



**WINDING UP SPEECH**

**DATUK PATINGGI TAN SRI (DR) ABANG HAJI ABDUL  
RAHMAN ZOHARI TUN DATUK ABANG HAJI  
OPENG,**

**THE PREMIER OF SARAWAK**

**FOR**

**THE SECOND MEETING OF THE SECOND SESSION OF  
THE NINETEENTH SARAWAK STATE  
LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY**

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**Bismillahirrahmanirrahim**

**Assalamualaikum Warahmatullahi Wabarakatuh**

**Selamat Sejahtera, Salam Sarawakku Sayang dan Salam Sarawak Maju Makmur**

**Tan Sri Datuk Amar Speaker,**

1. Terlebih dahulu, saya mengucapkan penghargaan dan terima kasih kepada Ahli-Ahli Yang Berhormat yang telah mengambil bahagian dalam perbahasan serta sokongan mereka terhadap Rang Undang-Undang yang telah dibentangkan, iaitu:

(1) *Supply (2024) Bill 2023;*

(2) *Sarawak Ombudsman Bill 2023;*

(3) *Environment (Reduction of Greenhouse Gases Emission) Bill 2023;*

(4) *Distribution of Gas (Amendment) Bill 2023;* dan

(5) *Electricity (Amendment) Bill 2023.*

2. Saya ingin mengambil kesempatan ini juga untuk mengucapkan terima kasih kepada semua Ahli Yang Berhormat yang telah menyokong sepenuhnya *Supply (2024) Bill 2023* yang telah saya bentangkan pada hari pertama persidangan ini.

3. Rang Undang-Undang ini adalah holistik untuk memastikan pembangunan untuk semua lapisan masyarakat ke arah kemakmuran, kemajuan, kemampanan dan kesepaduan Sarawak yang kita cintai.
4. Saya yakin dan percaya bahawa dengan kelulusan terhadap Rang Undang-Undang ini, ianya akan membolehkan Kerajaan Sarawak melaksanakan tanggungjawab dengan lebih cekap dan berkesan untuk kesejahteraan rakyat.
5. Kelulusan Rang Undang-Undang ini juga akan dapat meningkatkan keyakinan para pelabur untuk terus meneroka potensi dan memacu pembangunan ekonomi di Sarawak.
6. Oleh itu, dalam ucapan penggulungan saya pada petang ini, saya akan menjelaskan beberapa inisiatif pembangunan yang akan memberi impak besar kepada pembangunan ekonomi Sarawak ke arah mencapai status ekonomi maju berpendapatan tinggi menjelang 2030.

## **ACCELERATING GROWTH THROUGH TECHNOLOGY**

### **Tan Sri Datuk Amar Speaker,**

7. In recent times, we have witnessed rapid development in technological advancement. It took centuries for humanity to adapt to the agricultural revolution and decades for the industrial revolution. Now, we may have only a few years to adapt to the Artificial Intelligence (AI) revolution.
8. Quick adaptation to digitalisation allows for the integration of AI with other technologies, fostering synergies that can lead to breakthroughs in different fields. Digital technology adoption is essential for staying competitive, accelerating economic growth, creating new economic opportunities and jobs, driving entrepreneurship and improving decision-making.
9. Generative AI will revolutionise industries, enhancing productivity across various sectors by automating tasks, providing valuable insights, optimising processes and solving complex problems.
10. What this means is that we could grow our economy faster in the era of digitalisation, combining machine and human intelligence. For Sarawak to remain relevant, we must work in tandem with global technological advancements.

11. Digitalisation will be the catalyst for Sarawak to position itself as a dynamic and resilient economy. We need to diversify our economy, promote industrialisation, attract foreign investments, promote public-private partnerships, develop high skilled workforce and transform into a multifaceted economy.
12. In doing so, we must actively embrace digital technologies, particularly generative AI to drive our economy, through data and innovation for a sustainable development.
13. I am confident that through the adoption of digital technologies, we can double the size of the economy and achieve our aspirations by 2030. According to the latest **IMF Report** in October 2023, the global economy's GDP recorded USD104 trillion.
14. Additionally, according to **Oxford Economics Report**, it is projected that the digital economy will contribute, on average 24.3% to the world economy. In other words, the digital economy is expected to contribute approximately USD25 trillion to the world economy in 2022.
15. In summary, if Sarawak can tap into 0.1% of the global digital economy GDP, this would contribute approximately USD25 billion or RM113 billion to Sarawak's GDP.

