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KOTA KINABALU: The opposition's move to point fingers and spread negative stories about Chief Minister Datuk Seri Panglima Hajiji Noor over roads, water and electricity issues is a political tactic to gain sympathy from the public who may not know the actual facts.

Parti Gagasan Rakyat Sabah (Gagasan Rakyat) Vice President Datuk Masiung Banah said all three issues are under Federal Government responsibility, but facts have been twisted to create a negative perception of the Chief Minister.

"The opposition leaders and their followers are sowing hatred against the Gabungan Rakyat Sabah (GRS) Government over roads, water and electricity issues, but in reality, they are criticising the Federal Government," he said in a statement on Sunday.

He added the opposition's actions are politically motivated to win support ahead of the 17th State Election (PRN17), even though they faced the same issues when they were in government.

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Datuk Masiung Banah



of the Federal Government," he stressed.

Masiung said instead of attacking the State Government, opposition MPs should be voicing these problems directly to the Federal Government to help resolve the difficulties faced by the people in Sabah.

"But because they are desperate to return to power after being rejected by the people, they have chosen to point fingers at the State Government, hoping the people will believe their agenda," he said.

He explained that the State

Government is not shirking its responsibilities but solutions cannot be implemented all at once.

According to him, most of the damaged roads in Sabah are Federal roads. As for electricity, it is under Tenaga Nasional Berhad (TNB), which owns Sabah Electricity Sdn Bhd (SESB).

"When there are frequent power outages, Datuk Seri Hajiji is blamed, but the fact is that Sabah Electricity is a subsidiary of TNB owned by the Federal Government. The State Government only holds an 18

per cent share and does not have absolute power. The people must understand the real facts and not be misled," he said.

Masiung added that water problems stemmed from decisions by the previous State Government to terminate the water concession company, which led to higher costs and RM300 million in compensation payments.

He stressed that the GRS Government is focusing on a two-pronged approach with the Federal Government to resolve all three infrastructure issues.

Recently, a delegation of Sabah Pakatan Harapan (PH) assemblymen met Prime Minister Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim to request additional allocations for Sabah to address road, power and water problems.

The Kuamut assemblyman said he has served under three different State Governments and three Chief Ministers, but Hajiji's achievements far surpass previous administrations.

He noted that in Hajiji's first four years, state reserves reached RM8.08 billion, the highest in Sabah's history, while state revenue rose to more than RM7 billion — achievements never recorded by previous leaders.