE TO ALL INTENDED BIDDERS

Intended bidders are advised to:-

- (1) inspect the subject Property;
- (2) conduct an official search on the Master Title at the relevant Land Office and/or other relevant authorities;
- (3) make the necessary inquiries with the Developer, the Landowner and/or other relevant authorities on the terms and conditions of consent as the successful bidder is required to pay outstanding charges due before the auction to the Developer, the Landowner and/or other relevant authorities for effecting the assignment/transfer of the Property. The successful bidder shall immediately upon the sale undertake(s) to apply for and obtain the consent to transfer from the Developer, the Landowner and/or the relevant authorities;
- (4) obtain a copy of the Contract & Conditions of Sale from the Auctioneer/Solicitors;
- (5) ascertain from the Auctioneer/Solicitors (if relevant) all house rules, mutual covenants, the terms of the existing Sale & Purchase Agreement and contributions and other payments or charges to be paid before an interest in the property can be acquired;
- (6) seek independent legal advice on the Conditions of Sale herein prior to the auction sale.

Prior to the commencement of the auction sale, all bidders are required to register with the Auctioneer appointed by the Assignee. The bidders shall submit the following to the Auctioneer:

- (1) An amount equivalent to 10% of the Reserved Price;
- (2) Board of Directors resolution or otherwise and written authorization where the bidder is a company or other body recognized by law as capable of purchasing and owning lands, bidding through an authorized person; and
- (3) Written authorization where the bidder is acting as a proxy.

10% of the Reserved Price to be paid by cashier's order/bank draft payable to or drawn in favour of BORNEO HOUSING MORTGAGE FINANCE BERHAD immediately after the fall of the hammer and the balance of the purchase price shall be paid WITHIN NINETY (90) days from the date of auction. Failure to pay the balance as stipulated above will result in FORFEITURE of the first payment 10%.

The auction and all bidders shall be strictly SUBJECT TO the Conditions of Sale, details of which may be obtained from:-

Auctioneer :-
Messrs Sabah Auctioneers
Lot 13, TB 8276, First Floor,
Perdana Square Commercial Centre,
91000 Tawau,
Tel : 089-914911

Solicitors :-
Messrs Lawrence Chai, Peter Soong & Partners
Advocates & Solicitors
1st Floor, TB 1025, Jalan Dunlop,
91000 Tawau, Sabah.
Tel : 089-763561/017-8655009

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(Sebuah Syarikat Milik Menteri Kewangan Diperbadankan)

NOTIS TENDER

CADANGAN MEMBINA DAN MENYIAPKAN IBU PEJABAT POLIS DAERAH (IPD) NABAWAN DAN PERUMAHAN DI ATAS SEBAHAGIAN LOT PT20-23151328 DI MUKIM NABAWAN, SABAH

FASA 2: KERJA BANGUNAN SERTA KERJA-KERJA BERKAITAN

Untuk butiran lanjut berkenaan Notis Tender di atas sila layari laman sesawang PBLT Sdn. Bhd. di www.pblt.com.my

JABATAN PERKHIDMATAN AWAM NEGERI KENYATAAN TAWARAN SEBUTHARGA

Tawaran adalah dipelawa daripada kontraktor yang berdaftar dengan PUKONSA dalam Kepala dan Sub- kepala yang berkaitan dan masih dibenarkan membuat tawaran bagi kerja-kerja berikut:

No. Sebutharga	Tajuk Sebutharga	Kod Bidang	Taraf	Tempoh Penyediaan
JPAN 6/2026	Establishing Feasibility Framework on Digital Government Ecosystem on Data for Chief Minister's Department	210100 - 06	Terbuka	24 Minggu
JPAN 7/2026	Renewal of Support and Maintenance Services for the Fortigate Firewall of the Digital Government Division, Sabah State Public Service Department	210100 - 06	Terbuka	20 Minggu

Dokumen sebutharga boleh diperolehi melalui laman portal <https://portal.digitalsabah.gov.my/> mulai 1 September 2026 sehingga 9 September 2026 pada waktu pejabat dengan bayaran dokumen sebanyak RM 20.00. Bayaran ini tidak akan dikembalikan. Dokumen sebutharga tidak akan dijual selepas tempoh dinyatakan.

Pembekal yang ingin menyertai sebutharga di atas adalah dikehendaki membayar dan diberi RESIT manakala bagi pembekal yang membuat pesanan melalui laman portal hendaklah mengemukakan rujukan pesanan sebelum proses pembelian.

RASMI (dikeluarkan oleh Unit Akaun, Jabatan Perkhidmatan Awam Negeri atau applikasi SabahPay, eDagang, Jabatan Perkhidmatan Awam Negeri setelah bayaran wang tunai berjumlah RM 20.00 dibayar kepada pejabat ini) sebagai bayaran borang sebutharga.

Dokumen sebutharga hanya akan dikeluarkan kepada pembekal atau wakil yang sah sahaja melalui emel yang telah berdaftar di laman portal. Untuk maksud ini, pihak pembekal atau pun wakilnya hendaklah mendaftar di laman portal dan memuat naik Sijil Pendaftaran ASAL Pusat pendaftaran Kontraktor Kerja, Bekalan dan Perkhidmatan Negeri Sabah (PUKONSA) dan juga RESIT RASMI ASAL.

Dokumen sebutharga yang telah lengkap diisi hendaklah dimasukkan ke dalam sampul surat yang berlakri (sealed envelope) dan ditulis pada ruangan di atas dengan butiran seperti berikut:-

No. Sebutharga	Tajuk Sebutharga	Kod Bidang	Taraf	Tempoh Penyediaan
JPAN 6/2026	Establishing Feasibility Framework on Digital Government Ecosystem on Data for Chief Minister's Department	210100 - 06	Terbuka	24 Minggu
JPAN 7/2026	Renewal of Support and Maintenance Services for the Fortigate Firewall of the Digital Government Division, Sabah State Public Service Department	210100 - 06	Terbuka	20 Minggu

SETIAUSAHA JAWATANKUASA SEBUTHARGA JABATAN PERKHIDMATAN AWAM NEGERI KOTA KINABALU

Dokumen Sebutharga hendaklah dihantar dan dimasukkan terus ke dalam peti sebutharga (Quotation Box) di Tingkat 12, Jabatan Perkhidmatan Awam Negeri, Menara Kinabalu, Kota Kinabalu sebelum pukul 10.00 pagi pada 10 September 2026 (Khamis).

Borang Sebutharga yang lewat diterima pada waktu yang ditetapkan di atas akan ditolak. Kerajaan tidak terikat dengan tawaran terendah atau mana-mana tawaran.

KETUA PENGARAH JABATAN PERKHIDMATAN AWAM NEGERI MENARA KINABALU 88400 KOTA KINABALU

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Notis adalah dengan ini diberi bahawa, atas permohonan pihak yang ditajaikan pada 29.10.2025 suatu perintah kebanyakkan terhadap SANTI BINTI RAMLI TUTU (No.KP-770414-12-5040) Kampung Limbawan P.O Box 1473 89008 Keningau, Sabah telah dibuat oleh Mahkamah Tinggi Kota Kinabalu pada 20.05.2026.

Bertarikh pada : 07.09.2026

-(t)-

(STEPHANIE SHERRON

Pengarah Insolvency Negeri Jabatan Insolvency Negeri Sabah b.p Ketua Pengarah Insolvency

No. Insolvency : BP009263/2025 Ruj. : BK1-BP-233-07/2026/It

DALAM MAHKAMAH TINGGI SABAH DAN SARAWAK DI KOTA KINABALU

DALAM PERKARA KEBANKRAPAN NO BK1-29NCC-232-4/2025

Ber : SANTI BINTI RAMLI TUTU 770414-12-5040

Kampung Limbawan P.O Box 1473 89008 Keningau, Sabah

Exparte : BANK ISLAM MALAYSIA BERHAD.

NOTIS MENGENAI PERINTAH KEBANKRAPAN

Notis adalah dengan ini diberi bahawa, atas permohonan pihak yang ditajaikan pada 29.10.2025 suatu perintah kebanyakkan terhadap SANTI BINTI RAMLI TUTU (No.KP-770414-12-5040) Kampung Limbawan P.O Box 1473 89008 Keningau, Sabah telah dibuat oleh Mahkamah Tinggi Kota Kinabalu pada 20.05.2026.

Bertarikh pada : 07.09.2026

-(t)-

(STEPHANIE SHERRON

Pengarah Insolvency Negeri Jabatan Insolvency Negeri Sabah b.p Ketua Pengarah Insolvency

No. Insolvency : BP009263/2025 Ruj. : BK1-BP-233-07/2026/It

PROCLAMATION OF SALE BY PUBLIC AUCTION

IN THE MATTER OF DEED OF ASSIGNMENT (BY WAY OF SECURITY) DATED 20 AUGUST 2014

BETWEEN

BANK KERJASAMA RAKYAT MALAYSIA BERHAD ... ASSIGNEE/FINANCIER

AND

SALMAH BINTI LARONDA (NRIC NO. : 840726-12-6238) ... ASSIGNEE/BORROWER

In exercise of the rights and interests conferred/vested upon the Assignee upon the terms and conditions of the Deed of Assignment (By Way of Security) dated 20 AUGUST 2014 entered between the Assignor/Borrower on the one part and the Assignee/Financier in the other part it is hereby proclaimed that the Assignee/Financier with the assistance of the under-mentioned Auctioneer

WILL SELL BY PUBLIC AUCTION on WEDNESDAY, THE 23RD DAY OF SEPTEMBER 2026 at 10.00 in the at the office of LANDWORLD AUCTIONEER of Lot 8-2F, 2nd Floor, Beverly Hills Plaza, Jalan Bundusan, 88300 Kota Kinabalu, Sabah

Notes:

Prospective bidders are advised to :-

- (i) inspect the subject property
- (ii) conduct an official search on the title at the relevant Land Office and/or other relevant authorities
- (iii) obtain a copy of the Conditions of Sale and seek legal advice on the Conditions of Sale herein prior to the auction sale
- (iv) make enquiries with the Vendor/Proprietor and other relevant authorities on the terms of consent to the sale AND to extract all relevant bills/charges (relevant outstanding bills/charges to be forwarded to the Messrs. Effendi & Co., the Assignee/Financier's Solicitors for further action), the successful bidder is required to pay all outstanding bills/charges as from the auction date to the Vendor/Proprietor and/or other relevant authorities.

ADDRESS OF PROPERTY:

Unit No. 012-1, DBKK, No. 01-12, First Floor, Block O, Bandar Sierra Phase 3A/2, Mile 13.5, Jalan Tuaran, 88400 Kota Kinabalu, Sabah

PARTICULARS OF APARTMENT:

Apartment unit with floor area of 88.44 square meters (952 sq.ft), more or less.

TRANSACTION OF PROPERTY:

Deed of Assignment (By Way of Security) dated 20 August 2014 executed between the Assignor and the Assignee.

LAND STATUS:

Individual subsidiary titles are yet to be issued. Presently, the Property is held under parent title CL 015651368.

TITLE:

Pending the issuance of Individual subsidiary title, the successful bidder shall acquire by assignment, the rights, title and interest of the Assignee to the property

RESERVED PRICE: RM181,000.00

Prior to commencement of the auction sale, all interested bidders are required to register with the Auctioneer appointed by the Assignee. The interested bidders shall submit the following to the Auctioneer:

- (1) An amount equivalent to 10% of the Reserve Price by CASHIER'S ORDER or BANK DRAFT or CASH.
- (2) Board of Directors Resolution or otherwise a written authorization where the bidder is a company or other body recognized by law as capable of purchasing and owning lands, bidding through an authorized person; and
- (3) Written authorization where the bidder is acting as a proxy.

10% of the Reserve Price to be paid by CASHIER'S ORDER or BANK DRAFT or CASH made payable to or drawn in favour of Messrs. EFFENDI & Co., Advocates & Solicitors immediately after the fall of the hammer and the balance of the purchase price shall be paid WITHIN NINETY (90) DAYS from the date of auction sale by CASHIER'S ORDER or BANK DRAFT only drawn in favour of BANK KERJASAMA RAKYAT MALAYSIA BERHAD, Bank Kerjasama Rakyat Malaysia Berhad as the assignee at the request of the purchaser and at its absolute discretion may grant to the purchaser an extension of time immediately following the expiry of the aforesaid NINETY (90) DAYS to pay the balance of the purchase price subject to the terms and conditions to be determined by the Assignee.

Failure to pay the balance as stipulated above will result in FORFEITURE of the first payment of 10%.

The sale of the subject Property and conduct of the auction is subject to the Conditions of Sale and by way of an assignment from the above Assignee/Financier subject to consent being obtained by the successful bidder from the Vendor/Proprietor and/or other relevant authorities, if any.

SALES AND SERVICE TAX (SST)

For further particulars, please contact :-

- (1) Messrs. EFFENDI & Co., Advocates & Solicitors, Lot No. K-61-3A, Level 3A, Block K, KK Times Square, Off Coastal Highway, 88100 Kota Kinabalu, Sabah, Malaysia | Tel: 088-488607
- (2) Landworld Auctioneer, Lot 8-2F, 2nd Floor, Beverly Hills Plaza, Jalan Bundusan, 88300 Kota Kinabalu, Sabah | Tel: 088-717333 | H/P: 019-8106868 |013-8306868 | Email: landworld@tdmail.com

IN THE MATTER OF FACILITY AGREEMENT AND DEED OF ASSIGNMENT DATED 08TH AUGUST 2022.

BETWEEN

BANK KERJASAMA RAKYAT MALAYSIA BERHAD (CO-OPERATIVE REG NO. 2192) ... ASSIGNEE

AND

NAINIE BINTI PASA (NRIC NO. 791113-12-6018) ... ASSIGNOR

PROCLAMATION OF SALE

PURSUANT to Facility agreement and Deed of Assignment dated 08th August 2022, made herein between the Assignor and the Assignee and further to the instructions and authorization given by the Assignee to their solicitors, MESSRS ZAINAL & ASSOCIATES, IT IS HEREBY PROCLAIMED that the under-mentioned Property will be sold by Public Auction on Thursday the 23rd day of September, 2026 at 10.00 AM at 2nd Floor, Beverly Hills Plaza, Lot 8-2F, Jalan Bundusan, 88300 Kota Kinabalu, Sabah.

DESCRIPTION OF THE LAND REFERRED TO:

Title : Held Under Parent title No. CL 015700151 Situated in District of District of Kota Kinabalu, Sabah. (Non-Bumi Lot)

The Property : Lot No. A-3-13A, Third Floor, Block A, University Prime Condominium, Off Jalan UMS, Kota Kinabalu, Sabah

Description : An intermediate 2-room Apartment Unit (Type B2) Built Up/Floor Area : Measuring Approximately 515 Square Feet (47.84 Square meters) more or less (based on Sale and Purchase Agreement dated 07th July 2011)

Reserved Price : RM163,000.00

IMPORTANT NOTICE TO ALL INTENDED BIDDERS

Intended bidders are advised to:-

- (1) Inspect the subject Property;
- (2) Conduct an Official Search on the Master Title at the relevant Land Office and/or other relevant authorities;
- (3) Make at own cost and expenses all necessary enquiries with the Developer and/or other relevant authorities on all matters relating to the Property including but not limited to the terms and conditions of consent as the successful bidder is required to pay outstanding charges due before and after the auction to the Developer and/or other relevant authorities for effecting the assignment/transfer of the Property.
- (4) Obtain and peruse a copy of the Contract & Conditions of Sale from the Auctioneer's Solicitors;
- (5) Ascertain from the Auctioneer's Solicitors (if relevant) all house rules, mutual covenants, the terms of the Principal Sale & Purchase Agreement and contributions and other payments or charges to be paid before an interest in the Property can be acquired;
- (6) Seek independent legal advice on the Conditions of Sale herein prior to the auction sale.
- (7) The onus is on all intending bidders to seek confirmation from the Developer and/or relevant authorities whether or not the Property is reserved for Bumiputera only, prior to the bidding. Where the Property is reserved for Bumiputera only, only Bumiputras, whether acting as agent or otherwise, are allowed to bid.

Prior to the commencement of the Auction Sale, all bidders are required to register with the Auctioneer appointed by the Assignee. The bidders shall submit the following to the Auctioneer:

- (1) An amount equivalent to 10% of the Reserve Price in the form of a Bank Draft/Cashier Order;
- (2) Board of Directors Resolution or otherwise and Written Authorization where the bidder is a company or other body recognised by law as capable of purchasing and owning lands, bidding through an authorized person; and
- (3) Written Authorization where the bidder is acting as a proxy.

10% of the Reserve Price to be paid by cashier order or bank draft payable to or drawn in favour of BANK KERJASAMA RAKYAT MALAYSIA BERHAD immediately after the fall of the hammer and the balance of the purchase price shall be paid to BANK KERJASAMA RAKYAT MALAYSIA BERHAD WITHIN NINETY (90) days from the date of auction. Failure to pay the balance as stipulated above will result in FORFEITURE of the first payment of 10%.

The auction and all bidders shall be strictly SUBJECT TO the Conditions of Sale, details of which may be obtained from:

Auctioneer :-

- (1) Landworld Auctioneer, Licensed Auctioneer Lot 8-2F, 2nd Floor, Beverly Hills Plaza, Jalan Bundusan, 88300 Kota Kinabalu, Sabah Tel: 088-717 333 / 019 8106868 Fax: 088-712 333
- (2) Messrs. Zainal & Associates Advocates & Solicitors Unit No. 1-52-3 & 1-53-3, Block 1, 3rd Floor, KK Times Square, Off Coastal Highway, 88100 Kota Kinabalu, Sabah. Tel: 088-201 041 Fax: 089-747 549

Solicitors :-

- (1) Landworld Auctioneer, Licensed Auctioneer Lot 8-2F, 2nd Floor, Beverly Hills Plaza, Jalan Bundusan, 88300 Kota Kinabalu, Sabah Tel: 088-717 333 / 019 8106868 Fax: 088-712 333
- (2) Messrs. Zainal & Associates Advocates & Solicitors Unit No. 1-52-3 & 1-53-3, Block 1, 3rd Floor, KK Times Square, Off Coastal Highway, 88100 Kota Kinabalu, Sabah. Tel: 088-201 041 Fax: 089-747 549

IN THE MATTER OF LOAN AGREEMENT AND DEED OF ASSIGNMENT DATED 28TH NOVEMBER 2024.