## **Tan Sri Datuk Amar Speaker,**

16. Five years ago, I launched the Sarawak Digital Economy Strategy 2018-2022 to accelerate our economic development through digital transformation. We have achieved numerous successes in our digitalisation journey that set the foundation for our next phase of digital economy acceleration.
17. Last month, I launched the Sarawak Digital Economy Blueprint 2030 to continue our effort to transform the whole-of-economy and society from a conventional resource-based economy to environmentally sustainable technology-based economy.
18. Our digital economy initiatives have been awarded with various international recognitions. Latest, last two weeks, Sarawak received prestigious Digital Government Award 2023 by Asian-Oceanian Computing Industry Organisation in Seoul, South Korea. This award recognised our role in positioning and realising digital infrastructure and technology in Sarawak.

## **PCDS 2030 ON TRACK**

## **Tan Sri Datuk Amar Speaker,**

19. I would like to inform this august House that PCDS 2030 is on track. Based on the plan, private investment is the main engine of growth.

20. We have been very successful in bringing investors to Sarawak in the past few years due to Sarawak's political stability, clear policies and strategies as well as the means to facilitate private investment.
21. Under the 12MP Mid Term Review, we have approved a substantial ceiling amounted to RM38 billion to accelerate our infrastructure projects for socio-economic development and at the same time, to meet the requirement of private investors. This amount is over and above the alternative funding that has been allocated for strategic infrastructure projects.
22. In the last sitting, I have mentioned that among the key issues of infrastructure development in Sarawak is the shortage of cement supply. Today, I wish to update this august House that we have made a significant progress to address the issue.
23. Last Friday, on 24<sup>th</sup> November, we have received our maiden shipment of cement from Vietnam in Tanjung Manis Port. The supply of cement will meet the demand of the construction industry to accelerate our infrastructure development in Sarawak.

## **CATALYTIC INITIATIVES**

### **Tan Sri Datuk Amar Speaker,**

24. In this august House, I would like to inform on several key private sector-driven initiatives that would significantly contribute to our economy. These high impact initiatives are in various sectors particularly oil and gas, manufacturing, agriculture and services. These projects are at various stages of implementation such as projects that are ready for operation, awaiting Final Investment Decision (FID) and at the feasibility study stage.
25. Using input-output analysis, 31 catalytic projects have been analysed to assess the impact to the economy. Based on the analysis, these projects are expected to generate an additional RM56 billion to Sarawak's GDP by 2030. This projection takes into consideration the direct, indirect and induced impact generated during the construction and operation period of the projects.
26. For oil and gas sector, 6 catalytic projects are projected to generate RM34 billion to Sarawak's GDP by 2030. The projects are:
  - (1) Bintulu Petrochemical Hub and Sarawak Petchem Methanol Plant - RM16 billion;
  - (2) Rosmari-Marjoram and Lang Lebah Onshore Gas Plants, Bintulu - RM13.9 billion;

- (3) Samalaju and Miri Combined Cycle Gas Turbine (CCGT) Power Plants - RM2.4 billion; and
  - (4) RM1.7 billion from the proposed Lawas Petrochemical Development.
27. There are still more investment projects to be explored in the oil and gas sector. PETROS is currently undertaking a feasibility study to develop the Kuching Gas Hub, the first in the Southern Region with the development of the K5 oil and gas field. The gas hub will support a new CCGT for long-term power supply security to Greater Kuching.
28. Meanwhile, the implementation of the large-scale green hydrogen manufacturing projects in Sarawak, namely H2ornbill and H2biscus projects in Samalaju are projected to generate an additional RM2.4 billion to Sarawak's GDP by 2030.
29. These projects are expected to come on stream in 2028 and they have the potential to produce up to 238,000 tonnes per annum of green hydrogen for Sarawak.
30. At the same time, we are projecting that the new investment projects in Samalaju Industrial Park for the production of steel, copper foil and polycrystalline silicon to generate RM12.3 billion to Sarawak's GDP.

31. The expansion of the electrical and electronic industries and the development of Kuching High Tech Park combined, are projected to contribute an additional RM2.7 billion of GDP by 2030.

**Tan Sri Datuk Amar Speaker,**

32. Following our plan to achieve net food exporter and ensure self-sufficiency, we have embarked on the development of Agroparks in several areas, such as Sungai Baji and Bebuling, precision farming as well as cattle farms and breeding farms in Betong, Bau and Serian. These developments are projected to bring in an additional RM0.5 billion in GDP by 2030.
33. Additionally, with the adoption of paddy seedlings variety from Vietnam, cultivation of 10,000 hectares of hybrid paddy seed at Lubok Punggor, Spaoh, Tanjung Bijan and Tanjung Purun could potentially produce 240,000 tonnes of paddy per annum thus contributing RM0.3 billion to Sarawak GDP by 2030.
34. At the same time, aquaculture projects development at Batang Ai, Bakun, Murum and Rambungan as well as shrimp farming at Tanjung Manis, could potentially contribute RM1.2 billion to GDP by 2030.

