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Initiatives to improve electricity supply

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THE State Government will continue working with the Federal Government to implement various initiatives aimed at improving the performance of electricity supply in the State, said Chief Minister Datuk Seri Hajiji Noor.

He said this includes initiatives formulated based on the regulatory authority of the Energy Commission of Sabah (ECoS) within the Sabah Energy Roadmap and Master Plan 2040 (SE-RAMP 2040).

“Although regulatory control over Sabah’s electricity supply has been transferred to the State Government, I hope that cooperation between both parties remains strong, demonstrating unity and a high level of commitment to providing the best facilities for the people,” he said at the Sabah Electricity Community Programme, Christmas 2024 and New Year 2025 Open House at Dewan Seri Sulaman in Tuaran, on Jan 26. His speech was delivered by Deputy Chief Minister III cum Works Minister Datuk Ir Shahelmey Yahya.

The Chief Minister said among the efforts undertaken at the State Government level is the exemption of the Imbalance Cost Pass-Through (ICPT) surcharge for six months, from Jan 1 to June 2025.

“A subsidy of RM50.9 million has been allocated for eligible domestic users and non-domestic users under the low-voltage tariff category, which also includes Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs).

“The primary issue affecting the electricity supply in the State is not merely a lack of generation capacity but is compounded by an increase in consumer demand due to rapid economic growth.

“Therefore, the State Government will focus on ensuring the successful implementation of the short-term Generation Development Plan to achieve a 30 per cent generation capacity reserve margin,” he said.

To ensure the success of this plan and improve the electricity supply situation in Sabah, he said the State Government, through ECoS, will continue to collaborate with Sabah Electricity to facilitate and support the implementation of the Sabah Electricity Transformation Plan.

Meanwhile, Hajiji emphasised that the Gabungan Rakyat Sabah-Pakatan Harapan (GRS-PH) Plus Government treats all citizens of the State fairly, regardless of religious, racial or ethnic differences.

“This is evidence of the concern and inclusivity of the GRS-PH Plus Government. Therefore, I hope that on this occasion, we can strengthen our bonds of brotherhood, unity and harmony among our diverse people.

“Moreover, as a multi-ethnic state, we are fortunate to be able to celebrate the various festivities observed across the country.

“Christmas, which was recently celebrated by Christians in December, and the upcoming Chinese New Year, to be observed by the Chinese community in just a few days, highlight how our country values and respects all its festive celebrations,” he said.

He also expressed hope that the tradition of sharing and respecting different cultural celebrations, along with the practice of visiting each other during festive seasons, will continue to be upheld as part of Malaysia’s unique and harmonious identity.