BETWEEN

BANK KERJASAMA RAKYAT MALAYSIA BERHAD (CO-OPERATIVE REG NO. 2192) ... ASSIGNEE

AND

SHERWINA BINTI RAZLAN (NRIC NO. 981012-12-6112) ... ASSIGNOR

PROCLAMATION OF SALE

PURSUANT to Loan agreement and Deed of Assignment both dated 28th November 2024, made herein between the Assignor and the Assignee and further to the instructions and authorization given by the Assignee to their solicitors, MESSRS ZAINAL & ASSOCIATES, IT IS HEREBY PROCLAIMED that the under-mentioned Property will be sold by Public Auction on Thursday the 23rd day of September, 2026 at 10.00 AM at 2nd Floor, Beverly Hills Plaza, Lot 8-2F, Jalan Bundusan, 88300 Kota Kinabalu, Sabah.

DESCRIPTION OF THE LAND REFERRED TO:

Title : Master Title No. CL 265491718 Situated in District of Putatan, Sabah. (Non-Bumi Lot)

Subject Property : Lot No. D-13A-03A, Type A, Block D, Level 13A, Jalan Ketiau Tombowo, Kingfisher Putatan, Condominium, Phase 2B, Putatan, 88200 Kota Kinabalu, Sabah, Together with Two (2) Unit of Car Park, Located at Level 1, Bay No.: D017 & D029

Description : A3-Bedroom Condominium Unit with Common Lifts Facility, Together with Two (2) Car Park Bays. Built Up/Floor Area : Measuring Approximately 1,065 Square Feet (98.94 Square Metres) More or Less.

Reserved Price : RM502,000.00

IMPORTANT NOTICE TO ALL INTENDED BIDDERS

Intended bidders are advised to:-

- (1) Inspect the subject Property;
- (2) Conduct an Official Search on the Master Title at the relevant Land Office and/or other relevant authorities;
- (3) Make at own cost and expenses all necessary enquiries with the Developer and/or other relevant authorities on all matters relating to the Property including but not limited to the terms and conditions of consent as the successful bidder is required to pay outstanding charges due before and after the auction to the Developer and/or other relevant authorities for effecting the assignment/transfer of the Property.
- (4) Obtain and peruse a copy of the Contract & Conditions of Sale from the Auctioneer's Solicitors;
- (5) Ascertain from the Auctioneer's Solicitors (if relevant) all house rules, mutual covenants, the terms of the Principal Sale & Purchase Agreement and contributions and other payments or charges to be paid before an interest in the Property can be acquired;
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- (2) Board of Directors Resolution or otherwise and Written Authorization where the bidder is a company or other body recognised by law as capable of purchasing and owning lands, bidding through an authorized person; and
- (3) Written Authorization where the bidder is acting as a proxy.

10% of the Reserve Price to be paid by cashier order or bank draft payable to or drawn in favour of BANK KERJASAMA RAKYAT MALAYSIA BERHAD immediately after the fall of the hammer and the balance of the purchase price shall be paid to BANK KERJASAMA RAKYAT MALAYSIA BERHAD WITHIN NINETY (90) days from the date of auction. Failure to pay the balance as stipulated above will result in FORFEITURE of the first payment of 10%.

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- (2) Messrs. Zainal & Associates Advocates & Solicitors Unit No. 1-52-3 & 1-53-3, Block 1, 3rd Floor, KK Times Square, Off Coastal Highway, 88100 Kota Kinabalu, Sabah. Tel: 088-201 041 Fax: 089-747 549

Solicitors :-

- (1) Landworld Auctioneer, Licensed Auctioneer Lot 8-2F, 2nd Floor, Beverly Hills Plaza, Jalan Bundusan, 88300 Kota Kinabalu, Sabah Tel: 088-717 333 / 019 8106868 Fax: 088-712 333
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Para Sukma: Sabah slips behind hosts in medal tally

Lester J. Bingkasan

KOTA KINABALU: Sabah relinquished its lead at the Para Sukma medal table on Tuesday, with hosts Selangor taking over first place.

On Tuesday, the state amassed 44 gold, 30 silver and 24 bronze medals, but it was not enough to maintain the lead they had held over the previous two days.

Selangor instead moved into top spot after collecting 52-33-27 with defending champions Sarawak lying in third place with 30-20-37.

Meanwhile, the Sabah athletics squad continued to impress after contributing the bulk of the gold medals on Tuesday.

They added 16 gold, 14 silver and seven bronze medals to its tally of 10-6-4 in the track and field events.

National para athlete Ivan Jovic Suan won his second gold of the Games when he won the Men's 200m T42/T43/T44 to add to his win in the 400m on Monday.

The other golds from athletics were from Mukhriz Ameer Izzudin in the Men's 200m T47 with a new meet record of 22.70s; Heronlee Wong (Men's



Ivan adds a second gold in Para Sukma with his win in the Men's 200m T42/T43/T44 event. — Photo via Facebook/Majlis Sukan Negeri Sabah

discus F37 - meet record 37.12m); Bartholomew Marius (Men's discus F33); Adelleein Martin (Men's javelin F44/F64); Shamli Waidi (Men's shot put F35/F36); Jericho Hedryld Harry (Men's discus F46); Connie Zeno (Women's discus F40); Danny Hadid (Men's 800m T20) and Elvius John (Men's javelin F56/F57).

In swimming, Sabah won four golds, six silvers and three

bronzes.

Suriyan Shah Malik delivered two gold medals in the Men's 100m Freestyle and Backstroke S11.

Other gold winners were Wahyu Eqwal Nazrey (Men's 100m Backstroke S5/S6) and Chia Faang Jaan (Men's 50m Breaststroke SB4 - meet record 1.01.12s).

Brady Chin Zi Rong contributed Sabah's first gold in table tennis

after winning the Men's Singles Class 9 final.

Sabah also continued to impress in tenpin bowling, adding a gold to their collection in the mixed/open Doubles TPB1+TPB2/TPB3 category through Athirah Azman, Azuan Amirhassan, Muhd Azri Azman and Rollen Marakim.

Sabah set a 66-gold target in the 10-day Para Sukma which will end on Sept 14.

M'sia target six golds, 33 medals at Asian Games

KUALA LUMPUR: Malaysia are targeting six gold, seven silver and 20 bronze medals, or 33 medals overall, at the Aichi-Nagoya 2026 Asian Games from Sept 19 to Oct 4.

Chef de Mission (CDM) Datuk Mohd Sumali Reduan said the target was realistic, based on the athletes' current form, recent achievements, medal potential and the strength of competition at the continental level.

"This target is realistic based on current performances and recent achievements. Everyone knows this is a major Games. The Asian Games are not the SEA Games, so naturally the challenge is greater."

"We also hope there will be a bonus beyond the gold-medal target because we are targeting seven silver and 20 bronze medals," he said.

He was speaking after the Jalur Gemilang Handover Ceremony for the Malaysian contingents at the National Sports Council (NSC) in Bukit Jalil on Tuesday.

During the ceremony, national wushu queen Tan Cheong Min was announced as the Malaysian contingent's Jalur Gemilang flag-bearer for the Asian Games while para long jumper Muhammad Nazmi Nasri was selected as the flag-bearer for the Asian Para Games.

Mohd Sumali said the target

The Asian Games are not the SEA Games, so naturally the challenge is greater.

Datuk Mohd Sumali Reduan

was set following detailed discussions that took into account the athletes' current form and the strength of their opponents.

"We hope that, as at the Commonwealth Games previously, there will eventually be a bonus. At the same time, we pray that we do not fall short of the target because what is important is that we achieve the overall target of 33 medals."

Thirteen sports have been identified as having medal potential, namely track cycling, badminton, archery, diving, squash, sepak takraw, hockey, athletics, sailing, karate, wushu, esports and shooting.

The Malaysian contingent comprises 352 athletes and 185 officials, who will compete in 30 of the 43 sports contested at the Games.

Malaysia will participate in 156 of the 469 events on the programme. — Bernama

PPA set to spearhead pickleball devt in Penampang

PENAMPANG: The newly established Penampang Pickleball Association (PPA) has set its sights on developing grassroots participation and positioning the district as a key hub for the rapidly growing sport in Sabah.

The association recently announced the election of its first executive committee, with Tricia Mojulat-Nickels elected as its founding president.

Mojulat-Nickels said the association would focus on promoting a healthy lifestyle, developing grassroots participation and creating inclusive sporting opportunities for the community.

"Pickleball is one of the fastest-growing sports in the region because of its accessibility across all age groups," she said in a recent press statement.

"Our focus will be on building strong grassroots participation, proper community infrastructure and creating active avenues for local youth and families to connect," she said.

The association's other office-bearers are vice-president Wynnie Tan, secretary Jomyta Elon, assistant secretary Courtney Barlow and treasurer Felicia Pearl Fidelis. Glenn Nickels and Norlina Mohd Din were elected committee members.

PPA currently has four affiliated clubs forming the backbone of its growing membership base, Premier Pickleball Club, Eagles Pickleball Club, Elite Pickleball Club and Orang Utan Pickleball Club.

As part of its first major programme, PPA will organise its inaugural Malaysia Day Masters Pickleball Tournament at Infiniti Sports Arena 2.0 on Sept 16.

The tournament will feature women's doubles for the 40-49 and 50-and-above age categories, men's doubles for the same two categories, as well as mixed doubles for players aged 40 and above.

The association recently held a dialogue with state government representatives and youth and sports authorities to discuss the development of pickleball facilities and community programmes.

Among the matters discussed were the identification of suitable public spaces and community halls for dedicated pickleball courts, as well as collaboration on wellness and sporting programmes involving youths, working adults and senior citizens.

PPA also welcomed collaboration with local businesses, organisations and investors to develop dedicated pickleball courts and facilities, saying such infrastructure could benefit the community while contributing to sports tourism and community wellness.

"We invite the people of Penampang and the wider Sabah community to join us on this journey. Whether you are a seasoned player, a curious beginner or someone who believes in the power of sport to bring people together, there is a place for you in the PPA family," said Mojulat-Nickels.

PARA SUKMA SELANGOR 2026				
• Sept 5 - 14 •				
MEDAL TALLY				
Tuesday Sept 8	G	S	B	
1. Selangor	52	33	27	112
2. SABAH	44	30	24	98
3. Sarawak	30	20	37	87
4. Johor	17	14	19	50
5. Perak	9	18	13	40
6. Neg Sembilan	7	8	7	22
7. Fed. Territories	6	15	6	27
8. Perlis	6	6	6	18
9. Kelantan	4	12	10	26
10. Terengganu	4	8	10	22
11. Melaka	3	7	2	12
12. Kedah	3	4	7	14
13. Pulau Pinang	2	7	6	15
14. Pahang	2	5	9	16



Sabah's Jericho Hedryld Harry competes in the men's F46 discus final at UiTM Stadium on Tuesday. The Sabahan won the gold medal with a throw of 28-metre. — Bernama photo

Team draw for M'sia Junior-Cadet C'ships held in KL

KOTA KINABALU: Sabah is determined to put up a strong challenge against the nation's best at the Milo Malaysia Junior and Cadet Table Tennis Championships which will take place at Maksak Hall, Likas from Sept 16-20.

As hosts, Sabah will be represented in all four Team events namely the Boys' and Girls' Under-15 and Under-19 categories.

Sabah Table Tennis Association, in a statement on Wednesday, revealed that Sabah have been

drawn in Group B of the Boy's under-15 competition along with one of the tournament favourites Johor, Perak and Labuan.

Top seed Selangor are in Group A with Sarawak, Kelantan and Pahang while the teams in Group C are Kuala Lumpur, Negeri Sembilan, Putrajaya and Perlis. Group D comprises Pulau Pinang, Melaka, Kedah and Terengganu.

In the Girl's Under-15 Team event, Sabah are in Group C with Pulau Pinang, Perlis and Pahang.

Top seed Selangor are in Group A with Melaka and Kedah. Group

B will have Kuala Lumpur, Johor and Negeri Sembilan while Group D will see Kelantan up against Perak, Sarawak and Putrajaya.

In the Under-19 category, Sabah boys are in Group C with Selangor, Terengganu, and Kedah. The rest of the teams are Pulau Pinang, Johor and Sarawak in Group A; Kuala Lumpur, Putrajaya and Negeri Sembilan in Group B; and Melaka, Perak, Labuan and Pahang in Group D.

The Sabah U19 girls team has been drawn in Group C with Melaka and Perak.

One of the early favourites Kedah will be in Group A with Pulau Pinang and Putrajaya; fellow favourites Kuala Lumpur in Group B with Sarawak and Johor; and in Group D, the teams are Selangor, Negeri Sembilan and Pahang.

The team event draw was conducted by the Table Tennis Association of Malaysia in Kuala Lumpur recently. The five-day championships will feature individual events for boy's and girl's singles and doubles as well as the mixed doubles.

Athletes from 21 teams compete in Wushu Elite C'ships

KOTA KINABALU: A total of 173 young athletes from 21 teams gathered to showcase their skills, discipline and determination at the 3rd Che Sui Khor Cup Wushu Elite Championships held at the SM All Saints Likas Hall here recently.

Tawau Bahua Secondary School emerge as the overall champion, St Francis Convent Primary School finished as runner-up while Sabah Wushu Cultural Association was third.

Speaking at the opening ceremony, Special Officer to the Chief Minister of Sabah Yee Tsai Yiew said wushu was more than just a sport, serving as an important platform for instilling discipline, self-control, perseverance and respect among young people. She said success on the competition stage was the result of years of training and dedication.

"Every movement performed during the few minutes on the competition stage represents countless hours of training, dedication and perseverance," she said to rally the young athletes to carry the spirit of martial arts into their daily lives.

Meanwhile, Che Sui Khor Moral Uplifting Society chairman Chua King Cheu thanked sponsors, supporting organisations, schools, judges, coaches, parents and athletes for contributing to the success of the tournament.

He said the society hoped to encourage greater youth participation in sports while preserving traditional Chinese culture.

He also announced that the society will organise its annual Mid-Autumn Festival Elderly Respect Ceremony and Lantern Competition on Oct 3.

At the closing ceremony, Che

Sui Khor Youth Group chairman Ng Cheng Nam paid tribute to the young athletes for their commitment and courage in taking to the competition stage.

"Witnessing young athletes train tirelessly, continuously improve themselves and confidently showcase the results of their hard work is one of the greatest meanings behind organising this championship," he said.

Ng expressed hope that next year's championships would attract more participants and provide an even bigger platform for young people to experience wushu, challenge themselves and pursue their sporting ambitions.

The tournament ended with the organisers pledging to continue working with the community and relevant parties to promote youth development, sports and cultural heritage.



Yee (third from left) joins others on stage to launch the 3rd Che Sui Khor Cup Wushu Elite Championships.



Professor Datuk (Dr) Yap Yun Fook (second left) introduces the patin fish farming facility at Yun Fook Resources Sdn Bhd to members of the delegation.

Agriculture, food security remain crucial despite AI advances

KOTA KINABALU: Agriculture and food security will become increasingly important despite rapid advances in artificial intelligence (AI) and automation, as food will always remain a basic necessity, said Malaysia-China Chamber of Commerce (MCCC) Sabah deputy president Kapitan (Dr) Callee Tan Kai Lee.

She said while AI and smart technologies could eventually replace certain traditional jobs and improve productivity, they could not replace the fundamental human need for food.

"With global population growth, climate change, supply chain disruptions and changes in the international landscape, food security is no longer merely an agricultural issue. It is now a strategic matter closely linked to national economic development, social stability and people's livelihoods," she said.

Tan said agriculture was undergoing rapid transformation through the integration of AI, big data, automation, smart irrigation, intelligent aquaculture and modern logistics.

"Modern agriculture can integrate research and development, data analysis, automated equipment and smart management to create a complete and high-value-added industry chain," she said.

She added that Sabah had significant potential to develop its agricultural and food industries, given its advantages in land, climate, biodiversity and tropical agricultural products.

Apart from crop cultivation, she said Sabah could further expand into food processing, cold-chain logistics, agricultural technology, agro-tourism, exports and branding to increase



Tan (left), Deputy Minister of Agriculture and Food Security Datuk Chan Foong Hin (centre) and Next Generation Entrepreneurs Organisation (NGEO) deputy chairperson Katryn Haw at the Ministry of Agriculture and Food Security.

the value of its agricultural products.

Tan said this after joining a Sabah business and community delegation which participated in programmes held in conjunction with the Malaysia Agriculture, Horticulture and Agrotourism Exhibition (MAHA) 2026 in Kuala Lumpur from Sept 5 to 7.

The delegation comprised representatives from various Sabah business chambers, agricultural associations and industry groups.

According to Tan, the visit allowed Sabah representatives to gain first-hand exposure to the latest developments in agriculture, food production and related industries, while exploring potential business opportunities.

The delegation visited exhibition booths at MAHA 2026 and engaged with industry players, as well as paid visits to the Ministry of Agriculture and

Food Security in Putrajaya and Yun Fook Resources Sdn Bhd at Universiti Putra Malaysia to learn about sustainable agriculture and aquaculture practices.

Tan also encouraged young people to view agriculture as a sector offering opportunities in technology, innovation and entrepreneurship.

She said AI should not be regarded as a threat to agriculture but as an important tool to drive the sector's transformation and growth.

"In this new era of rapid AI and technological advancement, the importance of agriculture and food security will only continue to grow.

"Sabah's business community should seize these opportunities and leverage cross-sector collaboration and innovation to create greater prospects for the State's agriculture and food industries," she said.

Hearing disorders account for most occupational diseases in 2024

KOTA BHARU: Hearing-related conditions accounted for 82.3 per cent of the 8,196 confirmed occupational disease cases recorded nationwide in 2024, making them the most prevalent category of occupational disease in the country.

Department of Occupational Safety and Health (DOSH) Deputy Director-General (Occupational Health) Ahmad Jailani Mansor said 6,747 of the confirmed cases involved hearing disorders.

