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Lahad Datu proposed as BIMP-EAGA special economic zone

Sabah Deputy Chief Minister III and Industrial Development, Entrepreneurship and Transport Minister Datuk Ewon Benedick has proposed developing the Palm Oil Industrial Cluster (POIC) Lahad Datu as a BIMP-EAGA Special Economic Zone to strengthen industrial development and attract international investment.

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India orders evacuations as cyclone looms

Indian authorities ordered nearly 100,000 people to evacuate homes in Andhra Pradesh and Odisha, ahead of a severe cyclone the national weather office expects to make landfall by Wednesday.

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SPORTS

Mirabel back for Maybank C'ship with new mindset

Malaysian golfer Mirabel Ting is learning to trust herself and play for the love of the game, rather than the expectations of others, as she prepares to tee off at the LPGA Maybank Championship at the Kuala Lumpur Golf and Country Club (KLGCC) this week.



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Ambassador: Slovakia keen on exploring investment opportunities in Sabah

KOTA KINABALU: Slovakia is looking at exploring investment and business cooperation opportunities in Sabah across sectors such as road monitoring management, water monitoring and defence.

This was pointed out during a meeting between Slovak Republic Ambassador to Malaysia Peter Spišiak and Sabah's Chief

Minister Datuk Seri Panglima Hajiji Noor at Menara Kinabalu here on Tuesday.

According to Spišiak, Slovakia has expertise in these sectors.

"We're keen on exploring the potential collaborations with Sabah," he said.

In his remarks, Hajiji welcomed Slovakia's interest in establishing business ties with

Sabah.

Also present at the meeting were Assistant Minister to Sabah's Chief Minister Datuk Ceasar Mandela Malakun, Slovakia Embassy's commerce and economic affairs diplomatic officer Natália Furdová, and Slovak Republic honorary consul in Kota Kinabalu Datuk Seri Panglima Wong Khen Thau.



Spišiak (left) in a discussion with Hajiji during their meeting at Menara Kinabalu.

Sabah steps up national language promotion

Hajiji calls for wider public use, stronger compliance in official affairs and greater digital engagement

Mariah Doksil

KOTA KINABALU: The Sabah government will continue to intensify efforts to uphold the national language amid the challenges of digitalisation and artificial intelligence (AI), including expanding its use in public spaces and strengthening compliance in official affairs.

Chief Minister Datuk Seri Panglima Hajiji Noor said the initiatives would also encompass promoting 'pantun' and Jawi script, conducting multilingual and ethnic literature research, and developing the book industry by showcasing works by Sabah writers.

"I also want to see Sabah's young people, digital influencers and local creative industry players harness technology to promote the use of the national language," he said when officiating at the state-level 2026 National Language Month (BBK) at Dewan Bahasa dan Pustaka (DBP) Sabah Branch here yesterday.

Hajiji said the Sabah Maju Jaya (SMJ) Development Plan focused not only on economic growth, infrastructure and strategic sectors, but also on human capital development and the well-being of the people, with an emphasis on fostering an independent spirit, a strong identity and a firm sense of self.

He said the state government would continue to strengthen cooperation with DBP and the Education Ministry to uphold the national language and literature through various activities, research initiatives and publications.

He also commended DBP's efforts to expand book publishing across various fields



Hajiji visits a book exhibition during the event.

of knowledge, including works that reflect local experiences and identities, while nurturing young writing talent and supporting research and documentation of local languages and ethnic communities for future generations.

Hajiji said the state government hoped to further strengthen collaboration with DBP, relevant agencies and writers' associations to establish Sabah as a model state in cultivating a culture of knowledge, developing literature and promoting excellence in the use of the national language.

He added that efforts to establish Kota Kinabalu as a City of Literature should be intensified through a wider range of language and literary activities.

He also welcomed the organisation of the 'Our Language, Our Responsibility' Carnival, which features discussions on strengthening

the use of the national language in the media, sessions on Jawi script and activities to enhance the art of pantun.

Hajiji stressed that the younger generations should master multiple languages to improve their competitiveness, while continuing to uphold the national language, particularly when communicating on social media platforms.

"In the midst of the widespread use of various social media platforms, young people must maintain a strong commitment to using the national language accurately and courteously.

"While freedom of expression is important across various platforms, it must be exercised within the bounds of courtesy and proper language," he said.

Commenting on the theme of BBK 2026, 'Our Language, Our Identity', Hajiji said it reflected the spirit of 'Language is the Soul of the Nation', reminding

the public that language was not merely a tool for everyday communication, but also a reflection of a community's identity, character, thinking and values.

He said the beautiful, proficient and courteous use of the national language also reflected the maturity and dignity of a civilised nation, in line with the aspirations of Malaysia Madani, which emphasises societal values, sustainability, well-being, creativity, mutual respect and confidence.

He added that racial unity could be strengthened through the responsible use of the national language while respecting the diversity of ethnic groups, while writing, literature and creative media could serve as platforms to foster creativity and develop a first-class-minded society.

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Anwar defends bigger allocations for Sabah and Sarawak

KUALA LUMPUR: The government has defended its decision to provide larger development allocations for Sabah and Sarawak, citing their geographical challenges and infrastructure needs.

Prime Minister Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim said these needs included the poor condition of roads in several areas of Sabah, despite its smaller population compared with other states.

"We should not look at this from the perspective of just one state when it comes to addressing the needs of Sabah and Sarawak.

"No, the Malaysia Agreement 1963 (MA63) must be viewed as a national covenant.

"It is in our collective interest to safeguard the interests of everyone," he said in response to a supplementary question from Datuk Seri Dr Ronald Khandee (PN-Beluran) during the Ministers' Question Time in the Dewan Rakyat on Tuesday.

Ronald sought clarification on the decision to reduce or withhold allocations for certain

projects in Sabah and Sarawak under the Ministry of Rural and Regional Development (KKDW), despite the two states being entitled to greater allocations under MA63. He also raised the possibility that the decision was influenced by political differences.

