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Five dead in Long Lellang tragedy

Flying doctor team, pilot perish as chopper goes down at end of STOLport runway in Baram

Philip Kiew & Jenifer Laeng

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.



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

Separately, 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

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Galong Luang

Commissioner Datuk Mohamad Zainal Abdullah confirmed that a search-and-rescue 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 Malaysia 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.

35 foreign nationals rounded up in Kuching immigration raids



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KUCHING: The Immigration Department detained 35 foreign nationals during an operation conducted at three separate locations here Monday night.

Immigration Department deputy director-general (Operations) Datuk Lokman Effendi Ramli said the raids took place near Jalan Chan Chin Ann, Jalan Stutong, and Moyan Square.

The Borneo Post observed that the raids were mostly conducted at eateries as well as massage parlours in the aforementioned areas.

The operation involved 45 enforcement officers from the Sarawak Immigration Enforcement Division.

"Of the 57 foreign nationals screened, 35 individuals comprising 15 men and 20 women were detained for committing offences under the Immigration Act 1959/63.

"Among the offences include overstaying and misusing visit passes," Lokman told reporters after the operation concluded around midnight.

He said some foreign nationals were found without travel documents, while others had misused their social visit passes to work.

"Visit passes are for the purpose of touring or visiting



A foreign national is caught by Immigration officers after attempting to evade authorities during raid. - Photo by Mohd Faisal Ahmad

our country, and they are not permitted to work. As such, working here is an offence unless they possess a valid work permit.

"We will conduct further checks and verification on the status of their documents before any subsequent action is taken," he said.

Those detained were sent to the Semuja Immigration Depot for temporary detention and

processing.

Lokman warned employers not to protect or employ undocumented foreign workers, warning that they could face legal action if found guilty.

He added that intelligence and enforcement operations would continue to be carried out from time to time to detect foreign nationals committing offences under the Immigration Act.



Premier: Development must be planned with future in mind

KUCHING: Sarawak's development must be guided by a long-term vision so that its benefits are enjoyed not only by people today but also passed on to future generations, said Datuk Patinggi Abang Johari Tun Openg.

According to a Sarawak Public Communications Unit report, the Premier said leaders have a responsibility to ensure that development plans made today leave a lasting legacy for generations to come.

"When we are here, we need to leave a legacy that will benefit future generations.

"Change is the only constant, and society needs to be prepared to adapt to change and anticipate developments that may take place," he said during a Fireside Chat with the Asian Development Bank (ADB) at the ADB Headquarters in Manila yesterday.

He said this approach formed the basis of Sarawak's long-term planning across various sectors, including energy, technology, transportation and economic

development.

Elaborating, Abang Johari said emerging technologies would play an important role in shaping the state's future development, citing Sarawak's adoption of hydrogen technology for its Autonomous Rapid Transit (ART) public transport system.

He acknowledged that new technologies typically involved high initial costs but said these could potentially decline as the technology matured and efficiency improved.

"Hydrogen is expensive at the moment, but perhaps there will be new technologies that can reduce the cost of producing hydrogen," he said.

Abang Johari added that Sarawak's development must be pursued in a balanced manner, taking into account economic growth, the interests of the people and environmental sustainability.

He stressed that all three aspects needed to progress in tandem to ensure the state's development remained sustainable.

EC: Two factors whether proposed 17 new state seats ready for next polls

KUCHING: The 17 new Sarawak state seats proposed under the latest electoral boundary review may not be ready for the next state election, with the Election Commission (EC) yet to determine whether the process can be completed before the state assembly is dissolved.

EC member Dr Mohd Faisal Syam Abdul Haziz said the

timing depended on two factors: completion of the boundary review and the date the Sarawak state assembly is dissolved.

"First, we need to complete this boundary review before the 17 new seats can be enforced. The EC has been given two years to complete the process.

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Shopkeeper recalls chat with Flying Doctor team



Jenifer Laeng
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MIRI: A shopkeeper in Long Siut recalled a conversation she had with a member of the Flying Doctor Service (FDS) team 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 team also spoke about the weather conditions being unfavourable due to the haze.

"I asked them why they were still continuing the journey



Bungan shows where the crew stood when she spoke with them yesterday before the incident.

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

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'.

Bungan Tegong

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.

'Sarawak state assembly will automatically be dissolved in February 2027'

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"The second is that we do not know when the Sarawak state assembly will be dissolved. What we know is that the Sarawak state assembly will automatically be dissolved in February 2027," he said.

He was speaking as a guest on the Influencer@JaPenN programme broadcast via the Sarawak Information Department's (JaPen) Facebook page yesterday.

On Sept 1, the EC began displaying notices on proposed new electoral constituencies and changes to the names of constituencies in Sarawak.

The notices will be displayed until Sept 30 at several district offices across Sarawak to allow members of the public to submit objections to the proposals.

According to the notices, the EC, pursuant to Clause (2) of Article 113 of the Federal Constitution, had reviewed the division of Sarawak into

federal and state electoral constituencies.

The review proposed 17 new state constituencies, while another 10 existing constituencies were proposed to have their names changed.

One federal constituency in Sarawak was also proposed to have its name changed.

Mohd Faisal Syam said several stages had to be completed before the 17 new constituencies could be implemented, beginning with the current public display

of the proposed boundaries.

"If there are objections, we have to conduct a local inquiry. That will also take time. After the objection period, the EC needs to sit again and examine all the objections.

"Those that are valid, we will accept and improve. After that, we have a second display for one month as well.

"Once everything is completed, we will submit the final report to the Prime Minister," he said. — Bernama

'FTES not about boosting enrolment numbers'

MIRI: Sarawak's Free Tertiary Education Scheme (FTES) is not merely about increasing university enrolment, said Datuk Dr Annuar Rapaee.

The Deputy Minister for Education, Innovation and Talent Development said the scheme is to ensure quality education and better employment opportunities for graduates.

He also said concerns over whether Sarawak would have enough jobs for the growing number of graduates in the next two or three years should be viewed in the broader context of employment and household income.

"The key words here are 'in Sarawak'. As much as we want you to come back and work in Sarawak, it is your freedom to work wherever you want, as long as you earn an income and contribute to increasing your family's household income," he said during an engagement session with students of Curtin University Malaysia here yesterday.

Dr Annuar stressed that graduates under FTES are not bonded to the Sarawak government and therefore are free to work outside the state or even overseas.

"For example, if you work somewhere else and earn RM7,000

to RM8,000, of course you will be able to give back to your family and help them. In another way, you are increasing your family's household income," he said.

He pointed out that although Sarawak had been declared a high-income region by the World Bank, household incomes still needed to be raised, with more young people requiring access to better-paying jobs.

He said the state government was preparing for this through the Post Covid-19 Development Strategy 2030, which targets the creation of 500,000 jobs over the next five to 10 years.

He said a meeting with universities on Sept 10 would focus on matching graduates from the 64 courses covered under FTES with industries.

He added at the meeting, he would also discuss whether students should undergo longer or more comprehensive industrial placements with companies including PetChem, Sarawak Energy Berhad, Petroleum Sarawak Berhad, Shell and Petronas.

Dr Annuar suggested that industrial attachment should instead be viewed as 'campus in industry', where students could gain practical experience and potentially secure employment before graduation.

"If you perform well during your attachment, the industry may even pick you up before you graduate. Industrial attachment is not only about exposure, but an opportunity for students to demonstrate their skills, attitude and suitability for employment," he said.

However, he stressed students also needed to take their placements seriously, noting feedback that some students arrived late and left early during industrial attachments.

"That is the time when you need to prove yourself," he said, adding that proper modules, supervision and assessment by both lecturers and industry personnel were necessary.

He said industrial attachment could eventually become a prerequisite for the award of a degree.

On the increased university enrolment under the FTES, Dr Annuar dismissed concerns that the rapid increase in student numbers under the scheme could compromise education quality.

He said Curtin University currently had 994 students under the scheme, with the number potentially reaching 2,000 next year, while University of Technology Sarawak had about 2,020 students this year and could reach 3,000 next year.

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 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.

He added that the speed of the process would depend on the commitment of the team in preparing the necessary dossier and liaising with the relevant authorities in Kuala Lumpur.

"I hope to see Miri receiving that recognition within the next one to two years, although hopefully it should happen within the next year," he said.

However, Abdul Karim said the submission process would have to be undertaken through the

publication of Sarawak's stories and languages, particularly those preserved through oral traditions and community memory."

He said membership in the Unesco Creative Cities Network would also provide opportunities for Miri to collaborate with other creative cities internationally, while giving greater exposure to Sarawak's writers, stories and creative practitioners.

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relevant federal authorities, as Unesco was known to recognise countries rather than the individual states.

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Fest hints efforts to get Unesco Creative City of Literature status for Miri by 2027

KUCHING: Miri is eyeing the recognition as a Unesco Creative City of Literature by next year, with the Sarawak Literature Festival 2026 set to serve as a key platform in building momentum towards this aspiration.

Minister of Tourism, Creative Industry and Performing Arts Dato Sri Abdul Karim Rahman Hamzah said the targeted Unesco status should not merely be about securing an international title, but be also about strengthening Miri's

literary ecosystem and creating opportunities for its diverse communities.

"The Unesco aspiration is a very high aspiration, but it should not simply be about obtaining a title. It should be about creating a lasting legacy for the people of Miri, the northern region of Sarawak, as well as Sarawak and Malaysia," he said.

He said this during a press conference at his office here following a courtesy call by Miri mayor Adam Yil and Pustaka

Negeri Sarawak chief executive officer Japri Bujang Masli.

Abdul Karim said Miri's multicultural character, indigenous heritage, diverse languages and traditions, together with its pool of writers, publishers, schools, universities and cultural organisations, provide a strong foundation for the bid.

He said community ownership would be crucial to the initiative, stressing that the Unesco bid should not be seen merely as a

government project.

He said writers, teachers, students, young people, indigenous communities, publishers, cultural practitioners and ordinary citizens should all have opportunities to participate.

"Literary activities should also extend beyond formal venues to schools, neighbourhoods, parks and public spaces so that literature could become part of everyday city life.

"In this regard, I call for greater documentation, translation and

publication of Sarawak's stories and languages, particularly those preserved through oral traditions and community memory."

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Crafts community mourns passing of renowned weaver

Sandra Jaboh

KUCHING: Renowned 'tikar bergerak' 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 bergerak, 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.



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

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 bergerak 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.



Wee (fourth left), Lim (third right) and others pose with the Michiru film poster. — Photo by Roystein Emmor

'S'wak should move forward, not be tied down by haze's negative imagery'

KUCHING: Sarawak should create the image of moving forward, rather than being held back by negative connotations such as haze, said Kuching South mayor Dato Wee Hong Seng.

He also said that it should be the federal government taking the lead in engaging Indonesia on the haze issue, as it is a problem that extends beyond the state's borders.

He made this call at the press conference for animated short film 'Michiru', which is set entirely in Kuching and produced entirely through artificial intelligence (AI).

Wee said the 30-minute film was an example of how technology

could be made full use of in the proper direction.

Michiru will be screened for free at GSC tHe Spring this Saturday (Sept 12), with two screenings at 2pm and 3pm.

The screening is jointly organised by the Kuching South City Council (MBKS) and Torabera ACG Fest as part of the three-day Torabera 4.0 festival at the mall.

Meanwhile, Isekai Zero chief community officer Jimsley Lim said the company's AI application had attracted users from around the world.

"Around the world, we have about 70,000 active users daily. Most of our business market is

in Europe and the United States, so since we get so many users and subscribes on our YouTube (channel), we are trying to let the whole world see Kuching.

"That was how I came up with the idea to have this anime (short film)," he said, adding that the team visited various locations in Kuching to capture the materials, which were subsequently fed into the AI system," he said.

"It's (making the film) is not like typing a sentence and everything appears. You require a lot of people, (such as) the artists, to curate the whole storyline. Then, they need prompt and re-prompt to turn it into a movie."

Clarify, address smart meter billing complaints, SEB told

KUCHING: Sarawak Energy Berhad (SEB) has been urged to conduct a comprehensive and transparent investigation into complaints of sudden increases in electricity bills following the installation of smart meters, particularly in Miri and several other areas in Sarawak.

Political secretary to the Minister in the Prime Minister's Department (Sabah and Sarawak Affairs) Ahmad Nazib Johari said consumers' concerns over the issue must be taken seriously, especially amid rising cost-of-living pressures.

"Efforts to modernise utility infrastructure and digitalise systems are certainly initiatives that should be supported for greater service efficiency in the future.

"However, their implementation should not place an undue burden on households with unusual and questionable financial charges, especially at a time when society is already facing increasingly pressing cost-of-living challenges,"

he said in a statement.

Ahmad Nazib said concerns raised by Miri MP Chiew Choon Man and local elected representatives reflected the sentiments of people at the grassroots level who were demanding clear answers.

"In this regard, Sarawak Energy is urged to immediately conduct a comprehensive and transparent technical investigation into every complaint received. The audit review should include checking the accuracy of the calibration of the new meters, detecting any possible software errors in the billing system, and examining the method used to adjust previous estimated bills and actual meter readings," he said.

Ahmad Nazib said SEB should come forward with an open explanation so that the public can understand the actual cause of the increase, whether it was due to a shift in tariff blocks, a surge in calculated consumption, or technical shortcomings.

He also suggested that SEB

establish a dedicated counter or fast-track complaints channel to facilitate reviews of disputed bills without unnecessary bureaucratic procedures.

"At the same time, any action to disconnect electricity supply should be temporarily suspended for accounts that are undergoing an official review until a fair and transparent resolution is reached. "This is in the interest of safeguarding public welfare," he added.

Meanwhile, SEB in a statement said it will extend its dedicated electricity billing service counters to Sibü, Bintulu and Miri as part of an expanded effort to assist customers with billing concerns.

The initiative, which saw dedicated service counters set up at Wisma SESCO here from Sept 2 to 4, will continue until next month and be extended to the three divisions to provide customers with a fast-track avenue to raise billing concerns and have their accounts reviewed.

"Each case will be reviewed

Malaysia Day fireworks can proceed, subject to haze conditions — Minister

KUCHING: Dato Sri Abdul Karim Rahman Hamzah said he has no objection to a fireworks display as part of the Malaysia Day celebration on Sept 16, provided the air quality does not reach 'emergency' levels.

However, the Minister of Tourism, Creative Industry and

Performing Arts said the situation would have to be reassessed if the Air Pollutant Index (API) here reached 'hazardous' levels.

"A fireworks display would not necessarily produce significant smoke compared to vehicle emissions.

"If the situation in Kuching

reaches the level of an 'emergency' because of the haze, then everything should stop," he told reporters when asked about calls from certain quarters for the cancellation of the Malaysia Day fireworks display due to the current haze situation.

He said if the API remained

SWCS appeals for fuel subsidies for charity fleet

KUCHING: The Social Welfare Council of Sarawak (SWCS) has appealed to the Ministry of Domestic Trade and Cost of Living (KPDN) and relevant authorities to review the eligibility of vehicles used by welfare and charitable organisations under the Budi Madani Diesel and RON95 fuel subsidy programmes.

Its president Datin Sri Dona Drury Wee said the appeal focused particularly on window vans used for genuine welfare purposes, which play an essential role in delivering assistance to vulnerable communities.

She stressed that SWCS was not seeking special treatment or a blanket subsidy, but a fair and practical mechanism that recognised the actual use of welfare vehicles.

"These vehicles are not primarily used for commercial profit. They are essential for delivering food rations and basic necessities, transporting elderly and vulnerable persons, visiting needy families, and providing direct assistance to communities," she said in a statement.

Drury Wee said member organisations had highlighted the growing financial burden caused by having to purchase fuel at non-subsidised rates for vehicles used in welfare activities. She noted that many welfare organisations depended heavily on donations, fundraising and public support, with no regular source of income.

"Some of these organisations are also churches, temples, shrines and other faith-based or community organisations carrying out genuine charitable activities.



Datin Sri Dona Drury Wee

"When fuel costs increase, the additional expenditure directly reduces the funds available for food, medicine, essential supplies and other assistance to those in need," she said.

She said some member organisations had reported additional fuel expenditure amounting to thousands, and in certain cases tens of thousands of ringgit each month, depending on the number of vehicles operated and the extent of their welfare activities.

"For the period from Sept 3 to 9, the Ministry of Finance set the subsidised price of RON95 at RM1.99 per litre and diesel at RM2.10 per litre, compared with non-subsidised prices of RM3.77 and RM4.67 per litre respectively.

"This translates into an additional cost of RM1.78 per litre for RON95 and RM2.57 per litre for diesel," she said.

She pointed out that an organisation operating three window vans and serving about 300 poor families, for example, could face a substantial additional monthly fuel burden if the vehicles were required to purchase fuel at non-subsidised rates.

"Such additional costs could

place further pressure on organisations already operating with limited resources," she said.

As a solution, Drury Wee proposed that the government consider a special provision or appropriate subsidy mechanism for verified welfare vehicles, including window vans, based on their actual use and purpose rather than solely on vehicle classification.

"We believe there should be a practical way to distinguish vehicles used for genuine welfare activities from those used for commercial purposes," she said.

She added that such a mechanism could be subject to proper verification, with SWCS and its member organisations prepared to provide vehicle registration details, vehicle lists, fuel usage records and evidence of welfare activities to assist the authorities in determining that the vehicles were genuinely used for charitable and welfare purposes.

"The principle should be simple: whether a vehicle belongs to a welfare NGO (non-governmental organisation), church, temple, shrine or other charitable organisation, what matters is the service it provides to the community," she said.

She expressed hope that KPDN and the relevant authorities would review the matter and find a practical solution to prevent rising fuel costs from reducing assistance available to vulnerable members of society.

"We respectfully appeal to the government to consider the actual welfare purpose of these vehicles and the communities they serve," she said.

MPC 2026 seeks to guide pastoral direction for coming decade, says Sibü Bishop

SIBÜ: The spiritual significance of gathering around the cross, listening and discerning what the Spirit is saying to the church, and being sent forth of mission will unfold during the Malaysia Pastoral Convention 2026 (MCP 2026) from today until Sept 13.

Roman Catholic Bishop of Sibü the Rt Rev Joseph Hii said these three moments expressed the spiritual journey of the convention, which will bring together approximately 1,000 delegates from the nine Archdiocese and Dioceses of Malaysia and 2,000 local parishioners at Sibü Gateway.

"At the heart of the gathering will be the Liturgy of the Cross, culminating in the merging of nine crosses into one cross," he said in a statement.

Hii said the journey of these crosses began in April 2025 in Kota Kinabalu, and during the 18 months of preparation for MPC 2026, each cross accompanied the people of God within its respective archdiocese or diocese.

"Together, the nine crosses symbolically journeyed through

communities across Malaysia, and at Sibü Gateway, they will finally be brought together and merged into one cross.

"This carries a powerful message for the church in Malaysia—although we come from different dioceses and communities, and are diverse in language, culture, talents and gifts, we are one in Christ; united in communion and participating in the mission of Christ," he said.

He said following the Liturgy of the Cross, the opening mass will be celebrated at Sibü Gateway, following which there will be a procession from Sibü Gateway to Kingwood Hotel, where the newly-merged cross would be brought into the convention hall as the spiritual focal point of MPC 2026.

It will be available for veneration until midnight, and on Sept 12, the cross would lead a procession from Kingwood Hotel to Sacred Heart Cathedral.

Hii said the convention will reflect on four major pastoral areas, namely church, family, society and ecology. "Speakers will provide reflections on these realities to

help lead delegates into deeper conversation and discernment. The fruits emerging from these conversations will be gathered and synthesised by the Synthesis and Discernment Team.

"They will subsequently be presented to the Pastoral Statement Team, together with the Bishops and Archbishops, for further prayer, discernment and formulation," he said.

Hii said this process is expected to emerge a Pastoral Statement for the Catholic Church in Malaysia, expressing the results of MPC 2026 and helping to guide the pastoral direction and mission of the church for the coming decade.

"MPC 2026 therefore seeks not merely to produce a document. At its heart is a deeper question which the Church in Malaysia seeks to discern together: 'What is the Holy Spirit saying to the Church in Malaysia, and where is He calling us to go?'"

Hii said the spiritual journey of MPC 2026 could be expressed as: "The cross gathers us, the Spirit speaks as we listen, and Chris sends us forth on mission."

MBKS to take legal action against illegal dumping culprits

KUCHING: Kuching South City Council (MBKS) is set to take legal action against individuals caught illegally dumping waste and rubbish.

Mayor Dato Wee Hong Seng said the council had received photographs and videos from members of the public showing individuals dumping waste.

"I really appreciate those people because I think that it has affected other people, especially in the neighbourhood. We just cleared a day before and they came back and started to throw.

"We have all the plate numbers. I really appreciate this because we cannot be there 24 hours. So, when you see all this and then other people will take an issue and say MBKS is not doing their job," he told reporters after a press conference on the 'Michiru' short film.

He said with the photos and videos, MBKS would be able to take the culprits to court.

"I think these are the things we should not tolerate anymore," he stressed.

"You know you are not allowed to throw rubbish anywhere you want, especially at a place that is not even yours, to some other private land and all that. First of all, I think we will concentrate on CCTV more on residential areas to let the

residents feel safe."

Wee pointed out enforcement and surveillance alone would not solve the problem, saying efforts to change public attitudes towards waste disposal must begin from a young age.