He said workplace exposure to excessive noise was the main factor behind the high incidence of hearing-related occupational

diseases, particularly in the industrial sector.

"In addition, there were 820 recorded cases of occupational musculoskeletal disorders, 299 cases of diseases caused by physical agents, 203 cases of occupational poisoning, and 82 cases of skin diseases.

"There were also 24 cases of diseases caused by biological agents, 16 cases of lung diseases, three cases of occupational cancer and two cases of psychosocial disorders," he said when speaking at the East Coast Zone Occupational Health Symposium 2026 on Tuesday.

Ahmad Jailani said a total of 11,465 occupational disease cases were reported nationwide in 2024, of which 8,196 were confirmed as occupational diseases.

He said the statistics indicated that workers continued to be exposed to various occupational risk factors that could affect their long-term health.

"Measures to prevent, control and manage occupational health risks must continue to be strengthened to safeguard workers' well-being, particularly as occupational health challenges become increasingly complex," he said. — Bernama

Four Geng Man Kuda members arrested over robbery, car theft

BAGAN SERAI: Police arrested four individuals, including a woman, believed to be members of Geng Man Kuda in connection with robbery and car theft cases following separate raids in Taiping and Kulim, Kedah, under Op Lejang on Aug 30.

Perak police chief Datuk Mohd Alwi Zainal Abidin said the suspects, aged 24 to 49, are believed to be involved in 28 robbery and vehicle theft cases in Perak, Kedah, and Penang since June.

"They stole victims' cars parked in front of houses using modified iron rods and carried out robberies targeting victims who were inside their homes or walking alone.

"Police also seized six stolen vehicles, including a Proton Wira, Toyota Vios, Honda Accord, and Naza Citra, alongside other items belonging to the victims, with total losses estimated at RM200,000," he told a press conference at the Kerian District Police Headquarters (IPD) on Tuesday.

Mohd Alwi said the department is still tracking three more men, aged 30 to 36, believed to be connected to the gang.

He said police are investigating the case under Sections 395/397 of the Penal Code for gang and armed robbery, as well as Sections 379A, 379, and 427 of the same code for vehicle theft, theft, and committing mischief.

Meanwhile, in a separate case, Mohd Alwi said the department detained a 35-year-old local man on July 7 for suspected involvement in paint-splashing and arson cases reported since early this year.

He said investigations found the suspect borrowed from an illegal moneylending syndicate and failed to settle his debts.

"... syndicate subsequently instructed the suspect to commit acts of mischief and intimidation by splashing paint and setting fire to houses or vehicles belonging to borrowers who defaulted on their payments.

"The suspect also padlocked victims' houses and left threatening notes. For each act, he was paid between RM100 and RM400 by the syndicate," he said.

Mohd Alwi said the syndicate is believed to operate from overseas and that the suspect communicated with them by phone or Facebook. — Bernama

Nepalese guides to assist search for missing Malaysians in Rasuwa

KUALA LUMPUR: A group of mountain guides in Nepal intend to assist in the effort to track down nine Malaysians and a Nepalese tour guide who are still missing after the two four-wheel-drive vehicles they were in were believed to have been swept away by floods in Rasuwa on August 26.

Experienced mountain guide Raj Neupane, 41, said he, along with about 20 other individuals, will begin the search by checking the lists of rescued victims at hospitals, military camps, and police stations, in addition to gathering information from the Nepalese authorities.

"We cannot go to Rasuwa because there is no road. The Nepalese government is also carrying out search and rescue operations using helicopters, so we will help by checking hospitals, military camps, and police stations, as well as identifying any victims found.

"At present, we are also unable to cross the Trishuli River. Therefore, we will try to travel as far as we can toward Rasuwa by land," he said when contacted by Bernama on Tuesday.

Raj said this initiative was taken following floods and landslides that cut off access routes to the group's last known location in Rasuwa and the Tibet border area, thus hindering overland access.

In the incident, nine Malaysians - including Fire and Rescue Department Air Unit (PASKUB) officer Mohd Fakhru Munir Mohd Isa, 44, and Fire and Rescue Operations and Rescue Division Deputy Director Mohd Sani Harul, 59 - were participating in a climbing expedition to the Everest Base Camp (EBC).

Also with them was Nepalese tour guide and expedition organiser Ganesh Neupane, 41.

Raj, who has over 15 years of

experience guiding climbers along the Everest Base Camp (EBC) and Annapurna Base Camp (ABC) routes, said Ganesh last contacted his wife at 8:48 am on the day of the incident to inform her that the group had just finished breakfast before moving toward the Tibet border area.

"About 10 to 15 minutes after that call, we received news that a massive flood had hit the area and all communication with the group was cut off," he said.

He added that apart from the mountain guide community, villagers from his hometown will also assist in the search, as he and Ganesh are from the same area.

Raj also mentioned that he personally knew Mohd Fakhru Munir, affectionately known as Loe, since meeting him in Nepal around 2017.

"Before the incident, Loe contacted me because he wanted to meet at EBC. However, I informed him that I was guiding climbers to ABC during their expedition period, so Loe hoped we could meet another time," he said.

According to Raj, the tragedy is one of the most devastating disasters he has ever witnessed in his career as a mountain guide, as many residents lost family members while numerous homes were washed away by the floods.

A total of 55 Malaysians are reportedly still unreachable following the disaster, while another 77 who were located safely in Tibet and Nepal have been brought to Kathmandu to undergo processes prior to returning to Malaysia.

According to the Nepal Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Authority, at least 1,350 people have died and nearly 5,000 others remain missing due to the floods that struck the country on August 26. — Bernama

Reading culture needs to be a national movement — Aaron

KUALA LUMPUR: All segments of society including the government, educational institutions, families, communities, the private sector, the media and young people must work together to make reading a part of Malaysians' lives, said National Unity Minister Datuk Aaron Ago Dagang.

He said the desire to make Malaysia a Reading Nation by 2030 cannot be undertaken by the government alone, but rather needs to be mobilised as a national movement involving all levels of society.

"We want to create a society that does not just read more, but reads to understand, think, evaluate and create.

"A nation that reads is a knowledgeable nation, a knowledgeable nation is a competitive nation, and a competitive nation will determine the future of the country," he said in a Facebook post in conjunction with International Literacy Day on Tuesday.

Aaron said the MADANI Government through the Ministry of National Unity and the National Library of Malaysia (PNM) remains committed to expanding the people's access to knowledge and information through various services and reading promotion programmes.

He said PNM services continued to be strengthened to include reference services, adult and child loans, community library loans, group loans, electronic resources, gifts and exchanges, writer's funds, industrial training,

reading promotion programmes, media and information literacy programmes, OKU (Disabled) information corner, Jawi clinics, u-pustaka and Malay manuscript services.

He said efforts to bring knowledge closer to the people were also carried out through 506 Rural Libraries under the federal government's management, especially to expand access to communities nationwide.

"At the same time, the reading promotion and media and information literacy programmes will continue to be strengthened so that the community not only enjoys reading, but is also able to evaluate information wisely, responsibly and ethically in the digital era," he said.

Aaron said the celebration of International Literacy Day reminds us that literacy is not just the ability to read and write, but the foundation of knowledge, critical thinking, lifelong learning and a person's ability to participate meaningfully in the development of society and the country.

"In conjunction with this International Literacy Day, let us cultivate reading, expand knowledge and make literacy a strength to build a more knowledgeable, inclusive and united society. Happy International Literacy Day," he said.

International Literacy Day is celebrated on Sept 8 every year since it was declared by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO) in 1966. — Bernama

Sabah opens new avenues for TCM cooperation with China

KOTA KINABALU: Sabah is opening new avenues for cooperation with China in Traditional Chinese Medicine (TCM), with Sabah China Chamber of Commerce (SCCC) president Datuk Frankie Liew playing a key role in strengthening the connection.

Entrusted by Liew, the Sabah TCM delegation attended the prestigious "Yaodu's Night" Gala Banquet, held in conjunction with the 2026 International (Bozhou) Traditional Chinese Medicine Expo & National Chinese Materia Medica Trade Fair.

The banquet was attended by Deputy Secretary of the CPC Bozhou Municipal Committee and Mayor of Bozhou Wang Jihong, who welcomed international guests and highlighted Bozhou's position as a leading centre for Chinese medicine.

Mayor Wang said Bozhou is accelerating the internationalisation, standardisation and modernisation of TCM, while promoting greater cooperation with international partners under the RCEP framework.

For Sabah, the engagement presents opportunities in herbal medicine trade, technology



Liew (left) and the delegates during a photo call at the prestigious "Yaodu's Night" Gala Banquet.

exchange, professional training, talent development, joint research and healthcare investment.

With Bozhou's extensive TCM resources and Sabah's

strategic position as a gateway to Southeast Asia, both sides have strong potential to develop mutually beneficial partnerships.

The "Yaodu's Night" gathering marked an important step in

building stronger China-Sabah TCM ties, with SCCC under Liew's leadership continuing to serve as a bridge between Sabah's business community and Chinese partners.



All eight Indonesian airports reopen

JAKARTA: All eight Indonesian airports temporarily shut due to volcanic ash from Mount Anak Krakatau, which disrupted hundreds of flights and affected thousands of passengers, are back in operation after the remaining four reopened on Tuesday.

The Transport Ministry's Directorate General of Civil Aviation said the four airports are Radin Inten II Airport in Lampung, Budiarto Airport in Tangerang, Pondok Cabe Airport in South Tangerang and Muhammad Taufiq Kiemas Airport in Lampung.

They joined Soekarno-Hatta International Airport in Tangerang, Halim Perdanakusuma Airport in Jakarta and Husein Sastranegara Airport in Bandung, which resumed operations shortly after midnight on Tuesday after aviation and meteorological authorities declared conditions safe.

Atung Bungsu Airport in Pagar Alam, South Sumatra, was the first of the eight to reopen at 9am on Monday after an assessment found it was no longer affected by volcanic ash.

"We will continue to closely monitor and coordinate with airlines, airport operators, air navigation services and other relevant agencies on flight

We will continue to closely monitor and coordinate with airlines, airport operators, air navigation services and other relevant agencies on flight operations.

Transport Ministry's Directorate General of Civil Aviation

operations," the directorate said in a post on its official Instagram account.

The closures began over the weekend after volcanic ash from Anak Krakatau, located in the Sunda Strait between Java and Sumatra, disrupted hundreds of flights and affected thousands of passengers.

Despite the reopening of all eight airports, volcanic ash from Anak Krakatau remained in the atmosphere on Tuesday.

The Meteorology, Climatology and Geophysics Agency (BMKG) said volcanic ash from Anak Krakatau was still detected at an altitude of up to 1.8 kilometres as of 7am on Tuesday, moving south-southwest across parts of western Banten towards the Indian Ocean.

BMKG forecast generally clear to cloudy conditions around Anak Krakatau through Thursday, with southeasterly winds on Tuesday expected to shift easterly over the next two days.

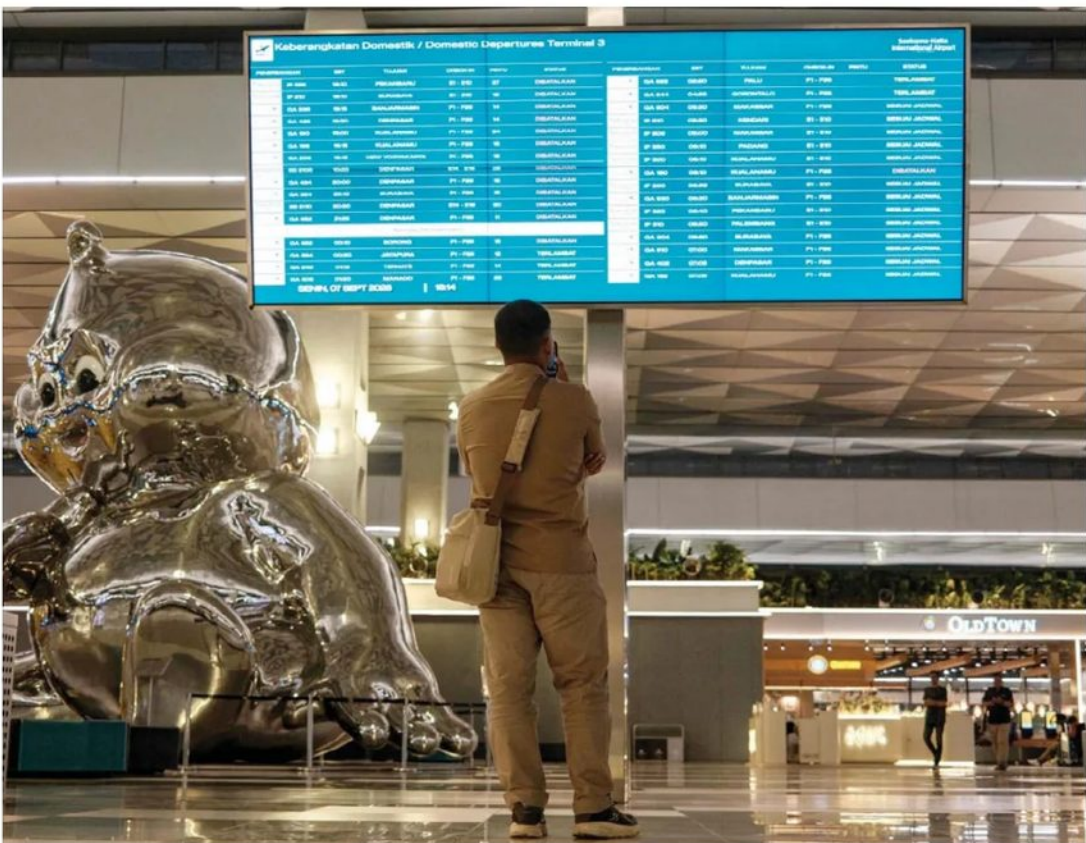
The agency urged the public, particularly communities along the Sunda Strait coast, to remain vigilant, follow official updates and comply with instructions from the authorities.

Meanwhile, Wunopito Airport in East Nusa Tenggara, which serves domestic flights, was temporarily closed due to volcanic ash from Mount Ili Lewotolok.

AirNav Indonesia Corporate Secretary Executive Vice-President Hermana Soegijantoro said the airport in Lewoleba was closed from 7.01am local time on Tuesday until an estimated 6am on Wednesday.

He said AirNav had issued a Notice to Airmen (NOTAM) on the closure as volcanic activity continued, with an eruption at 6.35am on Tuesday sending an ash column about 800 metres above the summit and westward.

"AirNav Indonesia continues to monitor the volcanic ash dispersion from Mount Ili Lewotolok, as well as



A stranded passenger looking at a flight information screen amid the closure of Soekarno-Hatta International Airport due to the eruption of the Mount Anak Krakatau volcano, in Tangerang. Indonesia's main airport and several other air travel hubs reopened after days of closure due to ash from a volcanic eruption, the Transport Ministry said. — AFP photo

developments in conditions around the flight area," he said, adding that the agency was

coordinating with relevant stakeholders and would issue further aeronautical information

based on developments and aviation safety assessments. — Bernama

Second-hand smoke causes nearly 1.7 mln deaths globally – Study

PARIS, France: More than 2.7 billion people including children have been exposed to second-hand smoke globally, contributing to nearly 1.7 million deaths in 2023, according to study published Tuesday in The Lancet.

Tobacco remains a leading cause of disease globally, the study said, noting many "non-smokers exposed to second-hand smoke" were among the estimate total of 8 million people who died in 2023 of smoking-related illnesses.

"Exposure to second-hand smoke is a globally recognised health risk, with no safe level of inhalation," it said.

By reviewing studies published in the US National Institutes of Health database PubMed along with population surveys, Tuesday's study sought to estimate the prevalence of exposure to second-hand smoke

and quantify the burden of disease in 204 countries and territories between 1990 and 2023.

Among the approximately 2.7 billion people exposed to second-hand smoke in 2023 were 767 million children aged 0 to 14, the study found.

This exposure is estimated to have resulted in 1.66 million premature deaths and causing premature disability and illness, leading with ischemic heart disease, a heart condition caused by insufficient oxygen supply to the heart muscle.

In children, exposure to second-hand smoke is estimated to have caused 5.2 million respiratory tract infections in 2023, it said.

People in proximity to someone lighting up are exposed to both the "sidestream smoke" from the burning tobacco product and smoke exhaled by the active



More than 2.7 billion people including children have been exposed to second-hand smoke globally, contributing to nearly 1.7 million deaths in 2023, according to study published in The Lancet. — AFP file photo

smoker, the study explained.

"The sidestream component, which dominates the air non-smokers breathe, is filtered

... carrying higher per-unit concentrations of the toxic and carcinogenic compounds" than that being inhaled by the active

smoker, it said.

Despite significant declines in smoking prevalence globally since 1990, the absolute number of people exposed has remained stable due to population growth and increased exposure in Africa and the Middle East.

Women are also disproportionately affected by second-hand smoke, particularly in regions where smoking prevalence among women is low, it noted.

"Despite this substantial burden, (second-hand smoke) exposure remains rarely acknowledged as a major risk factor for female health," it said.

The study called for governments to implement stronger tobacco controls in public places and in homes in order to better protect women and children from second-hand smoke. — AFP

Thieves swipe US\$10 mln in art from French museum

MARSEILLE, France: Two thieves broke into a museum dedicated to French impressionist painter Pierre-Auguste Renoir in southern France on Tuesday, stealing "four works of art", one of which they dropped as they fled, a mayor said.

"This morning, two individuals broke into the Renoir Museum and stole four works of art," said Bryan Masson, the far-right mayor of the town of Cagnes-sur-Mer.

"Spotted thanks to the town's video surveillance cameras, the two individuals fled, abandoning one of the stolen paintings as they ran," he said, adding his office estimated the value of the stolen works at 9 million euros (US\$10 million).

The Renoir Museum was opened in 1960 in the painter's last home before his death in 1919.

Its collection includes objects and furniture that belonged to Renoir, including his easel and wheelchair, as well as portraits, landscapes, and nudes painted by the artist.

The mayor said it took just five minutes for the authorities to respond.

"The museum alarm went off at 5.48am. At 5.53am, just five minutes later, our municipal police were on the scene," he said.