In response, Anwar said the development allocations for Sabah and Sarawak announced in Budget 2027 did not include expenditure for the projects under KKDW raised by the MP.

"What we announced were projects approved based on the latest assessments," he said.

Anwar said the government acknowledged that development allocations would not be sufficient to meet every need, but stressed that good governance must be ensured to prevent leakages.

He said procurement processes and contract awards also needed to be scrutinised to ensure compliance with regulations and take into account the capacity to implement the projects. — Bernama

PTPTN to announce loan repayment deferment mechanism soon

GEORGE TOWN: The National Higher Education Fund Corporation (PTPTN) is finalising the mechanism for deferring loan repayments for low-income borrowers, as announced under Budget 2027.

Its chairman Datuk Seri Norliza Abdul Rahim said details of how the initiative would be implemented were being discussed with the Finance Ministry and would be announced soon.

"Borrowers earning below RM2,500 a month will have their loan repayments deferred, while those earning between RM2,500 and RM3,000 will only need to pay RM50 a month. Those earning above RM3,000 must continue making repayments as

usual.

"We are still discussing the details with the Finance Ministry and will announce the implementation mechanism more comprehensively soon," she said at the Junior Superhero Simpan SSPN 2026 programme at Penang Hospital on Tuesday.

Meanwhile, Norliza encouraged borrowers who are employed and can afford to repay their loans to continue making regular repayments, as they would be eligible for the 10 per cent discount announced under the budget.

She also urged borrowers with outstanding arrears to contact PTPTN to discuss restructuring their repayments to avoid being blacklisted. — Bernama

Sabah Electricity launches electric bike pilot project for meter readers

Nancy Lai

KOTA KINABALU: Sabah Electricity has launched a pilot project involving five electric motorcycles for meter readers to improve field operational efficiency, reduce operating costs and support environmental sustainability.

The motorcycles were handed over to the company's Retail Division meter readers as part of efforts to assess the practicality of using electrical vehicles for daily operations.

Sabah Electricity chief executive officer Datuk Mohd Yaakob Jaafar officiated at the handover ceremony on Oct 27.

He said the trial, lasting

between six to 12 months, would evaluate the motorcycles' energy efficiency, travel range, battery durability, maintenance costs, safety and suitability for Sabah's geographical conditions.

"The use of electric motorcycles has the potential to reduce petrol consumption for operational travel, while creating opportunities for savings in fuel and maintenance costs," the company said in a statement yesterday.

Meter readers were selected for the pilot project as their duties require frequent daily travel to various customer locations, allowing the motorcycles to be assessed under actual working conditions.

The company will collect usage

records, cost data, performance results and feedback from participating staff to guide decisions on the project's future.

If the evaluation proves successful, Sabah Electricity will consider purchasing additional units and gradually expanding their use throughout Sabah and Labuan.

The initiative also supports the company's environmental, social and governance (ESG) commitments through the adoption of greener technology and more efficient energy use.

Sabah Electricity said the project would help identify sustainable mobility solutions while improving productivity and maintaining efficient service delivery to customers.



A Sabah Electricity personnel tests the electric motorcycle while Mohd Yaakob (third from left) and others are briefed about the machine.

Lahad Datu proposed as BIMP-EAGA special economic zone

Jenne Lajiu

KUALA LUMPUR: Sabah Deputy Chief Minister III and Industrial Development, Entrepreneurship and Transport Minister Datuk Ewon Benedick, has proposed developing the Palm Oil Industrial Cluster (POIC) Lahad Datu as a BIMP-EAGA Special Economic Zone to strengthen industrial development and attract international investment during a meeting with Federal Investment, Trade and Industry Minister Datuk Seri Johari Abdul Ghani on Tuesday.

Ewon, who is also Penampang MP, said he has put forward the proposal during the recent debate on the 2027 Budget in the Dewan Rakyat.

"I appreciate his support for this proposal and his willingness to visit Sabah to discuss further the development of POIC Lahad Datu as a BIMP-EAGA Special Economic Zone.

"Further discussions will also focus on efforts to strengthen industrial development and international investment at POIC Lahad Datu," Ewon said.

Also present during the



Ewon (right) in discussion with Johari at the latter's office.

meeting was Tuaran MP and POIC Sabah chairman Datuk Seri Panglima Wilfred Madius Tangau.

During the meeting, Ewon also discussed Estee Sabah's application to develop an artificial intelligence (AI) data centre at the Sipitang Oil and

Gas Industrial Park (SOGIP).

He said the proposed development would require approval from a special committee under the Investment, Trade and Industry Ministry (Miti).

Estee Sabah was represented by its country director Nick Xu.

Ewon expressed hope that continued discussions and cooperation with Miti would accelerate industrial development, increase value-added activities in Sabah and attract new investments to strengthen the state's competitiveness.

Sabah 40 pct claim: SLS issues appeal attendance guidelines

KOTA KINABALU: Members of the public planning to attend the Court of Appeal proceedings on Sabah's 40 per cent constitutional revenue entitlement on Thursday (Oct 29) have been urged to observeregistrationrequirements, court protocols, and security arrangements.

Sabah Law Society (SLS) president Datuk Mohamed Nazim Maduarin said in a press release that arrangements had been made in coordination with the court administration and relevant security authorities to facilitate public attendance while maintaining security.

The conference hall at the Kota Kinabalu Court Complex will serve as an extension of the public gallery, with proceedings transmitted through the court's audiovisual feed for on-site viewing.

Members of the public are advised to arrive early and comply with instructions from court officials and security personnel throughout the registration and admission process.

Registration will take place at a designated checkpoint near the court complex entrance, where attendees must scan a QR code provided by the court and complete an online registration form. Following verification, admission passes will be issued to

eligible attendees.

The passes will be checked at a second checkpoint, and only those holding valid passes will be allowed into the conference hall.

SLS also reminded attendees to dress appropriately, stressing that formal attire suitable for court proceedings is required.

Slippers, shorts, and unsuitable casual clothing are not permitted.