"I think illegal dumping and throwing rubbish is one thing that we have to start from school and from a young age. Anything you want to introduce, you have to go from school onwards, so it might take five to 10 years to fully understand and adopt and change that mindset."

He also said MBKS would also increase the number of rubbish bins at selected public areas, especially at the market and hawker centre to make it easier for people to dispose of their waste properly.

"We will be starting at every area by area to reduce waste. We are also looking into how we are going to turn leftover food and all that to become fertiliser and others," he said.

On areas recording a high number of illegal dumping cases, Wee said MBKS had identified several locations, particularly near factories.

During Wee's Facebook Live session 'Shall WEE Talk' on Aug 9, he said those caught illegally dumping could face a maximum fine of RM2,000.

Welfare Dept probes family's rough-sleeping in Batu Niah

Philip Kiew

MIRI: The Welfare Department (JKM) is investigating reports of a family sleeping rough in Miri and Batu Niah, including a case involving a young child, amid questions over their circumstances and whether they had sought assistance through official channels.

Deputy Minister for Women, Childhood and Community Wellbeing Development Datuk Rosey Yunus said the department was looking into the case following questions raised by netizens over whether the family was genuinely in need of assistance.

She said the family recently reported to be sleeping rough in Batu Niah is believed to be the same one involved in a similar incident in Miri last year.

"I have been made aware of the case in Batu Niah and understand it involves the same individuals as the incident here last year. The Welfare Department in Miri had been informed of the family then.

"The department is also investigating whether a separate case bearing similarities had also been recorded in Kuching on March 2," she told The Borneo Post.

The Miri welfare team had also previously acted on a complaint received on Jan 2 involving a family found at the pedestrian bridge along Boulevard Pujut here.

According to the team's report, the family comprised a couple aged 24 and 46 and their three-year-old daughter.



The family in Batu Niah earlier this week with a cardboard sign appealing for donations of food and money for their child.

They had previously been staying near the bus station by Miri Hospital for about a month before moving to the boulevard.

Representatives from the Miri MP's parliamentary service centre were also present during a follow-up visit.

On the more recent case in Batu Niah, located more than 100km from here, Rosey said a welfare team went to the reported location on Monday but found that the family had already left.

She said she has instructed

JKM to remain alert and trace the family's whereabouts should they resurface, while working with other relevant agencies where necessary.

The family had reportedly declined an earlier offer from Miri MP Chiew Choon Man to sponsor their air tickets back to Kuching.

Chiew's service centre has also been in contact with welfare officers over the matter.

The Borneo Post learnt that the family had previously received assistance from the Miri MP's service centre in 2024, including help to rent a room here to ease their financial burden.

However, the family eventually moved out after being unable to continue paying rent last year.

The father had previously worked as a mechanic but later became unemployed due to health problems.

While in Batu Niah, the family reportedly put up a cardboard sign appealing for donations of food and money, saying they were still unable to find work there.

The father also told netizens that they intended to return to Kuching.

The case prompted questions from some netizens, with some suggesting that the family should seek employment if they were able to do so.

Rosey said JKM would assess the family's circumstances and establish whether there was any basis to allegations that they had chosen to rely on public donations instead of seeking assistance through the appropriate channels.

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 Sibü 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 Sibü and Lanang provide another example that deserves explanation.

"As rightly pointed out earlier by Sibü MP Oscar Ling, the transfer of Sentosa and Usaha Jaya from Lanang to the proposed Bukit Kemuyang constituency in Sibü would increase Sibü'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.

UTS to set out on strategic academic, research programme with University of Edinburgh

SIBU: The University of Technology Sarawak (UTS) is embarking on a strategic academic and research programme with the United Kingdom's University of Edinburgh (UE), said Datuk Dr Annuar Rapae.

The Deputy Minister of Education, Innovation and Talent Development said the proposed UTS-UE Professorial Academic and Research Programme (UTS-UE PARP) is envisaged as a three-year initiative bringing academics from UE into structured collaboration with UTS researchers, lecturers and postgraduate students.

"Unlike a conventional visiting professor programme where distinguished academics may visit a university for a short period to deliver lectures or seminars, the UTS-UE programme is designed around sustained engagement, knowledge transfer, and long-term institutional capacity building," he said in a statement.

Dr Annuar, also UTS chairman, explained that Edinburgh academics would work alongside UTS researchers through joint research, postgraduate supervision, academic mentoring, specialised teaching and research grant development.

He said the ultimate objective is to ensure that knowledge and expertise are transferred to UTS, enabling its academics to progressively lead their own internationally competitive research groups.

"A key feature will be focused research clusters aligned with Sarawak's strategic development priorities, with particular emphasis on engineering, renewable energy, climate change



Dr Annuar (eighth right) presents a token of appreciation to Prof Eric C. Schirmer, director of Internationalisation at UE's School of Biological Sciences, as UTS vice-chancellor Prof Mohammad Shahril Osman (fifth right) and others look on.

and the circular economy.

"One principal area will be renewable energy engineering, particularly research into converting Sarawak's biomass resources and agricultural residues into sustainable energy and higher-value products.

"This could include biomass utilisation, waste-to-energy systems, resource recovery and low-carbon engineering solutions supporting Sarawak's transition towards a greener economy," he said.

Dr Annuar said the research collaboration will also address climate change, carbon management and environmental sustainability, including practical approaches to reducing greenhouse gas emissions, improving resource efficiency and developing technologies that can strengthen climate resilience.

Meanwhile, he explained that as part of this broader vision, UTS also intends to develop an Institute of Circular Economy

as a multidisciplinary research and innovation platform.

"The proposed institute would bring together expertise in engineering, environmental science, energy and technology, working closely with industry and government.

"Its research could focus on turning waste into resources, biomass utilisation, industrial resource recovery, waste-to-energy technologies and circular production systems relevant to Sarawak," he said.

Dr Annuar said the long-term aspiration is for the institute to become a centre of excellence for circular economy research, translating academic research into technologies, policies and commercial solutions that can contribute directly to Sarawak's green economic transformation.

He also mentioned that human capital development will be another major component, as the proposed programme eyes mentoring 15 to 20 UTS academics and providing

research mentoring or co-supervision opportunities for 10 to 15 PhD candidates, alongside targeted research attachments and continuing academic exchanges.

"Ultimately, the success of the programme will not be measured by the number of professors visiting UTS or the number of agreements signed, but by what remains after the collaboration—stronger UTS researchers, sustainable research clusters, better postgraduate supervision, internationally competitive publications and stronger capacity to secure research funding.

"By combining UTS's understanding of Sarawak's development needs with Edinburgh's international research expertise, the programme aims to build lasting research capability within Sarawak and support the state's ambitions in renewable energy, climate resilience and the circular economy," he said.



Lau (third right) and his team in discussion with a resident during the visit.

SUPP Bawang Assan team continues community engagement in Tg Kunyit

SIBU: The door-to-door community engagement by the Sarawak United People's Party (SUPP) Bawang Assan team continued yesterday, involving nine households in Tanjung Kunyit.

Led by the branch chairman Councillor Kevin Lau, the meet saw the team engage directly with the residents to understand the issues faced by them in their daily lives.

"This exercise is one of the most direct ways for us to understand grassroots needs," he said in a statement.

"The door-to-door visits enable our team to gain a clearer picture of the practical issues that the residents face in their daily lives, while also helping to identify some community concerns that might otherwise be overlooked."

Lau said the SUPP Bawang Assan team will compile and document the feedback and various community issues gathered during the visits.

"Depending on the nature of each matter, the relevant information will be forwarded to the appropriate authorities to help convey the needs raised by residents for further assessment and follow-ups," he added.

Throughout the community engagement, the SUPP Bawang Assan team listened to residents'

concerns about various matters, including mobile phone connectivity, electrical wiring, roads and bridges, traffic safety, and the overall condition of the community.

The residents informed that mobile phone signals are weak in certain parts of Tanjung Kunyit area.

"The residents also raised concern about the sagging electrical cables. On road safety, we have observed that there are trees and branches along certain roads that are obstructing visibility and affecting motorists' view.

"The residents have also suggested the installation of convex traffic mirrors at strategic locations to enable motorists to see vehicles approaching from both sides and address the blind spots," said Lau.

Meanwhile, the team noted there were potholes along some sections of the road, despite a number of repair works having been done earlier.

According to the residents, there have been regular movements of heavy vehicles across the areas.

In this regard, Lau said his team will continue to conduct ground visits to better understand the needs of different communities.

Traders' livelihoods need consideration amid haze, says BCF organiser

SIBU: The Borneo Cultural Festival (BCF) organiser has defended the decision to continue with the event amid concerns over the haze, stressing that the festival provides an important source of income for traders and mobile entrepreneurs.

Sibü Tradex spokesman Edward Henry Mut said daily activities have to continue despite the haze, pointing out that schools, coffee shops and businesses remain operational.

"No matter how the haze is, life must go on," he told The Borneo Post when contacted yesterday, following public health concerns raised by some quarters over the decision to continue with the BCF despite the haze.

The BCF 2026, which includes the Tradex trade and exhibition section, is running until Sept 14.

Edward said the BCF involved many traders and mobile entrepreneurs who depended on

the festival for their income.

"They also need to do business. They also need to look for food. Our entrepreneurs already bought supplies for the event.

"Some of them even asked for help to pay their booth rental daily as they need capital to start the business," he said.

He said stopping the festival could place an additional burden on those depending on the event for their livelihood.

Edward emphasised that no

exhibitor was being forced to operate during the festival, adding that traders and the public have been advised to wear face masks in view of the current haze situation.

He also said members of the public should exercise their own judgement based on their health and the prevailing conditions.

"The issue should be viewed from a positive perspective rather than focusing solely on the negative aspects," he said.

‘Medical libraries vital to evidence-based medicine’



KUCHING: Medical libraries are playing an increasingly important role in evidence-based medicine, health policymaking and research as healthcare becomes more data-driven and digitalised, said Datuk Amar Dr Sim Kui Hian.

The Deputy Premier said their role has evolved beyond merely serving as repositories of information, with medical libraries now contributing to areas such as big data and data analytics within the healthcare system.

“Medical libraries are not just a depository, not just for people looking for information, but they have a very important role in shaping evidence-based medicine and shaping our health policies,” he said.

He was met by reporters after officiating at the Asia Medical Library Seminar (AMLiS) 2026 here yesterday.

Dr Sim, also the state Minister of Public Health, Housing and Local Government, said this development is relevant as Sarawak continues to build a broader health ecosystem



Dr Sim speaks to the press. — Photo by Chimon Upon

encompassing medical tourism, drug discovery, research and digital health.

He said Sarawak also has the opportunity to leapfrog in certain areas by embracing newer technologies, citing the transition from fixed-line telephones to mobile phones as an example.

On artificial intelligence (AI), Dr Sim said the technology could support healthcare delivery, particularly amid the shortage of doctors, including by assisting with preliminary patient assessment and identifying those who require further medical attention.

“This will change the way that

we practise,” he said.

He also welcomed the holding of the first AMLiS under the Malaysian Library Group (MLG) in Sarawak, saying the seminar is timely in view of the state’s ongoing digitalisation efforts.

Meanwhile, AMLiS 2026 chairman Norazlina Abdul Rahman said the seminar would also examine how medical librarians can contribute more directly to clinical research and help improve access to reliable health information.

In her welcoming remarks, she said librarians are increasingly supporting researchers through areas such as evidence synthesis, knowledge management,

systematic reviews and research support.

“Their expertise in evidence synthesis, knowledge management, systematic reviews and research support has become indispensable in advancing clinical excellence and informed policymaking,” she said.

Norazlina also highlighted the need to bridge health information gaps among diverse and underserved communities across Asia.

She said medical libraries have a responsibility to ensure reliable health information reaches all segments of society, while stronger regional partnerships could further improve resource sharing and knowledge exchange.

The event also held the launch of the third edition of MediCore.

The two-day event, held under the theme ‘Empowering Health Knowledge: The Future Role of Medical Libraries in Asia’, has gathered about 150 participants, including medical librarians, healthcare practitioners, academics, students and researchers from Malaysia and across Asia.

The seminar features speakers from Malaysia, Thailand, South Korea, India, Hong Kong, Australia, Taiwan, Indonesia and Singapore.

Dr Sim: Batu Kawa flood mitigation works progressing rapidly

KUCHING: Flood mitigation works in Batu Kawa here are progressing rapidly, with several projects being implemented in phases, said Deputy Premier Datuk Amar Dr Sim Kui Hian.

The Batu Kawa assemblyman said he intends to invite members of the media to visit the project sites once the haze situation improves to provide a clearer understanding of the works.

“I’d rather bring you guys down there because that one has different phases. If I don’t bring you, then it’s quite hard to explain,” he told reporters in response to a question on the latest progress of the flood mitigation projects.

Dr Sim said the projects form part of longer-term flood prevention efforts in Batu Kawa and involve measures such as detention ponds and pumping systems.

“Once you understand Batu Kawa, then you understand about detention ponds, you understand about pumping

out water and so on,” he added.

On Aug 2, Dr Sim said the RM36.6 million Phase 2 flood-mitigation project at Taman Desa Wira was 11 per cent ahead of schedule, and targeted for completion by July 2027.

The Taman Desa Wira project is among several flood-mitigation initiatives being implemented in Batu Kawa, where total investment in such works has exceeded RM200 million.

The project includes an 11,300-square-metre detention pond capable of holding 30,000 cubic metres of stormwater, a pump house, drainage upgrades and a one-kilometre flood-protection wall.

The detention pond is one of four planned under the wider Batu Kawa flood-mitigation scheme.

Together with the RM14.5 million Phase 1 project at Taman Desa Wira, investment across the two phases exceeds RM51.1 million.



Hanifah speaks during the coordination meeting. — Photo from Facebook / Hanifah Hajar Taib

‘Health projects in Sarawak require closer coordination’

BINTULU: Comprehensive follow-up action is needed to address issues surrounding health development projects in Sarawak, Deputy Health Minister Datuk Hanifah Hajar Taib has said.

She said collaborative and solution-oriented approach was significant to strengthen cooperation among all parties and ensure issues were addressed in a coordinated manner.

“This will help ensure that health facilities can be completed and fully utilised for the people,” she said after chairing a coordination meeting on health development projects for the central and northern zones of Sarawak here yesterday.

The meeting brought together representatives from the Ministry of Health (MoH),

Sarawak Health Department, Public Works Department (JKR), local health authorities, and relevant agencies to coordinate the implementation of health development projects in the state.

Discussions focused on the status of projects at the pre-implementation stage, projects involving applications for Notices of Change, as well as health development projects frequently raised in Parliament.

The meeting also reviewed the management of health quarters in Sabah and Sarawak by the MoH’s Engineering Services Division, with the aim of identifying issues and determining follow-up measures to improve the comfort and wellbeing of healthcare personnel.

SUPP complaints bureau chief warns of scammers misusing photos of students to lure victims

KUCHING: Scam syndicates are now targeting secondary school students, with a recent case here involving the misuse of a 17-year-old female student’s photograph to lure victims into paying for access to purported indecent videos.

Sarawak United People’s Party (SUPP) Public Complaints Bureau chief Milton Foo said the bureau received a request for assistance from the student, whose male classmate had come across an Instagram advertisement using her profile picture.

“The advertisement offered access to a Telegram group purportedly containing ‘secretly recorded private videos and indecent photos’ for RM25.

“Scam syndicates are no longer targeting only adults. Secondary school students are now being targeted,” said Foo in a statement.

According to him, the student expressed fear that her photograph might have been misused by syndicates to create indecent AI-generated images.

He said the student subsequently asked a friend



Milton Foo

to contact the scammer via Telegram to join the group and gather evidence before lodging a police report.

However, after the friend made an initial payment, the scammer claimed the payment method was incorrect and demanded further payments.

Foo said the friend eventually made five payments totalling RM125 via Boost e-wallet, but was still unable to gain access to the group, prompting them to realise they had been scammed.

He said chat records and payment receipts provided to the bureau showed that the scammer had requested payment through the e-wallet.

Foo warned that the misuse of students’ photographs through AI face-swapping technology and the fabrication of indecent content could severely violate the privacy and dignity of minors and cause significant psychological harm.

He called on the government to establish an inter-agency cybercrime task force involving the Ministry of Finance, Malaysian Communications and Multimedia Commission (MCMC) and the police to monitor and take action against illegal activities on social media platforms, including Facebook, Instagram and Telegram.

The task force, he said, should tackle activities including unlawful money lending, the sale of indecent videos and photographs, drug trafficking, the sale of bank accounts or cards, online gambling, and cryptocurrency investment scams.

“Cyber scams are evolving rapidly. The government can no longer adopt a ‘treat the head for a headache and the foot for a foot ache’ approach. The problem

must be solved at its root,” he said.

Foo also urged schools and parents to closely monitor children’s smartphone usage and educate them about online safety.

He advised students not to click suspicious links or transfer money to strangers, particularly in connection with purported private photographs or videos that could be AI-generated or part of a scam.

He also urged anyone whose photograph had been misused to immediately lodge a police report, notify the MCMC, and report the content to the relevant social media platform for removal.

Foo stressed that creating, distributing or selling indecent material involving minors constitute offences under the Sexual Offences Against Children Act 2017 and Communications and Multimedia Act 1998.

“Students or parents who encounter similar cases may contact the SUPP Public Complaints Bureau for assistance,” he added.

Be wary of scammers using AI to mimic voices, cautions SUPP man

MIRI: The emerging trend of misusing artificial intelligence (AI) in scam tactics by replicating voices raises a new concern among the public, warned Sarawak United People’s Party (SUPP) Piasau branch publicity secretary Tan Lek Jin.

He said scammers were now utilising advanced AI voice simulation to imitate family members or friends.

“The new tactics fabricate high-stress emergencies such as urgent medical crises or severe accidents, with these criminals pressuring victims into transferring funds on the spot,” he said.

Sharing his recent personal experience, Tan revealed that he had received multiple suspicious calls over the past two days.

He said although the calls originated from different phone numbers and claimed to be from different individuals, the callers’ voices sounded strikingly identical and insistently request financial aid for urgent medical expenses on behalf of relatives.

“I found the situation suspicious and did not immediately believe the callers. Instead, I contacted the relevant individuals directly using their original phone numbers and other reliable communication channels to verify the situation.

“They confirmed that no such incident had occurred and that

they had never asked anyone to borrow money on their behalf,” he said.

He reiterated how scam tactics had evolved, and how in the past, call recipients often relied on a person’s voice, manner of speaking, or familiarity to determine whether they were actually speaking to a family member or friend.

“However, with the development of AI technology, scammers may now use voice simulation to create a voice that sounds very familiar, leading victims to make the wrong judgement.”

Tan said while AI has brought convenience to society and had applications in education, healthcare, business and everyday life, the same technology could also be misused by criminals as a tool for fraud.

He urged members of the public not to immediately believe or transfer money should they receive a call from someone claiming to be a relative or friend who urgently needed money, especially for medical expenses or other emergencies.

“If one does receive such call, my advice is to remain calm and end the call first. They should then contact the family member or friend directly using the telephone number already saved in their phone to verify the situation.

Call on SAGA Central Region to continue contributing overseas expertise to boost Sarawak development agenda

SIBU: Deputy Premier Datuk Amar Prof Dr Sim Kui Hian called on the Sarawak Australian Graduates Association (SAGA) Central Region to continue playing an important role as a bridge between Sarawak and Australia, particularly by contributing overseas expertise to support the state’s development agenda.

He stressed that the experience and skills gained by graduates overseas would be most valuable when brought home to serve the country.

“Studying overseas is not merely about building a personal career, but also about broadening one’s horizons and returning with something valuable for the development of Sarawak,” he said at the opening of the SAGA First Corporate Meeting 2026 and Gala Dinner held on Monday, in conjunction with SAGA Central Region’s 21st anniversary celebration.

His text-of-speech was delivered by Deputy Minister for Public Health, Housing and Local Government Datuk Michael Tiang.

Dr Sim also shared his personal experience of spending 17 years in Australia as a student and cardiologist before deciding to return to Sarawak and contribute to the local healthcare system.

He said SibU had significant potential to develop as a



Tiang (fourth right) leads the cake-cutting ceremony to mark the opening of the gala dinner. — Photos by Andy Sabang

healthcare and medical tourism hub.

He added that the SAGA alumni network could contribute fresh ideas towards sustainable community planning as well as economic diversification driven by technology and innovation.

He also outlined three key focuses for association members: celebrating SAGA’s heritage, connecting the dots in the state’s development, and contributing with strong character.

“In this era of rapid artificial intelligence (AI) development and digitalisation, we must continue to upgrade our skills. However, knowledge alone is not enough without responsible character, integrity and empathy towards society,” he said.

He also expressed appreciation

to SAGA’s pioneering leadership and the SAGA Central Region leadership for their continued efforts in strengthening human capital in the region.

Meanwhile, SAGA Central Region chairman Temenggong Dato Vincent Lau reaffirmed the association’s commitment to remain a strong platform for empowering alumni, expanding its membership and contributing actively to community development in Sarawak.

He said the regional branch, established 21 years ago and inspired by the late Datuk Robert Lau, had evolved from merely an alumni gathering into an organisation with a wider social impact.

“SAGA Central Region has now opened its membership

to graduates from local campuses and institutions that have collaborative ties with Australian universities to further strengthen the association.

“This step is important to ensure the association remains relevant and strong. By bringing together members with diverse expertise and professional backgrounds, SAGA can function as more than just an alumni association by connecting its graduate network with the corporate sector, government agencies and the community.”