The theft comes less than a year after eight items valued at around US\$100 million were stolen during a daylight robbery from the Louvre in Paris.

The four suspected Louvre robbers have been arrested, but the stolen items have still not been found despite extensive searches by French investigators in the Paris region and exchanges with police in Belgium, Italy and beyond. — AFP

AI poses existential threat to humanity — UN human rights chief

MOSCOW: Artificial intelligence poses an existential threat to humanity that must be addressed promptly, United Nations (UN) High Commissioner for Human Rights Volker Turk said on Monday, reported Sputnik/RIA Novosti.

"I share the concerns of industry insiders that advanced AI could pose an existential risk to humanity. I am calling here, today, for an all-out effort to put cast-iron guarantees in place around the safety and security of AI, before it is too late," he said at the 63rd session of the Human Rights Council, as quoted by his office.

Turk added that he would



Volker Turk

send a corresponding letter to all leading AI development companies in the coming days. At the same time, he said that only a handful of people hold "almost unlimited power over AI".

"At a minimum, we need countries hosting AI and those

involved in its supply chains to come together around agreed red lines," Turk said.

In December 2025, Philip Schellekens, Chief Economist for the Asia-Pacific Regional Bureau of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), warned that the military application of AI could pose an existential threat to humanity and lead to mass casualties, stressing the need for highly responsible regulation.

In January 2025, UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres called uncontrolled AI an existential threat, alongside climate change and nuclear weapons. — Bernama-Sputnik/RIA Novosti

Iceland summons US ambassador after Trump posts map with island as part of US

STOCKHOLM: Iceland's foreign ministry said Tuesday it had summoned the US ambassador after President Donald Trump posted a map that seemingly showed the island as part of the United States.

"Minister for Foreign Affairs, Thorgerdur Katrin Gunnarsdottir, summoned the US Ambassador yesterday to convey a clear message that the image was wholly inappropriate," the ministry said in a statement to AFP.

Trump on Monday posted an image to social media with a map of North America in which countries like Canada, Greenland, Mexico, as well as Iceland were coloured in with the US flag.

The entire landmass was labelled "United States of America" and the image was posted without any further explanation.

Iceland relies on Washington for its security as the subarctic island has not had a military since gaining independence in 1944.

It is a founding member of Nato and has a 1951 bilateral defence agreement with the United States.

Trump's repeated threats to take over control of Greenland, a Danish autonomous territory located fewer than 300 kilometres from Iceland, and his trade showdown with Canada have already rattled Iceland. — AFP

Trump threatens sales in US of Canadian aircraft maker Bombardier

WASHINGTON, United States: President Donald Trump threatened Monday to block US sales of Canadian plane maker Bombardier unless it builds aircrafts in the country, complaining of "unjust and unfair" bilateral trade provisions as he escalates a tariff war.

The angry social media post marks the second stunning potential move by the US leader this year against the manufacturer, which has thousands of its aircraft currently operating in US airlines' domestic fleets.

And it comes on the eve of Canada imposing retaliatory tariffs on a range of US goods beginning Tuesday.

"No more selling Bombardier in

the United States!" Trump posted in all caps on his Truth Social platform, although he did not specify how he would achieve a sales halt.

"If they want our Market, they must build here, and stop treating America like a 'piggybank.'"

"Canada blocks our GREAT American Banks, and Companies" from doing business there, Trump added. "That Era is OVER!"

The US market accounts for more than half of Bombardier's revenue, Trump said.

Bombardier responded in a statement Monday by saying it creates tens of thousands of jobs across the United States "through the company's growing American footprint as well as within its supply chain made up

of approximately 2,800 American companies across 47 states."

"The American aerospace industry is a clear winner on trade and exports," it said. "Bombardier is a strong contributor to the sector."

The Canadian corporation went on to say that its aircraft "are built with American-made components such as engines, avionics and many more key systems provided by great American companies" and that it plans to inaugurate a new facility in Fort Wayne, Indiana, later this year.

Back in January, furious over what he said was Canada's refusal to grant certification to new models of US-made Gulfstream jets, the president threatened

to decertify Bombardier planes in the United States and impose a 50-percent tariff on Canadian aircraft.

Those threats apparently were never carried out, but Trump said Canada quickly certified Gulfstream planes the following month because of his intervention.

Trump's social media post Monday signaled continued acrimony over Bombardier, amid a broiling bilateral tariff fight.

Even if Trump sought to follow through on his latest threat, it remained unclear how it would happen. The Federal Aviation Administration, not the White House, is the US agency that certifies or decertifies aircraft in the country.

Bombardier models remain US certified and the company is currently exempt from US tariffs.

Last month, as trade negotiations collapsed, Trump slapped 50-percent tariffs on some US\$20 billion worth of Canadian products ranging from hockey sticks to cement.

Canada announced it is imposing retaliatory tariffs on a similar amount of US products beginning early Tuesday.

The duties of 15 percent, 25 percent and 50 percent will apply to imports from the United States covering steel and aluminum products as well as dairy goods like cheese.

Negotiations between the two sides broke down late last

month after days of meetings in Washington, with Canadian Prime Minister Mark Carney saying he decided to suspend the trade talks.

At the time, Carney said the Trump administration's terms were ultimately unacceptable, and that US negotiators had introduced restrictions on Canadian trade deals with other countries at the eleventh hour.

US officials also made unacceptable "threats" to the French language and "Quebec culture," he added, referencing the French-speaking province in eastern Canada.

Ottawa and Washington have not resumed negotiations since, and have continued trading barbs. — AFP

North Korea calls Russia bridge a sign of tighter ties

SEOUL: North Korea called the first road bridge across its narrow border with Russia a concrete sign of tightening bonds, state media reported Tuesday, as Pyongyang gains advantages from its powerful neighbours Moscow and Beijing.

The bridge over the Tumen river into Russia and an under-construction span to China are part of a shift that offers Western-sanctioned Pyongyang economic and strategic options it has long sought, experts said.

North Korea "will simultaneously secure two major overland routes linking it with Russia and China, allowing it to encourage competition between the two countries and maximise its gains," said Lim Eul-chul, a professor at Kyungnam University.

He noted the bridges also "can be a message to the United States that North Korea has no reason to beg Washington for sanctions relief or make concessions on denuclearisation in order to negotiate".

Russia noted the bridge is designed to accommodate expanded growth in freight with the capacity for up to 300 vehicles daily, which adds to the rail and air links already between the neighbours.

Ukrainian rights group Truth Hounds, however, previously warned that the new bridge could become "a direct artery for moving North Korean troops, construction brigades and military officials into Russia, with Russian technology and resources flowing in the opposite direction".

The ceremony on Monday marking the new bridge's opening came as Russia and North Korea



Handout image released by the Russian Transport Ministry shows national flags of Russia waving in the wind and North Korean trucks crossing the new Russia-North Korea road bridge over the Tumen River during the opening ceremony. — Photo by Handout / Russian Transport Ministry / AFP

have heavily boosted military and economic ties since Moscow launched its Ukraine offensive in 2022.

North Korea dispatched thousands of troops to Russia in 2024 to help ward off a Ukrainian incursion into the Kursk region, while Kyiv has accused Moscow of using North Korean missiles in its regular barrages.

South Korea's central bank estimated in July that North Korea's economy grew more than three percent for a third straight year in 2025, citing it's expansion of economic cooperation with Russia as a "major drive."

The bank's official said North Korea's gross national income also "received a boost

from a sharp rise in foreign currency earnings" linked to the deployment of its troops to Russia.

North Korean official Pak Thae Song, according the official KCNA news agency, said "the completion of the bridge is a significant event adding a new dynamic movement to the overall bilateral cooperation".

North Korea and China are already connected by the Sino-Korean Friendship Bridge, which is regularly used by passenger trains, but its capacity is limited.

After a long halt, the bridge partly reopened and restored daily passenger train services with China early this year, but has not yet resumed issuing

tourism visas to Chinese citizens, who once made up the bulk of its overseas visitors.

North Korea has long kept tight control over foreign visitors, and effectively sealed its borders at the start of the pandemic six years ago.

The New Yalu River Bridge, intended as an alternative and eventual replacement of the Sino-Korean Friendship Bridge, is expected by experts to be completed this year.

The completion of the bridge "sends a political and geopolitical message demonstrating the formation of a "North Korea-China-Russia continental triangular bloc", said Lim. — AFP

Singapore workplace fatalities rise in first half of 2026

SINGAPORE: Singapore recorded 21 workplace deaths in the first half of 2026, lifting the annualised fatal injury rate to 1.1 per 100,000 workers, according to figures released yesterday.

Vehicular incidents were the leading cause of death, accounting for nine cases, including four involving platform workers, the Ministry of Manpower (MOM) said, according to a report by CNA.

Minister of State for Manpower Dinesh Vasu Dash said, "The all-time low in major injuries reflects the hard work of employers, workers and safety professionals," but added that the rise in fatalities was a serious concern.

He said employers and workers must remain vigilant and prioritise workplace safety and health every day.

Major workplace injuries fell to 314 between January and June, and the annualised rate of 14.6 was the lowest on record outside the pandemic-affected year of 2020.

MOM said platform worker fatalities are included in fatality statistics but excluded from major injury figures because robust data collection only began after the Platform Workers Act took effect in 2025.

The ministry said the overall fatal injury rate of 1.1 exceeds a target set in 2017 to keep the rate below 1 per 100,000 workers by 2028.

OM told reporters that platform workers were not part of the original discussion when the target was set, but Singapore remains on track to meet it.

The ministry said it is reviewing further measures to strengthen ownership and accountability over workplace safety and health.

The review will cover the workplace safety demerit points system and assess whether the bizSAFE programme

better reflects actual safety performance.

MOM said the review follows tighter penalties introduced in June after a spate of workplace deaths, including higher composition fines and tougher enforcement during a two-week Safety Time-Out.

The ministry said the situation has stabilised since the enforcement push.

MOM recorded 620 occupational disease cases in the first half of 2026, up from 485 in the same period last year.

The ministry said the rise reflects broader detection and stronger surveillance following expanded coverage under the Workplace Safety and Health Act and Work Injury Compensation Act from Dec 1, 2025.

MOM said the increase does not indicate a deterioration in workplace health standards.

There were 44 fatal and major injuries involving platform workers in the first half of 2026.

Vehicular incidents accounted for 38 of these cases, MOM said.

Delivery services made up 37 of the 44 cases, while seven occurred during ride-hailing services.

Platform workers recorded an annualised fatal and major injury rate of 92.1 per 100,000 workers, down from 95.9 in the same period last year.

MOM said the rate remains substantially higher than those in construction, manufacturing and transportation and storage.

The ministry said platform work carries unique risks due to its autonomous nature and exposure to road conditions.

Traffic police data released in August showed road casualties have risen over the past three years.

Motorcyclists and pillion riders were involved in more than half of all traffic accidents in the first half of 2026. — Malay Mail

Australia threatens hefty fines if big tech fails ‘duty of care’

SYDNEY: Social media giants face US\$78 million fines if they fail to protect young users from harmful content, Australia's prime minister said as he unveiled draft laws reining in big tech.

Prime Minister Anthony Albanese released draft laws that would place a "duty of care" on the firms behind popular platforms such as Facebook, TikTok and Instagram.

Social media companies would be held responsible for protecting under-18s from pornography, online bullying, content that glorified crime, and content that encouraged eating disorders.

"We took action because the community said 'enough is enough,'" Albanese told reporters.

"We would no longer let Australian kids be treated as commodities instead of children."

Social media firms face mounting scrutiny over their use of allegedly addictive algorithms and stand accused of directing users to extreme content to keep them scrolling.

The draft laws build on Australia's world-first social

media ban for under-16s, which came into effect late last year.

Companies found to be flouting their "duty of care" could be fined up to Aus\$109 million (US\$78 million), Albanese said.

The legislation includes a requirement that platforms allow users to "opt out" of powerful algorithms that determine what comes up on social media feeds.

"This will give Australians greater choice over their platforms and what they see," Albanese said.

It would require firms like Meta, which owns Facebook and Instagram, to give users the option of turning off algorithms that tailor recommendations to their personal taste.

Communications Minister Anika Wells said big tech was facing a "reckoning".

"Their platforms and tools have infiltrated our daily lives in ways that we could never have imagined," she told reporters on Tuesday.

The draft laws would be introduced to parliament later this year after consultation with social media companies, industry bodies and civil society groups. — AFP

Solo landfill fire may take another seven days to extinguish

JAKARTA: Firefighters could take another seven days to fully extinguish a blaze that has been burning for nearly a week at a major landfill in Solo, Central Java, with 105 residents still displaced by lingering smoke.

The fire, which broke out on Sept 2 at the Putri Cempo landfill, spread across three of its four waste-disposal blocks, with Block C and Block D declared safe as of Monday night while firefighting continued in Block B.

National Disaster Mitigation Agency (BNPb) Disaster Data, Information and Communication Centre Acting Head Berton Panjaitan said firefighting efforts were being concentrated on Block B, particularly around an extra-high-voltage overhead transmission line where hotspots remain, with ground crews using injection and water-spraying methods to reach areas still burning.

"The joint team is targeting the fire in Block B to be completely extinguished within the next seven days, with operations to be adjusted according to developments on the ground," he said in a statement on Tuesday.

Berton said firefighters from Greater Solo, Semarang and



File photo shows a helicopter conducting water bombing to extinguish a fire at the Putri Cempo landfill in Solo, Central Java. — AFP photo

Cilacap were involved in the operation, supported by military and police personnel and volunteers, while BNPB and the Meteorology, Climatology and Geophysics Agency (BMKG) were preparing a weather modification operation.

According to Surakarta's Environment Agency, Putri Cempo, located in Mojosongo on the northeastern side of the city, covers about 17 hectares, including about 14 hectares of waste-disposal areas divided into four blocks, three of which were

affected by the fire.

Evacuations began on Sept 3 as smoke spread to nearby communities, with 105 residents from Sulurejo hamlet in neighbouring Karanganyar Regency still at an evacuation centre on Tuesday. — Bernama

Nepalis mark a year since deadly protests that toppled government



People paying homage to victims who lost their lives in the 2025 anti-corruption Gen-Z protests, during a memorial near Nepal's old Parliament building in Kathmandu, marking the first anniversary of the demonstrations that toppled the previous government. — AFP photo

KATHMANDU, Nepal: Dozens of young people congregated at Nepal's burnt-out parliament building on Tuesday to mark the anniversary of deadly anti-corruption protests that toppled the former government.

The gathering in memory of those who died in the demonstrations came as the Himalayan nation continues to mourn the vast loss of life from devastating floods two weeks ago.

The rallies on Sept 8-9, 2025, were initially sparked by anger over a brief government ban on social media but were driven by deeper frustration over economic hardship, corruption and entrenched political practices.

The unrest caused the deaths of 76 people and the torching of the parliament building in the

capital Kathmandu, as well as the prime minister's office and other government buildings.

It also led to the downfall of the administration of KP Sharma Oli, setting in motion a series of events that culminated with the election of youthful Prime Minister Balendra Shah in March.

"The loss of life was of course terrible. But the impact on politics was worth it, we have seen changes," said former protester Aastha Shrestha, 23, on the grounds of the ruined building.

"It feels like the (current) government values the sacrifice we made," she told AFP next to a stack of burnt vehicles.

Banners bearing photos of people killed in the protests were hung in the parliament grounds.

Shah said on X that he hoped the anniversary would "inspire

us all to move forward towards building a fair, transparent, and opportunity-filled Nepal".

Sushila Karki, who led Nepal as interim prime minister after Oli's government was overthrown, paid tribute to "all the brave individuals who lost their lives".

"Let us all perform our duties honestly, responsibly, and vigilantly ... so that a situation never arises again in which people are forced to take to the streets once more for good governance and change," she said in a social media post.

An inquiry commission set up to investigate the violence submitted its report in April and recommended further probes against several officials including Oli.

The majority of the victims - 51 people - were shot dead, many in

the head or chest, according to the report.

But there has been little genuine accountability, said Anish Acharya, 19, who came with flowers to pay his respects.

"Why did we sacrifice our lives, what did we get? There is no hope that change will come. Oli was arrested the next day but what then? The culprits are out and walking free," he told AFP.

"The government has not valued our sacrifices and demands."

Shah's administration is facing its toughest challenge since taking power as it leads rescue and recovery efforts following cataclysmic glacial floods on the border with China.

The Aug 26 disaster killed at least 1,399 people in the two countries, including 1,356 in Nepal, according to official tolls. — AFP



Firefighters putting out a fire following Russian missiles strikes in Kyiv. — AFP photo

Russia resumes Ukraine bombardment after halt for US talks

KYIV, Ukraine: Russian missiles and drones pounded Kyiv overnight, killing two people and sending smoke billowing above the Ukrainian capital, ending Moscow's temporary halt to strikes on the city.

Russian President Vladimir Putin had ordered the pause in attacks as US President Donald Trump's envoys Steve Witkoff and Jared Kushner visited the Russian and Ukrainian capitals at the weekend.

AFP reporters in the city heard fresh explosions ringing out in the early hours of Tuesday, triggering fires and sending locals down into basements and metro stations for shelter.

"The moment the US president's peace envoys left, Putin launched another massive, horrific attack against Kyiv, damaging residential areas and killing at least two people," Ukrainian Foreign Minister Andriy Sybiga said on social media.

Witkoff and Kushner's trips provided no immediate breakthrough in ending the four-and-a-half-year war, but represented Washington's reengagement with trying to broker a deal between the two sides, which had been on hold for months.

Kyiv Mayor Vitali Klitschko

said people were trapped in a residential building after the strikes.

Russia's army said it had a carried out a "massive strike" on military-industrial sites, logistics hubs and storage centres in Kyiv and its suburbs.

Civilian deaths in Ukraine are running at their highest rate since the first months of Russia's invasion, according to statistics verified by the United Nations.

In the Moscow-annexed Crimean peninsula, Russian-installed officials said a Ukrainian attack killed two people.

The strikes came hours after Witkoff touted "substantive progress" in the discussions with Ukraine and Russia, raising the prospect of reviving three-way peace talks to end Europe's deadliest conflict since World War II.