35. We must be bold enough to develop our agriculture sector through private investment, innovation, utilisation of smart and modern agriculture technology. A strategic approach must be introduced to encourage our young generation to pursue careers in food production and modern agriculture.

## **DEVELOPMENT OF INDUSTRIAL CLUSTER**

### **Tan Sri Datuk Amar Speaker,**

36. Catalytic projects play a crucial role in initiating and driving downstream activities as they create a ripple effect for further development. Therefore, we anticipate that the catalytic projects will trigger an additional economic impact of RM40 billion GDP or more for downstream industries.
37. I take the example of the polycrystalline silicon industry. Demand for polycrystalline silicon products is expected to be majorly driven by the increasing number of solar PV installations. The global polycrystalline market is expected to hold a valuation of USD11.8 billion by 2028.
38. In Sarawak, the existing market demand for polycrystalline from both OCIM Sdn. Bhd. and Longi (Malaysia) Sdn. Bhd. signifies the need to build an ecosystem encompassing the entire solar supply chain. This can be integrated spanning across polycrystalline and solar wafer manufacturing, module assembling, mounting structures and PV inverter production.

39. The RM56 billion contribution from identified major catalytic projects can also be higher due to the corresponding economic contributions from the services sector. Undeniably, a growing manufacturing sector often requires efficient supply chain and logistics services.
40. As such, we foresee the services sector can benefit from increased demand for transportation, warehousing, distribution and other logistics-related services.
41. These catalytic initiatives will also unlock a huge potential within the local downstream industries, where our local micro, small and medium enterprises can potentially participate.
42. In this regard, I would like the Regional Development Agencies to plan the socio-economic development in their areas, taking into consideration the demand for these services and organise the community to participate.

**Tan Sri Datuk Amar Speaker,**

43. In total, we are expecting additional RM96 billion GDP from catalytic initiatives and its spillover impact to Sarawak economy. What it means is that we are on track to realise RM282 billion GDP by 2030. And these initiatives are not exhaustive. There are many areas which we can explore further especially in green technology and digitalisation.

## **DEVELOPMENT OF NEW SOURCES OF ENERGY**

### **Tan Sri Datuk Amar Speaker,**

44. I would like to share the insights of the book that I have read, **"In Defence of Naval Supremacy" by Jon Tetsuro Sumida**. In 1911, the British Prime Minister Winston Churchill, when he became the First Lord of the Admiralty, had made a brave decision to transform the British Royal Navy. He decided to transform the naval battle ships from the use of coal to oil, as a means to enhance its efficiency and effectiveness despite objections from his Senior Naval Officials due to naval tradition of using coal.
45. As a result of Churchill's bold decision, British ships were able to run faster and were more flexible during World War 1 leading to the supremacy of the British Royal Navy.
46. 112 years later, I too, have to make a bold decision in leading the change of energy transition for Sarawak. We have transformed our energy production from coal and oil to produce power from renewable energy sources through our hydroelectric, solar and hydrogen projects.
47. Now, the world is also moving towards energy transition to green energy. Because of our bold decision, I am proud that Sarawak is currently the regional leader in green energy transition as other states and countries

are looking to us as case studies for their own development.

48. Sarawak's sustainable hydropower serves as the foundation of our developmental journey, providing clean, environment friendly, contemporary and cost-effective energy solutions to meet its climate goals. By capitalising on renewable hydropower resources, Sarawak Government has been able to balance between ensuring energy security and sustainability in driving socio-economic transformation.
49. Through the flexibility and storage services it provides, hydropower plays the key role of integrating and accelerating growth of other variable renewables such as solar and wind, as well as strengthening overall system resilience.
50. Sarawak Energy Berhad is currently developing a pilot 50MW floating solar farm at Batang Ai HEP's reservoir. This project is expected to be commissioned in 2024 and has the potential to offset around 52 kilo tonnes of carbon emissions annually.
51. A pilot 60MW Battery Energy Storage System or BESS is currently underway, taking over a decommissioned coal power generating unit at the Sejingkat Coal Fired Power Plant. The BESS will provide critical grid services, such as peak shaving as well as spinning reserve and optimise generation assets – minimising the carbon emissions associated with traditional power generation.