Lau said SAGA, which was first established in Kuching in 1989, remains active in organising various community programmes.

These include information and experience-sharing sessions for prospective students heading to Australia, as well as collaborations in organising English public speaking, singing and essay-writing competitions to build confidence among the younger generation.

He also called on more young graduates to step forward and take up leadership roles in the association to continue the legacy of its founders while contributing towards Sarawak’s overall progress.

Also present were Bukit Assek assemblyman Joseph Chieng and organising committee chairman Eta Ting.



The two accused (left and centre) are pictured at the court complex.

China duo fined for harvesting wild plants at national park

Desiree David
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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.

The inspection found two transparent plastic bags containing wild plants inside a black backpack belonging to Sun, and another two bags containing wild plants inside a grey backpack belonging to Shih.

Further examination revealed that one of the bags contained a protected plant from the Orchidaceae species.

Both men failed to produce any documents, licences or permits issued by the Controller of National Parks and Nature Reserves or the Controller of Wild Life in relation to the seized plants.

The prosecution was conducted by prosecuting officers Mohammad Mazidul Mis and Beatrice James, while the two accused were unrepresented.

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.



Police photo shows the scene of the fatal crash.

Collision with car claims life of student motorcyclist

MIRI: A 17-year-old student died after his motorcycle was involved in a collision with a car along Jalan Tukau, near SMK Agama Miri yesterday.

Miri police chief ACP Mohd Farhan Lee Abdullah said the teenager suffered severe head injuries and was pronounced dead at the scene by medical personnel.

"Based on initial investigations, the car was travelling from the city towards Jalan Bakam and was turning into a junction when it was struck by the victim's motorcycle on its right side," he said in a statement.

He added the driver, a 27-year-old man, was not injured.

Mohd Farhan said police have detained the driver for further investigation under Section 41(1) of the Road Transport Act 1987.

He called for witnesses to contact traffic investigating officer Insp Nor Afifah Nordin on 019-5264640 or 085-430479, or any nearby police station, to assist in the investigation.

He also advised road users to practise prudent driving and strictly adhere to traffic regulations to avoid endangering other motorists.

KK body parts case: Case transferred to High Court

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 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.

Eight jailed 18 months for running online love scam operation

KUCHING: Eight persons were each sentenced to 18 months' imprisonment by the Magistrates' Court here yesterday for their involvement in an online love scam operation.

Magistrate Leona Dominic Mojiliu imposed the sentences on the accused, comprising five Indonesians and three Malaysians, after they pleaded guilty to a charge under Section 120B(1) of the Penal Code read together with Section 417 of

the same Code for criminal conspiracy to commit cheating.

The accused, aged 21 to 32, were Indonesian nationals Anas Wahyudi, Werly, Toga Salleh Harahap, Adi Putra S. Torong, and Rudianto, while the Malaysians were Melanie Belle Tening Juman, Clyde Eldridge Cassidy, and Alexander Lenny.

They committed the offence at a house on Jalan Song at about 11pm on Sept 1 this year.

Based on the facts of the case,

police raided the residence following information that a syndicate was operating online love scams from the premises.

The operation led to the arrest of the five Indonesian men, two local men and one local woman.

Police also seized four laptops and computer mice, four laptop chargers, and four mobile phones of various brands.

Investigations revealed that the eight accused had acted

together in carrying out online love scams by impersonating women and sending messages to several individuals to deceive them online.

Meanwhile, the five Indonesian nationals were also separately charged for immigration offences under the Immigration Act 1959/63.

Anas and Werly, who were charged under Section 6(1)(c) of the Act for staying in Malaysia without valid travel documents,

were sentenced to eight months' jail and four strokes of the cane, and four months' imprisonment and two strokes of the cane, respectively.

Toga, Rudianto and Adi Putra, who were charged under Section 15(1)(c) of the Act for overstaying in Malaysia, were sentenced to three months' jail, 10 months' jail, and three months' jail, respectively.

All eight accused were unrepresented.

Sudden change of lanes ends with crash, death of motorcyclist

KUCHING: A collision with a car along Mile 16 Jalan Kuching-Serian on Monday night claimed the life of a motorcyclist.

Padawan police chief Supt Barry William said the crash happened around 7.45pm, with police notified of the incident at 9.12pm.

"Based on preliminary investigations, the car was travelling on the right lane from Serian towards Kuching when the motorcycle made a sudden change from the left lane to the right.

"The driver was unable to avoid a collision and struck the rear of the motorcycle," he said in a statement.

He said the victim was thrown onto the road and suffered serious head injuries.

"Medical personnel pronounced the victim dead at the scene, while the car driver and passenger did not sustain any injuries," he added.

Barry said police have impounded both the car and motorcycle for further investigation under Section 41(1) of the Road Transport Act 1987.

Woman fined RM5,000 for injuring autistic girl under her care

KUCHING: The Sessions Court here has fined a 51-year-old woman RM5,000 in default six months' jail for abusing a five-year-old autistic girl under her care.

Judge Musli Ab Hamid imposed the sentence on Ya'ani Musa after she pleaded guilty to a charge under Section 31(1) of the Child Act 2001.

He also ordered her to execute a good behaviour bond for three years in the sum of RM2,000 with one surety, as well as to perform 100 hours of community service within six months.

Ya'ani committed the offence

at a rehabilitation centre at Mile 8 here at around 8.30am on May 26, 2025.

According to the facts of the case, the victim's mother noticed red marks on her daughter's neck and other bruises on her body while preparing to bathe her.

The mother then contacted one of the teachers to ask about the cause of the injuries.

Ya'ani subsequently admitted to being negligent while brushing the girl's body and then bathing her with very cold water.

She promised to pay for the victim's medical expenses and asked that the matter not be

reported to the police.

The mother requested closed-circuit television (CCTV) footage from the relevant party but did not get it on the grounds that it was not within their jurisdiction.

Further investigation found bruises on the child's chest, back, right thigh, and the right side of her neck, which are believed to have been caused by the brushing technique used by Ya'ani.

A police report was later lodged against Ya'ani, leading to her arrest on May 29, 2025.

Ya'ani was represented by lawyers Gerald Empaling Donald and Steven Beti.



Gerald speaks to Ya'ani after the proceedings.

Six missing climbers, SAR team safely out of Pos Kemar

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

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

"The victims and the SAR (search-and-rescue) team arrived at Pos Kemar at approximately 9.15pm last night (Sept 7). All the victims underwent a health check-up by medical officers at the Pos Kemar Health Clinic and rested at the facility.

"They were then taken to the Gerik district police headquarters for documentation and further action," he said in a statement.

The six victims were reported missing after climbing the mountain on Aug 29.

They reportedly failed to leave the forest on the scheduled date last Thursday, leading family members to file a police report on Sunday. — Bernama



Ahmad Raef is embraced by a family member upon arrival at the Gerik district police headquarters. — Bernama photo



LUCKY ESCAPE

Rescuer personnel and members of the public are pictured at the scene of an accident along Jalan Lanang yesterday, in which a car driven by a 47-year-old man crashed into a tree. Fire and Rescue Department Sibul chief Andy Alie said the victim sustained minor injuries and was sent by Civil Defence Force personnel to the hospital for treatment.

BCF's Chinese Night enlivened by wide range of performances

Maxwell Atan

SIBU: The Borneo Cultural Festival (BCF) 2026's Chinese Night featured a variety of performances at Dataran Tun Tuanku Bujang Phase 1 here on Monday.

Organised by the United Chinese Association (UCA) Sibu Division, the event featured performances including Chinese orchestra, welcoming dance, face-changing, dragon dance, lion dance, Wushu, Chinese dance, and 24 Festive Drums.

Tourism, Arts and Culture Minister Datuk Seri Tiong King Sing was represented by Datuk Teo Boon Siew at the event.

The programme opened with a Chinese orchestra performance by Persatuan Klan Chen (Ling Chuan) Sibu, followed by a welcoming dance by The One Dance Studio, and a face-changing performance by Edmond Wong Yik Tze.

The Sibu Martial Art (Quan Shu) Association also presented dragon dance, lion dance, and



Wong performs a face-changing routine. — Photo by Maxwell Atan

Wushu performances.

Tadika Bintang Jaya, SJK Sacred Heart Chinese, SJK Taman Rajang, SJK Thai Kwang, Guong Ming Middle School, Kiang Hin Middle School, Wong Nai Siong Secondary School, and Sibu Rejang Musical Society also took part in the evening's programme.

Other performances included

24 Festive Drums by SJK Sacred Heart Chinese and solo performances by councillor Yong Ing Hock and Alex Moh.

Among those present were Sibu MP Oscar Ling; Sibu Municipal Council Chairman Clarence Ting; BCF 2026 organising committee chairman Councillor Michelle Law; and UCA president Ngieng Hock Teck.

RM41.8 million channelled by KPKT to enhance infra upgrades in Sibu, says Lanang MP's aide

SIBU: The federal Ministry of Housing and Local Government (KPKT) has allocated RM41,841,540 to local authorities across Sarawak this year for the implementation of various projects to upgrade local infrastructure and public safety facilities.

Lanang MP Alice Lau's private secretary Stanley Chiew said based on information he obtained from KPKT officials, among the projects implemented under the allocation are the installation and upgrading of LED streetlights along several major roads under the jurisdiction of Sibu Municipal Council (SMC).

He said the locations included Jalan Lada, Jalan Tun Ahmad Zaidi Aduce, Jalan Then Kung Shuk, Jalan Pahlawan, and Jalan Oya Lama.

"In total, 258 LED streetlights are involved, comprising 137 units around Jalan Lada and Jalan Then Kung Shuk, 66 units along Jalan Pahlawan, and 55 units along Jalan Oya Lama.

"Works at several locations are currently being carried out in phases," he said in statement.

Chiew said the project would not only improve road illumination but also enhance motorists' visibility at night and boost road safety.

He emphasised that improved street lighting was also vital in creating a safer and more conducive urban environment for Sibu residents.

Apart from the LED streetlight projects, Chiew said several other development and infrastructure upgrading projects funded under KPKT allocations were also being implemented in phases within areas under the jurisdiction of SMC and Sibu Rural District Council (SRDC).

The projects involve road upgrading and widening works, drainage improvements, bridge upgrades, and provision of public safety facilities, among others.

Within SMC's jurisdiction, Chiew said the projects include road upgrading works at Kampung Jeriah Barat, road upgrading at Kampung Jeriah Lorong 8, as well as installation of a solar-powered closed-circuit television system at Taman Tasik Permai to enhance public safety

in the area.

Within the SRDC jurisdiction, he said projects include the construction of a new concrete drainage system in the Sibu Jaya residential area, widening of Jalan Durin-Telian, and road widening at Lower Naman in Durin.

Others include upgrading of the bridge leading to Rumah Peter Anthony in Durin, as well as upgrading works at Jalan Nanga Gun Ulu Sungai Arip and Jalan Rumah Entering Teku-Pasai. Chiew noted that the implementation of these projects demonstrated that the federal government, through KPKT, continued to give attention to basic infrastructure development needs in Sarawak, including both urban and rural areas of Sibu.

"We hope that all approved projects can be implemented smoothly and according to schedule so that every ringgit in development funding channelled by the federal government truly reaches the people and delivers tangible benefits to local communities," he said.

45 Lanang constituents receive assistance from MP

SIBU: A total of 45 constituents of Lanang have received various forms of welfare assistance from their MP Alice Lau.

According to Lau's parliamentary service centre, the contributions cover educational aid, medical aid, cancer aid, and other forms of support.

In a statement, the MP expressed hope that such initiatives would encourage more people to come forward and contribute towards building a compassionate and caring

society.

"Individuals requiring long-term treatment, such as haemodialysis or cancer treatment, may apply for the annual assistance at the service centre," she said.

On the 'Welcome, Lanang Newborn!' programme launched in September 2024, Lau reminded her constituents to submit copies of their identity cards and their children's birth certificate to the Lanang service centre within 90 days after the

childbirth.

Under this programme, those born on or after Sept 16, 2024 with at least one biological parent registered as a Lanang voter are eligible for the newborn benefits.

For applications involving haemodialysis aid, education assistance, death benefits, medical aid, disaster relief or other welfare support, Lau advised the public to go to her parliamentary service centre at No. 2, Lorong Lanang 82 here during regular office hours.

Don't overlook importance of ecosystem preservation, honey farmers reminded

KAPIT: It is crucial for any honey-farming operation to include efforts to protect the environment and preserve the local ecosystem, said Katibas assemblyman Lidam Assan.

Lidam said in efforts to develop the local honey industry, it is essential to ensure the natural surroundings continue to be conducive to the survival and reproduction of bees.

"The development of the honey industry must not overlook the importance of environmental conservation. Protecting our precious bees helps maintain the ecological balance," he said in a statement.

The statement was issued in connection with his visit to Katibas Forest Honey Farm on Monday.

Adding on, Lidam said there was potential in expanding honey production in the area, particularly 'kelulut' (stingless bee) honey.

"Honey is not only consumed in food and beverages. It is also recognised for its medicinal value in many traditional practices, and is even mentioned in the Quran.

"This presents considerable potential for further development and promotion," he said.

He said kelulut honey operation has gained attention in recent years due to the small size of the bees, their gentle nature, and the relatively easy cultivation.

"The kelulut honey, which has



Lidam (centre) is briefed on the honey production during the visit to Katibas Forest Honey Farm.

a slightly sour taste, is relatively easy to manage, making it suitable a supplementary source of income for rural residents," he added.

Lidam also proposed developing Katibas Forest Honey as a local brand and promoting it through various channels to increase its visibility and encourage wider consumption.

He noted the possibility of using kelulut honey to replace syrup used in the manufacturing of beverages, thus creating wider applications for the product.

He also expressed hope that more rich natural resources in Katibas could be explored so as to identify economic activities with distinctive local characteristics for further development.



Chiew (back, fourth right) with the recipients and SK Kuala Baram 2 staff.

MP's initiative brings gift of good sight to 155 schoolkids in Miri

MIRI: A total of 155 students from three schools here have received free spectacles under an initiative set up by Miri MP Chiew Choon Man.

Chiew, who is Deputy Tourism, Arts and Culture Minister, personally presented the glasses to the schoolchildren from SK Kuala Baram 2, SMK Pujut and SK Senadin during a ceremony here on Monday.

"This programme aims to assist students from financially-constrained families who cannot afford to purchase spectacles.

"It is an initiative meant to ensure that students with eyesight problems can read more clearly; thereby, helping them concentrate on their studies better and improve their academic performance," he said in a statement issued by his parliamentary service centre.

He said the free-spectacle programme is a continuation of the free eye health screening programme, which provided students in the constituency with complimentary eye examinations.

Following the screenings,

those identified with eyesight problems underwent optical measurements and were subsequently provided with spectacles according to their prescriptions at no cost.

Chiew also assured that he would continue to hold similar programmes in the future to help nurture a healthy, knowledgeable, and competitive younger generation.

The programme was organised by the parliamentary service centre in collaboration with a non-governmental organisation and Des Optics.

Budget 2027: Mosti focuses on technology access, people's well-being

GEORGE TOWN: The Ministry of Science, Technology and Innovation (Mosti) has submitted its Budget 2027 allocation request to the Ministry of Finance (MoF), focusing on technology development that delivers tangible benefits to the people.

Minister Datuk Seri Chang Lih Kang said Mosti's priorities include expanding access to technology in rural and off-grid areas to improve the people's well-being and make their daily

lives easier.

"Our emphasis will be on bringing technologies that benefit the people, particularly those in rural and off-grid areas, to improve their well-being.

"Our focus is on the use of technology that can make things easier for the people," he told reporters when met at an event here yesterday.

Prime Minister and Finance Minister Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim is scheduled to table

Budget 2027 on Oct 9.

Meanwhile, Chang said Malaysia was always ready to respond to disasters, including through the use of technology in search-and-rescue (SAR) operations.

He said technology was crucial in assisting rescue teams during disaster operations, particularly in locating and identifying victims and monitoring the risk of subsequent disasters. — Bernama

NSJA members' bright kids rewarded with education incentives



Ting, flanked by NSJA president Chai Chon Chin (standing on stage, fifth left) and event organising chairman Andy Jong, in a photo call with the young recipients and their parents.

MIRI: Twenty-three children of Northern Sarawak Journalists Association (NSJA) members have received education incentives in recognition of their academic and co-curricular achievements last year.

These were presented by Deputy Minister for Tourism, Creative Industry and Performing Arts Dato Sebastian Ting during the association's Media Appreciation Night 2026 here on Monday.

Ting said the initiative serves as an encouragement for the children to continue striving for excellence in their studies and co-curricular activities.

"Education is important as

a long-term investment in the future of our children.

"It will not only equip them with knowledge, but will also open up greater opportunities for them to build better futures," said the Piasau assemblyman in his speech.

On the role of the media, Ting hailed journalists as holding an important role in helping the government communicate its policies, decisions, and development initiatives to the public accurately and effectively.

In this regard, he said a good relationship between the government and the media fraternity was important in ensuring that information

reaching the public would be clear, accurate, and not distorted.

"The media folks in Sarawak have consistently demonstrated a high level of professionalism in reporting various issues, while also playing an important role in delivering data and updates on current developments to the public," he added.

At the event, Ting also presented certificates of appreciation to 12 registered media agencies in Miri.

The event was attended by about 50 media practitioners from northern Sarawak, including those from Marudi and Limbang.



Some employers are known to rent vacant flats, apartments or houses for their foreign workers, cramming as many of them as possible into each unit simply to cut costs. — Bernama photos

Soon Li Wei & Wan Muhammad Aslah Wan Razali

KUALA LUMPUR: From the outside, the 800-square-foot apartment unit looks no different from any other. Yet, what would normally be considered adequate accommodation for a family of five is home to 15 migrant workers.

Some employers are known to rent vacant flats, apartments or houses for their foreign workers, cramming as many of them as possible into each unit simply to cut costs, while failing to provide even basic amenities such as mattresses and kitchen equipment.

There are also landlords and property owners who modify the interiors of their units by either constructing dozens of tiny rooms or installing partitions to create cubicles for their tenants, most of whom are foreign workers.

Some have also resorted to constructing makeshift rooms, where space permits, on the rooftops of shop lots to accommodate foreign workers, particularly those employed in restaurants and supermarkets, and as general workers.

Workers from Myanmar, Vietnam and Cambodia interviewed by Bernama said they did not mind living under such conditions.

"I have to wake up as early as 3am to prepare the raw ingredients in the kitchen before the restaurant opens at 6am," said Chin (not his real name), a Cambodian national working as a restaurant assistant in Puchong, Selangor.

"At night, after business operations end at 8pm, I have to clean the restaurant... my work only finishes at around 10pm. So, living upstairs makes things easier for me."

The 'hostel' Chin stays in is located on one of the upper floors of the building that houses the restaurant where he works. It has two rooms, with four male workers sharing one and four female employees the other, along with a bathroom and toilet.

"Originally, there was only one room, but the shop owner installed a partition to turn it into two rooms... we sleep on mattresses on the floor," he said.

Safety risks

The trend of modifying apartments, shop lots and houses by installing partitions to create tiny cubicles – often metaphorically described as a 'bird's cage', 'bird's nest' or 'grave' – is worrying due to the serious safety risks involved.

The Ministry of Housing and Local Government has previously issued stern warnings to house and premises owners engaging in such practices.

Despite the enforcement of amendments to the Employees' Minimum Standards of Housing, Accommodations and Amenities Act 1990 (Act 446) since 2020, which requires employers to provide their workers with comfortable accommodation and basic amenities, Bernama is informed by various stakeholders that the practice of cramming as many migrant workers as possible into cramped, modified residential units remains widespread.

Commenting on this, senior

When cost-cutting comes at the expense of workers' safety

The final article in this two-part series on the issue of accommodation for foreign workers looks at the safety risks faced by migrant workers and surrounding communities as a result of employers' 'cost-cutting' measures.

lecturer in real estate at the Faculty of Built Environment, Universiti Teknologi Mara Shah Alam, Dr Muhammad Azwan Sulaiman, said arbitrary modifications to premises could compromise occupants' safety.

"From a technical and building safety perspective, having overly crowded rooms within a residential unit or premises can pose a serious fire risk.

"The problem is compounded by inadequate ventilation and lighting, turning such homes into potential death traps because, in the event of a fire, thick smoke can be more dangerous than the flames themselves, especially when occupants struggle to identify escape routes in an already congested space," he told Bernama.

Muhammad Azwan said from an engineering perspective, the additional load arising from excessive numbers of occupants, furniture and electrical equipment could have long-term implications for the structural integrity and utility systems of buildings.

"Furthermore, electricity and water usage exceeding the building's original design capacity not only increases the risk of electrical wiring-related hazards but can also shorten the building's lifespan and increase maintenance costs," he said.

He added that the main problem with the practice of subdividing rooms is not the use of partitions, but when the return on investment begins to take



Hannah Yeoh

precedence over habitability and human lives.

Need for clear guidelines

Muhammad Azwan also proposed that the authorities establish clearer guidelines on the types of internal modifications permitted in stratified properties, particularly when such alterations involve the building's basic structure or common property.

"The aim is not to prevent homeowners from carrying out renovations, but rather to reduce the risk of outset modifications.

"Good design at the planning stage can reduce unauthorised alterations, safety risks and disputes between occupants and management bodies," he said.

He added that although Malaysia has various legal and regulatory frameworks governing worker accommodation, buildings and strata properties, one of the challenges is that supervisory and enforcement responsibilities fall under the jurisdiction of various agencies.