"President Trump is working hard to stop the killing and work towards a lasting and durable peace," he said on X.

Witkoff and Kushner met Putin in Moscow on Saturday, before holding separate talks with Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelensky in their first official trip to Kyiv.

The Kremlin announced Monday that it did not rule out three-way talks, with spokesman

Dmitry Peskov telling reporters "it is too early to say anything about the venue or the exact dates at this stage".

Zelensky told US news outlet Axios that the United States was pushing to de-escalate the conflict ahead of the long winter.

Russia has struck Ukraine's energy grid each winter since invading in February 2022, cutting power and heating to millions in temperatures as low as -20 degrees Celsius.

Zelensky has said the weekend talks included US proposals around energy facilities, grain shipments and oil and gas exports, but declined to give further details.

Russian Foreign Minister Sergei Lavrov on Tuesday appeared to rule out a Turkish proposal for a truce on strikes in the Black Sea, saying it was "unrealistic" and "impossible to monitor".

The two sides appear no close to agreeing on how the war should end. Moscow is demanding Ukraine cede territory in its eastern Donetsk region that it still controls and renounce Western military support.

Kyiv has said such terms amount to capitulation and would only allow Russia to prepare a fresh attack in its bid to install a Moscow-friendly puppet government. — AFP

Kauai on tornado watch as Hurricane Lowell nears Hawaiian islands

HONOLULU: Residents of Kauai were warned to watch for tornadoes late Monday as Hurricane Lowell edged toward the westernmost Hawaiian islands in the US Pacific island chain, the National Weather Service said.

"Conditions are favourable for tornadoes in and close to the watch area" of Kauai, including the city of Lihue, NWS officials said.

The core of Lowell was expected to pass near or just west of Niihau late Monday or early Tuesday, the National Hurricane Center said in a bulletin at 5pm (0300 GMT).

"Dangerous conditions are expected for Niihau, Kauai and Oahu, with flash flooding, damaging waves and high winds expected from Lowell," NHC said.

The center warned that the combination of a storm surge and tide would flood normally dry areas near the coast in Kauai and Niihau.

A tropical storm warning was also issued for the island of Oahu, where Honolulu is located.

The storm was about 370 kilometres southwest of Honolulu and moving north-northeast, the center said.

Lowell, which was packing maximum sustained winds of 175 kilometres per hour, was expected to gradually weaken over the next several days.

The storm briefly reached Category 5 strength earlier this week. — AFP

Salmonella outbreak hits doctors at Mexican hospital

MEXICO CITY: More than 130 doctors fell ill last month after eating food contaminated with salmonella in their Mexico City hospital's cafeteria, authorities and those affected said Monday.

Dozens of doctors protested outside the Eduardo Liceaga Hospital, where the outbreak took place, located in a central neighbourhood of the capital.

"We assume it was from the breakfast on Aug 31 – some eggs – and by that night, almost all of us were sick," one of the affected individuals, who asked to remain anonymous, told AFP.

"The food was spoiled, with worms and mold, and we're constantly without water," she said.

The facility, which is part of Mexico's federal health network, acknowledged that an outbreak was identified on the

last day of August following a "sudden increase in people with gastrointestinal symptoms" such as abdominal pain, diarrhea and vomiting.

In a video on social media, Health Secretary David Kershenobich said the outbreak affected 135 resident physicians, 41 of whom required hospitalisation. "All are in good condition," he said.

But doctors at the protest and statements sent to AFP said there were 227 cases with 67 people hospitalised – including 15 who had to be treated in intensive care.

The hospital has a staff cafeteria exclusively for resident physicians and specialist doctors, so the spread of the outbreak was limited.

Kershenobich promised an investigation and said food service conditions at federal health institutions would be reviewed. — AFP

Rubio launches Latin America tour to cement US influence

BARRANQUILLA, Colombia: United States Secretary of State Marco Rubio arrives in Colombia on Tuesday, the first stop on a Latin American tour designed to bolster pro-US leaders and cement influence over the continent.

The recent election of Colombian President Abelardo de la Espriella, a hard-right lawyer, has been a game-changer for Washington, which had combative relations with left-wing former president Gustavo Petro.

De la Espriella, a flamboyant 48-

year-old millionaire, was elected in June on an anti-establishment platform.

Rubio is to meet the new Colombian president in his stronghold of Barranquilla, a Caribbean port city more famous for being pop star Shakira's hometown than diplomacy.

The Colombian president defeated a left-wing candidate in June's runoff election on the promise of ending peace talks with drug-running armed groups and tackling crime.

Since then, Colombia has

Yemen's Houthis hit Saudis with missiles, wounding 73

RIYADH, Saudi Arabia: Yemen's Houthi rebels struck a series of targets in Saudi Arabia on Tuesday, wounding 73, in their heaviest attack since the conflict reignited during the Middle East war.

The Iran-backed rebels said they hit Abha International Airport, King Khalid air base and facilities belonging to state-owned oil giant Aramco in Abha and Jizan, near their shared border.

Saudi authorities and official media said the strikes caused fires and temporary shutdowns. It was the worst attack by the Houthis since a four-year truce in Yemen's long-running civil war unravelled in July.

Saudi Arabia will "take all necessary measures to defend its sovereignty", a foreign ministry statement said, demanding a halt to the Houthi strikes and their attacks on Red Sea shipping.

The Houthis triggered a return to hostilities in July when they let an Iranian plane land in Sanaa, in defiance of Saudi control of Yemeni airspace.

They are now pushing to seize Yemeni government-held territory along the Red Sea's southern gateway, with clashes leaving hundreds dead and forcing thousands of residents to flee.

The Houthis have also been attacking Saudi oil tankers in the Red Sea, a vital export route since Iran blockaded the Strait of Hormuz as part of its war with the United States.

A Saudi-led coalition, which has been fighting the Houthis on the government's behalf since 2015, said it would respond to the latest attacks.



Handout image release by the Iran-backed Houthi forces purportedly show a ballistic missile strike on trucks carrying military equipment from Saudi Arabia to the Al-Wadiah military camp in Yemen's Hadhramaut province. Yemen's Iran-backed Houthis and Saudi-backed, internationally recognised government forces have been fighting for days over control of Bab al-Mandab on the Red Sea, marking the deadliest flare-up in Yemen since a 2022 ceasefire collapsed in July. — Photo by Handout/Ansarullah Media Centre / AFP

"The Terrorist Houthi Militia's senseless attacks, the latest of which targeted civilian and economic sites", resulted in injuries to 73 civilians, said the coalition's Joint Forces Command.

"The Command will also take all necessary measures and actions to respond to the sources of the threat and neutralise its danger."

According to an energy ministry source quoted by the Saudi Press Agency, "several energy sector facilities and installations in the southern region of the kingdom were targeted this morning".

"The attacks caused fires at several locations, leading to a temporary halt in some operations" as well as several injuries, the source was quoted as saying.

The Houthi attacks came after

they accused Riyadh on Monday of carrying out strikes around Yemen, including the deadly bombardment of a prison.

The attack on the jail in Al-Hazm in Yemen's north killed 11 people and left 20 inmates missing under the rubble, rebel TV channel Almasirah quoted Jawf province's civil defence chief as saying.

The rebels are also pressing their broad offensive along frontlines on the western Red Sea coast in a bid to advance towards the Bab al-Mandab Strait, the mouth of the Red Sea.

About 18,500 people have been displaced in the flashpoint governorates of Taiz and Hodeidah, the United Nations' International Organisation for Migration estimated.

"The number is increasing by the hour," it said in a statement on Monday. — AFP



A parking lot filled with Tesla Cybercabs is seen in the foreground as the nose of a Prime Air cargo plane rests on the ground after the aircraft overran the runway and struck cars at Miami International Airport in Miami, Florida. — AFP photo

Flight data recorders recovered from Amazon cargo plane crash

MIAMI: Officials have recovered the flight data recorders from an Amazon cargo plane that overran the runway in Miami and slammed into two vehicles, killing five people, authorities said Monday.

One of the vehicles struck in Sunday's accident was a cleaning-services van carrying seven people on airport property, National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB) chief Jennifer Homendy said.

The jet then tore through a perimeter fence, bashing an SUV traveling on a public road and hitting a second fence line separating an area where robotaxis were parked, she said.

While Homendy refused to discuss the health status of the plane's two pilots, she said the victims were limited to the

people in the two vehicles that were struck.

"We do want to interview the crew," she said. "As we speak, recovery operations continue."

Homendy described a "devastating" scene at Florida's busiest airport, where hundreds of flights were delayed as investigators began probing the crash site and emergency responders continued to recover the remains of some of the victims in the accident.

"We were able to recover the flight data recorder and the cockpit voice recorder," which were being sent to the NTSB for analysis, she said.

"The investigation and access to the aircraft as well as evidence can wait while the recovery operation goes forward," Homendy said. "That is most

important, reuniting families with their loved ones."

She said the plane was a Boeing 767 made in 1994 and operated by 21 Air LLC, based in Miami and contracted to Amazon. It was on its third flight of the day, and was arriving from San Juan, Puerto Rico.

"In total, it was about 400 metres past the paved surface" when the plane finally came to a halt, she said, adding that she walked the full length of that path beyond the runway.

"There's debris everywhere," along with spilled fuel and fuel inside the aircraft that needs to be removed, Homendy said.

"The Econoline van is torn apart," she said, referring to the first vehicle hit. "It certainly must have been devastating." — AFP

that struck the country's coffee-growing region, killing more than 330 people, according to State Department spokesman Tommy Pigott.

The quake destroyed schools, hospitals and scores of residential buildings across several towns and cities.

The new president has requested US assistance and, in particular, a suspension of customs duties to support reconstruction.

The tour by America's top diplomat in Colombia, Ecuador and Peru from Tuesday to Thursday comes after a string

of right-wing electoral victories across Latin America.

Since President Donald Trump's return to the White House in January 2025, several Latin American countries, including Argentina, Bolivia, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Ecuador and Honduras, have initiated or confirmed a conservative turn.

This Latin American tour comes days after the United States concluded an agreement that would see Washington take majority control of more than 65 billion barrels of Venezuela's oil reserves. — AFP



Trevor Noah is set to bring his trademark blend of sharp wit and global perspective to Kuala Lumpur, marking a milestone for the country's fast-growing live entertainment scene. — Photo courtesy of LOL Asia

Comedian Trevor Noah to perform live in Kuala Lumpur on Nov 9

KUALA LUMPUR: Global comedy star Trevor Noah will make his long-awaited Malaysian debut on Nov 9, with a one-night stand-up show at the Ideas LIVE Arena, organisers LOL Asia and BOHM announced in a press release.

The South African comedian, writer, producer and former Daily Show host is set to bring his trademark blend of sharp wit and global perspective to Kuala Lumpur, marking a milestone for the country's fast-growing live entertainment scene. The show begins at 8pm.

Noah, described in the release as a performer who "makes the world smaller by making us laugh at how differently — and how similarly — we experience it," has built an international career

spanning stand-up, television, books and digital media.

He rose to global prominence after taking over The Daily Show in 2015, transforming it into a more internationally attuned platform during his seven-year tenure.

Since leaving the show in 2022, Noah has expanded his creative output, hosting the weekly What Now? With Trevor Noah podcast, running Day Zero Productions and the Trevor Noah Foundation, and releasing his 2026 Netflix special Trevor Noah: Joy in the Trenches.

He also hosted the Grammy Awards for the sixth consecutive year in 2026.

LOL Asia CEO Rizal Kamal said bringing Noah to Malaysia was the result of a 14-year

effort. "Trevor belongs to a rare category of performer who can cross cultures, find the joke and still retain the humanity... We've waited a long time for this," he said.

Noah's bestselling memoir Born a Crime and his second book Into the Uncut Grass have cemented his reputation as a storyteller who bridges personal history with global themes. His Off The Record world tour sold out venues across five continents, including the Hollywood Bowl, New York's Beacon Theatre and London's O2 Arena.

Ticket sales

Presale tickets open on Sept 9 at 10am via Fantopia, while general sales begin on Sept 11 at 10am. — Malay Mail



ROCK IN RIO MUSIC FESTIVAL
British singer-songwriter Elton John performs on stage during the fourth day of Rock in Rio music festival at Rio 2016 Olympic Park in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. — AFP photo

Lea Seydoux likes jobs that are dangerous

LEA Seydoux feels she has 'more experience' now so looks for roles that allow her to take 'risks' and stretch herself, and she believes she has entered a life stage that allows her to look at things in a different way.

Speaking to Deadline's Breaking Baz column, the 41-year-old actress said: "I like when acting's a bit dangerous, I think I like to take risks..."

"I think it's a very interesting age, my age now."

"I don't like to talk about my age because I don't want to put myself in a box. Like, OK, it's true that this age is very interesting and I feel that I understand things in their complexity more than before."

"The Dune: Part Two" star can next be seen as a musician whose husband is arrested for online activity in child pornography groups in 'Gentle Monster' and

I like when acting's a bit dangerous, I think I like to take risks. I think it's a very interesting age, my age now.

Lea Seydoux

also in 'The Unknown,' which follows a photographer who sleeps with a woman at a party only to wake up the next morning and find he has turned into her.

Lea said of the projects: "I like to experience intensity. So making these films, it's a way to experience intensity."

"I really love to be able to live inside the film." But after two heavy roles, the Spectre actress needed a change of pace and filmed wacky alien comedy Alpha Gang alongside Cate Blanchett.

She laughed: "I thought it was completely crazy. I needed to do something light after those films."

Up next Lea has a mystery project in the works.

She teased: "But it's a strong story like Gentle Monster and I can't wait."

Malo Blanchet, the nine-year-old actor who plays Lea's son in Gentle Monster was "protected" from the dark subject matter of the film.

Asked if he knew what the film was about, Lea said: "Maybe not the whole thing, but I don't know for sure."

"The parents obviously knew, of course. I don't think he really knew the story. He's a kid, too young. I think he was protected."

Dolly Parton considered playing Selena in 'Supergirl'

DOLLY Parton was up for the role of witch Selena in the 1984 film Supergirl.

The country music icon, who died following a 'brief battle with cancer' on August 25 aged 80, was considering playing the part in the DC superhero movie, which starred Helen Slater, now 62, as the titular character — Superman's cousin.

But Parton ultimately turned down the role, later revealing that she had been offered US\$7 million but did not want to play "evil" Selena, which Faye Dunaway, now 85, went on to land.

In a resurfaced 1982 interview with Entertainment Tonight, the Jolene singer said: "They're doing a show now called Supergirl."

"They're going to do a continuation. They've got an 18-year-old girl that's going to be Supergirl, and there's a part of, a starring role of, a witch. I guess the force kind of against the Superman, but she's funny, and she's magical, and she's all this and that. And I might do it."

But the filming location for Supergirl proved a challenge for Parton.

She explained: "I might play a witch, and if I do, I'll have to go to London for three months. So it depends on if I want to leave home that much. If I want to be a witch that bad. I think going from a secretary to a madame to a witch wouldn't be bad."

Parton felt "insulted" when she was asked to play witch Selena.

The 9 to 5 hitmaker told the Chicago Tribune: "I will not play just an evil part. In fact, I got offered US\$7 million several years ago to play the part that Faye Dunaway played in Supergirl. I was kind of insulted."

"I was impressed with the money, but I said, 'Why are you asking me to play an evil witch? Do I come across as an evil witch to you?'"

Parton was keen to avoid people labelling her as a "goody-goody", adding: "I'm sure I can be an evil witch at times. But that's



Tributes are left at the Dolly Parton mural during What Dolly Did For Me: A Parade For Our Queen in Knoxville, Tennessee. — AFP photo

not my real nature, and I don't have a desire to do anything like that."

The 13-time Grammy winner explained she chose roles that reflected aspects of her own personality, admitting she did not think of herself as "great enough of an actress to do anything totally separate from me".

Parton added: "And I think I

have to play something where I have a Southern accent — either that or I'd have to be a mute."

The star also noted she was an "entertainer more than ... an actress", and wanted "to make people feel good".

Parton's film credits included 9 to 5, The Best Little Whorehouse in Texas, as well as Steel Magnolias. — Bang Showbiz

Sandra Bullock heavily involved in production of 'Practical Magic 2'

SANDRA Bullock 'had her finger on' every detail of the 'Practical Magic 2' set.

The 62-year-old actress and her castmate Nicole Kidman, 59, have reprise their rolls as witch sisters Sally and Gillian Owens for the highly anticipated sequel, and Bullock was heavily involved in making sure the new house matched the set from the 1998 original.

Maisie Williams, who has taken on Alexandra Artrip's role of Sally's younger daughter Antonia, told E! News: "Stepping into the Owens' house, that was pretty magical for us."

"It was such a beautiful set. Attention to detail was crazy. It was exactly like the original."

"Sandra was like, 'No, no, no the tiles are all wrong. They've been discontinued. We have to make new tiles.'"

"She kind of had her finger on every decision, and when we walked in, it was special."

Joey King, who has replaced

Evan Rachel Wood as Antonia's sister Kylie, agreed that it felt "so special" working with Bullock and Kidman on such a faithfully recreated set.

She added: "That was such a moment of seeing that house, and I think seeing Sandra and Nicole be Sally and Gilly on set, like you're watching them and then you realise you're in the scene too, and you're like, 'Oh yeah, OK, that's right, I have to focus.'"

"Like, they're so mesmerising to watch."

The younger duo also revealed how their co-stars were on hand for advice and support during filming, while still letting them forge their "own path".

King explained: "There's an aspect of letting us kind of create our own path, and also, 'We'll always be for you' vibe."

Indeed, Bullock recently admitted a potential third film in the franchise would likely see them fully "pass the torch" to

King and Williams.

She told Vanity Fair magazine: "We'll do a number three if this takes off, and we'll pass the torch to the girls." Meanwhile, Evan Rachel Wood recently revealed she is 'sad' not to be playing Kylie in the sequel.

She told Entertainment Tonight: "It is sad, because we bonded with that cast so much as children, and so to miss out on the opportunity to look at that cast and look at that house as an adult and see

the history in our eyes, it's something that can't be faked."

"I'm sad that doesn't get to exist, especially for the fans."