52. We are also exploring the concept of cascading dam construction to produce power. Cascading dams does not require large reservoir or vast area of land, rather it relies on river flow. This new approach can be more sustainable, minimising environmental and social impacts.
53. Despite the advantages of cascading dam, there are Ahli Yang Berhormat who are still sceptical about the approach. I can assure you that we are going to adopt International Hydropower Sustainability Standards in carrying out the projects in line with Environmental, Social and Governance (ESG) policies.
54. For the information of this august House, the cascading dam model for power production is internationally accepted and environmentally friendly and being implemented in Tasmania, the Nordic countries, River Danube in Europe and other parts of the world.
55. The communities and local leaders will be engaged early in the project implementation. I believe the locals will accept this idea for their benefits and I hope there will be no interference by outsiders influencing the local community in the area.
56. In order to strengthen our efforts in transitioning towards green energy, the Sarawak Government, through the Ministry of Energy and Environmental Sustainability Sarawak (MEESTY) has embarked on the drafting of an Energy Transition Policy and Road Map

for Sarawak, targeted for completion in 2024. This comprehensive roadmap will pave the way for a secure, equitable and sustainable energy future for Sarawak and its people.

## **WASTE TO ENERGY (WtE)**

### **Tan Sri Datuk Amar Speaker,**

57. As we confront the dual challenges of climate change and waste management, waste-to-energy (WtE) technology has emerged as a promising solution. By converting waste into electricity or other forms of energy, WtE can reduce our reliance on fossil fuels, minimise greenhouse gas emissions and divert waste primarily from our landfills, rivers and seas.
  
58. I encourage the exploration of various WtE technologies, including pyrolysis, gasification and anaerobic digestion to cater to different waste streams and energy needs. The source of waste can span from agricultural waste, timber or wood waste and municipal wastes. I am happy to inform this august House that we are going to establish a strategic partnership with the Swedish government in managing our WtE system.

## **WOOD PELLET**

### **Tan Sri Datuk Amar Speaker,**

59. The Future Market Insights has reported that the projected value of global wood pellet market in 2023 is about USD10 billion. The global sales of wood pellet are expected to register a compounded annual growth rate of about 10.2%, equivalent to approximately USD24 billion, ten years from now.
60. The robust growth in demand is geared by increasing global trend preferring renewable energy to mitigate global warming while reducing the usage of fossil fuels and coal.
61. During the first three-quarter of this year, Sarawak already produce about 64,263 metric tonnes of wood pellets from planted forest, wood and palm wastes. For the same period, 46,065 metric tonnes were exported to Japan, Korea and Europe markets contributing to an export earnings of about RM36 million.
62. By developing new power plant fired with wood pellets will create domestic demand for this commodity. This new growth in domestic demand will provide investment opportunities for more pellet mills to capture both domestic and global demand. With vast untapped biomass resources, Sarawak has the potential to emerge as one of the production hubs for biomass pellets in this region.

## **BIOTECH INDUSTRIES**

### **Tan Sri Datuk Amar Speaker,**

63. Within both the global and regional Asia Pacific markets, there is strong growth in demand for biotech and biological industries. The global biotech revenue is expected to grow from USD414 billion in 2018 to USD600 billion this year.
64. The biomedical industry represents the most dominant sector within the biotech industries, making up to 64% and 54% of the market revenues in the global and Asia Pacific market, respectively.
65. I see the economic potential in research on Sarawak's rich biodiversity and the findings of this research can be advanced and commercialised to create spillover effects to our economy.
66. We have taken the initiative to establish the Sarawak Bio-industrial Park to expand the development of biotech industries in Sarawak. The core concept of this Park is that it embraces the commercialisation of biodiversity research and promotes itself as a high-tech investment opportunity and resource node for biotech companies.

67. The economic growth spurred by foreign direct investment in the Park will have a ripple effect. It creates job opportunities, stimulate local businesses and contribute to the overall economic prosperity and social inclusivity for Sarawak.

## **FACILITATING PRIVATE INVESTMENT**

### **Tan Sri Datuk Amar Speaker,**

68. In order to encourage active participation of private sector to grow Sarawak's economy, we must provide a favourable business environment and improve the ease of doing business by reducing regulatory burdens and bureaucratic procedures without compromising on integrity. This will reduce the cost of doing business, which in turn will increase profitability, productivity and our competitiveness.
69. InvestSarawak, a one stop agency, will facilitate investments in Sarawak. In addition, two new trade and tourism offices that are similar to the Sarawak Tourism and Trade Office Singapore, will be set up in Brunei and Kalimantan to promote Sarawak's tourism, local products and services and more importantly attract investments into Sarawak.

70. Meanwhile, Pasukan Petugas Pemudahcara Perniagaan Peringkat Sarawak (SAMUDAH) will promote close collaboration between private and public sector in terms of regulatory processes, procedures and policies to enhance ease of doing business.