"This can create gaps in

monitoring, particularly when a residential unit gradually becomes a high-density workers' accommodation facility without obtaining the necessary approvals.

"Therefore, stronger inter-agency coordination, more effective monitoring and consistent enforcement are more important than simply introducing another new law," he said.

Local authorities must act

While the government's People's Housing Projects (PPR) and public housing schemes intended for low-income Malaysians were previously targeted by employers seeking to house their workers, their attention has now shifted to medium-cost apartments and the upper floors of shop lots.

On Aug 3, local media reported that since 2023, 502 premises nationwide had been identified as having been extensively modified to create rental rooms, dubbed 'bird's nests', that posed a high safety risk, particularly in the event of fire.

Fire and Rescue Department (Bomba) director-general Datuk Seri Nor Hisham Mohammad was reported as saying that this practice was prevalent in major urban areas in Selangor, Penang and Johor, as well as Kuala Lumpur, due to the high demand for affordable accommodation among workers, students and middle-income groups.

Several integrated operations known as 'Op Sarang Burung'



A Bomba personnel inspects a shoplot converted into several rental rooms during an operation in Johor.



Modifying apartments, shoplots and houses by installing partitions to create tiny cubicles – often metaphorically described as 'a bird's cage', 'bird's nest' or 'grave' – creates serious safety risks.

conducted in the capital in June and Johor in July also found employers converting part of shoplot rooftops into hostels for foreign workers without approval from the authorities.

The operations in Kuala Lumpur were carried out by the Kuala Lumpur Fire and Rescue Department in collaboration with Kuala Lumpur City Hall (DBKL) and the police.

Minister in Prime Minister's Department (Federal Territories) Hannah Yeoh told Bernama in an interview that enforcement operations against residential units and premises illegally converted into rental rooms or hostels for foreign workers should be conducted regularly to ensure compliance with the law.

She said all local authorities should take the responsibility seriously, while close monitoring of enforcement personnel is also necessary to prevent abuse of power in the course of their duties.

"(In Kuala Lumpur) we need coordination among DBKL and the relevant enforcement agencies to ensure employers provide legal and suitable accommodation for their workers, while residential units under public housing schemes such as PPR remain available to families who are genuinely eligible and in need," she said.

Comply with uniform building by-laws

Meanwhile, Ampang Jaya Municipal Council (MPAJ) deputy president Hasrolnizam Shaari told Bernama that safety aspects are always given priority before the council approves applications and renovation plans submitted by owners of business premises and residential properties.

He said any renovation that alters the layout, use of space

or actual occupancy capacity would be assessed based on the Uniform Building By-Laws and the requirements of all local authorities, including MPAJ.

"We have demolished additional structures deemed to be highly risky as they could endanger occupants and the surrounding community because they might obstruct emergency access for fire engines and ambulances, besides causing disputes among residents.

"For structures that do not pose an immediate risk, we will continue to monitor them and take further action if they pose a threat to safety," he added.

He said stubborn residential property owners who continue to carry out renovation and construction works without the approval of the local authority can be fined up to RM25,000 under Section 70(1) of the Street, Drainage and Building Act 1974 (Act 133), while the court can order the local authority to alter or demolish the building.

Section 70(13)(d) of Act 133 further stipulates that any party who fails to comply with a lawful written order or directive issued by the local authority, or any limit or condition imposed by the local authority on renovation works, may be fined up to RM50,000, imprisoned for up to three years, or both.

He said MPAJ also adopts an integrated enforcement approach with other agencies, including the Immigration Department, police, State Health Department and the National Anti-Drugs Agency.

"Sometimes, a house has only one front door, but there are many occupants, both male and female, inside, with the space inside partitioned. So, we use an integrated enforcement approach to monitor and manage such situations," he said.

Hasrolnizam said a slightly different approach is taken for renovations involving commercial premises, such as shop lots, as these properties are used for business activities.

"If the owner of a commercial lot wants to build seven or eight rooms, the application can be considered from a physical standpoint, but every room must have adequate lighting, ventilation and safety features, particularly in the event of a fire.

"They must first demonstrate that the design is acceptable and can be approved, and then obtain the necessary licence.

"However, if a business premises is found to be operating as a hostel without approval, it constitutes an offence and action can be taken," he said. — Bernama



The Employees' Minimum Standards of Housing, Accommodations and Amenities Act 1990 requires employers to provide their workers with comfortable accommodation and basic amenities.



Housing and Local Government Minister Nga Kor Ming (right) seen with Nor Hisham during Ops Sarang Burung in Kuala Lumpur in 2024. The operation found employers converting part of shoplot rooftops into hostels for foreign workers without approval from the authorities.

From heritage to shelf: Keeping Sarawak’s food stories alive



THERE is a wealth of knowledge, culture and creativity behind a simple looking package of traditional food.

Packaging can do more than just protect the contents of the packages in Sarawak. It can be used to narrate a story.

As a design enthusiast, I often wonder what happens when learners translate such stories into an image, or when technology generates images and ideas in mere seconds, as it does today.

Is time still being spent before designing the package to find out the story?

Designing beyond the screen

Over the years, I have observed an interesting shift in the way designers approach creative work.

Older generations sometimes had to work harder for creative resources. Before the emergence of digital libraries and online image searching and artificial intelligence (AI) tools, designers used to seek references from books, magazines, shops, markets and their environment.

They experimented in sketching, taking photos and refining their concepts. The slower process promoted discovery and ingenuity, sometimes leading to unique results.

Learners today have access to an incredible range of digital tools.

Visual instructions can be created with the help of AI, complex tasks can be automated using software, and there is always inspiration waiting around the corner. These technologies are valuable.

The question remains whether learners use them effectively and creatively.

Technology should accelerate innovative thinking, not replace it.

When a first convenient solution pops into a designer's mind that comes from the tool, the result may be like many others. The challenge is the creation of curiosity and critical thinking in the usage of technology in a meaningful way.



New products can be inspired by the dabai. — Photo by Conny Banji

Cultural symbol, cultural story

Food is an interesting category to brand and package as it is familiar, accessible and tightly related to culture.

Sarawakians designers have even greater opportunity with local food products. A dry food product is not just a product to be packaged. It may be used to describe a place, a community, a tradition and a story.

This brings up an important issue: how can the source of a product be conveyed without making culture a mere decoration?

A traditional motif, a hornbill, a longhouse or a familiar Sarawakian colour palette is easy to be applied to a package.

Collecting recognisable symbols is not enough for good cultural design. Learners need to investigate: from where is the product made; who made it; which factors are important; traditionally, how is it made; what is the value of the product to the community.

Visiting markets, talking to producers, making notes on

ingredients, and researching the packaging now available can uncover opportunities that a quick Internet search might not.

The designer is transformed from a creator of graphics into a researcher, storyteller and culture interpreter.

The local ingredients in Sarawak can be looked at as a possibility to this. New products can be inspired by 'dabai' (local olive) like dabai mayonnaise or jam.

Black pepper, which is so strongly linked with Sarawak, may be explored beyond the food like fragrance or perfume.

Bird's nest is also reimaged to create products like confectionery.

These options demonstrate to students the potential of designing packages for local products which is not simply about creating an existing product.

It can start by posing questions like 'what else can this local story be'.

The research carried out on local packaging in Sarawak that

I have observed through design also shows that.

An article in the International Journal of Art and Design revealed that colour and typography could influence the perception of local products.

One of the most effective ways of conveying the authenticity of a product and its origin is through culturally appropriate visual elements.

This will help build the concept that packaging is not just decoration, it can be part of the product identity and story (UITM JOURNAL).

Giving heritage a future

Heritage preservation does not necessarily mean keeping everything unchanged.

Sarawakian traditional food products may be presented using modern branding techniques and still be able to carry the essence of the traditional product.

Well-packaged items can be used to present an old product in a new light and tell its story to the outside world, to younger consumers especially.

For dry food products, packaging can serve as a link between local producers and larger markets, conveying authenticity and fostering recognition.

The aim is not to make Sarawakian product look foreign. It should be confidently Sarawakian and be relevant to the consumer at the present time.

It is not just about using software and produce a good product – it is to observe, ask, investigate and to make decisions.

The technology of AI and others will keep developing, and the tools that the designers have will be very different in the future.

What should be left is the critical-thinking ability and understanding of culture, people and context.

Technology is a great creative ally, but not a replacement. No matter how technically impressive the design is, without being able to solve the biggest question, it is a failure.

● *The opinions expressed in this article are the author's own and do not reflect the views of Swinburne University of Technology Sarawak Campus. Ms Rosedelina is head of department and lecturer in graphic design at the School of Design and Arts, Faculty of Business, Design and Arts, Swinburne Sarawak.*

Assoc’s bowling event fosters family bonding, community interaction

KUCHING: Persatuan Alumni Dayak Universiti Malaya’s (Padum) Family Bowling Day event brought together 80 participants in an effort to strengthen family and community ties through sports.

The event on Sunday involved its members and their families as well as Dayak students from six secondary schools in the city.

Programme coordinator Freda Benedict Siggie Ambau said the activity achieved its objectives of strengthening relationships among Padum members and their families, identifying bowling talent, fostering teamwork, and building social networks with the community and secondary school students.

“The programme provided an opportunity for participants to strengthen family and community relationships while enjoying a healthy and competitive sporting

activity,” she said in a statement.

In the individual category, Shyne Darren emerged champion, followed by Zacchaeus Kulwant in second and Padum president Cooplay Nyipa Aji in third.

The Priska Jiben Family won the Family Team category, while Alice Family 1 and Albert Chuan Family placed second and third respectively.

In the School Student Team category, SMK St Thomas 2 emerged champion, followed by SMK Wira Penrissen and SMK St Thomas 1.

The event was also enlivened by mystery prizes and special awards for outstanding participants.

Meanwhile, Cooplay expressed hope that similar initiatives would be organised in the future to expose more Dayak students to bowling and encourage greater participation in the sport.

‘Reading culture needs to be a national movement, involving all segments of society’

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 Dato Sri Aaron Ago Dagang.

The National Unity Minister 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.

Aaron said the government, through his ministry 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, PwD (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 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. — Bernama

Highly-sought dabai from Song available at Kapit market again

KAPIT: The very popular ‘dabai’ or local olives from Song are once again available at the Terabai Market, Jalan Tun Jugah here.

Dabai fruits from Song District have always been very popular and highly sought after every season.

Currently, 400 grammes to 500 grammes are being sold at RM10, RM15, RM20, or RM30 depending on the grade, which includes factors such as freshness, size, taste, and texture.

There are also those selling 1kg of dabai for RM30, RM40, or RM50.

Dabai planter Brayan Bengong from KM12 Jalan Tekan, Song was among sellers travelling here before dawn to sell the olives at the market.

He said he planted 500 trees on his land 10 years ago.

“Now they’ve started to bear fruit. I am very happy that many trees are bearing fruits at different times and so the ripening and harvesting lasts from August to December,” he said.

“The demand in Kapit is huge because the locals and visitors like it very much. I am selling at affordable prices. I sell in the morning and return at noon. Then I go to the dabai garden to harvest and sell the next day.”

Customer Kong Sau Chi shared that there are various methods to prepare dabai.

“Among the methods is to use warm water to rinse the dabai and then dry under the hot sun



Brayan sells dabai from Song at the Terasang Market in Kapit.

for half an hour. It can also be prepared as an ingredient for fried rice or fried with ensabi,” he said, adding that sugar or salt could be used for extra flavour.

He also said that fresh

dabai could also be preserved by wrapping the fruits in newspaper, placing them in an airtight plastic bag, and then freezing them for up to six months.



Ngo (back, third left) with the winners and organising committee members.

Bintulu Chinese school pupils shine in English essay contest

BINTULU: Tan Ming Hsuan of SJK Chung Hua No. 2 emerged champion in the Bintulu Chinese Primary Schools Upper English essay writing competition held in conjunction with the National Day celebration.

Ling Zhi Wynn of SJK Kai Ming secured second place, while Jacynth Yap Yi Xin of SJK Chung Hua and Stephanie Ngui Wei of SJK Siong Boon placed third and fourth respectively.

The competition, organised for the first time by the Taman Bandar Jaya Neighbourhood Watch Committee, aimed to strengthen English writing skills among Chinese primary school pupils while encouraging them to express their views on neighbourhood spirit and national unity.

Its chairman Kapitan Ngo Pen Hee said 42 upper primary pupils from five Chinese primary schools in Bintulu took part in the competition.

Speaking at the closing

ceremony on Monday, he said the academic competition was not only held to mark National Day but also provided pupils with an avenue to develop their English writing abilities and exchange ideas on community and unity.

Ngo also expressed appreciation to parents for supporting their children by encouraging them to practise, reviewing their drafts and helping them build their vocabulary.

“Every progress made by the children is the result of their own efforts,” he said.

He also commended the two judges for their professionalism, fairness and diligence in assessing the essays and providing constructive feedback to the participants.

He said the pupils’ courage in expressing their opinions in English was an achievement in itself, adding that essay writing provided valuable practice in ‘thinking in English and expressing in English.

“Whether they win a prize or not, all participants are winners because they have overcome themselves,” he said.

Ngo said as a global language, mastering English would enable pupils to read more books, make more friends, and gain a broader perspective of the world.

He said the committee hoped the competition would use English as a bridge for pupils from different schools and backgrounds to learn and interact with one another, fostering racial harmony and strengthening the community.

“That is the true meaning of Rukun Tetangga,” he said.

The competition was sponsored by advisers Temenggong Dato Chai Shiong Phian and Dato William Ting.

SJK Siong Boon and Tadika Bandar Jaya also contributed by providing classrooms as venues for the competition, closing ceremony and prize presentation.



Amirudin is presented with a key to symbolise the handover of vacant possession for NSIP Phase 1. — Photo from Facebook/Amirudin Shari

Selangor monitors water, power supply amid data centre expansion

SEPANG: The Selangor government is closely monitoring water and power supply capacity amid the rapid expansion of data centres in the state, said Menteri Besar Datuk Seri Amirudin Shari. He said the state would not approve data centre projects without ensuring adequate water and electricity supply, amid growing public concerns over the industry's resource requirements. "We are very aware of the concerns of the public related to power and water supply, and we are monitoring closely. "Without enough water, definitely the data centre cannot be approved in Selangor," he told reporters after witnessing the handover of vacant possession for NCT Smart Industrial Park (NSIP) Phase 1 here yesterday. Amirudin was commenting

on NCT Alliance Bhd's recent announcement that it had signed a term sheet for the proposed sale of a 100-acre land parcel within NSIP for a data centre development that could support up to 800 megawatts (MW) of capacity. Amirudin said every data centre application must obtain approval from the Federal Data Centre Task Force, with power supply requirements to be cleared by Tenaga Nasional Bhd and water supply by Pengurusan Air Selangor Sdn Bhd. He said the state government was confident that its water supply capacity would be sufficient, particularly with the Rasau Water Supply Scheme expected to provide an additional 350 million litres per day (MLD), while the capacity could reach 700 MLD upon full completion of its first phase.

He also stressed that the state government was encouraging data centre operators to adopt water-recycling systems and technologies that could reduce water consumption for cooling purposes. "We are encouraging the recycling of water... so that the processed water is not discharged, but instead recycled within each data centre," he said. Amirudin said the rapid expansion of data centres could also generate wider economic benefits by supporting the development of the electrical and electronics (E&E), chip and semiconductor sectors. He added that Selangor had also introduced a 30 per cent policy to ensure small and medium enterprises (SMEs) benefited from data centre operations in the state. — Bernama

Large-scale ops to capture strays launched in Batu Pahat following child attack

BATU PAHAT: The Johor government has launched a large-scale operation to capture stray dogs in the district after a two-year-old girl was attacked by five dogs in Kampung Tambak, Peserai recently. Johor Islamic Religious Affairs Committee chairman Mohd Fared Mohd Khalid said the coordinated operation was carried out to ensure that the stray dogs were free from rabies, thereby easing the concerns of the victim's family and medical team.

"We have ordered a large-scale operation to capture stray dogs in the area, particularly to identify and ensure that the strays are free from rabies, for the safety of the victim," he said in a press conference at Sultanah Aminah Hospital (HSA). He said the Batu Pahat District Office began follow-up capture operations on Monday in collaboration with the Batu Pahat Municipal Council (MPBP), Department of Veterinary Services (DVS) and the police. The follow-up operation followed three jointly conducted operations by MPBP and JPJ on Aug 12, 26 and 30, which resulted in the capture of 22 stray dogs. However, he said the number of strays in the area remained high. For the operation to be effective, Mohd Fared urged the agencies involved not to rely solely on existing methods, but to also diversify their approaches, including through monitoring and surveillance. "Based on the guidance and advice from the parents earlier, we believe that the



Mohd Fared presents a contribution to the victim's father Muhammad Hamizi Hamdan. At right is Nur Wahyuni. — Bernama photo

capture methods must continue to be diversified. I urge the local authorities, district office, municipal council and Department of Veterinary Services to use all methods and means available. "Strategies must be diversified, including monitoring operations, surveillance and any other methods permitted by law," he said. He said the stern action would also be expanded to all districts in the state following an instruction by Housing and Local Government Committee chairman Datuk Mohd Jafni Md Shukor to all local authorities to expedite operations to control stray animals. To ease the burden on the victim's family, Mohd Fared said the Johor government is fully committed to covering all medical and follow-up treatment costs for the victim at HSA, as well as providing counselling services to family members, particularly the victim's 12-year-old brother who

witnessed the incident. He also appealed to the public to delete and stop sharing photographs of the victim on social media to protect the family's privacy, adding that he had sought the cooperation of the Malaysian Communications and Multimedia Commission (MCMC) to take down related posts. Earlier, Mohd Fared spent time visiting the victim, Nur Haira Wafiqah Mohammad Hamizi and her family, and received an update on the child's treatment at HSA. Meanwhile, the victim's mother Nur Wahyuni Harun, 36, said her 12-year-old son was still traumatised after witnessing the incident, and had been given two-week leave from school to undergo counselling. She said her youngest daughter remained sedated and had undergone her first surgery to treat the injuries sustained, and was still under medical observation. — Bernama

Perak passes Bill to streamline administration, DUN members' remuneration

IPOH: The Perak Legislative Assembly (DUN) yesterday passed the Administration Members and State Legislative Assembly Members (Remuneration) Enactment Bill 2026 which, among other things, seeks to modernise and streamline provisions governing the remuneration of members of the state administration

and the legislative assembly that have been in force since 1980. Menteri Besar Datuk Seri Saarani Mohamad said the Bill would also seek to increase the maximum monthly pension rate for members of the state administration and DUN from 50 per cent to 60 per cent of their salary.

"This proposal also takes into account comparisons with provisions in force in Parliament and several states. "The maximum pension rate provided for by Parliament and the states of Penang and Selangor is three-fifths, or 60 per cent, of the salary," he said during the debate on the Bill. — Bernama

Sequence 2026 puts graduating designers' journey in spotlight

PETALING JAYA: First City University College's graduating design students showcased their final projects at Sequence September 2026, held at First City Hall here on Sept 4. Organised by the university college's Faculty of Design & Built Environment, the showcase featured projects from Diploma and Degree programmes in Interior Design, Graphic Design, Interior Architecture & Design and Fashion Marketing. Now in its 24th year, Sequence provides graduating students with an opportunity to present their work and engage with external examiners and industry professionals as they prepare to enter the design industry. Held under the theme 'The Journey of Becoming', this year's event highlighted the development of students' projects from their initial ideas through exploration, revisions and final presentations. The projects demonstrated the students' creative approaches and understanding of issues relevant to contemporary design practice, while the interaction with industry professionals allowed them to discuss their design decisions and receive feedback on workplace expectations.



(From right) Saw, Tay and Chua in a photo-call at the end of the showcase.

First City University College vice chancellor Prof Dr Saw Sor Heoh said practical exposure and interaction with industry professionals were significant components of the students' education. "These practical experiences are a crucial part of their education. Direct contact with industry professionals provides useful advice and a clearer understanding of workplace

expectations. "Such exposure equips them to become professional designers and contribute meaningfully to their chosen fields," she said. The graduating students were also involved in organising the showcase, including preparing installations and the venue, giving them opportunities to apply teamwork, coordination and communication skills alongside their creative abilities.

The showcase was attended by guest of honour Dr Tay Ei Ling, who is honorary secretary of the Malaysian Institute of Interior Designers for the 2024-2026 term and co-founder and creative director of Youngblood Creations. Tay, who has more than 20 years of experience in the design field, advocates a 'Design for People' approach that places a greater emphasis on balancing function and visual appeal with the needs of people using a space. The event concluded with five 'Best Showcase Awards', with one award presented for each participating programme. The recipients were recognised for the quality of their projects, design development and effectiveness of their final presentations. Sequence September 2026 marked the completion of the students' studies at First City University College as they move towards professional careers in their respective design fields. Also present were Faculty of Design and Built Environment dean Assistant Prof Chua Huwi Huwi and deputy dean Assoc Prof Dr Debbie Gan, representatives of professional bodies, academic staff, families, and other invited guests.