Practical Magic 2 director Susanne Bier has since insisted that the decision to recast the characters was n't 'personal'.

She told Variety: "It was not a personal thing. The kids in the story are right out of college, so it wasn't really a question. 'We had to recast.'"

— Bang Showbiz



Seydoux poses during a photocall of the film 'L'Inconnue' (The Unknown) at the 79th edition of the Cannes Film Festival in Cannes, southern France. — AFP file photo

Chinese stories find new ways to reach global audiences

VENICE, Italy: At a screening venue on a small island near Venice's Lido in Italy, a foreign visitor put on a virtual reality headset and stepped into a Chinese story.

Outside the screening room, more viewers waited in line for their turn to experience The Pigeon Ring, a Chinese immersive work that explores family, memory and the bonds between generations.

The scene at the 83rd Venice International Film Festival is a vivid example of how immersive storytelling is opening up new possibilities for Chinese creators to reach audiences around the world.

Established in 2016, the Venice Immersive section is an official section of the festival and has grown into one of the world's largest events dedicated to immersive arts and media. It showcases creative extended reality (XR) works ranging from immersive videos and virtual and mixed reality experiences to virtual worlds and immersive installations.

The Pigeon Ring, directed by Zhang Yuqi and Tao Shixin, has been selected for the Venice Immersive competition this year. It tells a story of a granddaughter who accompanies her grandfather back to their old family home in search of a lost pigeon ring. What begins as a seemingly ordinary family journey gradually unfolds into a story of memory, companionship and affection.

"Most of the audiences who have come to see the work over the past few days have been from overseas," Zhang and Tao told Xinhua. "Many foreign viewers shed tears after watching it. Perhaps the work has touched something that people can



Visitors experience the VR project Out of the Ashes at the playing area of the Venice Immersive section of the 83rd Venice International Film Festival in Venice, Italy. — Xinhua/Wang Kaiyan photo

emotionally relate to."

That emotional connection across cultural boundaries has also left a deep impression on Michel Reilhac, co-curator of Venice Immersive.

He described the work as "very moving," noting that without featuring broad narratives and spectacular visual scenes, The Pigeon Ring focuses on a much smaller story -- an ordinary family story -- yet manages to generate a powerful emotional impact.

"It's not relying on special effects, but on the heart of the story itself," Reilhac told Xinhua, adding that this makes Chinese works accessible to and appreciated by international audiences.

Behind these stories and

emotional experiences lies another important force: rapidly evolving technology.

Liz Rosenthal, co-curator of Venice Immersive, highlighted the use of Gaussian splatting, an advanced 3D rendering technique, in The Pigeon Ring, describing it as a particularly innovative approach.

"It really takes you into the story in a way that we haven't seen before," she said. "It's almost like stepping into a film."

"China has made incredible progress in artificial intelligence, robotics and all kinds of digital technologies," said Reilhac, adding that the country's technological development is moving in a highly forward-looking direction and is helping creators produce increasingly

sophisticated immersive works.

The co-curator also commended the development of talent training at Chinese universities. Recalling a recent visit to Shanghai Theatre Academy, Reilhac said he was impressed by the openness of young Chinese creators and artists toward international collaboration.

He noted that, alongside The Pigeon Ring, a number of works by young Chinese artists are being presented at the festival's immersive section, with some creators still studying at university.

"It's very important for us that we represent new voices, new artists alongside the more established ones," he said. — Xinhua

Leisure

Andrew Garfield hopes audience find 'The Uprising' galvanising

ANDREW Garfield hopes billionaires watch 'The Uprising' and get "scared" by its message.

The 43-year-old actor takes the lead as folk hero Ploughman in Paul Greengrass' upcoming period drama inspired by England's 1381 Peasants' Revolt, and the leading man has revealed his honest goals for the movie.

Speaking about his hope for audiences during a recent screening, Garfield said: "Well first, I hope they come and see it, for first thing. But secondly, I hope it's galvanising."

"I hope there's some awakening that people feel, that they feel that their own, that we all feel like our own struggles are being reflected in the struggles of these characters from a distant time and place, and that it could be directive."

"And I hope that if any billionaires watch it, they're scared."

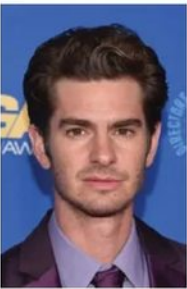
Later at the same Q+A event, Greengrass insisted the line "There will be no peace until we are healed", which is included in the movie, is "true of today as it is 600 years ago".

Garfield added: "I'm going to include the billionaires in that as well, because they're the ones that might be the most soul sick."

"They're the ones that might need the healing the most in a way."

Greenwood has worked with some of the biggest names in Hollywood, including Matt Damon, Tom Hanks and Matthew McConaughey, and he believes Garfield belongs in that echelon.

He told Esquire UK: "I've been blessed to work with some really, really great ones. Matt Damon



Andrew Garfield

back in the day, Tom Hanks and Matthew McConaughey more recently, and now Andrew."

"They've all got a very strong mixture of strength and vulnerability, and Andrew has that very, very much."

"When Andrew gets into a fight, you believe he can do it, but he's got gentleness too, which is in his soul, in his emotional make-up. The rub of those two things makes him a great leading actor."

Andrew, 43, has been particularly busy over the last 12 months, starring in movies such as The Magic Faraway Tree, The Uprising and Artificial.

And the actor is now looking forward to taking a break from the movie business, explaining that he's eager to a break and "to go to Disneyland with [his] nephews".

He said: "You know, I learnt a lot over the course of this past year."

"I did three things back-to-back — I've never done that before. I'm knackered. But it happened to be three things I really wanted to do, and they were all happening at the same time."

Andrew doesn't regret committing himself to so many different projects, but he's now looking forward to his time off. — Bang Showbiz



OASIS: DON'T LOOK BACK IN ANGER PREMIERE
British Musicians and Oasis singers Liam Gallagher (left) Noel Gallagher pose upon arrival on the red carpet for the UK premiere of the film 'Oasis: Don't Look Back In Anger', in Leicester Square in central London. — AFP photo

Luc Besson working on crazy sci-fi movie

LUC Besson is keen to "explore everything" in his career and is incredibly "excited" about his next project, though he declined to share any specific details.

Speaking during a masterclass at the Venice Film Festival, Variety reports the 67-year-old filmmaker said: "It's going to be crazy, believe me. Maybe you will need a ticket and an aspirin at the same time. I'm older, so I'm trying to explore everything now."

"It's funny, because my first film [The Last Battle] was sci-fi, then I made The Fifth Element."

"There were only 182 special

effects in that film — Valerian was 4,000! I'm excited [to try something new]. It's worth it."

The Leon: The Professional director urged other filmmakers not to be "afraid" of artificial intelligence (AI) but to embrace having another "tool" they can use.

He said: "This whole technical evolution... As a director, you just digest it. It's always just a tool."

"I know lots of people are afraid of AI. But it's a tool! Don't be afraid. It's a tiger — but you are a guy with a whip, speaking German to it."

Last year, Luc wrote and

directed Dracula: A Love Tale with his Dogman star Caleb Landry Jones and Christoph Waltz but admitted he is "too scared" of traditional horror films, so he didn't view the classic story that way.

He said: "I hate horror films. I'm too scared of them. But Dracula is a love story — that's the point."

"I believe you should do what you feel like, and I'm in love with this actor, Caleb Landry Jones. He's a genius. For a director, working with a guy like that, it feels like you have a cocktail in your hand when you call 'action!' — Bang Showbiz

Kung fu stuntmen put HK cinema on the map

HONG KONG: Suspended from an exhibition ceiling at Tai Kwun in Hong Kong, a prop helicopter brings visitors face to face with the behind-the-scenes secret of Hong Kong action cinema — the kung fu stuntmen who built an era by putting their lives on the line.

The exhibition, titled Better Together — Partnering Up for Hong Kong Movies, displays replicas of classic action props to explore the city's enduring cinematic team spirit. Chin Ka-lok, president of the Hong Kong Stuntman Association, helped to curate the exhibition and specifically recommended including these production details.

"Hong Kong action cinema has always been a mix of real and fake. It looks like a deadly risk on screen, but behind the scenes it's all calculated," Chin told Xinhua in a recent interview.

Between the 1960s and 1980s, facing stiff competition from Hollywood, Hong Kong carved out its global reputation through high-risk stunt work. Elite stunt teams led by pioneers like Jackie Chan and Sammo Hung flourished, constantly pushing the limits of physical action.

Chin entered the industry at 15 and spent about a decade training under Hung. He recalled when television crews filmed a dozen scenes a day, yet Chan spent three full days refining a single wire-work shot.

"At the time, that level of dedication was almost unimaginable. That pursuit of perfection stayed with me for

life," he said.

The stunt business has an old rule: never say "no" on set. Since Chin began his career, he has said "Yes," "Can do," and "No problem" more than anything else.

"People pay to come to the cinema," Chin said. "If we don't put our lives on the line, we haven't earned their ticket." It was a principle he took to heart in his early days as an extra, and one he has carried with him ever since.

Since taking over as president of the association in 2014, Chin has felt an urgent need to preserve the memory of his peers.

Several years ago, when a respected veteran stuntman passed away, Chin tried to compile a memorial booklet for him, only to find no records of when the veteran entered the industry or which films he had worked on. Without documentation, he realized, the names of many who risked their lives would simply fade with time.

A decade ago, Chin saw the skill gap firsthand on set while directing a stunt requiring a jump from the second floor. After repeated calls met only hesitation, a crew member in his 40s finally stepped forward to take the leap. "We must pass our experience to the young," Chin said. "If we don't teach them, who will jump in the future?"

To keep the craft alive, the association organized its first training workshop. Mindful of the local film market's limited capacity to absorb new talent,

organizers avoided running it every year.

It was not until 2026 that the second edition was launched, marking the first time the program received financial backing from the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region government's film development fund.

The 12-week training program selected 20 candidates from nearly 100 applicants to train under veteran instructors in wire-work, vehicular stunts, controlled explosions, firearms, and acting.

The cohort brought together complete novices and seasoned athletes alike.

Hanging midair during wire-work drills, trainees quickly realized their lives depended entirely on the peers holding their safety ropes below.

That mutual reliance captures the true essence of "partnering up" — watching each other's backs and facing danger side by side.

Amid the rise of artificial intelligence, the trainees remain convinced that the raw emotion and physical reactions captured on camera cannot be replaced.

"We aren't actually brawling in the street, but we have to make the audience believe it," Chin said. "It has to look stylish, yet feel like real combat. That takes real skill."

Back in the gallery, the prop helicopter still hangs overhead. Having witnessed decades of grit on film sets, it now looks down on a new generation ready to step before the camera. — Xinhua

Luca Guadagnino admits being enamoured with his actors

LUCA Guadagnino has admitted he's "definitely in love with my actors".

The movie director has become known for working with some of Hollywood's biggest names, such as Julia Roberts, Daniel Craig, Tilda Swinton and Ralph Fiennes.

Luca took part in a masterclass

at the Venice Film Festival in Italy on Monday, and was asked why he likes casting such big stars in his movies.

He replied: "The truth, the banal truth, is that I am enamoured with actors and definitely in love with my actors. So it's a very tender emotion for me to work with them."

"We are like children playing on the beach, kind of creating these sandcastles. Finding ways to express what we want to express, and trying in a way to be truthful and not banal."

"I've been lucky because, honestly, I have worked with some of the finest, most committed, bold performers

I could have worked with. But I think they know that I love them."

Luca is to be honoured with the film festival's prestigious Cartier Glory to the Filmmaker Award, and is also going to be showing his new documentary Joie de Vivre.

Due to its seven-hour

running time, the first part of the screening is to happen on Tuesday, with the second the following day.

The filmmaker's appearance at the festival comes a year after he was there promoting After the Hunt, which starred Pretty Woman actress Julia. — Bang Showbiz



Luca Guadagnino

Highlights

Bursa Malaysia ends nearly flat as construction stocks attract buying

BURSA Malaysia closed almost flat yesterday as buying interest rotated away from index heavyweights towards smaller-cap construction stocks, with sentiment affected by geopolitical uncertainty, said an analyst.

At 5pm, the FTSE Bursa Malaysia KLCI (FBM KLCI) eased 0.39 of a point to 1,714.40 from Monday's close of 1,714.79.

The benchmark index opened 1.65 points lower at 1,713.14 and moved between 1,710.44 and 1,714.50 throughout the trading session. The broader market was almost evenly balanced, with decliners leading gainers 548 to 546, while 598 counters were unchanged, 1,107 were untraded and 25 were suspended.

Turnover expanded to 4.13 billion units valued at RM3.14 billion from 3.60 billion units valued at RM2.45 billion on Monday.

Rakuten Trade Sdn Bhd equity research vice-president Thong Pak Leng said trading interest appeared to be shifting towards smaller-cap technology and construction stocks, suggesting that investors remain willing to take selective positions despite cautious broader market sentiment.

"Looking ahead, external developments are likely to dictate the near-term direction, with investors keeping a close watch on the Strait of Hormuz situation and Friday's US trade status inflation data," he told Bernama.

Maybank wins Bursa Malaysia IR awards

KUALA LUMPUR: Malayan Banking Bhd (Maybank) emerged among the top winners at the inaugural Bursa Malaysia Investor Relations (IR) Awards 2026, clinching several major categories.

Maybank won Best Company in IR (Overall), Best Financial Reporting and Best Large-cap Company in IR for Financial Services, while its president and group chief executive officer Datuk Seri Khairussaleh Ramli was named Best CEO in IR.

Tenaga Nasional Bhd received the Best Sustainability Communications award.

Bursa Malaysia said the awards, held on Sept 4,

honoured 32 winners across eight main categories, recognising excellence in investor relations and encouraging higher standards of transparency, engagement and market communication among public listed companies (PLCs).

Secretary General of Treasury Tan Sri Johan Mahmood Merican said effective investor relations was important in strengthening the quality and competitiveness of Malaysia's listed companies.

"By communicating openly and consistently with investors, public listed companies enable better-informed investment decisions

and demonstrate their commitment to transparency and accountability.

"As we continue enhancing the competitiveness and quality of Malaysia's listed companies, effective investor engagement will remain an enabler of long-term value creation and sustainable market growth," he said.

Meanwhile, Bursa Malaysia chief executive officer Datuk Fadl Mohamed said there was considerable opportunity to strengthen investor relations capabilities across the market.

He said as companies, markets and investor expectations became more

sophisticated, effective investor relations went beyond communicating performance and helped investors understand how a company was positioned for the future.

Bursa Malaysia said only 32 per cent of listed companies had a dedicated internal IR function, while 17 per cent outsourced the function and 51 per cent operated without any formal IR structure.

The award winners were determined through a market-led evaluation involving local and international investors and analysts, supported by independent verification and Bursa Malaysia's due diligence review. — Bernama

Techna-X clarifies HK Aerospace Beidou's disposal

KUALA LUMPUR: Techna-X Bhd (TXB) has clarified that it remains the legal and beneficial owner of the 100,000 shares in HK Aerospace Beidou New Energy Technology Co Ltd (HKAB), allowing the company to enter into a share sale agreement with Tess Global Sdn Bhd on Sept 3, 2026.

In a Sept 7 reply to a query from Bursa Malaysia, the company said that in a December 2025 share sale agreement, the transfer of legal and beneficial ownership

of the said shares was conditional on and was only effective on completion of that agreement.

"As completion of the December 2025 share sale agreement did not take place, no transfer of the said shares was effected, and the legal and beneficial ownership of the said shares remains with TXB.

"Accordingly, TXB continued to have full legal title to, and the right and authority to dispose of, the said shares.

Accordingly, TXB was able to enter into the September 2026 share sale agreement with Tess Global for the disposal of its 100,000 ordinary shares in HKAB," it said in the Sept 7 filing.

TXB was responding to Bursa Malaysia's query over its proposed disposal of 100,000 shares in HKAB, representing 50 per cent of the company's issued share capital for RM45 million.

TXB had earlier said in a Sept 3 filing that RM30

million from the proceeds will be allocated to expand the group's restaurant business by opening 10 new outlets in the central region of Peninsular Malaysia and re-imaging two existing outlets.

Another RM5 million will be used to settle trade and other payables, RM8.5 million will be allocated for general operating and administrative expenses, and RM1.5 million for expenses related to the proposed disposal, it said. — Bernama

AmInvestment re-initiates 99 Speedmart, sees Budget 2027 as catalyst



James Wong
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KUCHING: Analysts with AmInvestment Bank Research have re-initiated coverage of 99 Speed Mart Retail Holdings Bhd (99SMART) with a "buy" call as structurally elevated commodity prices due to approaching El Nino and a prolonged Iran war is keeping cost-of-living pressures high and favouring value formats like 99SMART as consumers trade down.

The research house in a note on Monday set a target price of RM4.25 on the mini-market operator, representing a 25 per cent return from its last done price of RM3.43.

The re-initiation follows a 17 per cent correction from the stock's February 2026 highs as investors de-risked and digested valuations amid geopolitical tensions.

"We turn increasingly optimistic into Budget 2027,

where we expect a step-up in cost-of-living aid, with a significant share captured by 99SMART's dominant, expanding staples-led convenience footprint," it said.

The group's stores make up about 21 per cent of all outlets eligible under the government's Sumbangan Asas Rahmah (SARA) cash-aid programme.

AmInvestment Bank said the Budget 2027 cash aid could be the next catalyst for the stock.

"We believe the market is pricing in only a modest step-up from the previous SARA payouts, despite continuous hints that subsidies and cost-of-living relief will be key Budget 2027 focus areas," it added.

The research house expects 99SMART to capture more than 21 per cent of total SARA disbursement given its dominance in the staples-led convenience space.

On its operation, the research house described 99SMART as a resilient, defensive value compounder.

Despite an aggressive store

rollout that has left about 94 per cent of outlets within 3km of one another, the house said cannibalisation has proven a far smaller drag than store density alone would suggest.

Same-store sales growth has stayed firmly positive at 7.8 per cent in FY25 and 9.1 per cent in the first half of 2026.

Margin quality is improving alongside growth, with a new utility efficiency programme having lifted six-month 2026 earnings before interest and tax margin by 0.6 percentage point year-on-year.