It also pointed out that photography, audio, and video recording, livestreaming, and rebroadcasting of the proceedings are strictly prohibited, including through Facebook Live, TikTok Live, Instagram Live, YouTube Live, and other social media platforms. The audiovisual feed provided in the conference hall is strictly for on-site viewing.

Food and drinks are also prohibited inside the hall, although drinking water will be available at the foyer outside.

SLS urged attendees to maintain proper decorum and comply with all applicable court rules and directions from court officials and security personnel.

The society said it appreciated the public's interest in the constitutional proceedings and called for cooperation to ensure the hearing is observed in a manner consistent with the dignity of the court and the independence of the judicial process.

Assess Pan Borneo delays against full project record — Darell

KOTA KINABALU: Responsibility for delays to the Sabah Pan Borneo Highway project must be assessed against its full record, including progress before the Project Delivery Partner (PDP) model was terminated in 2019, says Parti Warisan deputy president Datuk Darell Leiking.

Responding to a local newspaper report on Oct 26 and a statement by Sabah Democratic Action Party (DAP) publicity secretary Thien Ee Hang, he said the decision to end the PDP agreement involved both the former Sabah government and the federal government.

Darell said he had never denied that then chief minister Datuk Seri Mohd Shafie Apdal recommended ending the PDP model, a move collectively supported by the Warisan Plus State Cabinet.

However, he stressed that the state's recommendation was distinct from the federal government's authority to terminate the agreement.

"Pan Borneo is a federal project. The decision to terminate the PDP agreement under the national-interest provision was made by the federal government," he said in a statement.

Darell, who was a member of the Federal Cabinet at

the time, said he accepted collective responsibility for the decision, which should also be acknowledged by other Cabinet members, including then finance minister Lim Guan Eng and works minister Baru Bian.

He also rejected claims that ending the PDP model amounted to cancelling the Pan Borneo project.

The project continued under a conventional federal implementation model, with the Works Ministry taking over while existing work-package contractors and consultants were retained to ensure continuity, subject to the arrangements in place at the time.

Citing the official parliamentary record, Darell said the project was 21.3 per cent complete against a scheduled progress of 44.4 per cent when the PDP agreement was terminated in September 2019.

"These figures matter. They show that the project was already substantially behind schedule before the PDP agreement was terminated," he said.

While acknowledging the need to account for the transition that followed, he said it was inaccurate to attribute all subsequent delays to the 2019 decision.

JKR Sabah warns public against unauthorised donation requests

KOTA KINABALU: The Sabah Public Works Department (JKR) has warned the public against individuals soliciting donations or contributions using the department's name without authorisation.

In a notice posted on its Facebook page on Monday, JKR Sabah stressed that it had never issued any written or verbal instructions, or authorised any officer, to solicit donations for personal purposes or on behalf of the department.

The notice was issued following complaints received from members of the public regarding donation requests made using the

department's name.

"Members of the public are reminded to remain vigilant and verify the authenticity of any information before making donations or contributions to avoid falling victim to fraud," the notice stated.

JKR Sabah also urged the public to exercise caution when approached with such requests and to seek confirmation from the department before making any payments. The department reiterated that it had not authorised any such fundraising activities and advised the public not to be misled by individuals claiming to represent it.



Madius speaks during the debate.

Call for updated data on state electricity theft

KOTA KINABALU: Tuaran MP Datuk Seri Panglima Wilfred Madius Tangau has sought updated figures on electricity theft in Sabah following the transfer of electricity supply regulatory powers to the state on Jan 3, 2024.

He said 14,819 cases of electricity meter tampering were recorded in Sabah in 2023, involving estimated revenue losses of RM89.9 million, according to a written reply from the Ministry of Energy Transition and Water Transformation (Petra) to his question in the Dewan Rakyat on Oct 22.

Madius said the figures raised questions about whether electricity theft had declined since Sabah assumed regulatory control and how effective enforcement measures had been. "My main question is whether electricity theft cases in Sabah have declined since 2024.

"If so, by how much, and what targets have been set?" he said in a statement on Tuesday.

He said his question was listed for an oral reply, but he received a written response due to its position on the list and was unable to ask supplementary questions in Parliament.

Madius, who is also Upko honorary president, had asked Petra to provide electricity theft figures and associated losses in Peninsular Malaysia, Sabah and Sarawak from 2023 to 2026, together with reduction targets, enforcement measures and data coordination among the Energy Commission, the Energy Commission of Sabah (ECoS) and Sarawak's regulator.

According to Petra's reply, ECoS had taken several measures to curb electricity theft, including engineering interventions, raids, joint operations with enforcement agencies and prosecution over illegal electricity connections.

However, Madius said updated statistics were needed to assess the effectiveness of these measures, particularly the

number of cases and revenue losses recorded in 2024, 2025 and 2026.

"The public needs to know whether the number of cases and revenue losses is declining or increasing. We need year-on-year comparative data and measurable targets to assess the effectiveness of the measures taken," he said.

He added that electricity theft not only caused revenue losses but could also endanger consumers, damage electrical installations and undermine the stability of the electricity supply system.

Madius urged Petra to provide a clearer account of developments since 2023, including the latest revenue losses and the results of enforcement efforts.

"RM89.9 million is a substantial amount. We need to know not only what action has been taken, but also whether those measures have produced tangible results and protected the public interest," he said.

Hajji: BM served as a unifying force

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Hajji said in Sabah, the state's rich diversity of ethnic groups, cultures and dialects could be brought together harmoniously through the national language.

He said Bahasa Malaysia served as a unifying force, enabling Sabahans of different backgrounds to communicate, understand one another and work together in an atmosphere of goodwill.

However, he stressed that efforts to uphold the national language should not restrict or sideline Sabah's rich diversity of mother tongues and ethnic languages.

Hajji called on all Malaysians to strengthen their commitment to making the national language a language of unity, a language of knowledge and a source of pride for the nation.

'Govt strengthens water supply infra in Sabah, S'wak, Labuan'

KUALA LUMPUR: The Federal Government has allocated grants totalling RM444.96 million to strengthen water supply infrastructure in Sabah, including the replacement of critical pipelines and the implementation of measures to reduce non-revenue water (NRW).