Melaka polls: BN to conduct 'non-offensive' campaign

ALOR GAJAH: The Melaka Sayang Rakyat (MeSRa) campaign will be the focus of Barisan Nasional (BN) in the state election, its chairman Datuk Seri Ab Rauf Yusoh said. Ab Rauf, who is also Chief Minister and Melaka BN chairman, said through the campaign, his party will not take the approach of attacking the opponent in an effort to defend the state government under the party's leadership. "We adopt a government concept that continues leadership without slandering people and politics of hatred. We are cultivating the Melaka Sayang Rakyat campaign in the form of love between the leadership and the people. "And the love of the people and the leadership has been translated into every visit and also the Chief Minister's Loves the People Tour," he told reporters after the closing ceremony of his tour of the Ayer Limau state constituency at the Paya Lebar Jetty, Masjid Tanah here yesterday. Also present were Ayer Limau assemblyman Datuk Hameed Mytheen Kunju Basheer, who is also Works, Infrastructure,

Public Facilities and Transport Exco. In his speech earlier, Ab Rauf said in an effort to reach out to the people, the state government is also implementing the 'Wakil Rakyat Untuk Rakyat' (WRUR) programme, which tours every state constituency and is now entering its 27th series. He said the Tanjung Bidara WRUR starting from Sept 12 to 19 will be the closing ceremony to the programme to support the people. "Indeed, the state government is very concerned about the people's problems... we do not ask the people to come to government offices anymore if possible because we want the people to be more comfortable and to be visited by their own leaders in this WRUR programme. "We come to ask how they are, we come to knock on doors and ask what problems we need to solve... if there is a problem, if there is a difficulty, we solve it, and if there is space, we listen to the people's views and suggestions so that we can harmonise their lives," he said. — Bernama

Penang Airport operations remain normal despite haze, Indonesia volcanic ash disruptions

GEORGE TOWN: Penang International Airport's (PIA) flight operations remain normal despite the haze affecting Penang and other parts of Malaysia, with take-offs and landings so far continuing without disruption. State Tourism and Creative Economy Committee chairman Wong Hon Wai said airport management had informed the state government that the haze had not affected flight operations at the airport. "Nevertheless, the state government will continue to closely monitor the situation and maintain communication with the airport and airlines, in

order to respond to and minimise the impact of haze as well as unforeseen aviation incidents on visitors to Penang and the tourism industry," he said in a statement. On Monday, Wong led representatives of the state government and tourism industry in a meeting with newly appointed PIA senior airport manager Ahmad Fikri Samsudin. The meeting focused on airport operations, capacity, future development and the expansion of international direct flight network. Wong also noted that there has been no large-scale stranding

of Indonesian passengers at PIA following the cancellation of several Penang-Jakarta flights caused by volcanic ash from the eruption of Mount Anak Krakatau. He said affected airlines, including AirAsia, TransNusa and Batik Air, had notified passengers of the cancellations through email, text messages, and other communication channels after volcanic ash disrupted operations at Jakarta's Soekarno-Hatta International Airport. Mount Anak Krakatau erupted three times yesterday morning as Indonesian authorities

continued to monitor its activity, which remains at Level III, or Siaga (Alert) – the second-highest level in Indonesia's four-tier volcano alert system. Meanwhile, Wong said the state government is also preparing for two new international direct routes scheduled to begin in October. He said Hainan Airlines is scheduled to launch a direct service between Haikou, Hainan, and Penang on Oct 11, while Batik Air is scheduled to begin a direct service between Batam and Penang on Oct 18. He noted that the Penang government had in recent years

been actively strengthening and deepening its international aviation network by promoting direct air links between Penang and major international cities, with these efforts gradually bearing fruit as international passenger numbers continue to grow. "The airport recorded 2.64 million international passenger movements from January to July this year, compared with 2.38 million during the same period last year. "This represents an increase of 264,980 passenger movements, or 11.13 per cent," he said. — Bernama

PRAYER TIMES	
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KUCHING	
IMSAK	5.16
SUBUH	5.26
SYURUK	6.34
ZUHUR	12.40
ASAR	3.46
MAGHRIB	6.43
ISYAK	7.52
SIBU	
IMSAK	5.08
SUBUH	5.18
SYURUK	6.26
ZUHUR	12.32
ASAR	3.36
MAGHRIB	6.36
ISYAK	7.45
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IMSAK	4.59
SUBUH	5.09
SYURUK	6.17
ZUHUR	12.24
ASAR	3.26
MAGHRIB	6.28
ISYAK	7.37
PREPARED BY: Unit Falak Syarie PEJABAT MUFTI NEGERI SARAWAK	

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 unfiltered

... 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

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 to 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/Ansarulallah 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

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 Aklouch, 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 medallist 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 medallist 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.

"In life she's just a little girl," said Han, who top-scored for



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

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

Caitlin Clark

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

Blockx first Belgian man to reach 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-ed 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."



Alexander Blockx

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.

He 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.

A former US Open semi-finalist, Khachanov beat third-seeded Felix Auger-Aliassime in the second round. — AFP



Ong (second left) poses with prize winners and Sabati officials and members.

Sabati Cup attracts 48 teams as SIOTBC kicks off

KUCHING: A total of 48 teams turned up for the Sabati Cup 2026, bringing together bowlers from various backgrounds, including government agencies and overseas participants.

The tournament not only provided a platform for competition but also for participants from different countries and backgrounds to forge new connections, strengthen ties and exchange experiences.

Its team format also allowed bowlers of different nationalities and backgrounds to join forces.

The prize structure was deliberately kept modest as the

tournament was aimed primarily at promoting friendship, networking and corporate social responsibility (CSR), rather than profit.

Team Hong Kong Juniors, China 1, comprising Jun Li, Clayton Yip and Neptanus Leung, emerged champions after knocking down 934 pins to win RM2,000.

Sunway Megalanes 2 finished runners-up with 924 pins to take home RM1,000, while Sarawak's Hero Bowling placed third with 876 pins and received RM250.

The prizes were presented by Sabati honorary secretary Dato

Enn Ong Siok Ean at Megalanes Sarawak, Batu Kawa, on Monday.

Meanwhile, the Amateur Tenpin Bowling Association of Sarawak (ABAS), which organised the tournament, demonstrated its commitment to corporate social responsibility by contributing RM10,000 to the Kuching Autistic Association (KAA).

The Sabati Cup served as the curtain-raiser for the Sarawak International Open Tenpin Bowling Championships (SIOTBC) 2026 which commenced on Tuesday and runs until Sept 12.



Zheng celebrates match point against Swiatek. — AFP photo

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 need 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

Osaka seeks answers to nagging achilles injury

NEW YORK: Two-time US Open champion Naomi Osaka says she'll try to get to the bottom of a lingering left Achilles tendon injury that hindered her in a fourth-round loss to Elena Rybakina on Monday.

The Japanese star had received treatment during a medical timeout in her third-round win over Elise Mertens and said the problem troubled her more in her 6-1, 6-4 loss to Rybakina.

"The last match I played, I felt a lot in my leg," Osaka said. "Then this morning, it just got a lot worse. I felt like I played the best that I could given the situation."

"I can't really push off like I

want, and when I land, it hurts a little," Osaka added. "I was trying to figure out ways to, I guess, minimize it. I thought if I served a little slower the impact when I land would be less."

Reigning Australian Open champion Rybakina needed just 66 minutes to get past Osaka, who is hopeful she can manage the injury through the end of the season.

"Yesterday I got an ultrasound, and then I got an ultrasound again just now, and I'm probably going to go get an MRI, because, honestly, I don't really know too much about what's going on," she said. — AFP

Sibu TSD squad heads to Kuching for M'sia C'ships

Philip Wong

SIBU: Sibu Tang Soo Doo Moo Duk Kwan (TSDMDK) exponents are looking forward to the 31st National Tang Soo Doo Championships to be held in Kuching from Sept 12-13.

The 14-strong squad is anchored by several state exponents.

The Kuching-bound athletes are Aloysius Wong, Ian Kan, Leanne Kan, Ida tang, Dylan Soo, Aaron Wong, carson Soo, Loi Zheng Xi, Loi Zheng Hao, Brandon Wong, Koo Ngee Lin, Koo Ngee Jing, Edward Ryann Ngu and Felixsther Nandez Fredrick.

They attended the flag handing over ceremony over the weekend and received a message from

federal Minister of Tourism, Arts and Culture Dato Sri Tiong King Sing.

"Do your best, maintain sportsmanship and bring back glory to Sibu and Sarawak," the minister told them in a speech delivered by Progressive Democratic Party (PDP) Dudong branch chairman Datuk Teo Boon Siew.

"Martial arts training focus on self-discipline, perseverance and character building."

"Hence, martial virtue must always precede physical techniques," the message added.

Also present at the ceremony were TSDMDK president and grandmaster Teng Tiong Kee, his deputy Siw Ung Sing and other team officials Mark Hii and Lau Puong Ing.



Teng (back row fifth left) receives the flag from Teo (sixth left) as Siw (third left) and trainees look on.

Bada dedicates his sweep of 3 golds to 'all of Sarawak'

**Matthew Umpang**
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SHAH ALAM: Sarawak para-athlete Richard Bada completed a perfect campaign at the UiTM Stadium here, sweeping all three men's F41 throwing events at the Para Sukma Selangor 2026 while setting two new Games records.

The 33-year-old from Kampung Segenam, Serian claimed gold in the shot put, discus and javelin to underline his dominance in the throwing events.

He opened his campaign in the men's shot put on Monday with a record-breaking effort of 8.09 metres to secure his first gold medal and erase the previous Games record.

Richard continued his winning run later that night, throwing 22.85 metres in the javelin for his second gold and another new Games record.

His golden run continued in the discus with his 24.76-metre effort comfortably clear off Terengganu's Ammar Zill Qayyim (20.08m) and Kelantan's Muhd Nur Nazhan (18.57m).

Richard said he felt so 'proud and happy' for his feats but conceded that the competition was not easy.

"The competition this time



Richard displays his prowess in the discus throw.

is quite fierce compared to the previous edition because there are many new challengers," he revealed. "I dedicate these three gold medals especially to my teammates and all of Sarawak," he added.

His achievement impressive by the fact that it is rare for a thrower to display dominance and versatility across three different throwing disciplines.

S'wak para bowler Syazwani repeats golden hat-trick

PETALING JAYA: Sarawak para-tenpin bowler Nur Syazwani Marais completed a hat-trick of consecutive gold medals in the women's TPB4 (intellectual impairment) singles event after retaining her title at the Para Sukma Selangor 2026 on Monday.

The 33-year-old repeated her victories at the 2022 Para Sukma Kuala Lumpur and 2024 Para Sukma Sarawak, becoming the first athlete to complete a three-edition gold-medal sweep in the category.

Competing at Sunway Mega Lanes, Bandar Sunway, Syazwani produced a strong performance to amass 1,094 pinfalls from six games, recording scores of 166, 183, 188, 190, 211 and 156.

Selangor representative Eliyana Johari took silver with 1,026 pinfalls, while another Sarawak athlete, Azeera Jalani, claimed bronze with 966.

Syazwani said she felt some pressure to secure the gold but it did not significantly affect her focus throughout the competition.

Syazwani said she was pleased with her performance, adding that her preparations had gone



Nur Syazwani in action during the women's TPB4 singles final. — Bernama photo

well and she remained focused on implementing what her coach had taught her.

"My challenge was trying to remember what the coach taught me because sometimes there are so many steps that he teaches and I often forget them," she told reporters after the competition. — Bernama



Fatimah speaking to Sarawak para-athletes on Monday.

Fatimah rallies S'wak athletes to defend Para Sukma title

SELANGOR: Dato Sri Fatimah Abdullah has called on Sarawak's para athletes not to succumb to the pressure of competition but maintain their confidence and fighting spirit as the state bids to retain the 2026 Para Sukma overall title.

The Minister for Women, Early Childhood and Community Wellbeing Development said Sarawak is facing a tougher challenge this time as rival states continue to show improvements.

"We face a major challenge this time in defending our title as other contingents have also shown improved performances," she was quoted in a report by the Sarawak Public Communication Unit (Ukas) on Tuesday.

We face a major challenge this time in defending our title as other contingents have also shown improved performances.

Dato Sri Fatimah Abdullah

She said so when met after presenting medals for the women's 65kg para powerlifting event here on Monday.

Fatimah called on all Sarawak athletes to believe in their own abilities and not give up before stepping onto the competition stage.

"I tell the athletes, 'Ag! Idup, Ag! Ngelaban' because Sarawakians cannot give up before entering the stage.

"You must be in high spirits and have confidence to win," she said.

She said that every victory should serve as collective

momentum for Sarawak heading into the remaining events, especially with every medal becoming increasingly crucial to the state's bid to retain the overall championship.

Sarawak established an unprecedented legacy in Malaysian sporting history by winning 13 consecutive Para Sukma overall championships from 1994 to 2018.

The remarkable multi-decade dominance was driven by strong state-level grassroots development and elite athlete pathways which cemented the state's status as a powerhouse for para sports.

Sarawak further solidified its prowess by clinching the overall title once again at the 2024 Para Sukma on home soil, collecting an incredible 82 gold medals to reclaim its crown as the nation's premier para sports contingent.

As on Tuesday evening, Selangor was leading the medal tally with 52 gold, 33 silver and 27 bronze medals followed by Sabah (44-30-24) and Sarawak (30-20-37).

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

<https://rs.selangor2026.com/medals>

S'gor ready to adjust Para Sukma schedule amid haze

SHAH ALAM: The Selangor government is ready to consider adjusting the competition schedules for certain events at the 2026 Para Malaysia Games (Para Sukma), including extending competitions into the night.

State Youth, Sports and Entrepreneurship Committee chairman Mohd Najwan Halimi said this was due to haze conditions and unsatisfactory Air Pollutant Index (API) readings, which had resulted in several outdoor events, including archery, being temporarily postponed.

"Regarding the effects of the haze, there may be changes to event competition schedules, but no events have been cancelled.



Mohd Najwan Halimi

"So, we will certainly try to make adjustments to the afternoon and evening slots to meet the requirements of the events, but not until late at night, and they will most likely finish before 10 pm.

"For example, for today's

archery event, we have rescheduled it since the air pollutant index reading is still unsatisfactory and it will resume once conditions improve," he added.

He told reporters this after accompanying Youth and Sports Minister Dr Mohammed Taufiq Johari to take a closer look at the para badminton event at Dewan Kombes here on Tuesday.

Mohd Najwan said the safety and health of para athletes remained their top priority, including maintaining close communication with health agencies to ensure that venue environments remained safe for athletes, officials and volunteers. — Bernama

Malaysia 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 to the Asian Games and Asian Para Games at the National Sports Council (NSC) in Bukit Jalil here 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 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," he said.

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.

Meanwhile, NSC director-general Jefri Ngadirin said the national track cycling star Datuk Azizulhasni Awang is also expected to compete at the Games and help Malaysia achieve the medal target.

CDM for the Asian Para Games Tan Chee Keong said Malaysia are targeting six gold, 10 silver and 18 bronze medals at the Games, scheduled for Oct 18 to 24. — Bernama



Youth and Sports Minister Dr Mohammed Taufiq Johari (right) hands over the Jalur Gemilang to the Malaysian contingents chef de mission Datuk Mohd Sumali Reduan. — Bernama photo



‘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.”

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

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

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



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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

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.

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.

Survey: Asean remains top growth market for EU firms

KUCHING: European businesses continue to view Asean as the region with the strongest economic opportunities, with 61 per cent of business leaders ranking it ahead of China and South Asia, according to the EU-Asean Business Council (EU-ABC) survey.

The survey, involving around 150 European business leaders, found that 78 per cent expect trade and investment in Asean to increase over the next five years, up from 71 per cent in 2025.

Asean has retained its position as the preferred region for economic opportunities for the fourth consecutive year, with the 61 per cent figure rising from 56 per cent last year.

The survey also found that 78 per cent of respondents plan to expand their business operations in at least one Asean market.

Vietnam remained the most preferred destination, with 64



per cent of respondents planning to expand there, followed by Indonesia at 57 per cent.

Malaysia and Thailand each recorded 49 per cent, while Singapore and the Philippines recorded 44 per cent and 43 per cent respectively.

EU-ABC executive director Chris Humphrey said European businesses continued to show commitment to Asean despite challenges in the global economy.

"The global situation has certainly proved challenging, but European businesses have shown a firm commitment to Asean. Investment appetite has increased, with most companies planning to expand within the region," he said.

He said the findings showed Asean remained central to business growth as companies adjusted their investment and operational strategies.

US tariff policy uncertainty remained a concern, with 81 per cent of respondents saying it had weakened business confidence in Asean.

At the same time, 67 per cent of businesses recalibrating their supply chains were considering Asean, compared with 29 per cent for South Asia and 24 per cent for China.

The survey identified non-tariff barriers and regulatory fragmentation as major

constraints on trade and investment.

Some 73 per cent of respondents said there were too many barriers affecting efficient supply-chain use, while 67 per cent identified the lack of harmonised regulations as a key challenge.

Humphrey said addressing regulatory and cross-border frictions would strengthen Asean's market integration.

"What this means is that Asean is sitting on an untapped opportunity," he said.

The survey also found that 88 per cent of respondents believed European businesses faced a disadvantage against competitors from countries party to regional agreements with Asean.

Meanwhile, 74 per cent favoured an EU-Asean region-to-region free trade agreement over a series of bilateral agreements.

IHH operations unhindered by India High Court order



KUCHING: Analysts remain positive on IHH Healthcare Bhd as the Delhi High Court's August 31 order is strictly an investigative fact-finding exercise, with ongoing operational activities, corporate restructuring exercises and growth plans expected to continue unhindered.

The research team with RHB Investment Bank Bhd (RHB Research) in a note on Monday said it is affirming its positive stance on the stock following a joint briefing held by IHH and its Indian unit Fortis Healthcare Ltd, as it viewed IHH's fundamental growth drivers as intact.

"Management confirmed a zero immediate impact on its balance sheet or provisioning, as the Delhi High Court's 31 Aug order is strictly an investigative fact-finding exercise," it said.

On August 31, the Delhi High Court commissioned S Ramanand Aiyar & Co to perform a forensic audit with 12 specific tasks to be undertaken over a six-month timeline, with the auditor's first information requisition due by September 28.

The audit covers the dissipation of the Singh brothers' Fortis stake and the subsequent changes in control.

The research house said a key positive from the briefing was that ongoing corporate actions could proceed during the six-month audit.

Management also reiterated that the regulatory constraints previously in place were unblocked when the mandatory takeover offer was completed in November 2025 following

approval from the Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI), and that the forensic audit order did not alter that status.

Hence, plans for the Gleneagles India-Fortis integration and IHH's long-term target to increase its Fortis stake to 51 per cent over three to five years remain on track.

Regarding potential financial exposure, the house said management considers it to be premature to quantify a worst-case scenario while reiterating its consistent regulatory compliance.

Based on RHB Research's back-of-envelope calculation, if Fortis were to be named as a judgment debtor for Daiichi Sankyo's full award of 53 billion rupees (about RM2.5 billion), IHH's 31.17 per cent share would equal about RM790 million, or a nine sen impact to its target price.

The impact would be eight sen using Daiichi's narrower primary claim, based on the current market value of the 52.9 million dissipated shares at about 4.84 billion rupees.

"We believe these hypothetical financial extremes could be easily absorbed by IHH's strong balance sheet and operating cash flow," it said.

The research house said the primary near-term catalyst occurs on September 10 when the Tokyo District Court is scheduled to rule on Northern TK Venture's damages claim against Daiichi for unlawfully obstructing the 2018 transaction.

The claim seeks between 4.24 billion and 109.3 billion rupees, or about RM200 million to RM5.7 billion, and a favourable ruling could serve as a key positive catalyst for the stock although management limited detailed commentary due to active legal proceedings.

MRO player GTA makes ACE Market debut at 35 sen



KUCHING: GTA Holdings Berhad (GTA) made its debut on the ACE Market of Bursa Malaysia Securities today, with its shares opening at RM0.35.

The investment holding company, whose wholly-owned subsidiary is principally involved in aviation maintenance, repair and overhaul (MRO) services, is listed under the stock name "GTA" and stock code "0469".

The subsidiary specialises in MRO services for helicopter and fixed-wing engines, as well as their parts and components.

It operates from the Helicopter Centre at Sultan Abdul Aziz Shah Airport in Subang, serving aviation operators, MRO-related customers and defence-linked end markets.

GTA said proceeds from its public issue would include approximately RM25 million to partially repay bank financing for a new operating facility, RM10 million for the planned expansion of helicopter MRO activities in the Middle East, and RM5.9 million for expansion into MRO services for landing gear, wheels and brakes for fixed-wing aircraft.

A further RM24.15 million will be allocated for working capital, while RM6.7 million will be used to defray listing expenses.



Photo shows GTA's directors during its listing ceremony on the ACE Market of Bursa Malaysia yesterday.

GTA managing director and chief executive officer Datuk Nonee Ashirin Datuk Mohd Radzi said the listing marked a new chapter for the company.

"Today, GTA embarks on a defining new chapter, building on years of trust, technical excellence and industry partnerships into a listed platform for greater ambition.

"Our ACE Market listing is more than a corporate milestone; it positions GTA for sustainable

growth, stronger capabilities and global opportunities," she said.

She said the proceeds from the initial public offering would be used to deepen the company's aviation support and MRO capabilities, expand into strategic markets and strengthen Malaysia's aerospace ecosystem.

Meanwhile, Hong Leong Investment Bank Berhad head of equity markets Phang Siew Loong said GTA's listing reflected

its operating track record and technical expertise in Malaysia's aviation MRO sector.

"With its strategic expansion plans, strong OEM-linked relationships and commitment to broadening its service offerings, GTA is well-positioned to strengthen its market presence," he said.