Its partnership with appliance maker Midea could widen basket sizes, while the 99 Bulksales wholesale channel is scaling fast, growing 54 per cent in the first six months of 2026 against the same period last year.

The group ended the second quarter of 2026 with 3,151 outlets after adding 65 stores during the quarter, with East Malaysia accounting for 9.4 per cent of its store base and the East Coast 5.3 per cent, regions the research house estimates remain visibly underserved.

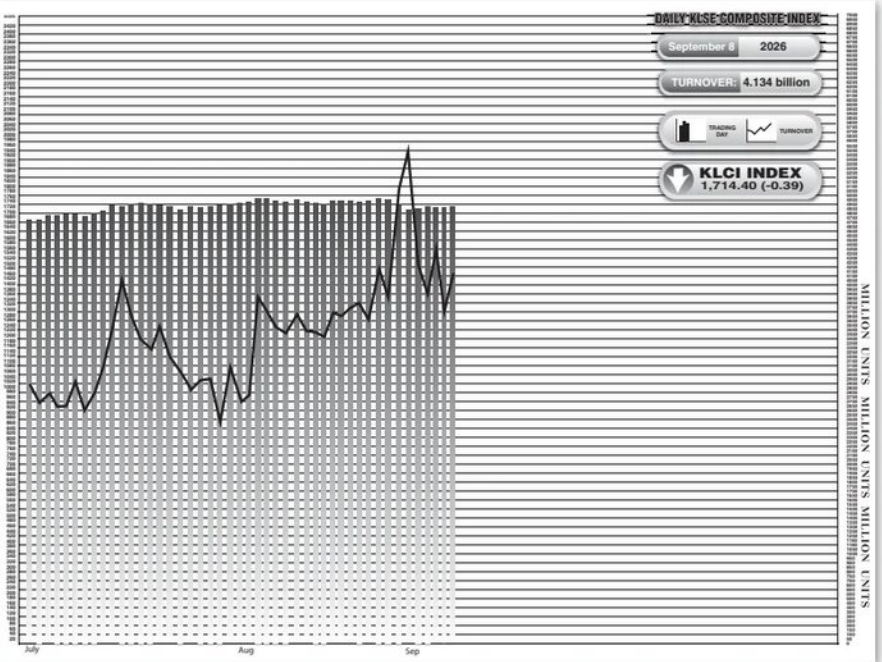
Lembaga Pemasaran Pertanian Persekutuan (FAMA)	
Average Retail Prices Of Selected Commodities In Kuching (8 September 2026)	
COMMODITIES	
VEGETABLES	Prices (RM/Kg)
Round Cabbage	6.00
Spinach	7.00
Chinese Mustard	9.00
Chinese Kale	8.23
Bean Sprout	3.00
Cucumber	4.95
Brinjal	8.45
Local Tomato	6.00
Highland Tomato	9.00
Long Bean	7.75
French Bean	14.45
Lady's Finger	7.95
Loofah	6.00
Pumpkin	6.00
Bitter Gourd	10.00
Lembding (Midin)	10.00
Old Ginger	8.23
Young Ginger	8.90
Red Chili (Kulai)	18.00
Red Chili (Local/Oil)	17.75
Shallot	6.00
Onion (Bombay)	4.50
Onion (Holland)	4.50
Garlic	7.50
Imported Potato	3.00
Imported Carrot	4.33
Grind Coconut	10.00
Seed Coconut	3.00
Santan	9.00
POULTRY	
Crossbreed Male/Female	TU
Kampung Male/Female	TU
Standard Chicken	10.70
Super Chicken	11.50
Fresh Meat Local	65.00
Imported Meat	40.00
EGGS* (RM/BIJI)	
Chicken Egg - Grade A*	0.57
- Grade B*	0.54
- Grade C*	0.50
- Salted Egg*	1.20
FRUITS* (RM/KG)/(RM/BIJI)	
Papaya	5.45
Exotica Papaya	5.25
Watermelon	5.00
Guava	6.63
Starfruits 10	4.88
Orange (Local)	4.68
Mask Bananas	4.95
Embut Bananas	2.50
Rastali Bananas	4.38
Honey Dew	6.85
Sarawak Pineapple	3.50
* Prices collected at Medan Niaga Satok	

Exchange Rates			
EXCHANGE RATES ISSUED BY MALAYAN BANKING BHD: Sep 8			
	SELLING	BUYING	BUYING
	TT/OD	TT	OD
1 US Dollar	4.1170	3.9710	3.9610
1 Australian Dollar	2.9800	2.8600	2.8440
1 Brunei Dollar	3.2460	3.1460	3.1380
1 Canadian Dollar	2.9730	2.8900	2.8780
1 Euro	4.7790	4.6240	4.6040
1 New Zealand Dollar	2.4230	2.3340	2.3180
1 Papua N Guinea Kina	N/A	N/A	N/A
1 Singapore Dollar	3.2460	3.1460	3.1380
1 Sterling Pound	5.5670	5.3900	5.3700
1 Swiss Franc	5.1100	4.8920	4.8770
100 UAE Dirham	113.0900	107.2000	107.0000
100 Bangladesh Taka	3.4070	3.1810	2.9810
100 Chinese Renminbi	61.5900	58.9800	N/A
100 Danish Krone	65.5400	60.3000	60.1000
100 Hongkong Dollar	52.9300	50.2800	50.0800
100 Indian Rupee	4.4400	4.1200	3.9200
100 Indonesian Rupiah	0.0244	0.0215	0.0165
100 Japanese Yen	2.6950	2.5710	2.5610
100 New Taiwan Dollar	N/A	N/A	N/A
100 Norwegian Krone	45.4800	41.8300	41.6300
100 Pakistan Rupee	1.5400	1.3700	1.1700
100 Philippine Peso	6.6600	6.2700	6.0700
100 Qatar Riyal	113.8700	108.0900	107.8900
100 Saudi Riyal	110.5300	104.9300	104.7300
100 South Africa Rand	26.6200	24.0400	23.8400
100 Sri Lanka Rupee	1.3200	1.1500	0.9500
100 Swedish Krona	44.1400	40.2000	40.0000
100 Thai Baht	13.0600	11.5700	11.1700

Scoreboard				
	UP	DOWN	+/-	TRADED
CONSUMER PRODUCTS &	49	58	72	179
INDUSTRIAL PRODUCTS	66	58	85	209
CONSTRUCTION	15	17	23	55
TECHNOLOGY	25	11	22	58
FINANCIAL SERVICES	10	12	9	31
PROPERTY	27	34	24	85
PLANTATION	22	7	4	33
REAL ESTATE INVESTIM	6	5	9	20
CLOSED END FUND	1	0	0	1
ENERGY	11	11	16	38
HEALTH CARE	2	9	11	22
TELECOMMUNICATIONS	3	10	4	17
TRANSPORTATION & LO	8	4	13	25
UTILITIES	4	4	5	13
BUSINESS TRUST	0	1	0	1
STOCWARR	221	225	186	632
ACE-MKT	74	74	115	263
BOND&LOAN	0	2	0	2
ETF	1	7	1	9
LEAP-MKT	0	0	0	0
TOTAL	545	540	599	1,693

MRB Prices	
SMR AT 3PM PRICES (SEN/KG): SEP 8	
OCT	
SEN PER KG / CENTS PER KG	
SMR CV	1,196.00 / 301.55
SMR L	1,186.00 / 299.05
SMR 5	1,027.50 / 259.10
SMR GP	1,022.50 / 257.80
SMR 10	1,012.50 / 255.30
SMR 20	1,007.50 / 254.05
CENTRIFUGED LATEX: LOCAL PRICE (ISO 2004) IN SEN/KG (60% DRC)	
LATEX IN BULK	705.50
TONE OF MARKET : VERY FIRM	

MPOB Reference Prices (Mill Gate)			
MPOB MONTHLY FFB REFERENCE PRICE (MILL GATE BASIS): SEP 8			
REGION	RM/ 1% OER		RM/ 1% OER
NORTH	51.49	EAST COAST	51.37
SOUTH	51.71	SABAH*	45.75
CENTRAL	51.68	SARAWAK**	46.24
Note: *Sandakan, Lahad Datu and Tawau			
**Miri and Bintulu			
OER: Oil Extraction Rate			



TOP 20 GAINERS					
STOCK	L/DONE	LACP	BUY	SELL	CHANGE
UTDPLT	835,000	3,364.0	3,204.0	3,330.0	+110.0
NESTLE	23,500	9,490.0	9,330.0	9,416.0	+26.0
SLVEST	9,145,900	357.0	328.0	355.0	+25.0
VITROX	3,174,500	932.0	907.0	928.0	+24.0
SAM	781,000	457.0	429.0	457.0	+23.0
TAANN	469,900	635.0	613.0	634.0	+22.0
SOP	1,352,800	619.0	590.0	613.0	+21.0
GAMUDA	33,391,400	481.0	458.0	480.0	+21.0
ITMAX	4,130,000	448.0	426.0	446.0	+21.0
AJI	67,300	1,918.0	1,894.0	1,910.0	+20.0
PETDAG	216,000	2,000.0	1,972.0	1,992.0	+20.0
HEIM	699,700	1,498.0	1,468.0	1,486.0	+18.0
KLK	1,073,000	2,268.0	2,222.0	2,268.0	+18.0
HENGYUAN	10,462,800	304.0	275.0	300.0	+18.0
SCGBHD	15,699,200	274.0	257.0	273.0	+17.0
PCHEM	4,974,500	448.0	424.0	447.0	+17.0
HLFG	145,700	1,904.0	1,880.0	1,898.0	+16.0
KGB	2,173,000	870.0	854.0	869.0	+14.0
FRONTKN	4,876,100	500.0	478.0	499.0	+13.0
MI	1,587,000	598.0	575.0	591.0	+13.0

TOP 20 LOSERS					
STOCK	L/DONE	LACP	BUY	SELL	CHANGE
MCCEMENT	6,392,500	609.0	552.0	552.0	-51.0
HLIND	186,600	1,738.0	1,700.0	1,706.0	-34.0
PETGAS	431,200	1,758.0	1,740.0	1,744.0	-26.0
KPJ	15,029,700	273.0	259.0	261.0	-11.0
NIKKEI-C18	3,000	60.0	58.0	58.0	-10.5
MENTIGA	347,000	68.5	55.0	57.5	-10.0
UMSINT	11,100	825.0	814.0	814.0	-10.0
KPJ-C43	60,000	6.0	5.5	5.5	-9.5
AMBAK	2,380,200	692.0	684.0	685.0	-9.0
NEXG-C88	100,000	6.0	5.5	6.0	-9.0
HSI-CWUI	6,000	60.0	60.0	60.0	-8.5
ECOWLD	4,769,400	195.0	187.0	187.0	-8.0
HLBANK	504,900	2,370.0	2,350.0	2,358.0	-8.0
PPB	110,900	989.0	980.0	981.0	-8.0
EUROSP	16,700	306.0	298.0	298.0	-8.0
KLUANG	1,200	665.0	657.0	657.0	-8.0
MERCURY	1,700	62.5	62.5	62.5	-8.0
CHINAETF-MYR500	440.0	440.0	440.0	440.0	-8.0
THMY	3,568,700	188.0	177.0	179.0	-7.0
KIALIM	22,500	33.0	30.5	30.5	-7.0

Closing Indices			
KLSE	FBM KLCI	1,714.40	(-0.39)
	CONSUMER PRODUCTS	481.55	(-0.56)
	INDUSTRIAL PRODUCTS	187.42	(+0.46)
	CONSTRUCTION	315.08	(+5.96)
	FINANCIAL SERVICES	20,147.47	(-41.27)
	ENERGY	818.77	(+9.56)
	TELECOMMUNICATIONS	400.06	(-0.81)
	HEALTH CARE	1,482.45	(-15.30)
	TRANSPORTATION	1,020.07	(-2.79)
	PROPERTY	1,076.61	(-5.74)
	PLANTATION	9,476.63	(+87.95)
	FBMSEA	12,450.83	(+40.30)
	FBMACE	5,272.23	(+13.92)
	TECHNOLOGY	74.07	(+1.45)
* Average Pepper price (RM/tonne)			
• S'PORE	STI	5,764.55	-27.73
• TOKYO	NIKKEI	65,269.33	-1,130.52
	TOPIX	4,050.33	-75.47
• HK	HANG SENG	25,317.18	-95.94
• AUST	ALL ORDS	9,114.30	-86.30

Commodities			
PEPPER			
Date: 8.9.2026			
* Average Pepper price (RM/tonne)			
SOUTHERN REGION			
KUCHING	SERIAN	SRI AMAN	BETONG
BLACK G1	25,230	25,730	25,130
WHITE G1	36,290	38,380	35,750
NORTHERN REGION			
SARKEE	BINTANGOR	SIBU	KAPIT
BLACK G1	24,960	24,500	24,130
WHITE G1	36,180	36,500	34,450
Source: Malaysian Pepper Board			
http://www.mpb.gov.my			
COCOA			
Dealer's buying prices of dry cocoa beans (RM/MT)			
Centres in Sabah & Sarawak			
SMC 1		SMC 2	
High	Low	Avg	High
KUCHING	14,500	14,500	14,500
SARKEE	14,500	14,500	14,500
SIBU	14,500	14,500	14,500
TAWAU	15,000	15,000	14,800
TENOM	15,000	15,000	14

M'sia expects nine GW of gas-fired power capacity by 2032

PETALING JAYA: Malaysia expects about nine gigawatts (GW) of gas-fired power capacity to be deployed by 2032 as the country manages growing electricity demand while progressively phasing out coal-fired generation.

Minister of Economy Akmal Nasrullah Mohd Nasir said the capacity would form part of the country's efforts to manage electricity demand, with the last coal-fired power plant expected to be retired in 2044.

Akmal Nasrullah said energy demand was showing an upward trend, driven by factors including population growth and higher consumption from energy-intensive sectors such as data centres.

"In terms of the projection for energy demand, definitely we see a pattern of increase. One is population growth.

"But number two, there is also an increase in energy consumption by high-usage sectors such as data centres," he told reporters after the Energy Regulatory Insights 2026 here yesterday.

He said weather and climate conditions could also change energy demand patterns, particularly as hotter conditions increase the need for cooling systems and air conditioning.

Against this backdrop, Akmal Nasrullah said managing energy demand would become as crucial as managing energy supply over the next five to 10 years.

"I think for the next five to 10 years, Malaysia must really remain disciplined enough to ensure our system is continuously upgraded, not just in terms of the power produced, but also the grid and infrastructure, so that our system remains affordable, safe and sustainable," he added.

He said energy planning should



Akmal Nasrullah (middle) is seen during the launch of the Energy Regulatory Insights 2026 yesterday. — Bernama photo

not only focus on the megawatts that need to be deployed in the system, but also on energy efficiency and conservation.

Akmal Nasrullah said the planning would need to be managed by the Ministry of Energy Transition and Water Transformation and the Energy Commission to ensure the country could manage demand while remaining committed to sustainability efforts and reducing the energy sector's carbon footprint.

Earlier in his keynote address, Akmal Nasrullah outlined three priorities for the next phase of energy reform, starting with the need for a competitive and

progressive energy market with clear and predictable rules and transparent access arrangements.

Secondly, he said expanding generation capacity must be supported by a modern grid that is intelligent, visible, secure and flexible, with grid modernisation under the 13th Malaysia Plan regarded as essential economic infrastructure to enable investments to connect faster, improve system efficiency and support reliable economic growth.

Thirdly, Akmal Nasrullah said energy efficiency must be treated as an energy resource in its own right, as it could reduce

operating costs, ease pressure on the system and strengthen competitiveness.

He said the first National Energy Efficiency Action Plan (NEEAP) exceeded its original target, delivering cumulative electricity savings of 60,886 gigawatt-hours, equivalent to RM16.1 billion in savings, from 2016 to 2025.

Under NEEAP 2.0, Malaysia is targeting an 11.6 per cent reduction in energy demand against the business-as-usual scenario by 2035, which is expected to help lower energy costs, ease pressure on the system and support more productive and competitive economic activity. — Bernama

Budget 2027 should incentivise energy efficiency, RE development

KUALA LUMPUR: Budget 2027 should introduce incentives to encourage investment in energy efficiency and renewable energy (RE) development, according to the Energy Commission (ST).

Its chief executive officer Siti Safinah Salleh said energy-efficiency investment needed greater encouragement, as it was often overlooked despite its importance to the overall energy system.

"I hope the government will include initiatives, incentives or measures in Budget 2027 to encourage energy efficiency.

"Typically, most people avoid investing in energy efficiency because they think it is not so

exciting. Therefore, I think energy efficiency really needs to be incentivised," she told reporters on the sidelines of Energy Regulatory Insights (ERI) 2026 here yesterday.

Siti Safinah said the government could also consider incentives to accelerate RE development.

She said those with the financial capacity should be encouraged to invest in their own RE facilities, as such investments would benefit the overall electricity system.

"These are the kinds of incentives that the government could look into," she added.

Budget 2027 is scheduled to be tabled in Parliament on Oct 9, 2026. — Bernama

SCA Solutions receives Bursa's nod for ACE Market listing

KUALA LUMPUR: Mechanical and electrical engineering solutions provider SCA Solutions Bhd has received Bursa Malaysia Securities Bhd's approval to list on the ACE Market, expected by the fourth quarter of 2026.

Managing director Tan Cheng Eng said in a statement today that the initial public offering will solidify SCA Solutions' foundation to scale up operations and drive innovation.

"Our integrated solutions and services have earned the trust of customers across mission-critical facilities, including data centres, higher learning institutions, industrial facilities, and hospitals. Clients rely on our expertise to ensure safety, optimise building performance and maintenance, and enhance

operational resilience.

"As buildings and industrial facilities grow in complexity, we continue to enhance our knowledge and capabilities to execute massive and sophisticated projects nationwide," he said.

SCA Solutions has extensive experience across diverse building projects, spanning shopping malls, hotels, office buildings, hospitals and educational institutions.