## **TRANSPORT AND LOGISTICS**

### **Tan Sri Datuk Amar Speaker,**

71. Beyond the development of roads, we are dedicated to improving Sarawak's transport and logistics sector for better connectivity and to accommodate the growing demand of industries.
72. We have made a bold step in our decision to acquire MASwings Sdn. Bhd. knowing that air transportation plays a crucial role in the economic and social development of Sarawak.
73. Air travel, connects and provides fast and efficient mode of transportation within Sarawak, with other parts of Malaysia, Asian region and the rest of the world for business and tourism activities.
74. I wish to emphasise that the acquisition of MASwings is equivalent to our investment in infrastructure development as public goods.

75. Therefore, it is not profit-motivated, rather it is essential to complete our transportation and logistics network in air connectivity within Sarawak and the region at a reasonable price. This Sarawak-owned airline will be able to provide more guaranteed essential air services even on less profitable routes.
76. Last month, Sarawak Government, Hornbill Skyways Sdn. Bhd. and Malaysia Aviation Group Berhad have signed the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) for the management of rural air services by acquisition of shares in MASwings Sdn Bhd.
77. Through the acquisition, we are committed to upgrading MASwings from a rural air service provider to a regional airline. I am confident that this initiative will improve our air connectivity and open more opportunities in trade, business and tourism. The improvement will allow us to better promote Sarawak as a premium destination for responsible tourism and business events given Sarawak's natural settings and eco-friendly environment.
78. It is also our aspiration to elevate Sarawak's aviation sector to another level and expand air connectivity to nearby regions especially Hong Kong, Shenzhen, Singapore, Indonesia and other Southeast Asian countries.

79. In order for us to be more efficient in providing air services, we are also preparing Sarawak to become an Aviation Hub and tap the potential for Maintenance, Repair and Overhaul (MRO) facilities and training centre for aviators in this region.

## **TAKEOVER OF BINTULU PORT**

### **Tan Sri Datuk Amar Speaker,**

80. I would like to thank YAB Prime Minister for agreeing to hand over Bintulu Port Authority to Sarawak Government as announced in his Budget speech last month.
81. I wish to inform this august House that we are now in the process of taking over Bintulu Port Authority from the Federal Government. The process of taking over is progressing well and facilitated by the Ministry of Transport Malaysia. Therefore, I want to thank YB Minister of Transport Malaysia on his effort.
82. The takeover of Bintulu Port Authority will allow Sarawak to strategically manage the roles of the port and rationalise Sarawak's ports and infrastructure in a more orderly manner, thus create a vibrant economic development in the future.

83. I am sure that once the acquisition is realised, we will be able to chart our way to expand shipping connectivity with other major global transportation and logistics hubs and simultaneously, create more investment opportunities for Sarawak via the trade and businesses.

## **PUBLIC TRANSPORT**

### **Tan Sri Datuk Amar Speaker,**

84. Our initiative to utilise green hydrogen to fuel our public transport is well aligned with the UN goal to combat climate change and achieve a Zero Carbon Emission target by 2050. During the 2023 National Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) Council Meeting, the United Nation's representative, Her Excellency Ms. Karima El Korri praised Sarawak's initiatives in promoting SDG and green energy.
85. The Kuching public transportation system through Autonomous Rapid Transit (ART) powered by green hydrogen are on the right track. The ART is currently undergoing the proof-of-concept (POC) exercise until 15 December 2023.
86. The recently awarded contract for the Blue Line, marked the beginning of massive construction activities for the ART project. I am confident that Kuching ART will be completed according to schedule and commence its operation in the fourth quarter of 2025. At the same time, we are planning for the ART project for Bintulu.

87. Transformation of our transport sector must be managed through a holistic and integrated approach. We need to strengthen our transport management and coordination to ensure its service delivery fulfils the public demand.
88. As part of the strategic steps forward, the Sarawak Government is exploring the idea of establishing a single transport authority for Sarawak. We are studying Singapore's model of Land Transport Authority (LTA), where this Authority plans and manages the whole Singapore's public transportation system through active private sector participation.

## **SHARING ECONOMIC WEALTH**

### **Tan Sri Datuk Amar Speaker,**

89. Saya gembira Bank Dunia telah mengiktiraf Sarawak sebagai wilayah berpendapatan tinggi. Ini menunjukkan bahawa kita telah berupaya mencapai kemakmuran ekonomi. Namun begitu, agenda pembangunan kita melangkaui pertumbuhan ekonomi.
90. Kerajaan GPS sentiasa prihatin dengan pendapatan rakyat berbanding pertumbuhan ekonomi sematamata.