Deputy Prime Minister Datuk Seri Fadillah Yusof said the initiatives aim to improve the efficiency of the water supply system and expand access to clean water, particularly in areas that continue to face infrastructure constraints.

Fadillah, who is also Energy Transition and Water Transformation Minister, said six water supply projects in Sarawak, with a total cost of RM1.272 billion and to be implemented through loan financing, would continue under the First Rolling Plan of the 13th Malaysia Plan.

"In Labuan, efforts to improve the reliability of the water supply system are continuing through the maintenance, repair and replacement of critical components, including pumping systems, with the aim of improving operational efficiency and reducing the risk of water supply disruptions for consumers.

"The implementation of these projects will be coordinated with the state governments, taking into account development priorities, residents' needs and the applicable financial procedures," he said when winding up the debate on the Supply Bill 2027 at the policy stage for his ministry in the Dewan Rakyat on Tuesday.

In the long term, Fadillah said the National Water Research Institute of Malaysia (NAHRIM) had begun monitoring groundwater using smart technology in April 2026 to identify the potential of this resource as an alternative water supply for the island. — Bernama

Disclose reasons for Borneo project cancellations, Putrajaya urged

KOTA KINABALU: Parti Warisan (Warisan) vice-president Datuk Mohd Azis Jamman has demanded an explanation from the federal government over the cancellation of rural development projects in Sabah and Sarawak, including those for which Letters of Acceptance (SST) had already been issued.

He said the cancellations raised serious questions about planning, financial management and coordination between ministries, particularly the Ministry of Rural and Regional Development (KKDW).

"How could a project reach

the stage of an SST being issued if sufficient funds were not available?

"Who approved the project, and who subsequently decided to cancel it?" he said in a statement on Tuesday.

Azis was responding to Deputy Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Ahmad Zahid Hamidi's revelation in the Dewan Rakyat regarding the cancellation of rural development projects in the two states.

He said the Finance Ministry had previously explained that KKDW had made spending commitments exceeding its

approved annual allocation for rural road projects.

"If this is indeed the case, how could such a situation occur without being detected and addressed earlier?" he asked, urging both ministries to provide a comprehensive explanation.

Azis also questioned whether the government had assessed potential compensation claims or additional financial liabilities arising from cancelling projects after SSTs had been issued.

He called on the government to disclose the number of affected projects, their locations, the value of the allocations involved and

the reasons for each cancellation.

The government should also clarify whether the projects would proceed, be retendered or be implemented through alternative methods, together with clear timelines, he said.

Azis stressed that Sabah continued to face serious basic infrastructure problems, particularly involving rural roads, water supply and electricity, with many communities still waiting for essential facilities.

"Every cancelled project is more than just a figure in a government report. It could mean a village remaining cut off because of

damaged roads, schoolchildren continuing to struggle to get to school, and residents having to bear high travel costs," he said.

He stressed that Sabahans should not bear the consequences of poor planning, financial mismanagement or a lack of coordination between ministries.

Azis also reminded the Federal Government that development should be guided by the people's needs rather than political interests or considerations unrelated to the public interest.

"Development is the people's right, not a political gift from any government," he said.



Alexon (left) and guests pose for a photo with winning team Triangle from SMK Sung Siew.



Alexon (left) and guests pose for a photo with runner up Trecento Percento from SMK All Saints.

KOTA KINABALU: Across Malaysia's vast and rugged landscapes, community challenges often demand ingenious solutions.

Whether it is navigating the grueling, dimly lit highway stretch from Sandakan to Kota Kinabalu or enduring frustrating morning bottlenecks at school gates, everyday friction points shape the realities of daily life in Sabah.

Yet, within these very challenges lies a powerful engine for change: the next generation of engineers, coders, and problem-solvers.

At Plaza Shell in Kota Kinabalu, this spirit of ingenuity took center stage during the Shell NXplorers Malaysia 2026 Sabah Challenge. Bringing together over 210 participants from across the state — part of a nationwide initiative engaging more than 600 students from 29 schools with support from the Ministry of Education — the event showcased how high school students are moving beyond theoretical science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) education.

By applying systems thinking, digital technologies, and automation, these young innovators are designing functional prototypes capable of tackling critical socio-economic and safety issues.

Saving lives on Sabah's highways

For the state champions, team Triangle from SMK Sung Siew, comprising Ivan Lam Jun Yin, Alan Romeo Roy Joseph Boguli, and Izz Iqbal Rizqin Mohd Shamsul, the inspiration for their award-winning project came straight from the evening news.

"It started when we read news reports about road accidents in Malaysia. Many of them were caused by the driver: driving under the influence of alcohol, falling asleep, using the phone or smoking.

"We were shocked that so many of these accidents could have been prevented," they told Borneo Post in an interview. "Here in Sabah, many people drive long distances, such as from Sandakan to Kota Kinabalu, often at night and next to heavy lorries.

"We wanted a solution that stops an accident before it happens, not after."

The result of this is DriveShield, a solar-powered smart driver monitoring system. Built at a cost of approximately RM125, the device integrates an ESP32-CAM, AI facial recognition, and dedicated sensors to monitor



Trecento Percento's project, Tag Tracker 300, tackled a surprisingly universal pain point: school entrance congestion.

Sabah's young innovators drive change with Shell NXplorers

driver behavior in real time.

Before the engine can even ignite, drivers must pass an alcohol screening test while facial recognition confirms their identity.

Once on the move, the system actively scans for drowsiness, mobile phone usage, and smoking. If danger is detected, an automated buzzer sounds and an instant Telegram alert is transmitted to family members or company operators.

Powered entirely by solar energy, the system operates independently of conventional power sources.

Bringing DriveShield from concept to reality was no small feat as the team faced rigorous technical hurdles, including a 3D-printed housing case that failed on its first six-hour print attempt.

"My challenge was 3D printing," Alan shared. "The first case that took me six hours was the wrong



Before the engine can even ignite, drivers must pass an alcohol screening test while facial recognition confirms their identity.

size. It was frustrating, but I learned to measure carefully and check the design before printing. When the second print finally worked, it felt amazing."