Hong Leong Investment Bank is GTA's principal adviser, sponsor, sole underwriter and sole placement agent.

Jetro, Japan Embassy to promote halal food products at MIHAS 2026

KUALA LUMPUR: The Japan External Trade Organisation (Jetro) Kuala Lumpur and the Embassy of Japan in Malaysia will be exhibiting at the 22nd Malaysia International Halal Showcase (MIHAS) 2026 from Sept 23-26.

Jetro Kuala Lumpur said in a statement yesterday that its participation will enhance awareness and promotion of Japanese halal food exports.

Jetro Kuala Lumpur is a government-related organisation that promotes mutual trade and investment between Japan and Malaysia.

"As the organiser of the Japan Pavilion, Jetro KL will showcase products (and services) with seven Japanese companies

seeking to expand their business opportunities in the Muslim market here," it said.

The Japan Pavilion will feature halal-certified food products and a digital catalogue introducing halal-certified products from 21 companies.

It will also conduct a visitor survey on purchasing factors influencing consumer interest in Japanese halal-certified food products, and related topics during the exhibition.

"We warmly invite members of the media and industry stakeholders to visit the Japan Pavilion and learn more about Japanese companies' efforts to expand their presence in the growing Muslim market in Malaysia," it added. — Bernama

DagangHalal facilitates global buyer matching at Vitafoods Asia 2026

KUCHING: DagangHalal.com completed its participation as halal strategic partner at Vitafoods Asia 2026, where it operated the World Halal Supermarket and facilitated a Hosted Buyer Programme for international procurement teams.

The event was held earlier in September at the Queen Sirikit National Convention Center in Bangkok, Thailand.

As part of its role, DagangHalal showcased halal-certified products through the World Halal Supermarket and connected qualified international procurement teams with relevant exhibitors at the event.

Following the opening ceremony, DagangHalal accompanied Malaysia's Ambassador to Thailand, Datuk Wan Zaidi Wan Abdullah, during

an official walkabout.

The delegation engaged with more than 20 companies under the Malaysian exhibitor profile, comprising home-grown manufacturers and multinational companies using their Malaysian operations as a base for regional market access.

Wan Zaidi said Vitafoods Asia 2026 provided an important platform for Malaysian companies to demonstrate their capabilities in halal, nutraceuticals, functional foods, and health and wellness solutions while building partnerships with Thai and international businesses.

"My engagement with Malaysian companies at the exhibition, including DagangHalal, reflects the Embassy's continued

commitment to supporting their market expansion in Thailand," he said.

He said the Embassy of Malaysia, through MATRADE Bangkok, would continue to facilitate business connections, market access and engagement with potential Thai partners, buyers and distributors.

The Hosted Buyer Programme targeted buyers sourcing dietary supplements, nutraceuticals, functional foods, medical foods and related health products in bulk.

DagangHalal also showcased its Halal Internal Assurance System (HIAS), a tool for cross-border compliance and traceability in the nutraceutical sector.

The cloud-based platform assists manufacturers in centralising food-safety

documentation, monitoring ingredient lifecycles and maintaining audit readiness for export.

Meanwhile, Informa markets regional portfolio director – ASEAN Rungphach Chitanuwat said Vitafoods Asia provided an end-to-end platform for the health and nutrition industry.

"Vitafoods Asia showcases an end-to-end solution for the health and nutrition industry.

"It is not just an exhibition, but also a platform for knowledge sharing through conferences, workshops and opportunities to connect with industry players across the entire value chain," she said.

Vitafoods Asia will move to the Malaysia International Trade and Exhibition Centre in Kuala Lumpur from September 21 to 23, 2027.



Wan Zaidi (third left), with DagangHalal chief operating officer Tony Er (third right), at Vitafoods Asia 2026 in Bangkok.

Gamuda secures RM2.5 bln Sydney Metro West contract

KUCHING: Gamuda Bhd (Gamuda) has secured the Sydney Metro West – Parramatta Integrated Station Development project, with its subsidiary Riverside Link Consortium awarded a Design and Construct contract valued at AUD880 million (about RM2.54 billion).

The project was awarded by Sydney Metro on September 3, 2026 and involves the design and construction of the future Parramatta metro station and associated infrastructure.

Gamuda Engineering Pty Ltd holds an 80 per cent effective participation in the project,

giving Gamuda an estimated attributable share of about RM2 billion.

The project is targeted for completion in 2032.

The award also includes development rights for four integrated commercial, retail and residential developments above

and adjacent to the station, to be delivered in phases after the metro opens.

The latest contract lifted Gamuda's outstanding order book by 3.4 per cent to RM61.6 billion, while cumulative year-to-date new contract wins reached RM20.8 billion.

The project is expected to contribute about one per cent to Gamuda's annual net profit over its six-year duration, assuming a high-single-digit pre-tax profit margin and a corporate tax rate of 30 per cent.

PublicInvest Research raised its

FY26 order book replenishment assumption to RM30 billion and increased its FY27 and FY2028 earnings forecasts by an average of 5.3 per cent.

The research house noted that the project marks Gamuda's sixth station delivery for Sydney Metro.



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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

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**IN THE HIGH COURT IN SABAH AND SARAWAK AT SIBU
IN BANKRUPTCY PROCEEDINGS.**
NO. SBW-29NCC-47-3/2026
Ber: MOHD SAIFUL BIN ZAIBI
(NRIC No.: 890711-13-6359/-)
Lot 591,
Jalan Sentosa Timur 38,
96000 Sibau Sarawak
Ex-parte: LEMBAGA HASIL DALAM NEGERI MALAYSIA
Pejabat Hasil Sibau,
Wisma Vasty,
No. 15, Jalan Pulau,
960000 Sibau Sarawak
NOTICE OF BANKRUPTCY ORDER
Notice is hereby given that, on a petition filed on 16.06.2026, a Bankruptcy Order against **Mohd Saiful Bin Zaibi (NRIC No. : 890711-13-6359/-)**, address at Lot 591, Jalan Sentosa Timur 38, 96000 Sibau Sarawak made by the High Court of Sibau on **18.08.2026**.
Dated this **7 September 2026**

(SURIYA BINTI SENEN)
Insolvency Officer
Malaysia Department of Insolvency
Sibu Branch
for Director General of Insolvency
[Ref. No: Mdi(SBU)BP007563/2026/109/26]

AKTA KEBANKRAPAN 1967
(AKTA 360) (DISEMAK-1988)
NOTIS DIBAWAH SUBSEKSYEN 33A
Notis adalah diberitahu bahawa Ketua Pengarah Insolvensi Malaysia telah mengeluarkan Perakuan Pelepasan menurut Seksyen 33A, Akta Kebankrapan 1967 (Akta 360) kepada bankrap dibawah:

Bil.	Nama	Nombor Kad Pengenalan	Nombor Kes	Mahkamah Tinggi	Tarikh Pelepasan
1.	DAUD LIHAN	640423-13-5069/ K0044310	29-588-2008-III	KUCHING	24.10.2025

Bertarikh : 16.12.2025

(ADIBAH HUSNA BINTI ZAINAL ABIDIN)
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**IN THE HIGH COURT IN SABAH AND SARAWAK AT SIBU
IN BANKRUPTCY PROCEEDINGS NO. SBW-29NCC-25-2/2026**
Ber: MATHEW GERIJH ANAK TADONG
(NRIC No.: 840327-13-5153/-)
Mukah Power Generation, SESCO,
K.M 30, Jalan Mukah-Balingian,
96400 Mukah Sarawak
And/O
Quarters Mukah Power Generation,
K.M 30, Jalan Mukah-Balingian
96400 Mukah, Sarawak
Ex-parte: BANK KERJASAMA RAKYAT MALAYSIA BERHAD
Lot 1152 & 1153, Blok C,
Jalan Setia 2, 96400 Mukah, Sarawak
NOTICE OF BANKRUPTCY ORDER
Notice is hereby given that, on a petition filed on 13.08.2026, a Bankruptcy Order against **Mathew Gerijh Anak Tadong (NRIC No. : 840327-13-5153/-)**, address at Mukah Power Generation, SESCO, K.M 30, Jalan Mukah-Balingian, 96400 Mukah Sarawak And/O Quarters Mukah Power Generation, K.M 30, Jalan Mukah-Balingian 96400 Mukah, Sarawak made by the High Court of Sibau on **17.08.2026**.
Dated this **7 September 2026**

(SURIYA BINTI SENEN)
Insolvency Officer
Malaysia Department of Insolvency
Sibu Branch
for Director General of Insolvency
[Ref. No: Mdi(SBU)BP007043/2026/108/26]

**IN THE HIGH COURT IN SABAH AND SARAWAK AT MIRI
DIVORCE PETITION NO. MYJ-33-43-6/2026 (HC)**
In the matter of dissolution of marriage on ground of breakdown of marriage and
In the matter of rule 7 and 8 of the Divorce and Matrimonial Proceedings Rules 1980
and
In the matter of Sections 53; 54(1)(c) & (d) and 105(1) of the Law Reform (Marriage and Divorce) Act 1976 [Act 164]
BETWEEN
EKA ANAK NYAMBANG (F) ... PETITIONER
(NRIC. NO.: 841120-13-5708)
AND
BENUS ANAK JANDOH (M) ... RESPONDENT
(NRIC. NO.: 840603-13-6065)
NOTICE
(IN THE MATTER OF Divorce Petition issued on the 22nd day of June 2026)
To: **BENUS ANAK JANDOH (M)** (NRIC. NO.: 840603-13-6065)
Last known address:
Lot 12572, Lake Villa, Jalan Perkasa 1A, Senadin, 98000 Miri, Sarawak
TAKE NOTICE that a divorce petition has been presented against you in this Court by the Petitioner, **EKA ANAK NYAMBANG (F)** (NRIC. NO.: 841120-13-5708) of Lot 1374, Lorong Intan, 6A-2, Vista Perdana, 98000 Miri, Sarawak, and the Court has ordered that the said petition be served on you by publishing via advertisement a Notice once in a local newspaper namely **BORNEO POST** and that such publication shall be good and sufficient service of the petition on you **14 days** after the last act of such publication.
AND FURTHER TAKE NOTICE that if you desire to defend that cause, you must within **8 days** after the effective service of the petition on you, inclusive of the day of service in Form 6 in the Registry of the High Court at Miri, Sarawak. In default of such notice, decree nisi may be granted against you.
DATED this 7th DAY OF AUGUST, 2026

Senior Assistant Registrar
High Court, Miri

AKTA KEBANKRAPAN 1967
(AKTA 360) (DISEMAK-1988)
NOTIS DIBAWAH SUBSEKSYEN 33A
Notis adalah diberitahu bahawa Ketua Pengarah Insolvensi Malaysia telah mengeluarkan Perakuan Pelepasan menurut Seksyen 33A, Akta Kebankrapan 1967 (Akta 360) kepada bankrap dibawah:

Bil.	Nama	Nombor Kad Pengenalan	Nombor Kes	Mahkamah Tinggi	Tarikh Pelepasan
1.	FATIMAH DANIELLE BANAN	750916-13-5822/ K0504301	29-1252- 2008-I	KUCHING	24.10.2025

Bertarikh : 16.12.2025

(ADIBAH HUSNA BINTI ZAINAL ABIDIN)
Pengarah Insolvensi Negeri
Jabatan Insolvensi Negeri Sarawak
bp Ketua Pengarah Insolvensi Malaysia

AKTA INSOLVENSII 1967
NOTIS DIBAWAH SUBSEKSYEN 33A (1) / 33B (2A)
Notis adalah diberitahu bahawa Ketua Pengarah Insolvensi Malaysia telah mengeluarkan Perakuan Pelepasan menurut Seksyen 33A (1) / 33B (2A) Akta Kebankrapan 1967 (Akta 360) kepada bankrap dibawah:

Bil.	Nama	Nombor Kad Pengenalan	Nombor Kes	Mahkamah Tinggi	Tarikh Pelepasan
1.	LIEW MAN YEAN	530718-13- 5329/K480250	29-528-1998	KUCHING	31.10.2025

Bertarikh: 11.12.2025

(ADIBAH HUSNA BINTI ZAINAL ABIDIN)
Pengarah Insolvensi Negeri
Jabatan Insolvensi Negeri Sarawak
bp Ketua Pengarah Insolvensi Malaysia

AKTA KEBANKRAPAN 1967
(AKTA 360) (DISEMAK-1988)
NOTIS DIBAWAH SUBSEKSYEN 33A
Notis adalah diberitahu bahawa Ketua Pengarah Insolvensi Malaysia telah mengeluarkan Perakuan Pelepasan menurut Seksyen 33A, Akta Kebankrapan 1967 (Akta 360) kepada bankrap dibawah:

Bil.	Nama	Nombor Kad Pengenalan	Nombor Kes	Mahkamah Tinggi	Tarikh Pelepasan
1.	AZLAN BIN MOHAMAD SALLEH	690406-13-5185/ K0205666	29-375-2009- III	KUCHING	27.10.2025

Bertarikh : 16.12.2025

(ADIBAH HUSNA BINTI ZAINAL ABIDIN)
Pengarah Insolvensi Negeri
Jabatan Insolvensi Negeri Sarawak
bp Ketua Pengarah Insolvensi Malaysia

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082-421104
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• Install water tank,water pump, water heater, toilet set,etc..
• Repair leakage (roof,wall & floor)
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Permit No. RBK/PPW/16/134/2026/0008 SAH DARA 17/02/2026 HWNGGA 16/02/2028

AKTA INSOLVENSII 1967
NOTIS DIBAWAH SUBSEKSYEN 33A (1) / 33B (2A)
Notis adalah diberitahu bahawa Ketua Pengarah Insolvensi Malaysia telah mengeluarkan Perakuan Pelepasan menurut Seksyen 33A (1) / 33B (2A) Akta Kebankrapan 1967 (Akta 360) kepada bankrap dibawah:

Bil.	Nama	Nombor Kad Pengenalan	Nombor Kes	Mahkamah Tinggi	Tarikh Pelepasan
1.	LIPEH ANAK MAWI	520709-13- 5017/K220563	KCH-29- 879/10-2011	KUCHING	31.10.2025

Bertarikh: 11.12.2025

(ADIBAH HUSNA BINTI ZAINAL ABIDIN)
Pengarah Insolvensi Negeri
Jabatan Insolvensi Negeri Sarawak
bp Ketua Pengarah Insolvensi Malaysia

AKTA KEBANKRAPAN 1967
(AKTA 360) (DISEMAK-1988)
NOTIS DIBAWAH SUBSEKSYEN 33A
Notis adalah diberitahu bahawa Ketua Pengarah Insolvensi Malaysia telah mengeluarkan Perakuan Pelepasan menurut Seksyen 33A, Akta Kebankrapan 1967 (Akta 360) kepada bankrap dibawah:

Bil.	Nama	Nombor Kad Pengenalan	Nombor Kes	Mahkamah Tinggi	Tarikh Pelepasan
1.	MAWAR BINTI KASSIM	840820-13-5296	KCH-29NCC- 510/7-2016	KUCHING	28.11.2025

Bertarikh : 10.12.2025

(ADIBAH HUSNA BINTI ZAINAL ABIDIN)
Pengarah Insolvensi Negeri
Jabatan Insolvensi Negeri Sarawak
bp Ketua Pengarah Insolvensi Malaysia

AKTA KEBANKRAPAN 1967
(AKTA 360) (DISEMAK-1988)
NOTIS DIBAWAH SUBSEKSYEN 33A
Notis adalah diberitahu bahawa Ketua Pengarah Insolvensi Malaysia telah mengeluarkan Perakuan Pelepasan menurut Seksyen 33A, Akta Kebankrapan 1967 (Akta 360) kepada bankrap dibawah:

Bil.	Nama	Nombor Kad Pengenalan	Nombor Kes	Mahkamah Tinggi	Tarikh Pelepasan
1.	SITI AISYAH BINTI BOGI	870906-13-5120	KCH-29NCC- 93/1-2016	KUCHING	28.11.2025

Bertarikh : 10.12.2025

(ADIBAH HUSNA BINTI ZAINAL ABIDIN)
Pengarah Insolvensi Negeri
Jabatan Insolvensi Negeri Sarawak
bp Ketua Pengarah Insolvensi Malaysia

AKTA KEBANKRAPAN 1967
(AKTA 360) (DISEMAK-1988)
NOTIS DIBAWAH SUBSEKSYEN 33A
Notis adalah diberitahu bahawa Ketua Pengarah Insolvensi Malaysia telah mengeluarkan Perakuan Pelepasan menurut Seksyen 33A, Akta Kebankrapan 1967 (Akta 360) kepada bankrap dibawah:

Bil.	Nama	Nombor Kad Pengenalan	Nombor Kes	Mahkamah Tinggi	Tarikh Pelepasan
1.	SIA YUK MING	630730-13-5115	29-4-2005	KUCHING	28.11.2025

Bertarikh : 10.12.2025

(ADIBAH HUSNA BINTI ZAINAL ABIDIN)
Pengarah Insolvensi Negeri
Jabatan Insolvensi Negeri Sarawak
bp Ketua Pengarah Insolvensi Malaysia

AKTA KEBANKRAPAN 1967
(AKTA 360) (DISEMAK-1988)
NOTIS DIBAWAH SUBSEKSYEN 33A
Notis adalah diberitahu bahawa Ketua Pengarah Insolvensi Malaysia telah mengeluarkan Perakuan Pelepasan menurut Seksyen 33A, Akta Kebankrapan 1967 (Akta 360) kepada bankrap dibawah:

Bil.	Nama	Nombor Kad Pengenalan	Nombor Kes	Mahkamah Tinggi	Tarikh Pelepasan
1.	THIAN HOCK SENG	761111-13-5749 / K0496362	29-284-2007-II	KUCHING	28.11.2025

Bertarikh : 10.12.2025

(ADIBAH HUSNA BINTI ZAINAL ABIDIN)
Pengarah Insolvensi Negeri
Jabatan Insolvensi Negeri Sarawak
bp Ketua Pengarah Insolvensi Malaysia

AKTA KEBANKRAPAN 1967
(AKTA 360) (DISEMAK-1988)
NOTIS DIBAWAH SUBSEKSYEN 33A
Notis adalah diberitahu bahawa Ketua Pengarah Insolvensi Malaysia telah mengeluarkan Perakuan Pelepasan menurut Seksyen 33A, Akta Kebankrapan 1967 (Akta 360) kepada bankrap dibawah:

Bil.	Nama	Nombor Kad Pengenalan	Nombor Kes	Mahkamah Tinggi	Tarikh Pelepasan
1.	SITI NORULHAJAR BINTI RUSLI	810808-13-5472	29-535-2010-I	KUCHING	28.11.2025

Bertarikh : 10.12.2025

(ADIBAH HUSNA BINTI ZAINAL ABIDIN)
Pengarah Insolvensi Negeri
Jabatan Insolvensi Negeri Sarawak
bp Ketua Pengarah Insolvensi Malaysia

MALAYSIA
IN THE HIGH COURT IN SABAH AND SARAWAK AT KUCHING
COMPANIES (WINDING UP) NO. KCH-29NCC-46-7/2026 (HC 3)
Act, 2016
AND
In the matter of **TORNG MEEI IMPORT & EXPORT SDN. BHD.** [Company No. 201301024956 (1054785-W)]
BETWEEN
MAYBANK ISLAMIC BERHAD (Company No. 200701029411 (787435-M))
3rd Floor, Sublots 6, 7 & 8,
Lot 1970, Block 10, KCLD,
Jalan Laksamana Cheng Ho,
93350 Kuching, Sarawak.
... PETITIONER
AND
TORNG MEEI IMPORT & EXPORT SDN. BHD. [Company No. 201301024956 (1054785-W)]
Lot 2250, Jalan Daya, Bintawa Industrial Estate,
93450 Kuching, Sarawak.
... RESPONDENT
ADVERTISEMENT OF PETITION
NOTICE is hereby given that a Petition for the winding-up of the abovesaid Respondent Company by the High Court was, on the 29th day of July, 2026, presented by the said Petitioner. And that the said Petition is directed to be heard before the Court sitting at Kuching at 9.00 o'clock in the forenoon, on the 5th day of October, 2026; and any Creditor or contributory of the said Respondent Company desiring to support or oppose the making of an Order on the said Petition may appear at the time of hearing by himself or his counsel for that purpose; and a copy of the Petition will be furnished to any Creditor or contributory of the said Respondent Company requiring the same by the undersigned on payment of the regulated charge for the same.
The Petitioner is **MAYBANK ISLAMIC BERHAD** and the Petitioner's address is 3rd Floor, Sublots 6, 7 & 8, Lot 1970, Block 10, KCLD, Jalan Laksamana Cheng Ho, 93350 Kuching, Sarawak.
The Petitioner's advocates is Messrs. **REDDI & CO.**, 2nd & 3rd Floors, Redds Building No. 393, Jalan Dutak Abang Abdul Rahim, 93450 Kuching, Sarawak.
Dated this 6th DAY OF AUGUST, 2026.
REDDI & CO.
Advocates for the Petitioner.
NOTE -
Any person who intends to appear on the hearing of the said Petition, either to oppose or support, must serve on or send by post to the abovesaid Messrs. **REDDI & CO.**, notice in writing of his intention so to do. The notice must state the name and address of the person, or, if a firm, the name and address of the firm, and must be signed by the person or firm, or his or their solicitor (if any) and must be served, or, if posted, must be sent by post in sufficient time to reach the abovesaid Messrs. Reddi & Co. not later than twelve o'clock noon of the 2nd day of October, 2026.