92. Oleh itu, saya ingin memaklumkan Dewan Yang Mulia ini bahawa Kerajaan Sarawak di bawah GPS akan juga terus memberi fokus kepada peningkatan pendapatan isi rumah melalui inisiatif keterangkuman sosial di mana tiada rakyat terpinggir dalam arus pembangunan agar hasil pembangunan dikongsi oleh setiap lapisan masyarakat.
93. Untuk meningkatkan pendapatan isi rumah, adalah penting untuk kita meningkatkan produktiviti mereka melalui pendidikan dan latihan kemahiran, khususnya dalam bidang TVET dan STEM bermula dari peringkat awal hingga ke peringkat tinggi.
94. Forum Ekonomi Dunia (WEF) meramalkan akan berlaku perubahan dalam bidang pekerjaan dalam era transformasi digital, di mana 85 juta pekerjaan akan hilang dan akan wujud 97 juta pekerjaan baharu menjelang 2025 merentasi pelbagai industri dan sektor ekonomi.
95. Oleh itu, kita menitikberatkan pembangunan modal insan kerana ia adalah aset masa depan Sarawak. Kita akan memastikan semua rakyat Sarawak mendapat akses kepada pendidikan dan latihan kemahiran yang berkualiti, khususnya bagi memenuhi permintaan industri baharu dalam era transformasi digital.

97. Sejalan dengan itu, dalam Bajet 2024 yang saya bentangkan minggu lepas, saya telah mengumumkan beberapa inisiatif ke arah pembangunan modal insan melalui bantuan pendidikan yang akan memanfaatkan anak-anak Sarawak di peringkat sekolah dan universiti:

(1) Peningkatan peruntukan Program Tuisyen Percuma dari RM10 juta ke RM15 juta, bagi pelajar Tingkatan 3 hingga Tingkatan 5 dari golongan B40;

(2) Tambahan Geran Khas sebanyak RM6 juta bagi Program Biasiswa Tempatan untuk meningkatkan bantuan untuk setiap pelajar dari RM400 ke RM800;

(3) RM30 juta untuk bantuan pembayaran balik pinjaman PTPTN; dan

(4) Baucar buku sebanyak RM500 dan laptop percuma untuk anak-anak Sarawak dari isi rumah yang berpendapatan RM1,500 dan ke bawah yang berjaya memasuki IPTA atau IPTS.

98. Tambahan pula, Kerajaan Sarawak sedang mengkaji untuk memperkenalkan pendidikan tinggi secara percuma di institusi pengajian tinggi milik Kerajaan Sarawak menjelang 2026, iaitu:

(1) University of Technology Sarawak;

- (2) Curtin University of Technology;
  - (3) Swinburne University;
  - (4) i-CATS University College; dan
  - (5) Kolej Laila Taib.
99. Saya percaya, dengan adanya sumber kewangan yang kukuh kita mampu merealisasikan hasrat ini.
100. Dengan adanya pendidikan dan latihan kemahiran berkualiti, kita akan dapat melahirkan tenaga kerja yang kompeten dan berdaya saing dan seterusnya dapat merebut peluang pekerjaan yang menawarkan gaji yang tinggi (*high-paying jobs*). Justeru dapat menyumbang kepada peningkatan pendapatan isi rumah dan kualiti hidup rakyat.
101. Untuk mencapai hasrat ini, Sarawak mempunyai 53 institusi pengajian tinggi dan 104 institusi latihan kemahiran awam dan swasta yang menawarkan pelbagai kursus dan latihan kemahiran untuk anak Sarawak.
102. Kerajaan Sarawak juga komited untuk mencapai keterangkuman sosial dengan memastikan setiap rakyat mampu memiliki rumah kediaman.

104. Sehubungan itu, kita melaksanakan dasar perumahan holistik yang mengambil kira keperluan semua lapisan rakyat terutamanya, golongan yang berpendapatan rendah di luar bandar.
105. Maka, Kerajaan Sarawak telah menyediakan pelbagai bentuk bantuan perumahan kepada golongan berpendapatan rendah seperti bantuan sewa, pembaikan dan pemilikan rumah.
106. Antaranya adalah Skim Pembesaran dan Penempatan Semula Kampung, Program Pembaharuan Bandar, Skim Pinjaman Rumah Panjang, Program Rumah Spektra Permata dan Projek Kecil Luar Bandar-Program Penambahbaikan Rumah Rakyat Miskin Sarawak (MRP-PPRMS).
107. Sebagai sebuah kerajaan yang bertanggungjawab, kita komited menjaga kebajikan rakyat dengan menyediakan jaringan keselamatan sosial dan bantuan kebajikan. Kita berusaha membantu individu dan keluarga yang serba kekurangan untuk mencapai taraf hidup yang lebih baik.
108. Kita memerlukan dasar bantuan sosial yang berkesan dan cekap dengan memberi tumpuan kepada golongan sasar. Dalam pada itu, adalah perlu bagi kita untuk memastikan rakyat terus produktif dan mengurangkan kebergantungan kepada subsidi dan bantuan kerajaan.