Meanwhile, coding the

integrated hardware components tested Ivan's resilience: "After we assembled the prototype, the code started acting up and the camera and sensors would not cooperate. I learned to test

one part at a time instead of panicking."

Looking forward, Team Triangle harbours ambitious aspirations for their innovation. Izz envisions a future where systems like DriveShield are officially approved by the Road Transport Department (JPJ) and made compulsory in public transport and commercial lorries.

Meanwhile, Ivan aims to refine the hardware by scaling down its size and integrating an infrared camera to enhance nighttime visibility.

Streamlining campus logistics through smart automation

While highway safety drove the state champions, operational efficiency inspired the state runner-up, Trecento Percento from SMK All Saints, featuring Mark Dylan Disimon, Alvee Aylwin Tan, and Aaron Anthony Rining Thien.

Their project, Tag Tracker 300, tackled a surprisingly universal pain point: school entrance congestion.

"Our inspiration for our project was the struggle we had to endure when we lined up every day because of a system our school chose to implement. It was supposed to give easier time for both teachers and students with school attendance," the team shared.

Tag Tracker 300 utilises an Arduino-based radio frequency identification (RFID) system linked directly to Google Sheets. As students scan their RFID tags at the school gate, their attendance is instantly displayed on an LCD screen and logged automatically.

This automated flow drastically reduces morning queue times, minimises administrative burdens on teachers and security personnel, and optimizes campus safety.

The journey was marked by team restructuring and the delicate challenge of balancing rigorous academics with intensive prototyping. Reflecting on the mindset required to overcome such obstacles, Alvee drew a compelling local parallel:

"Even a small change is still a change, like Datuk Hew Ah Kow, a small innovation was made for perfect half boiled eggs, yet the entirety of Malaysia uses it," they enthused.

Adding to this culture of psychological safety and collaboration, Aaron noted: "Learning to ask for help is one of those things that feels super awkward at first, but it gets so much easier once we just bite the bullet and do it.

"Reaching out isn't a sign of weakness, it's actually just a smart way to learn faster."

Of corporate pipeline and regional talent

Behind these grassroots breakthroughs lies a structured corporate commitment to cultivating human capital. Shell NXplorers serves as a vital bridge, equipping youth with the mental toolkits necessary to navigate complex systems and engineer sustainable solutions.

Highlighting the strategic importance of nurturing young talent in East Malaysia, General Manager of Sabah Shell Petroleum Company Limited (SSPC), Alexon Jong, noted that as the world faces increasingly complex challenges, the need for innovative thinkers and future-ready talent has never been greater.

"At Shell, we see immense potential in young minds to drive positive change," he said. "By introducing students to critical thinking, engineering, digital technologies and automation, we hope to inspire them to reimagine possibilities, solve real-world problems and become the leaders and innovators of tomorrow."

This long-term vision resonates deeply with the participants' personal career aspirations.

By bridging the gap between classroom theory and real-world execution, initiatives like Shell NXplorers are actively shaping the region's industrial and intellectual pipeline.

As the dust settles on the Sabah State Challenge, attention now shifts to the national stage. Both teams from SMK Sung Siew and SMK All Saints are preparing to represent Sabah at the national Shell NXplorers Malaysia Challenge.

Their journey underscores a powerful truth: when young innovators are equipped with the right tools, corporate backing, and collaborative frameworks, low-cost technologies can effectively resolve high-stakes local problems.



Once on the move, Team Triangle's project system actively scans for drowsiness, mobile phone usage, and smoking. If danger is detected, an automated buzzer sounds and an instant Telegram alert is transmitted to family members or company operators.



As students scan their RFID tags at the school gate, their attendance is instantly displayed on an LCD screen and logged

Murder: Storekeeper gets 35 years jail, 15 lashes

Suraini Andokong

KOTA KINABALU: The High Court here on Tuesday sentenced a storekeeper to 35-year imprisonment and 15 strokes of the cane over murder of a foreign man.

Judicial Commissioner Ratanah Devi Yusof Perumal imposed the sentence on Mohd Hazrul Migo Hassan, 32, after the man was found guilty to a charge under Section 302 of the Penal Code, read together with Section 34 of the same Code.

On April 10 this year, the same court here freed a labourer, Najib Adam, 35, from the same charge, which stated that Mohd Hazrul and Najib, together with seven others who are still at large, had murdered Al Sam Amil, a foreigner, at the roadside near a school in Penampang on Dec 24,

2023. The prosecution had called 11 witnesses to testify during the prosecution's stage trial. The deputy public prosecutor was Lovely Natasha Charles, while Mohd Hazrul was represented by counsel Jamadi Saleh.



The accused at the Kuala Lumpur Magistrate's Court on Tuesday. — Bernama photo

Three PetraX5 directors charged with falsifying share transfer form

KUALA LUMPUR: Three directors of aerospace-related company PetraX5 pleaded not guilty at the Magistrate's Court on Tuesday to a charge of falsifying a share transfer form in May. Ahmad Suhaimi Abdul Halim, 44, Raja Shazreen Petra Raja Azman Shah, 32, and Mohamad Haziq Aiman Shamsuddin, 28, were jointly charged with falsifying a share transfer form dated Feb 16, 2026 at the premises of PetraX5 Sdn Bhd in Jalan PJU

1A/42B, Ara Damansara, on May 12. The charge was framed under Section 471 of the Penal Code, punishable under Section 465 of the same code, read together with Section 34, which provides for a maximum jail term of two years, a fine, or both, upon conviction. Deputy Public Prosecutor Syed Ahmed Khabir Abdul Rahman proposed bail of RM10,000 for each accused, with one surety each.