AKTA KEBANKRAPAN 1967
(AKTA 360) (DISEMAK-1988)

NOTIS DIBAWAH SUBSEKSYEN 33B (2A)

Notis adalah diberitahu bahawa Ketua Pengarah Insolvensi Malaysia telah mengeluarkan Perakuan Pelepasan menurut Seksyen 33B (2A), Akta Kebankrapan 1967 (Akta 360) kepada bankrap dibawah:

Bil.	Nama	Nombor Kad Pengenalan	Nombor Kes	Mahkamah Tinggi	Tarikh Pelepasan
1.	LIM CHENG CHONG	481219-07-5331 / 3902461	29-713-2010-II	KUCHING	28.11.2025

Bertarikh : 10.12.2025

(ADIBAH HUSNA BINTI ZAINAL ABIDIN)
Pengarah Insolvensi Negeri
Jabatan Insolvensi Negeri Sarawak
bp Ketua Pengarah Insolvensi Malaysia

BERSEKUTU

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Jalan Pending, 93450 Kuching.


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See Hua Marketing Sdn Bhd

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advertising@seehuamarketing.com

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jongbuijian@seehuamarketing.com

Denny Sim Wei Han
 **016-816 8533**
dennysim@seehuamarketing.com

Liew Shoon Pui
 **013-808 6299**
liewshoonpui@seehuamarketing.com

Goh Chong Yan
 **019-817 4845**
gohchongyan@seehuamarketing.com

Ho Ting Seng
 **012-883 0202**
hotingheng@seehuamarketing.com

Sales Support:

Felicia Jong
 **019-886 3799**
feliciajong@seehuamarketing.com

Authorized Agent:

Lim Kok Hoo
 **016-863 0956**
limkokhoo@seehuamarketing.com

MALAYSIA

IN THE HIGH COURT IN SARAH AND SARAWAK AT BINTULU
DIVORCE PETITION NO.: BTU 33-9-2/2026 (HC)
(IN THE MATTER OF Sections 53 and 54(1)(C) & (d) of the
Law Reform (Marriage and Divorce) Act 1976 [Act 164]

BETWEEN

CHUNG SUK CHING (F) (NRC NO.: 981003-61-6108)	... PETITIONER
AND	
JONG HO MING (M) (NRC NO.: 982502-52-5647)	... RESPONDENT

NOTICE OF HEARING

IN THE MATTER OF DIVORCE PETITION ISSUED ON THE 24th day of February 2026)

To: **JONG HO MING (M) (NRC NO.: 98530-52-5647)**
Last known address:
Lot 15, Jalan Bata Niah-Sepukot, 98200 Niah, Sarawak

TAKE NOTICE that above petition has been set down for trial before the High Court at Bintulu on **Thursday the 17th day of September 2026** at 9.00 am o'clock in the forenoon. And that the court has ordered that this Notice of Hearing be served on you by publishing the Notice once in the local newspapers namely **BORNEO POST** and that such publication shall be deemed good and sufficient service of the same **14 days** after the date of publication. If you desire to defend the said action you must appear in the High Court, **Bintulu on 17th day of September 2026 at 9:00 am.** In default of such notice, decree nisi may be granted against you.

DATED this 4th Day of SEPTEMBER, 2026


Senior Assistant Registrar
High Court, Bintulu

This NOTICE OF HEARING is filed by Assistant Director of Legal Aid Department, Min for and on behalf of the Petitioner whose address for service is at 13th Floor, Wisma Yau Lan, Lot 97, Jalan Brooke, 98000 Miri, Sarawak. Tel. No. 085-423806 Fax No.: 085-425204 [Ref No. JBG, ML 600-7/12/120226]

AKTA KEBANKRAPAN 1967
(AKTA 360) (DISEMAK-1988)

NOTIS DIBAWAH SUBSEKSYEN 33B (2A)

Notis adalah diberitahu bahawa Ketua Pengarah Insolvensi Malaysia telah mengeluarkan Perakuan Pelepasan menurut Seksyen 33B (2A), Akta Kebankrapan 1967 (Akta 360) kepada bankrap dibawah:

Bil.	Nama	Nombor Kad Pengenalan	Nombor Kes	Mahkamah Tinggi	Tarikh Pelepasan
1.	TAN SIOK KENG	660904-13-5682 / K0112501	29-1040-2009-II	KUCHING	28.11.2025

Bertarikh : 10.12.2025

(ADIBAH HUSNA BINTI ZAINAL ABIDIN)
Pengarah Insolvensi Negeri
Jabatan Insolvensi Negeri Sarawak
bp Ketua Pengarah Insolvensi Malaysia

TAN SIOK KENG

AKTA KEBANKRAPAN 1967
(AKTA 360) (DISEMAK-1988)
NOTIS DIBAWAH SUBSEKSYEN 33A

Notis adalah diberitahu bahawa Ketua Pengarah Insolvensi Malaysia telah mengeluarkan Perakuan Pelepasan menurut Seksyen 33A, Akta Kebankrapan 1967 (Akta 360) kepada bankrap dibawah:

Bil.	Nama	Nombor Kad Pengenalan	Nombor Kes	Mahkamah Tinggi	Tarikh Pelepasan
1.	ERNYZA BINTI MAHREN	810115-13-5410	29-182-2009-II	KUCHING	24.10.2025

Bertarikh : 16.12.2025

(ADIBAH HUSNA BINTI ZAINAL ABIDIN)
Pengarah Insolvensi Negeri
Jabatan Insolvensi Negeri Sarawak
bp Ketua Pengarah Insolvensi Malaysia

3/23/21/18/11

AKTA KEBANKRAPAN 1967
(AKTA 360) (DISEMAK-1988)
NOTIS DIBAWAH SUBSEKSYEN 33A

Notis adalah diberitahu bahawa Ketua Pengarah Insolvensi Malaysia telah mengeluarkan Perakuan Pelepasan menurut Seksyen 33A, Akta Kebankrapan 1967 (Akta 360) kepada bankrap dibawah:

Bil.	Nama	Nombor Kad Pengenalan	Nombor Kes	Mahkamah Tinggi	Tarikh Pelepasan
1.	WILLIE ANAK ALEXANDER JAMBA	840909-13-6201	KCH-29-883/9-2012	KUCHING	19.11.2025

Bertarikh : 09.12.2025

(ADIBAH HUSNA BINTI ZAINAL ABIDIN)
Pengarah Insolvensi Negeri
Jabatan Insolvensi Negeri Sarawak
bp Ketua Pengarah Insolvensi Malaysia

10/11/2024

AKTA KEBANKRAPAN 1967
(AKTA 360) (DISEMAK-1988)
NOTIS DIBAWAH SUBSEKSYEN 33A

Notis adalah diberitahu bahawa Ketua Pengarah Insolvency Malaysia telah mengeluarkan Perakuan Pelepasan menurut Seksyen 33A, Akta Kebankrapan 1967 (Akta 360) kepada bankrap dibawah:

Bil.	Nama	Nombor Kad Pengenalan	Nombor Kes	Mahkamah Tinggi	Tarikh Pelepasan
1.	WAN ZULFARINA BINTI WAN KADIR	800811-13-5490	KCH-29- 95/1-2013	KUCHING	28.11.2025

Bertarikh : 10.12.2025

(ADIBAH HUSNA BINTI ZAINAL ABIDIN)
Pengarah Insolvency Negeri
Jabatan Insolvency Negeri Sarawak
bp Ketua Pengarah Insolvency Malaysia

TAMBAH

OBITUARY

*Jesus said, "I am the resurrection and the life. The one who believes in me will live, even though they die; and whoever lives by believing in me will never die."
(John 11: 25-26)*



**Mr. Martin Francis Chieng Ngiong Ung @
Chin Ngion Ung,**
aged 82 years, was called to eternal rest with the Lord on
Monday, September 7, 2026 at 10:50pm.
He left behind the following loved ones to mourn his demise:

Wife: Elizabeth Chung Nyuk Lian

Sons:
Alan Joseph Chieng Kai Sen
Bradley Chieng Kai Lin

Funeral Wake:
St Joseph's Funeral Chapel, Jalan Tun Abang Haji Openg, Kuching

Funeral Mass:
St Joseph Cathedral Kuching, Jalan Tun Abang Haji Openg, Kuching
on Friday, 11th September 2026 at 9.30am

Cremation:
Treasure Hall Crematorium, Nirvana Memorial Park,
Jalan Kuching- Bau, Siniawan

Final Resting Place:
St Peter's Church Columbarium, Jalan Padungan, Kuching

Telephone Contact:
016 871 6288 (Betty), 012 215 1876 (Bradley)

WRIT OF SUMMONS
 SUBORDINATE COURTS
 IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF KUALA LUMPUR
 AND SARAWAK AT KUALA
 LUMPUR
 SU (N) 2021-12-020-030

BETWEEN

CMB ISLAMIC BANK BERHAD
 [Company No. 260601(001) 2671300 (M)]
 a licensed bank and a company incorporated
 and registered in Malaysia, under the
 Companies Act 1965, by its duly authorised
 registered office at Level 15, Menara CMB,
 Jalan Sultan Ismail, 50000 Kuala Lumpur,
 95704 Kuala Lumpur and a service address
 at Second Floor, Caltex & Recovery, Mezzanine
 Level, Jalan Pintas Bera, 95200, Kuala Lumpur
 Malaysia,

Plaintiff

AND

MASJIN BEN ZAINDIN
 (W.N.KR. 97/095-23-2701)
 Kuningang Melang,

Defendant

940001 From Sarawak

ADVERTISING IN RESPECT TO

MASJIN BEN ZAINDIN
 (W.N.KR. 97/095-23-2701)
 Kuningang Melang,

940001 From Sarawak

TAKE NOTICE that an action has been
 commenced against you in the Subordinate
 Courts at Kuching & Sarawak at Sarawak
 State, Writ of Summons SU No. SKI-
 ASK1-ASIA-12-020-030 by the above-named
 Plaintiff, in which the Plaintiff claims against you

(a) the sum of **RM142,835.56** as at 29th
 day of **June 2020**

(b) compensation for late payment in/with
 calculated as follows:-

(i) at the rate of one (percentum) 1%
 per annum on the basic outstanding
 sum of **RM142,835.56** calculated from
 the date of maturity of the facility
 or until the date of judgment unless
 the date of maturity of the facility
 period or until the date of judgment
 unless the date of judgment unless the
 date of judgment unless the date of

(ii) at the date of prevailing *Islamic
 Interbank Money Market (IIMM)*
 rate fixed by the Bank Negara
 Malaysia may be varied from time
 to time on the basic outstanding
 sum of **RM142,835.56** calculated from
 the date of maturity of the facility
 or until the date of judgment unless the

(c) court fees and costs as a solicitor and
 client basis pursuant to The Advocates'
 Remuneration and Costs Rules 2012 in
 the sum of **RM245,436**.

AND THAT it has been ordered that service
 of this Writ of Summons be effected on you by
 the Subordinate Courts at Kuching & Sarawak
 by **Bernies Poo** (notepaper "Noties") and by
 the Subordinate Courts at Kuching & Sarawak
 hereby by prepaid registered post and the
 service documents be deemed to be effected
 on the date of the publication and posting
 and that the publication and posting shall
 constitute good and sufficient service of the
 Writ of Summons herein on you.

If you desire to defend the action, you must
 within the period of 14 days from the date
 of publication of this advertisement (which
 appears as an appearance to be entered herein
 at the Subordinate Courts at Kuching & Sarawak)
 in default of which appearance / judgment may
 be made against you.

Dated this 04th DAY OF SEPTEMBER, 2020

MESSES KAMAL WONG, LIN & CO.
ADVOCATES
 Addressing the Plaintiff

THIS ADVERTISEMENT taken out by
MESSES KAMAL WONG, LIN & CO.
ADVOCATES, advocates for the above-
 named Plaintiff, in which the Plaintiff claims
 in Room 508, 5th Floor, Wisma Baiti Mar
 Kuching, Sarawak, P.O. Box 17, TEL: 71178737

Solicitors for the Plaintiff
 5304193103-10

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Thailand’s ‘Jurassic Park’ shines light on dinosaur evolution

Montira Rungjirajittranon

KHON KAEN, Thailand: A dinosaur statue stands guard outside a temple, a hint at the ancient giants buried deep in the earth below making up northeastern Thailand’s “dinosaur rush”. Researchers have found a trove of dinosaur fossils across the region, which holds the country’s richest deposits, offering insight into the creatures that roamed the planet millions of years ago. Prehistoric specimens from the region’s sun-baked soil were identified this year as two new species — Southeast Asia’s largest dinosaur *Nagatitan chaiyaphumensis* and the long-necked *Uragasaurus kalasinensis*. They are the latest discoveries in a series that researchers at Mahasarakham University — which leads the field — hope will result in Thailand’s 16th species within months.

“Thailand really is the hotspot for research and discovery” in Southeast Asia, said Richard Cloutier, a professor of palaeontology visiting from Canada’s Universite du Quebec a Rimouski. While China, Mongolia and Russia remain major fossil-hunting grounds, experts say the part of the Earth that is now Thailand offers important clues to dinosaur evolution.

“The timeframe of our discoveries fills a geological gap or missing link present in records of other countries,” said Suravech Suteethorn, deputy director of the university’s Palaeontological Research and Education Centre.

“Our local dinosaurs are like missing jigsaw pieces that help establish evolutionary connections, particularly around the Jurassic and Cretaceous period transition, approximately 140 million years ago.”

Next big find
Many of the specimens confirmed this year were unearthed a decade or more ago, but needed research and verification before being identified. There are more waiting to be tested.

At the university, shelves groan with jagged pieces of spines, necks and legs that to an untrained eye resemble battered stones.

Countless more fossils remain in the ground, including at Phu Wiang National Park, two hours away, where Suravech and his veteran paleontologist father — and boss — Varuvudh work on a dig.

Under a makeshift roof offering protection from the monsoon rains, the pair are slowly uncovering the giant neck of a fossil they hope to confirm soon as Thailand’s newest dinosaur.

Suravech was tight-lipped about the find, but said it would “wow” people.

“These new discoveries indicate the grandeur and richness of our country in the past,” he told AFP.

Varuvudh was on the team that announced last month the discovery of *Uragasaurus*, a plant-eater up to 20 metres long that roamed the Earth around 150 million years ago — the first dinosaur of its kind identified in Thailand.

The news came hot on the heels of the confirmation of 27-tonne herbivore *Nagatitan* — named after a serpent from Southeast Asian folklore, a giant of Greek mythology and the province of Chaiyaphum where it was found — which lived 100-120 million years ago.

Dinosaurs on a budget
Northeastern Thailand is particularly well placed for dinosaur discoveries, said Thitiwoot Sethapanichsakul, a PhD student at University College London who co-authored the *Nagatitan* paper in the journal *Scientific Reports*.

Its dry climate and sparse vegetation leave fossil-bearing rocks exposed, while its geology contains sedimentary layers of the right age to preserve dinosaur remains.

“I think the current ‘dinosaur rush’ in Thailand is hopefully just the beginning,” he told AFP.

The largely rural region is historically among the poorest



Varuvudh (right) and his son Suravech Suteethorn, deputy director of the Palaeontological Research and Education Centre at Mahasarakham University, excavate a dinosaur fossil at Phu Wiang National Park in Khon Kaen. Researchers have found a trove of dinosaur fossils in Khon Kaen province, which holds the country’s richest deposits, offering insight into the creatures that roamed the planet millions of years ago. — AFP photos

in Thailand, but the discoveries are a boon to a fledgling dinosaur tourism industry in a country better known for its beaches and food.

Visiting a dinosaur museum in Khon Kaen, retiree Songyos Toongtubtim said he was “curious to learn more” after hearing about the discoveries.

Another museum opened in 2007 in the province of Kalasin — for which the *Uragasaurus* was named — and now draws hundreds of thousands of people each year.

But funding for paleontology remains limited and the research community small, while expeditions into remote areas can be costly.

“There are many fossils hidden here that are waiting for us to uncover,” Suravech said.

“We seek help from the Thai government, but it’s very difficult.”

A lifelong fan of the Jurassic Park movies, Suravech joked that his work lacks Hollywood’s deep pockets.

“I’m waiting for the moment when there’s a billionaire to support the project like in the film.” — AFP



Students visit Phu Wiang Dinosaur Museum in Khon Kaen.



A model skeleton of a *Minimocursor phunoensis* at the Palaeontological Research and Education Centre at Mahasarakham University in Mahasarakham.

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1.	ABANG NAZAIYADIN BIN ABANG ZAIDI	790826-13-5665	29-593-2007-II	KUCHING	27.10.2025
Bertarikh : 16.12.2025					
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1.	ABDUL MALEK BIN LAMAT NAWAEE	701231-13-5925/ K0269640	29-442-2008-I	KUCHING	24.10.2025
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Bil.	Nama	Nombor Kad Pengenalan	Nombor Kes	Mahkamah Tinggi	Tarikh Pelepasan
1.	KONG KET HING @ KONG KOK HENG	540126-13- 5333/H0113310	29-343- 1991	KUCHING	31.10.2025
Bertarikh: 11.12.2025					
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1.	GROPE ANAK MIPLE	500419-13-5141 / K134594	29-639-2002	KUCHING	19.11.2025
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1.	ROSLAN BIN PIEE	690416-13-5883 / K0201922	29-1003-209-I	KUCHING	28.11.2025
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Across rivers and ridges

China ensures school access for children

KUNMING: At age 12, Lei Xin had already mastered a skill most adults would never attempt: navigating a treacherous cliffside trail in the dark — not for adventure, but to go to school.

For years, reaching school meant a three-hour trek for Lei and his peers from Nizhuhe Village in Xuanwei City, southwest China's Yunnan Province. The village sits at the bottom of the Nizhu River Grand Canyon near the border with Guizhou Province, while their school is perched more than 500 meters above them on the cliffs.

Children used to leave home well before sunrise, often returning exhausted. For parents, the daily trek was a source of constant worry.

Now, the most daunting stretch of the route Lei once took to school can be covered in just 57 seconds, with a new 288-meter-high cliffside elevator whisking students up the canyon wall at five meters per second.

Lei's story is not unique. Across China's vast, often rugged frontier regions, millions of children face long, perilous journeys to school. From sheer cliffs to winding rivers, the obstacles vary, but so do the solutions. The efforts, backed by national policy, reflect a broader commitment — ensuring that geography does not determine a child's access to education.

Crossing every divide

Guanzhai Primary School, perched on the cliffs above, serves children from surrounding mountain communities, including four in Nizhuhe Village.

Cut off from the school above by sheer cliffs, the children had to follow a rudimentary trail carved into a rock face hundreds of meters high. Narrow and steep, strewn with loose gravel, the trail had sections barely half a meter wide. The steepest stretches required them to climb by hand.

"Back then, I wasn't afraid my child would be tired. I was afraid something might happen to him on the way," said Zhao Suzhen, the mother of Lei, who had accompanied him along the treacherous trail countless times over the years.

The change came with the development of the Nizhu River Grand Canyon scenic area. In 2022, a 268-meter-high elevator and an aerial cable car system came into service, giving children from the deep mountains a "sky shuttle" to the clifftop school. A second elevator, rising 288 meters, opened at the end of July this year as visitor numbers grew.

Together, the two elevators can carry up to 1,200 passengers per hour, significantly boosting the scenic area's capacity while eliminating the congestion that once forced students to compete with tourists for rides during peak seasons.

Now, the entire journey from the village to school takes about 30 minutes. Students take a shuttle bus to the foot of the cliff, ride an elevator, then continue by cable car to reach the school.

On Aug 30, as many primary and secondary schools across Yunnan welcomed students back for the new semester, Lei once again boarded his unusual ride. Stepping into the new elevator, he watched the numbers on the display tick upward.

"The first elevator takes 90 seconds. This one, 33 seconds faster," he said, sharing his calculation. "I feel like an



An aerial drone photo shows cliffside elevators at the Nizhu River Grand Canyon in Puli Township, Xuanwei City, southwest China's Yunnan Province. — Xinhua photo by Chen Xinbo



An aerial drone photo shows the Guanzhai Primary School at the top of the Nizhu River Grand Canyon in Puli Township, Xuanwei City, southwest China's Yunnan Province. — Xinhua photo by Chen Xinbo

immortal carrying me through the sky."

Free for local students and villagers, the "sky shuttle" also features dedicated student passages, with police officers and staff on hand during peak hours to keep the children safe. By the end of August, the service had safely carried nearly 1,000 student trips between the village and school.

More than 500 km away from Puli Township, which administers Nizhuhe Village, another group of children in Yunnan began the school day on the water.

At a ferry crossing in Banda Village of Bo'ai Town, located in a reservoir area, village official Liang Guoyou arrived early in the morning to help students board. One by one, the children stepped onto a ferry that carried them across the water. It's their version of a "school bus."

The journey was not always this secure. "Years ago, privately operated ferries lacked unified standards, and safety was a constant concern," Liang said. Since 2021, local authorities have worked with schools, parents and transport officials to build a coordinated school transport system. Seven dedicated ferries now serve 12 crossings across the

township for 329 primary and secondary school students and preschoolers.

For 55-year-old ferryman Wei Jinlin, the difference could not be starker. "When I was young, getting to school meant walking nearly 20 kilometers to town," he said. "Now the children can take the ferry. It's much safer and far more convenient."