It offers a comprehensive portfolio of instrumentation components and accessories, including temperature and pressure sensors, motorised control valves, and metering devices used in heating, ventilation and air conditioning systems, and fire safety instrumentation and related components. — Bernama

RHB completes five-year anti-corruption roadmap

KUCHING: RHB Banking Group has completed all 27 initiatives under its Organisational Anti-Corruption Plan (OACP) 2022–2026, marking a milestone in strengthening governance, transparency, accountability and ethical business conduct across the Group.

The achievement was commemorated during Integrity Week 2026, which brought together employees and strategic partners through programmes focused on integrity, governance and ethical decision-making.

Implemented over five years, the OACP established a framework to strengthen governance practices, enhance corruption risk management, raise awareness and embed a stronger culture of integrity throughout the organisation.

Among the key achievements during the OACP period were the completion of the first phase of the Corporate Integrity System Malaysia (CISM) Assessment and RHB's recognition with Third Place in the Overall Excellence Award at the National Annual Corporate Governance & Sustainability Awards.

Speaking at the opening of Integrity Week 2026, RHB



(From left) RHB Bank group chief legal and governance officer Azman Shah Md Yaman, Badri, and Mohd Rashid marking the completion of RHB's OACP 2022–2026.

Banking Group chairman Tan Sri Ahmad Badri Mohd Zahir said the completion of the OACP reflected the collective commitment of employees across the Group to uphold integrity and accountability.

"The successful completion of our Organisational Anti-Corruption Plan is an important milestone, but it is only one step in our broader journey to strengthen trust and accountability across the

organisation.

"As expectations continue to evolve, integrity must remain at the heart of how we serve our customers, engage our stakeholders, and create long-term value," he said.

Integrity Week 2026 also reinforced RHB's zero-tolerance stance against bribery and corruption, with activities including the Group Integrity Pledge led by the Chairman, anti-corruption training,

governance-focused discussions and engagement booths hosted by strategic partners.

The week also featured the Integrity Excellence Awards, which recognised employees who demonstrated ethical leadership, strong values and the courage to do what is right.

Building on the OACP, RHB is developing its Organisational Anti-Corruption Strategy (OACS) in alignment with the National Anti-

Corruption Strategy (NACS) 2024–2028.

The OACS will focus on integrating integrity considerations into business decision-making, strengthening governance practices and reinforcing accountability, transparency and ethical conduct across the organisation.

RHB Banking Group Group managing director and group chief executive officer Datuk Mohd Rashid Mohamad said the completion of the OACP marked the beginning of the Group's next phase in strengthening its culture of integrity.

"The completion of our Organisational Anti-Corruption Plan is not the end of the journey, but the beginning of the next chapter.

"As we develop the Organisational Anti-Corruption Strategy, our focus is on embedding integrity, accountability, and ethical conduct more deeply into every decision, every interaction, and every outcome," he said.

RHB said it remains committed to maintaining high standards of integrity and governance as it continues its transformation journey under PROGRESS27.

F&N AgriValley, DVS sign MoU to strengthen livestock and dairy sector

KUCHING: F&N AgriValley Sdn Bhd (F&N AgriValley) a subsidiary of Fraser & Neave Holdings Bhd (F&N), has formalised a memorandum of understanding (MOU) with the Department of Veterinary Services (DVS) to support Malaysia's livestock development and national food security.

The MOU exchange took place during the Malaysia Agriculture, Horticulture & Agrotourism Show (MAHA) 2026 at MAEPS, Serdang.

It was represented by F&N chief executive officer-designate Tarang Gupta and DVS Deputy Director-General (Development) Dr Saifullizam Abd Kadir, and witnessed by Agriculture and Food Security Minister Datuk Seri Mohamad Sabu.

Under the public-private partnership, F&N AgriValley will supply Holstein bull calves to



From left senior director of the livestock industry development division Dr. Zulkifli Ishak, Saifullizam, under-secretary of the business development and investment division Khalid Ibrahim, Minister of Agriculture and Food Security Datuk Seri Mohamad Sabu, Tarang and F&N AgriValley firector Dauk Raffiq Md Ariff at the F&N AgriValley and DVS MoU exchange during MAHA 2026.

support DVS-led research and development (R&D), breeding programmes and related livestock development nationwide.

F&N AgriValley is the first

commercial dairy farm to import Holstein cattle from Chile into Malaysia, with the breed described as the world's highest-yielding dairy breed to support

domestic milk production.

Gupta said the initiative reflected F&N AgriValley's commitment to strengthening Malaysia's food security.

"Our goal at F&N AgriValley goes beyond commercial farming; we are deeply committed to playing an active role in strengthening Malaysia's food security.

"By providing affordable, high-quality fresh milk from our farm in Gemas and sharing world-class livestock genetics with DVS, we hope to uplift local livestock capabilities and contribute to a resilient, self-sufficient food supply for all Malaysians," he said.

During MAHA 2026, F&N AgriValley also showcased its integrated smart-farming technology and Magnolia 100 per cent Fresh Milk.

F&N also served as the official sponsor of the event's exporters lounge, featuring a coffee bar showcasing Magnolia 100 per cent Fresh Milk and Barista Milk.

AGX's aerospace logistics, All-Link expansion to support 2HFY26 growth



KUCHING: AGX Group Berhad's (AGX) aerospace logistics business and the regional expansion of associate company All-Link are expected to support stronger earnings in the second half of financial year 2026 (2HFY26).

Researchers with Mercury Securities Bhd said AGX's 6MFY26 revenue rose 41 per cent year-on-year to RM186 million, driven by higher contributions from sea freight forwarding, air freight forwarding and aerospace logistics.

However, profit after tax and minority interest increased by five per cent year-on-year to RM9.1 million, amid margin pressure from a higher mix of lower-margin activities.

"AGX's aerospace logistics segment was gaining momentum following new customer wins including AirBorneo, Firefly and SEAIR, while MAS, VietJet Air and Sun PhuQuoc have moved into the ramp-up phase.

"2HFY26 is set for a stronger finish," Mercury Securities said, citing stronger seasonal demand, higher freight volumes and contributions from newly secured customers.

AGX currently covers 451 aircraft across four airlines, with coverage expected to reach 1,516 aircraft by 2035.

Mercury Securities also said All-Link's listing on the Singapore Exchange on Aug 5, 2026 provided greater financial flexibility for customer acquisition and regional expansion.

AGX's stake in All-Link was diluted to 23 per cent from 30 per cent following its listing.



‘Dayak smallholders on peatlands most at risk’



KUCHING: Dayak farming communities in Sarawak, particularly those located on peatlands, encounter numerous challenges that heighten their vulnerability to extended dry weather.

Sarawak Dayak Oil Palm Planters Association (Doppa) president Dr. Napoleon R. Ningkos outlined the unique nature of peatlands, combined with specific local conditions such as limited water supply, aging palm trees, difficult terrain, and distance from processing mills, which exacerbate these challenges for Sarawakian palm oil smallholders.

These factors create a complex set of vulnerabilities for the Dayak communities, he said, which makes effective management essential.

“The challenges of peatland farming are significant due to the waterlogged nature of peatlands, which contain a thick layer of organic material,” he told The Borneo Post in an interview.

“During dry spells, the water table can drop, drying out peat soils, making them prone to fires, and affecting crop growth. Limited access to water resources further complicates this issue for farmers who lack the necessary infrastructure.”

Additionally, he noted that many Dayak communities depend on oil palm cultivation, but older palms are less productive and more susceptible to environmental stress,



The challenges of peatland farming are significant due to the waterlogged nature of peatlands, which contain a thick layer of organic material.

Dr. Napoleon R. Ningkos

impacting farmers’ livelihoods.

“The difficult terrain of Sarawak, with its soft, unstable peatland soil, complicates transportation and infrastructure development, while the distance from processing mills increases costs and delays crop processing,” he explained.

“The Super El Nino’s impact on smallholders could result in a significant reduction in their income and livelihoods due to decreased fresh fruit bunch (FFB) production. Yields may decline by up to 20–30 per cent, directly affecting the volume that smallholders can sell.

This reduction in yield can lead to lower income, increased competition, higher input costs, and difficulties in loan repayments, potentially causing



Many Dayak communities depend on oil palm cultivation, but older palms are less productive and more susceptible to environmental stress, impacting farmers’ livelihoods. — Bernama photo

financial strain.

“Socially, it may threaten food security and cause job losses in rural areas, possibly prompting migration to urban centers.

To address these vulnerabilities, the Doppa president noted that targeted interventions are needed.

“Improving water management systems, transitioning to more resilient crop varieties, enhancing infrastructure, and providing better access to processing facilities can significantly bolster the resilience and sustainability of these communities.

“By tackling these challenges, it is possible to mitigate the impact of unpredictable weather patterns on the Dayak farming communities of Sarawak, ensuring their continued viability and prosperity,” he commented.

For Dayak smallholders, Dr Napoleon said they can adopt proactive measures such as efficient water management

with irrigation systems and rainwater harvesting, soil management through mulching and composting, and crop diversification by intercropping.

“Government and industry support is crucial. Agencies like the Malaysian Palm Oil Board (MPOB) can provide technical advice through training programs and research on drought-resistant palm varieties,” he affirmed.

“Financial assistance, including subsidies, grants, and access to low-interest loans, is essential for infrastructure investments. Additionally, policy support through insurance schemes and regulatory frameworks can aid smallholders in adopting sustainable practices.

“While smallholders can take steps to protect their farms, comprehensive support from government and industry bodies is vital for their resilience and sustainability.”

Govt studying ways to boost smallholder income, help traders

PUTRAJAYA: The government is studying ways to increase the income of smallholders and ensure the agri-commodity sector continues to drive the country’s economic growth, said Prime Minister Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim.

Anwar said the government will continue to strengthen the agri-commodity sector through higher productivity, technology use, and developing a more resilient value chain.

He said the priority is poverty eradication, followed by assisting small businesses and traders.

“From stalls to restaurants and to small traders, their problems are increasing,” he said at the Plantation and Commodities Ministry’s (KPK) monthly assembly yesterday.

The prime minister said the government’s initiatives include empowering downstream agri-commodity entrepreneurs (RM17.05 million), the Agro-Commodity Sector Disaster and Disease Control Fund (RM28.57 million), the Smallholder Farm Road Programme (RM100 million), and the Smallholder Oil Palm Replanting Financing Incentive Scheme (TSKPS) 2.0 (RM280.03 million).

He added that the replanting programme will also continue



The Prime Minister is seen during the Plantation and Commodities Ministry’s monthly assembly yesterday. — Bernama photo

to help raise productivity and income for smallholders in the long term.

Anwar said the smallholder road projects are expected to

directly increase smallholders’ productivity, especially by providing basic infrastructure that meets the needs of farming areas.

Meanwhile, Anwar, who is also the finance minister, said the government is also paying attention to rubber smallholders by increasing the Rubber Production Incentive (RPI) twice under the MADANI administration.

He noted that the RPI rate, which was RM2.50 per kilogram (kg) in 2019, rose to RM2.70 per kg in 2023 and then to RM3.00 per kg in 2024.

For smallholders in the palm oil sector, Anwar said the government improved the replanting financing approach from 100 per cent loans to a hybrid method starting in 2024, which is 50 per cent grants and 50 per cent easy loans at an interest rate as low as two per cent, involving an allocation of RM100 million.

He said the government has also increased the allocation for maintaining plantation roads nationwide to RM50 million in 2026, up from RM8 million in 2022.

He added that as of September 2026, some 270,000 smallholders, including small palm oil, rubber, cocoa, pepper, and kenaf farmers, received a monthly cash assistance of RM400 under the BUDI Agri-Commodities programme. — Bernama

Hengyuan, Shell ink term sheet to extend offtake agreement for 10-year tenure

KUALA LUMPUR: Hengyuan Refining Company Bhd (HRC) has entered into a binding term sheet with Shell Malaysia Trading Sdn Bhd (SMT) and Shell Timur Sdn Bhd (STSB) (collectively, Shell) for the renewal of the long-term product offtake agreement for a 10-year tenure.

HRC said the renewal is intended to continue the long-standing product offtake arrangement between HRC and Shell from Jan 1, 2027 to Dec 31, 2036.

The deal will run for an initial

term of five years and a further five-year renewal term subject to mutual agreement of the parties.

“The term sheet sets out the principal commercial terms and provides the framework for the negotiation and execution of the definitive product offtake agreement.

“The arrangement is expected to support the continued placement of HRC’s refinery products and the stability of its refinery operations,” it said in a stock exchange filing. — Bernama

Smallholder support key to strengthening agri-commodity value chain

PUTRAJAYA: Support for smallholders must progress in tandem with efforts to strengthen the entire agri-commodity value chain to ensure that industry growth also benefits these groups, said Plantation and Commodities Minister Datuk Seri Dr Noraini Ahmad.

Noraini said collaboration among industry, researchers, entrepreneurs, and the community is crucial to accelerate technology adoption and develop agri-commodity products. She said that in engaging with industry players, the government focuses not only on company growth or increased exports, but also on growth which expands markets and increases demand for local produce.

“As the industry expands, opportunities for entrepreneurs need to grow, with the benefits being felt by smallholders. Hence, efforts to boost productivity, accelerate the use of technology and produce value-added products need to be given collective attention,” she said during the Ministry of Plantation and Commodities’ (KPK) Monthly Assembly here yesterday.

To increase long-term income, Noraini said the replanting programme remains among the ministry’s priorities, and as of Aug 31, 4,380 smallholders have received benefits through the Oil Palm Smallholder Replanting Programme 2.0 (TSPKS).

She said the implementation covers 12,197.11 hectares, with total funding of almost RM191 million.

“We want replanting to be carried out systematically and using quality planting material.

“The goal is to increase productivity and provide better returns to smallholders,” she said.

In the upcoming Budget 2027, Noraini said the government intends to ensure that smallholders earn better income, while the industry adopts more modern technology and creates and sustains more value from the country’s commodities.

She said that to achieve this, KPK has proposed five strategic priorities under Budget 2027, including empowering smallholders through quality inputs, good agricultural practices and replanting programmes, and accelerating mechanisation, automation, and digitalisation via smart technology and artificial intelligence.

The ministry also wants to strengthen downstream industries through research, commercialisation of innovation, and production of new high-technology products; bolster sustainability, traceability, and compliance with international standards; and develop local talent through technical and vocational education and training (TVET), skills training, and youth participation, she added. — Bernama

Gas Malaysia, Petronas Gas to study pipeline link for Yan regasification terminal

KUALA LUMPUR: Gas Malaysia Bhd has entered into a joint study and collaboration agreement (JSCA) with Petronas Gas Bhd (PGB) to study the development of an onshore lateral pipeline to connect the proposed regasification terminal (RGT) Yan project to the Peninsular Gas Utilisation (PGU) system.

In a filing with Bursa Malaysia, Gas Malaysia said the JSCA sets out the framework for the companies to conduct a feasibility study and related activities for the proposed pipeline interconnection.

“The JSCA formalises the parties’ respective roles, responsibilities and cost allocation arrangements for the study, and forms part of the requirements under the Energy Commission of Malaysia’s letter of proceed (LTP) for the RGT Yan project,” it said.

The feasibility study will assess the technical, operational and commercial viability of the proposed pipeline interconnection, including engineering design, land

acquisition requirements and other technical assessments needed to support PGB’s confirmation of the proposed interconnection, it said.

Gas Malaysia said the study’s outcome would provide information needed to progress the RGT Yan project and facilitate the relevant submission to the Energy Commission in accordance with the LTP.

Under the agreement, PGB will lead the feasibility study, covering hydraulic steady-state and transient simulations, site surveys comprising desktop and field assessments, engineering surveys, soil investigations and front-end engineering design.

The studies will support PGB’s assessment of the technical feasibility of developing the lateral pipeline, Gas Malaysia said. Meanwhile, Gas Malaysia will provide information on volumetric flow rates and gas demand at the relevant demand centres to support the pipeline feasibility assessment. — Bernama

Govt boosts rubber glove industry with improved regulations, enhances traceability

KUALA LUMPUR: The government is strengthening regulations governing rubber glove manufacturing and exports to address industry overcapacity while enhancing the traceability of Malaysian-made gloves.

Plantation and Commodities Minister Datuk Seri Dr Noraini Ahmad said the measures, implemented through the Malaysian Rubber Board (MRB), will help promote sustainable and disciplined growth.

Malaysian Rubber Council (MRC) chairman Datuk Seri Mohamad Suparadi Md Noor

read the speech on her behalf at the opening ceremony of the International Rubber Glove Conference & Exhibition (IRGCE) 2026 here yesterday.

Under the MRB (Licensing and Permit) Regulations 2014, Noraini said only manufacturers with an appropriate and valid rubber product manufacturing licence are allowed to manufacture rubber gloves in Malaysia.

“The licensing requirement is important from a regulatory perspective; it strengthens accountability, supports product quality and compliance.

“It also provides a mechanism

for better management of manufacturing capacity as the industry addresses the issue of overcapacity and moves towards more sustainable and disciplined growth,” Noraini said.

The MRB also strengthened requirements for rubber glove exports, with the export licence number displayed on packaging materials to enhance traceability and accountability throughout the supply chain, she said.

The measure will prevent transshipment activities and ensure Malaysia is not used as a route for products manufactured

elsewhere to enter international markets under Malaysian-made gloves.

“We want the international marketplace to have confidence that when a product is represented as a Malaysian-made glove, it is backed by proper manufacturing, regulatory compliance, traceability and recognised industry standards,” she said.

The industry must move beyond competing primarily on volume and price as global competition intensifies and buyers become more demanding, she said.

Greater investment in research and development, automation, digitalisation, artificial intelligence (AI) and advanced manufacturing were needed to improve efficiency, enhance product performance and strengthen Malaysia’s technological capabilities, she said.

“Technologies such as AI-driven quality inspection, smart production systems, advanced materials and next-generation glove formulations have the potential to improve efficiency, enhance product performance and strengthen Malaysia’s

technological capabilities,” she said.

Organised by the Malaysian Rubber Glove Manufacturers Association, the 12th edition of IRGCE, themed “Synergising Innovation: Redefining the Future of the Rubber Glove Ecosystem”, features 605 booths and 215 exhibitors from various countries.

It brought together industry leaders, technical experts, researchers and policymakers to exchange knowledge, explore new technologies and solutions, and establish business relationships. — Bernama*