However, lawyers Kailash Sharma, representing Ahmad Suhaimi, and Muhammad Amin Othman, representing Raja Shazreen Petra and Mohamad Haziq Aiman, sought lower bail, citing their clients' family commitments and cooperation throughout the investigation. Magistrate Amira Sariaty Zainal allowed each accused bail of RM4,500 with one surety and fixed Jan 12 for mention. — Bernama

Self-employed man ordered to enter defence in sexual assault case

PUTRAJAYA: The Court of Appeal has ordered a self-employed man to enter his defence against a charge of physically sexually assaulting a seven-year-old girl. In a unanimous ruling delivered last Tuesday (Oct 20), a three-judge panel comprising Datuk Azman Abdullah, Datuk Hayatul Akmal Abdul Aziz and K. Muniandy allowed the prosecution's appeal against the High Court's decision to acquit and discharge the man at the close of the prosecution's case. In delivering the ruling, Justice Hayatul Akmal said both the Sessions Court and High Court judges were wrong to conclude that the prosecution had failed to establish a prima facie case against the accused. "The child witness's testimony should not be dismissed merely because of minor inconsistencies regarding the frequency of incidents and incidental details. Given that the victim was seven years old at the time of the incident, her testimony should be assessed in light of her level of maturity and ability to understand questions and the duty to tell the truth, rather than by the standards of accuracy expected of an adult witness," Justice Hayatul Akmal said, adding



that the victim's testimony remained consistent on the key elements of the charge against the accused. "Accordingly, we find that the prosecution has successfully established a prima facie case against the accused. The decisions of the High Court and Sessions Court judges are set aside, the prosecution's appeal is allowed, and the accused is ordered to enter his defence against the charge before the Sessions Court in Butterworth," she said. On Oct 5, 2023, the Sessions Court acquitted and discharged the 60-year-old man at the close of the prosecution's case without calling him to enter his defence. On Aug 2, 2024, the High Court upheld the Sessions Court's decision. According to the charge, the man was accused of physically and sexually assaulting the girl at a house in Bukit Mertajam, Central Seberang Perai, Penang, between 6 am and 5 pm in May 2020. — Bernama

Nurse pleads not guilty to forging MCs

PEKAN: A nurse at a maternal and child health clinic pleaded not guilty in the Magistrate's Court on Tuesday to forging 10 medical certificates (MCs) between March and April this year. Zaleha Ismail, 55, is accused of forging the MCs purportedly issued by a medical officer at the Kuala Pahang Community Clinic here between March 1 and April 27. The charge was framed under Section 465 of the Penal Code, which provides for a maximum jail term of two years, a fine, or both, upon conviction. Deputy Public Prosecutor Siti Sarah Aqilah Lokman proposed bail of RM15,000 with one surety, citing the seriousness of the offence, the accused's status as a civil servant and the public interest.

Defence counsel Ahmad Deniel Roslan, from the National Legal Aid Foundation, sought an appropriate bail amount, taking into account the accused's financial situation and personal commitments. He said the accused, a nurse earning about RM3,500 a month, was the sole breadwinner for her family, with her husband unable to work after suffering a stroke and two school-going children under her care. Magistrate Melody Woon Sze Mun set bail at RM10,000 with one surety and imposed an additional condition requiring the accused to report to the Pekan District Police Headquarters once a month until the conclusion of the case. The court fixed Nov 23 for mention of the case. — Bernama

Man charged over non-physical sexual assault of underage girl

KUALA LUMPUR: A construction worker was charged in the Sessions Court on Tuesday with committing non-physical sexual assault against a 12-year-old girl inside the lift of a condominium in April. Muhammad Aniq Mohd Jafri, 25, pleaded not guilty after the charge was read out before Judge Suhaila Haron. According to the charge, Muhammad Aniq allegedly committed the act against the girl who was 12 years and four months old at the time for sexual purposes inside the lift at a condominium in Taman Danau Desa, between 6.30 pm and 6.50 pm on April 1. The charge was brought under Section 15(a)(i) of the Sexual Offences Against Children Act 2017, which carries a maximum sentence of 10 years' imprisonment, a fine not exceeding RM20,000, or both, upon conviction. Deputy Public Prosecutor V. Suloshani proposed bail at RM10,000 with one surety, along with additional conditions requiring the accused to surrender his passport to the court and report to a police station near his residence once a month. The prosecution also requested that the accused be prohibited from disturbing the victim or any prosecution witnesses until the conclusion of the case. Muhammad Aniq, who was unrepresented by counsel, appealed for the bail amount to be reduced, citing his occupation as a construction worker. The court granted bail at RM9,000 with one surety, subject to the additional conditions requested by the prosecution and set November 30 for the mention of the case, to allow for the appointment of legal counsel. — Bernama

Jobless man freed from drug charges without defence called

KOTA KINABALU: The Sessions Court here yesterday discharged and acquitted an unemployed man from four charges of possessing drugs. Judge Amir Shah Amir Hassan freed Victor Chin, 25, without calling for his defence after ruling that the prosecution had failed to establish a prima facie case. Chin was charged under Section 12(2) of the Dangerous Drugs Act 1952, punishable under Section 39A(2) of the same Act, with four counts of possessing 41.10g of ecstasy, 4.20g of methamphetamine, 135.20g of ketamine, and 0.10g of ecstasy, respectively. He allegedly committed the offences in Penampang on May 27, 2024. The trial began on April 9 this year with the prosecution calling eight witnesses to testify. The prosecution closed its case on July 24. Deputy public prosecutor Nurul Shafeerah Mad Iskim prosecuted, while Chin was represented by lawyer Luke Ressa Balang.