According to local authorities, the ferry routes have safely carried students more than 147,000 times over the years, covering over 70,000 kilometers in total.

Across China, governments are tailoring school transport to local needs, finding different ways to close the distance between home and school.

In March, mountainous Chengkou County of southwest China's Chongqing Municipality launched a "Hope Line" school bus service, with 33 dedicated routes now in operation. The service uses fixed routes combined with flexible pickup points to tackle the "last mile" challenge for students living in scattered rural communities.

In Panxi Town, Guizhou, authorities faced similar challenges reaching students scattered across remote areas and recently surveyed the travel

needs of 121 students before launching three customized school bus routes. Four vehicles now connect eight villages, providing point-to-point service during school hours.

Beyond school rides

The impact, it turns out, goes far beyond the ride to school.

Li Zhiguang, principal of Guanzhai Primary School, said that as the "sky shuttle" has made the journey less daunting and physically demanding, students become more cheerful, confident and engaged in school life. "They are more willing to speak up in class and eager to explore the wider world," Li added.

They also have more time for the things they enjoy. "Now I can use those hours saved on the journey to read and exercise," said Wang Sichun, a third-grade student at the school, her voice bright.

The benefits ripple outward. The "sky shuttle" has also enabled local co-development of education and rural revitalization.

As the canyon's scenery and cliff elevators attracted more visitors, Zhao turned part of her home into a three-story guesthouse with 12 rooms. During peak season, bookings can be



Combo photo shows (left) students from Nizhuhe Village climbing a cliff on their way to school in Puli Township, Xuanwei City, southwest China's Yunnan Province; (right) cliffside elevators in Puli Township, Xuanwei City, southwest China's Yunnan Province. — Xinhua photo



Students greet a staff member before taking the cliffside elevator at Nizhu River Grand Canyon in Puli Township, Xuanwei City, southwest China's Yunnan Province. — Xinhua photo by Chen Xinbo



Students take cable cars on their way to school in Puli Township, Xuanwei City, southwest China's Yunnan Province. — Xinhua photo by Chen Xinbo

made weeks in advance. "Now I can look after my children while earning a living without leaving my hometown," she said.

More villagers are following suit, opening guesthouses, selling local specialties or working as guides. Official data show that Puli Township now boasts 46 guesthouses and 159 specialty restaurants, with tourism supporting nearly 3,500 jobs.

Cai Xiong, chairman of the company behind the elevator project, grew up in the mountains himself and watched generations of children make the arduous climb to school. "I know how difficult the journey can be," he said. "I hope the 'sky shuttle' can give them a safer way to school, so they can focus on their studies, pursue their dreams and one day give back to their hometown."

Yang Bin, a professor at Yunnan Normal University who has long studied education development in western China, praised the local approach of repurposing cultural tourism infrastructure for public educational services.

"This is not merely an improvement in transportation infrastructure. It is a safeguard of rural children's right to education, ensuring that frontier children truly have access to equitable and quality schooling,"

Yang said.

He added that better educational conditions also support rural revitalization by helping to retain population and stabilize communities, providing a lasting social foundation for tourism and other industries.

The efforts are now finding institutional backing. A national plan to build a strong country through education by 2035 calls for advancing high-quality, balanced compulsory education and greater integration of urban and rural education, while narrowing gaps among regions, schools and student groups.

Earlier this year, China issued a plan to accelerate agricultural and rural modernization during the 15th Five-Year Plan period (2026-2030), calling for stronger basic public services in rural areas. It specifically requires more balanced compulsory education and better conditions for rural schools, including necessary small-scale village schools and kindergartens.

Yang noted that these efforts can help address the longstanding challenges in rural education and narrow the urban-rural development gap. "The road to school is, in many ways, the first step toward educational equity," he said. — Xinhua



Students are pictured aboard a ferry in Bo'ai Town of Funing County, Wenshan Zhuang and Miao Autonomous Prefecture, southwest China's Yunnan Province. — Xinhua photo by Wang Guansen



A transportation law enforcer inspects a ferry in Funing County, Wenshan Zhuang and Miao Autonomous Prefecture, southwest China's Yunnan Province. — Xinhua photo by Wang Guansen

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

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."

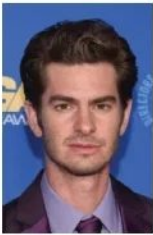
Later at the same Q+A event, Greengrass insisted the line "There will be no peace until we are healed", which is included in the movie, is "true of today as it is 600 years ago".

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

★★★★★
ASIA TOUR 2026
★★★★★

TREVOR NOAH

MON 9 NOVEMBER 8PM
IDEA LIVE ARENA, KUALA LUMPUR

BOHM LOLOASIA

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."

Gentle Monster also stars Catherine Deneuve as Lea's on-screen mother and she was thrilled to work with the screen legend.

She gushed: "That was a dream of mine to work with her. She's such an icon."

After first discussing Gentle Monster with director Marie Kreutzer, Lea felt she had to 'make this film', despite its shocking subject matter.

She said: "It's a real problem in society, this problem of paedophilia and families. There was a woman who had a similar story and Marie told me about her and the fact that she spent a lot of time with her."

"It gave her ideas, but for me, when I read the script for the first time, I was immediately touched by the subject and how also what I love is that it's a statement." — 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

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



Sandra Bullock promotes the film 'Practical Magic 2' at the Warner Bros. Pictures presentation at The Dolby Colosseum at Caesars Palace during CinemaCon, the official convention of Cinema United, on April 14, 2026 in Las Vegas, Nevada. — AFP file photo

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

AKTA KEBANKRAPAN 1967 (AKTA 360) (DISEMAK: 1988) <u>NOTIS DIBAWAH SUBSEKSYEN 33A</u>					
Notis adalah diberitahu bahawa Ketua Pengarah Insolvency Malaysia telah mengeluarkan Perakuan Pelapisan menurut Seksyen 33A, Akta Kebankrapan 1967 (Akta 360) kepada bankrap di bawah:					
Bil.	Nama	Nombor Kad Pengenalan	Nombor Kech	Mahkamah Tinggi	Tarikh Pelapisan
1.	WILLIE ANAK ALEXANDER JAMBA	840909-13-6201	KCH-29-883/9-2012	KUCHING	19.11.2025

AKTA KEBANKRAPAN 1967
(AKTA 360) (DISEMAK-1968)

NOTIS DIBAWAH SUBSEKSYEN 33B (2A)

Notis adalah dibentah bahawa Ketua Pengarah Insolvency Malaysia telah mengeluarkan Penakuan Kebankrapan menurut Seksyen 33B (2A), Akta Kebankrapan 1967 (Akta 360) kepada bankrap dibawah:

Bil.	Nama	Nombor Kad Pengenalan	Nombor Kes	Mahkamah Tinggi	Tarikh Pelesenan
1.	LIM CHENG CHONG	481219-07-5331 / 3902461	29-713-2010-8	KUCHING	28.11.2025

bertarikh : 10.12.2025

(ADIBAH HUSNA BINTI ZAINAL ABIDIN)
 Pengarah Insolvency Negeri
 Jabatan Insolvency Negeri Sarawak
 bp Ketua Pengarah Insolvency Malaysia

AKTA KEBANKRAPAN 1967
(AKTA 360) (DISEMAK-1968)

NOTIS DIBAWAH SUBSEKSYEN 33B (2A)

Notis adalah diberitahu bahawa Ketua Pengarah Insolvency Malaysia telah mengemukakan Penilaian Kebankrapan menurut Seksyen 33B (2A), Akta Kebankrapan 1967 (Akta 360) kepada bankrap berikut:

Bil.	Nama	Nombor Kad Pengenalan	Nombor Kes	Maklumlah Tinggi	Tarikh Pelepasan
1.	ROSLAN BIN PIEE	690416-13-5883 / K0201922	29-1003-209-I	KUCHING	28.11.2025

bertarikh : 10.12.2025

(ADIBAH HUSNA BINTI ZAINAL ABIDIN)
 Pengarah Insolvency Negeri
 Jabatan Insolvency Negeri Sarawak
 bp Ketua Pengarah Insolvency Malaysia

AKTA KEBANKRAPAN 1967
(AKTA 360) (DISEMAK-1988)

NOTIS DIRAWAH SUBSEKSYEN 33B (2A)

Notis adalah diberitahu bahawa Ketua Pengarah Insolvency Malaysia telah mengeluarkan Perakuan Pelapasan menurut Seksyen 33B (2A), Akta Kebankrapan 1967 (Akta 360) kepada bankrap dibawah:

Bil.	Nama	Nombor Kad Pengenalan	Nombor Kes	Makhamah Tinggi	Tarikh Pelapasan
1.	WIDYAWATI BINTI ABDULLAH	531219-13-5480 / K6127110	29-14-87 / 2003-108	KUCHING	19.11.2025

bertarikh : 09.12.2025

(ADIBAH HUSNA BINTI ZAINAL ABIDIN)
 Pengarah Insolvency Negeri
 Jabatan Insolvency Negeri Sarawak
 bp Ketua Pengarah Insolvency Malaysia

AKTA KEBANKRAPAN 1967
(AKTA 360) (DISEMAK-1988)

NOTIS DIBAWAH SUBSEKSYEN 33B (2A)

Notis adalah diberitahu bahawa Ketua Pengarah Insolvency Malaysia telah mengeluarkan Perakuan Pelepasan menurut Seksyen 33B (2A), Akta Kebankrapan 1967 (Akta 360) kepada bankrap dibawah:

No.	Nama	Nombor Kad Pengenalan	Nombor Kes	Mahkamah Tinggi	Tarikh Pelepasan
1.	JAIDI BIN JOLHI	621110-13-5515 / K791384	29-159-2010-II	KUCHING	28.11.2025

terakhir : 10.12.2025

(ADIBAH HUSNA BINTI ZAINAL ABIDIN)
 Pengarah Insolvency Negeri
 Jabatan Insolvency Negeri Sarawak
 bp Ketua Pengarah Insolvency Malaysia

AKTA KEBANKRAPAN 1967 (AKTA 360) (DISEMAK-1968)					
<u>NOTIS DIBAWAH SUBSEKSYEN 33A</u>					
Notis adalah diberitahu bahawa Ketua Pengarah Insolvency Malaysia telah mengeluarkan Perakuan Pelepasan menurut Seksyen 33A, Akta Kebankrapan 1967 (Akta 360) kepada bankrap dibawah:					
Bil.	Nama	Nombor Kad Pengenalan	Nombor Kes	Makhamah Tinggi	Tarikh Pelepasan
1.	ERNYZA BINTI MAHREN	810115-13-5410	29-182-2009-II	KUCHING	24.10.2025

AKTA INSOLVENSI 1966

NOTIS DIBAWAH SUBSEKSYEN 33A (1) / 33B (2A)

Notis adalah diberitahu bahawa Ketua Pengarah Insolvensi Malaysia telah mengeluarkan Perakuan Pelepasan menurut Seksyen 33A (1) / 33B (2A)

Akta Kebankrapan 1967 (Akta 360) kepada bankrap dibawah:

Bil.	Nama	Nombor Kad Pengenalan	Nombor Kes	Mahkamah Tinggi	Tarikh Pelepasan
1.	LIPEH ANAK MAWI	520709-13- 5017/K220603	KCH-29- B7910-2011	KUCHING	31.10.2025

bertarikh: 11.12.2025

(ADIBAH HUSNA BINTI ZAINAL ABIDIN)
Pengarah Insolvensi Negeri
Jabatan Insolvensi Negeri Sarawak
bp Ketua Pengarah Insolvensi Malaysia

DITANDAT

A10

Classified

Sibu: Chiu Ching Hing 016-882 2038
Loh Leh Li 016-866 2872
Siew Jin Hie 013-836 6268
Ho Kie Huat 016-863 0154
Kong Lay Sing 016-869 5231
Bintulu: 086-331 158
Ting Siong Bing 019-815 0552
Ranold Ngu 011-1506 5266

Kong Hung Teah 019-889 1295
Cecilia Ng 016-863 0142
Kong Chiong Chung 016-866 2678
Kong Chung Men 016-863 0151
Lim Chin Chin 019-889 0619
Bintangor: 084-693 332
Sarikel: 084-651 935
Kapit: 084-796 409

Miri/Sibuti/Bakong:
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Alice Lee 019-815 9984
Giness Yli 019-815 7279
Sheryl Ung 016-883 8865
Celester Chan 016-558 7062
Batu Niah:
Suryana Bong 016-8887849

Marudi:
Fanny Lau 011-10596039
Limbang:
Kong Wen Chu 019-874 0327
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Wednesday, September 9, 2026

THE BORNEO POST

KTS

捐血活動

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SAVE LIVES

CO-SPONSOR:    

日期 / DATE : 16.9.2026 (Wednesday)
时间 / TIME : 9:30AM ~ 1:30PM
地点 / VENUE : 大星广场/Star Mega Mall
(Orange Zone)

722629U65LH

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Tel: 085-434 653 Email: kiara bumimas@gmail.com

Lot 2758, Block 8 MCLD, Jalan Padang Kerbau, 98000 Miri, Sarawak.

NOTICE OF CHANGE COMPANY NAME

This serves to inform that JY Manpower Management at Lot 517, 2nd Floor Pelita Commercial Centre, 98000 Miri Sarawak, will be change to JY Construction Management with effect from 24th August 2026.

Axis Precast Product Sdn. Bhd.

2022010102062 (1410662 U)

019-821 5010, 010-285 3899, 088-788 332 088-788 335

axisprecast@gmail.com Axis Precast Product Sdn Bhd

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Kuching Tel: 082-346899, 013-8089511

Sibu Tel: 084-216899, 016-8597515

Bintulu Tel: 086-311881, 013-8337370, 019-8550505

KK/Sandakan/Tawau Tel: 088-497699, 016-8336470

Port Klang Tel: 03-31683261, 31689782

Pasir Gudang Tel: 07-3526677, 3525125

IN THE MATTER OF THE COMPANIES ACT 2016 AND IN THE MATTER OF JUN RONG (BATU KAWA) WEARHOUSE SDN. BHD. Registration No. 201401030489 (1106575-K) (Under Members' Voluntary Winding Up) NOTICE OF FINAL MEETING UNDER SECTION 459(1) (b) OF THE COMPANIES ACT, 2016

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a Final Meeting of the Company will be held at Sublot No. 30-38, Jalan Batu Kawa, Block 225, Kuching North Land District, 93250 Kuching, Sarawak on **01 October, 2026 at 9.00 a.m.** for the following purposes:-

AGENDA

(1) To receive and consider the Liquidator's Account of receipts and payment and statements of distribution among the contributors and any explanations arising therefrom.

(2) To resolve that under Section 518(3)(b) of the Companies Act 2016, the books, accounts and documents of the Company be destroyed after the expiration of three (3) months from the date of the final meeting.

Dated this **09 September, 2026**

HUONG CHIONG HEE

Liquidator

725463C10TAN

VACANCIES

An Established Accounting Firm in Miri, Sarawak invites suitable applicants for **ADMIN / ACCOUNTS / AUDIT ASSISTANTS** Requirements:

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PBLT SDN. BHD.

200501022368 (704498-D)

(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

MALAYSIA

IN THE HIGH COURT IN SABAH AND SARAWAK AT BINTULU

DIVORCE PETITION NO.: BTU-33-3-2026 (HC)

(IN THE MATTER OF Sections 53, 54(1)(c) & (d), 58(1) & (c) of the Law Reform (Marriage and Divorce) Act 1976 [Act 164])

BETWEEN

SHIRLEY EMA YIL (F) (NRIC NO.: 940513-13-5892) ... PETITIONER

AND

MATHEW ANAK RENTAP (M) (NRIC NO.: 950618-13-6305) ... RESPONDENT

NOTICE OF HEARING

IN THE MATTER OF Divorce Petition issued on the 30th day of January 2026

To: MATHEW ANAK RENTAP (M) (NRIC NO.: 950618-13-6305)

Last known address: TR, Embuang Semenu B, 98150 Beken, Sarawak

TAKE NOTICE that the above petition has been set down for trial before the High Court at Bintulu on **Thursday the 17th day of September 2026 at 9.00 am** o'clock in the forenoon. And that the court has ordered that this Notice of Hearing be served on you by publishing the Notice once in a local newspaper namely BORNEO POST and that such publication shall be deemed good and sufficient service of the same **14 days** after the date of publication. If you desire to defend the said action you must appear in the **High Court, Bintulu on 17th day of September 2026 at 9.00 am, Thursday**. In default of such notice, decree nisi may be granted against you.

DATED this **4th** day of SEPTEMBER, 2026



Senior Assistant Registrar High Court, Bintulu

This **NOTICE OF HEARING** is filed by Assistant Director of Legal Aid Department, Miri for and on behalf of the Petitioner whose address for service is at 13th Floor, Wisma Yu Lan, Lot 97, Jalan Brooke, 98000 Miri, Sarawak. Tel. No. 085-423606 Fax No. 085-425204 [Ref No: JBG. MI.600-712/1290126]

MALAYSIA

IN THE HIGH COURT IN SABAH AND SARAWAK AT BINTULU

DIVORCE PETITION NO.: BTU-33-3-2026 (HC)

(IN THE MATTER OF Sections 53 and 54(1)(c) & (d) of the Law Reform (Marriage and Divorce) Act 1976 [Act 164])

BETWEEN

CHUNG SUK CHING (F) (NRIC NO.: 981003-13-6108) ... PETITIONER

AND

JONG HO MING (M) (NRIC NO.: 880530-52-5647) ... RESPONDENT

NOTICE OF HEARING

IN THE MATTER OF Divorce Petition issued on the 24th day of February 2026

To: JONG HO MING (M) (NRIC NO.: 880530-52-5647)

Last known address: Lot 15, Jalan Batu Niah-Sepupok, 98200 Niah, Sarawak

TAKE NOTICE that the above petition has been set down for trial before the High Court at Bintulu on **Thursday the 17th day of September 2026 at 9.00 am** o'clock in the forenoon. And that the court has ordered that this Notice of Hearing be served on you by publishing the Notice once in a local newspaper namely BORNEO POST and that such publication shall be deemed good and sufficient service of the same **14 days** after the date of publication. If you desire to defend the said action you must appear in the **High Court, Bintulu on 17th day of September 2026 at 9.00 am, Thursday**. In default of such notice, decree nisi may be granted against you.

DATED this **4th** day of SEPTEMBER, 2026



Senior Assistant Registrar High Court, Bintulu

This **NOTICE OF HEARING** is filed by Assistant Director of Legal Aid Department, Miri for and on behalf of the Petitioner whose address for service is at 13th Floor, Wisma Yu Lan, Lot 97, Jalan Brooke, 98000 Miri, Sarawak. Tel. No. 085-423606 Fax No. 085-425204 [Ref No: JBG. MI.600-712/120226]

IN THE HIGH COURT IN SABAH AND SARAWAK AT SIBU IN BANKRUPTCY PROCEEDINGS. NO. SBW-29NCC-47-3/2026

Ber: MOHD SAIFUL BIN ZAIBI (NRIC No.: 890711-13-6359/-) Lot 591, Jalan Sentosa Timur 3B, 96000 Sibu Sarawak

Ex-parte: LEMBAGA HASIL DALAM NEGERI MALAYSIA Pejabat Hasil Sibu, Wisma Vasy, No. 15, Jalan Pulau, 960000 Sibu Sarawak

NOTICE OF BANKRUPTCY ORDER

Notice is hereby given that, on a petition filed on **16.06.2026**, a Bankruptcy Order against **Mohd Saiful Bin Zaibi (NRIC No.: 890711-13-6359/-)**, address at Lot 591, Jalan Sentosa Timur 3B, 96000 Sibu Sarawak made by the High Court of Sibu on **18.08.2026**. Dated this **7 September 2026**

(SURIYA BINTI SENEN)
Insolvency Officer
Malaysia Department of Insolvency
Sibu Branch
for Director General of Insolvency
[Ref. No: Mdl(SBU)BP007563/2026/109/26]

IN THE HIGH COURT IN SABAH AND SARAWAK AT SIBU IN BANKRUPTCY PROCEEDINGS. NO. SBW-29NCC-25-2/2026

Ber: MATHEW GERIJTH ANAK TADONG (NRIC No.: 840327-13-5153/-) Mukah Power Generation, SESCO, K.M 30, Jalan Mukah-Balingian, 96400 Mukah, Sarawak

And/Or Quarters Mukah Power Generation, K.M 30, Jalan Mukah-Balingian, 96400 Mukah, Sarawak

Ex-parte: BANK KERJASAMA RAKYAT MALAYSIA BERNHAD Lot 1152 & 1153, Blok C, Jalan Setia 2, 96400 Mukah, Sarawak

NOTICE OF BANKRUPTCY ORDER

Notice is hereby given that, on a petition filed on **13.08.2026**, a Bankruptcy Order against **Mathew Gerijth Anak Tadong (NRIC No.: 840327-13-5153/-)**, address at Mukah Power Generation, SESCO, K.M 30, Jalan Mukah-Balingian, 96400 Mukah Sarawak And/Or Quarters Mukah Power Generation, K.M 30, Jalan Mukah-Balingian 96400 Mukah, Sarawak made by the High Court of Sibu on **17.08.2026**. Dated this **7 September 2026**

(SURIYA BINTI SENEN)
Insolvency Officer
Malaysia Department of Insolvency
Sibu Branch
for Director General of Insolvency
[Ref. No: Mdl(SBU)BP007043/2026/108/26]

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