## **MALAYSIA AGREEMENT 1963**

### **Tan Sri Datuk Amar Speaker,**

109. The Sarawak GPS government remains committed in resolving our claims under the Malaysia Agreement 1963. I wish to update this august House that the first Technical Committee Meeting under the *Majlis Tindakan Pelaksanaan Perjanjian Malaysia 1963*, chaired by the YAB Deputy Prime Minister was held on 18 July 2023 in Putrajaya.

110. Under this Technical Committee Meeting, it was agreed that for the issues on Health and Education autonomy to Sarawak and Sabah, to be further discussed under the Special Coordination Committee, which will be co-chaired by Minister in the Prime Minister's Department (Sabah, Sarawak Affairs and Special Functions) with the Minister of Health and the Minister of Education.

111. In addition, through this Technical Committee Meeting, the Federal Government has agreed:

- (1) To return 52 lots of undeveloped Federal land back to Sarawak Government; and
- (2) Sarawak Government to acquire the land from FLC at its original acquisition cost.

113. For the information of this august House, our demand to have a representative in the Inland Revenue Board, has been agreed by the Federal Government.

The Dewan Rakyat, on 11<sup>th</sup> October 2023, passed the Inland Revenue Board of Malaysia (Amendment) Act 2023 to, amongst others, provide for the appointment of a representative from Sarawak as a permanent member of the Inland Revenue Board.

114. The appointment and revocation of a member representing Sarawak under this Act can only be exercised after consultation with the Premier of Sarawak.

115. As for autonomy on Environment which has been principally agreed to be handed over to Sarawak Government, we are currently preparing for the amendment of the Natural Resources and Environment Ordinance, 1993, in the anticipation of the transfer of autonomy on Environment to Sarawak.

## **MATTERS STILL IN DISCUSSION**

116. I am pleased to inform that our proposal to increase the number of parliamentary seats for Sarawak and Sabah to 35%, has received a positive response from the Federal Government.

117. I am optimistic that after a number of joint committee's discussions, this proposal will be endorsed by the MA63 Technical Committee meeting, and further taken to the Federal Cabinet meeting.
118. At the same time, our Sarawak Government will continue to negotiate and fight for the new formula for the Special Grants under Article 112D, with the Federal Government, to ensure that the Sarawak revenue is adequate to meet the cost of State services.
119. On behalf of the Sarawak Government, I would like to thank Putrajaya for their commitment and sincerity in restoring the rights of Sarawak, as stipulated under the MA63.
120. For other matters which are still under discussions, Sarawak Government implore for a favourable outcome from the negotiations with the Federal Government, so that our rights as contained in the Malaysia Agreement, Cobbold Commission, IGC Report and Federal Constitution, can be restored and safeguarded.

## **COMMERCIAL SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT (CSA)**

### **Tan Sri Datuk Amar Speaker,**

121. I wish to inform this august House that we have made significant progress on the Commercial Settlement Agreement (CSA) with PETRONAS signed 3 years ago. Thus far:

- (1) 91% or 4,200 of PETRONAS employees in Sarawak are local, exceeding our 85% target;
- (2) 40% or RM4 billion total jobs value in Sarawak have been awarded to Sarawakian vendors;
- (3) MRSM Bintulu funded by PETRONAS was completed in August this year and the first batch of students is expected to commence their studies in March next year;
- (4) More than 65,000 Sarawakian have benefitted from the programmes organised under CSA which includes (a) primary and secondary education, (b) sponsorship, tertiary education and professional learning and (c) upskilling and pre-employment;
- (5) Realisation of the first Carbon Capture, Utilisation and Storage (CCUS) project in Malaysia, the Kasawari (M1) CCS Project in Sarawak; and

(6) PETROS Niaga Sdn Bhd will be the sole distributor for Liquefied Petroleum Gas (LPG) in Sarawak by December this year.

122. Of late, there has been concern on CCUS rights. I would like to emphasise in this august House that our CCUS activities is enshrined with the amendment of the Sarawak Land Code (Carbon Storage) Rules, 2022. Therefore, rest assured that CCUS activity in Sarawak and its continental shelf is governed by our law.