Administrative assistant claims trial to using forged quotation documents

KUALA TERENGGANU: An administrative assistant pleaded not guilty in the Sessions Court on Tuesday to 15 charges of using forged quotation documents involving more than RM14,000 for the supply of food and beverages, meeting equipment and building maintenance work between 2020 and 2023. Mohamad Afif Md Noor, 37, attached to the Kemaman branch of the Rubber Industry Smallholders Development Authority (RISDA), entered the plea after all 15 charges were read to him before Judge Azman Mustapha. According to the charges, the accused allegedly used forged quotation documents as genuine in applications for the provision of lunch and refreshments, the

EAIC urge KDN to provide bodycam for AADK officers

PUTRAJAYA: The Enforcement Agency Integrity Commission (EAIC) has recommended that the Ministry of Home Affairs (KDN) prioritise the supply of body-worn cameras for officers and personnel of the National Anti-Drug Agency (AADK) who conduct field operations. The recommendation was made following an EAIC investigation into a complaint regarding allegations of violence and misconduct by officers of the Bera District AADK during a suspect-tracking operation on Oct 13 last year in Bera, Pahang. The EAIC stated in a release on Tuesday that investigations found negligence in tactical raid management and non-compliance with standard operating procedures by the Bera AADK Operations Team, which triggered panic and a scuffle resulting in injuries to civilians or third parties at the location of the raid. According to the EAIC, the investigation under subsection 27(4) of the Enforcement Agency Integrity Commission Act 2009 also revealed a failure to record the scuffle or injuries in Pocket Books, alongside a failure to supervise and carry out photographic recordings throughout the operation. "Allegations regarding the existence of intimidation by Bera AADK officers concerning a prohibition on disclosing

the incident to outside parties could not be substantiated," the statement read. Consequently, the EAIC announced that the investigation findings were referred to the AADK Disciplinary Authority with recommendations for disciplinary penalties under the Public Officers (Conduct and Discipline) Regulations 1993 against the officers involved for negligence in carrying out duties and insubordination. AADK was also advised to establish guidelines regarding risk level assessments during operations and to update the Director General's Standing Orders (PTKP) Chapter 02/2025 (2026 Amendment), particularly concerning identification procedures and lighting at raid locations. In addition, AADK was advised to ensure that the supply and maintenance of Pocket Books is made mandatory for all enforcement officers and personnel assigned to the field without exception, alongside the requirement to record injuries in these books. "The EAIC remains committed to ensuring that the integrity and professionalism of the enforcement agencies under its oversight are continuously strengthened in the public interest," the statement added. — Bernama

supply of meeting equipment and maintenance work at the RISDA Kemaman office. The offences were allegedly committed at the RISDA Kemaman District office between December 2020 and January 2023. All the charges were framed under Section 471 of the Penal Code and are punishable under Section 465 of the same Code, which provides for imprisonment of up to two years, a fine or both, upon conviction. Malaysian Anti-Corruption Commission (MACC) Deputy Public Prosecutor Nur Amalina Najwa Mohd Ali appeared for the prosecution, while lawyer Marlisa Marzuki represented the accused. Earlier, Nur Amalina Najwa

proposed bail of RM15,000, with additional conditions that the accused surrender his passport to the court, report to the MACC office monthly and refrain from interfering with prosecution witnesses. However, Marlisa appealed for a lower bail amount, saying her client has hypertension and supports his wife and father-in-law, who has dementia and requires full-time care. Azman allowed bail of RM6,000 with one surety and ordered the accused to surrender his passport to the court, report to the MACC office monthly and refrain from interfering with prosecution witnesses. The court fixed Nov 24 for the submission of documents. - Bernama



Chan Huann Heng (left) at the Shah Alam Sessions Court on Tuesday. — Bernama photo

Businessman charged with cheating man over durian orchard deal

SHAH ALAM: A businessman pleaded not guilty at the Sessions Court on Tuesday to cheating a man of RM1.65 million in a deal to purchase a durian orchard in Raub in February 2024. Chan Huann Heng, 58, was charged with deceiving the 66-year-old victim into transferring RM1.65 million from a company account through an invoice for the purchase of the orchard. The offence was allegedly

committed at a clubhouse in Jalan Kelab Tropicana, Petaling district, on Feb 5, 2024, under Section 420 of the Penal Code (Act 574). If convicted, Chan, a chief executive officer of a vegetable import and export company faces up to 10 years' imprisonment, whipping and a fine. Malaysian Anti-Corruption Commission (MACC) deputy public prosecutor Muaz Ahmad Khairuddin proposed bail of

RM100,000 with one surety, citing the substantial amount involved. However, defence counsel Dhanesh Subramaniam Nair sought a reduction in bail, saying his client's business had been affected by the case and that he had cooperated with investigators. Judge Dazuki Ali granted bail of RM80,000 with one local surety and fixed Nov 30 for mention. — Bernama

Tawau water treatment plant resumes operations in stages

TAWAU: The Utara Water Treatment Plant (LRA) here began operations in stages on Monday following an improvement in raw water quality.

The Tawau Water Department said that the plant's operations and water supply situation would be monitored from time to time.

"Consumers are advised to use water prudently while restoration efforts continue. Water supply may take time to stabilise, depending on the distribution system and the respective areas," it said in a post on Facebook on Tuesday.

The department also apologised for the inconvenience caused

and thanked consumers for their patience and cooperation.

Meanwhile, Sabah Youth Development, Sports Advancement and Creative Economy Minister Datuk Nizam Abu Bakar Titingan said Sabah Public Works and Utilities Ministry permanent secretary Datuk Ridhwan Linus had visited the Utara Water Treatment Plant to assess the current situation and receive a detailed briefing on the water supply disruption in the affected areas.

"The visit reflects the Sabah government's commitment and determination to ensure that water supply issues are given serious attention and addressed through more

efficient, systematic and effective coordination.

"I was also informed that the Sabah Water Department will increase the number of water tankers to strengthen water delivery operations to residents in affected areas. Hopefully, this will ease the public's difficulties while more comprehensive solutions are being implemented," he said in a statement.

Nizam, who is also Apas state assemblyman, said close cooperation among ministries, departments and related agencies was crucial to ensuring all measures could be carried out promptly and orderly, with a positive impact on community well-being.

"It is my sincere hope that these efforts and follow-up measures will accelerate the resolution of the water supply issue in Tawau, for the comfort and well-being of all its residents," he added.

On Wednesday (Oct 21), Chief Minister Datuk Seri Hajiji Noor directed that immediate action be taken to assist affected residents after the water supply problem in Tawau was raised at the Sabah Cabinet meeting.

