



05 MAY, 2025

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Daily Express (KK), Malaysia

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THE Gabungan Rakyat Sabah-Pakatan Harapan (GRS-PH) Plus is not merely planning but has already implemented numerous development initiatives in the economic sector and for the wellbeing of the people, said Chief Minister Datuk Seri Hajiji Noor.

He said claims by the opposition that the GRS-PH Plus Government has not brought any development to the State are untrue. "Those are mere slanders from those who constantly seek to deny every achievement made by the Government," he added.

"However, we are not sitting idle. We continue working for the development of the State and its people. Various forms of assistance have been provided, particularly to students from B40 families who have been accepted into institutions of higher learning.

"These include the Budi (Higher Education Registration Cash Aid), Bakti (Special Examination Cash Aid), Baik (Computer Assistance), as well as a GRS-SUBFLY RM600 flight subsidy for Sabah students studying in Peninsular Malaysia and Sarawak and Sentosa (Domestic Higher Education Student Contribution) of RM300.

"These are part of around 13 education assistance initiatives provided by the State Government to eligible students," he said when launching Sook's Upgrade to Full District status at Sook District Office grounds on April 28.

Hajiji said other initiatives for underprivileged citizens this year include the construction of 3,000 units of Rumah Mesra SMJ in all 73 state constituencies (DUN), involving a total cost of RM250 million.

He added that a new form of assistance introduced by the State Government this

year is the Sentuhan Kasih Rakyat (Syukur) programme, which will benefit about 100,000 recipients in Sabah – particularly poor and hardcore poor heads of households – who will receive monthly cash aid of RM300 until the end of the year.

Touching on water, electricity and road issues often raised by the opposition, the Chief Minister acknowledged these are inherited problems, but stressed the Government is constantly working to address and resolve them.

He said 13 high-impact water supply projects have been implemented or are ongoing as long-term solutions to ensure sufficient water supply in the State. These include the Tawau Water Supply Scheme Phase 3, the Kundasang Water Treatment Plant, the new Semporna Water Treatment Plant, Lahad Datu Water Supply Scheme Phase 1 and the expansion of Telibong II Water Treatment Plant.

"Meanwhile, the capacity expansion project for the Kogopon Water Treatment Plant Phase 2 in Papar – from 40 million litres per day (MLD) to 80 MLD – is expected to be completed in 2026," he said.

On electricity supply, Hajiji said various measures are being taken, including the Ulu Padas Hydroelectric Project, which will generate 187.5 megawatts (MW) of electricity.

In addition, the Sabah Energy Council has approved nearly 1,000 MW of electricity generation through several power generation projects to meet the State's growing energy demand.

"These projects are not only meant to resolve electricity supply issues in Sabah but are also part of the State Government's long-term, sustainable solutions," he added.

Hajiji said more development is on the way for Sabah and he was recently informed that four out of 16 packages under Phase 1A of the Pan Borneo Highway Sabah project have been completed. The remaining 12 packages are under construction, with an overall completion rate of 81.7 per cent.

"All of these are among the many initiatives we have carried out and continue to implement. These are achievements that have never been done before. More development will be brought to the State for its progress and the people's wellbeing, if we are entrusted with the mandate once again," he said.

For the Sook district, Hajiji noted that several development projects are actively underway, including two paved road construction projects – the 40km Sinaron, Sook to Linayukan, Tongod road (RM320 million) and the 22.85km Rancangan Belia Tiulon, Sook road (RM127 million) – both currently in implementation.

He said the existence of these paved roads will save travel time and costs, while also helping to stimulate the local economy.

In terms of educational development, four new schools are currently under construction – Sekolah Kebangsaan (SK) Ambual, SK Rancangan Belia Tiulon, Sekolah Menengah Kebangsaan (SMK) Dalit and SMK Trusmadi – with most nearing full completion.

Meanwhile, the upgrading of health clinics and the construction of Sabah Electricity's Main Distribution Substation (PPU) were completed last year.

These include the nearly RM1 million Sook Health Clinic and the Karamatoi and Marapok rural clinics, valued at RM600,000



Hajiji launching the Gagasan Rakyat Information Machinery.

each.

"In addition, a total of 120 residents have benefitted from the Rumah Mesra SMJ programme in Sook from 2022 to 2024, with a total value of nearly RM9.6 million. For 2025, the State Government has allocated RM6.4 million to build 80 SMJ homes in Sook," he said.

Hajiji added that more development will be brought to Sook in the future to benefit the local population, including the construction of a sports complex, a district hospital, a police station and the expansion of the Sook Health Clinic area.

"Every development brought in is a testament to the State Government's commitment to safeguarding the people's wellbeing and advancing Sabah towards more structured, equitable and progressive development," he stressed.

During the event, he also approved an allocation of RM2 million for the construction of the Sook District Community Hall and the upgrading of the Sook District Office building.