## **PENUTUP**

### **Tan Sri Datuk Amar Speaker,**

123. Sarawak telah mencapai banyak kejayaan sepanjang tahun ini atas usaha dan komitmen semua pihak. Sebagai rakyat Sarawak, kita perlu terus memupuk semangat perpaduan, toleransi, berganding bahu dan berusaha dengan tekun untuk merealisasikan impian menjadi sebuah kuasa ekonomi yang cemerlang menjelang tahun 2030. Hanya dengan usaha bersama dan perpaduan dalam kalangan kita dapat menumpukan perhatian kepada pembangunan demi menjamin kesejahteraan masyarakat dan melindungi masa depan generasi yang akan datang.

124. Malam tadi, semasa perasmian Global Muslim Business Forum 2023 di BCCK, YAB Perdana Menteri telah mengiktiraf sumbangan Kerajaan GPS dalam membentuk politik Malaysia yang stabil.

125. GPS telah menyumbang kepada 2/3 majoriti kerusi Parlimen dalam Kerajaan Perpaduan. Ini telah mengukuhkan kedudukan Kerajaan Perpaduan ke arah mewujudkan Malaysia yang stabil, maju dan makmur. Ini juga memberi keyakinan kepada para pelabur untuk terus menyumbang kepada pembangunan ekonomi negara.
126. Justeru, saya menyeru semua ahli komponen parti GPS untuk sama-sama mendukung kesepakatan dan kemuafakatan tanpa mengira kepentingan parti dan individu. Marilah kita mengenyahkan kepentingan peribadi dan kepartian serta memupuk semangat perpaduan dan kerjasama sebagai satu pasukan agar kita terus kuat dan gagah sebagai sebuah parti gabungan yang unggul di Malaysia. Pada masa yang sama, ini akan membolehkan kita menumpukan usaha untuk memajukan Sarawak dan mensejahterakan rakyat.

**Tan Sri Datuk Amar Speaker,**

127. Kerajaan Sarawak di bawah GPS amat menghargai sumbangan penjawat awam Sarawak dalam melaksanakan mandat dan menggalas tanggungjawab dengan penuh amanah demi kesejahteraan rakyat.
128. Bagi menghargai jasa penjawat awam, sukacitanya saya mengumumkan Pembayaran Bantuan Khas Kewangan kepada semua Anggota Perkhidmatan Awam Sarawak termasuk Badan Berkanun Sarawak dan Pihak

Berkuasa Tempatan Sarawak sebanyak Dua (2) Bulan Gaji Pokok mereka.

129. Pembayaran bagi Bantuan Khas Kewangan ini akan dibuat sebelum penghujung tahun 2023. Dianggarkan seramai 28 ribu Anggota Perkhidmatan Awam Sarawak tersebut akan menerima Bantuan Khas Kewangan yang melibatkan anggaran perbelanjaan dan implikasi kewangan sebanyak RM172 juta.
130. Kita juga tidak melupakan Anggota Perkhidmatan Awam Persekutuan yang telah bersama-sama berganding bahu dan menyumbang kepada usaha pembangunan sosioekonomi Sarawak sepanjang tahun ini.
131. Oleh itu, saya mengumumkan Bantuan Khas Kewangan sejumlah RM600 juga diberikan kepada semua Anggota Perkhidmatan Awam Persekutuan yang berkhidmat di Sarawak sepanjang tahun 2023 ini.
132. Mereka terdiri daripada lebih kurang seramai 130 ribu Anggota Perkhidmatan Awam Persekutuan, termasuk Badan Beruniform, Anggota Keselamatan dan Badan Berkanun Persekutuan yang tertentu.
133. Ini dijangka melibatkan anggaran implikasi kewangan sebanyak RM78 juta dan akan dibayar pada awal tahun hadapan.

134. Akhir kata, saya juga ingin mengucapkan terima kasih kepada Tan Sri Datuk Amar Speaker, Ahli-Ahli Yang Berhormat, Ketua-Ketua Jabatan, Anggota Perkhidmatan Awam serta semua warga kerja Dewan Undangan Negeri Sarawak yang telah mengendalikan persidangan DUN dengan teratur dan cemerlang.

Ikan bekut terkonang-konang,  
Mari terkonang di dalam buluh,  
Tamat sudah kita bersidang,  
Ke arah Sarawak maju dan teguh.

Dari Gedong singgah ke Serian,  
Ingin berteduh di Tasik Danu,  
Akhir bicara saya ucapkan,  
Merry Christmas, Selamat Tahun Baru.

Sekian terima kasih.