The water shortage in Tawau over the past two weeks was caused by dry weather and low rainfall, as well as raw water contamination that disrupted the plant's operations. — Bernama



(From second left) Saat, Masidi and other officials gather for a group photo.

Masidi lauds KOPEKS for efforts to expand govt outreach

KOTA KINABALU: Sabah Deputy Chief Minister II cum Finance Minister Datuk Seri Panglima Masidi Manjun received a copy of Kinabalu Media, which is published by Koperasi Pekerja-Pekerja Kerajaan Sabah Berhad (KOPEKS), from its chairman, Datuk Dr Saat Ag Damit at his office here.

Masidi expressed his appreciation to KOPEKS for the recent meeting and its efforts to publish Kinabalu Media as a platform to

disseminate information on state government policies and initiatives to the people of Sabah.

Meanwhile, Saat thanked Masidi for his suggestions and advice provided in strengthening KOPEKS' growth and development plans.

KOPEKS also extended its appreciation to the Sabah government for its support in helping the cooperative boost its role in promoting the welfare of its members.

Strengthen GRS with more women leaders — Azizah

KOTA KINABALU: Gabungan Rakyat Sabah (GRS) Women chief Datuk Seri Panglima Azizah Mohd Dun has called for more women to be given leadership roles within the coalition to build a stronger and more inclusive organisation.

She said closer cooperation among women leaders and continued engagement with grassroots communities was crucial to ensuring the coalition's efforts remained effective and responsive to the people's needs.

"Efforts to engage with the grassroots must continue so that the voices, needs and aspirations of the community can be better understood.

"Women on the ground play a role in connecting party leadership with the community," she said after receiving a courtesy call from the Women



Azizah (seated) with the Gagasan Rakyat Wanita and GRS Wanita team members during the courtesy visit.

Wing of Parti Gagasan Rakyat Sabah (Gagasan Rakyat).

She said greater female representation in leadership would bring diverse perspectives and experiences to decision-making, while strengthening the coalition at all levels.

"The role of women must be strengthened at all levels to help build a stronger and more inclusive GRS," she said.

Also present were Gagasan Rakyat Wanita chief Datuk Redonah Bahanda, assistant secretary Fahzean Mohiddin,

treasurer Salmi Sarinoh, information chief Senator Datuk Anna Bell Perian and deputy information chief Julia Ahmad Bahrom as well as GRS Wanita secretary Salmah Sait and information chief Datin Atin Belinda.

Unregistered cosmetics, counterfeit goods worth over RM765,000 seized

KUALA LUMPUR: The Wildlife Crime Bureau/Special Investigation Intelligence (WCB/PSK) unit of Bukit Aman's Internal Security and Public Order Department seized unregistered health and cosmetic products alongside suspected counterfeit branded goods worth RM765,750 during a raid on a courier company's premises on Tuesday morning.

WCB/PSK commander Datuk Mohd Zaki Ashar said the 10.50 am raid was carried out jointly with the Health Ministry's (MOH) Pharmacy Enforcement Division and the Ministry of Domestic Trade and Cost of Living (KPDN).

He said the integrated operation resulted in the seizure of 9,257 units of health products, cosmetics, and branded goods suspected of violating statutory regulations.

"The courier and logistics company's premises was suspected of being used as a storage and distribution hub for health products, cosmetics, and branded goods believed not to comply with legal requirements.

"Two foreign men, aged 23 and 29, believed to be working as packers at the premises, were also detained on suspicion of committing immigration offences," he said in a statement.

Mohd Zaki said further inspection uncovered 9,130 units of various brands of health and cosmetic products suspected of not being registered with MOH, as well as 127 branded items suspected of bearing counterfeit trademarks.

"Of the total seizure, the health and cosmetic products, valued at an estimated RM734,000, were acted upon by MOH's Pharmacy Enforcement Division, while the suspected counterfeit goods, valued at RM31,750, were seized by KPDN.

"The case is being investigated under Regulation 7(1)(a) and Regulation 18A of the Control of Drugs and Cosmetics Regulations 1984, as well as Section 102 of the Trademarks Act 2019, while the two foreign nationals are being investigated under Section 6(1)(c) of the Immigration Act 1959/63," he said. — Bernama



Koh acknowledges the delegates during the AGM.

Veteran figure Koh Piaw Peng elected to Warisan's Supreme Council

KENINGAU: Veteran Keningau figure Koh Piaw Peng has been elected to Parti Warisan's Supreme Council in his first attempt, securing 206 votes.

His victory makes him one of only two representatives from Sabah's interior to win a seat on the party's top leadership body.

Koh's election also reflects support from party delegates, particularly those from Keningau. He was previously elected unopposed as Warisan Keningau division chief.

Meanwhile, Mudi Dubing from Pensiangan retained his Supreme Council seat with 336 votes, the

third-highest tally overall.

Three other candidates from the interior failed to secure seats namely Adzhar Jasni @ Eddy, Datuk Ahmad Shah Hussein Tambakau, who failed to retain his position, and Burnley Balang from Tenom.

Adzhar and Burnley had previously contested in state elections.

In his speech, Warisan president Datuk Seri Panglima Mohd Shafie Appdal congratulated the successful candidates and urged the new leadership to strengthen the party, particularly in Sabah's rural and interior areas.

MoH urged to address staffing woes at Ranau Hospital

KOTA KINABALU: An urgent call has been made for the Health Ministry (MoH) to address the critical staff shortage at Ranau Hospital.

According to Parti Kerjasama Anak Negeri president Datuk Henrynus Amin, the doctors are reportedly working 48 to 72 hours without a day off in a month, handling more than 50 patients daily, and also covering the understaffed Emergency Department.

"The situation at Ranau Hospital is no longer just an administrative failure; it is an active humanitarian crisis for both our frontline doctors and the people of Ranau," said the former MP in a statement yesterday.

Henrynus said the hospital had an approved allocation of 16 medical officer positions, but it was reported that only eight doctors were physically available for duty.

He questioned whether the officers on full-pay study leave or awaiting replacement following transfers were still being counted as active staff.

He urged the MoH and Sabah Health Department to clarify the hospital's actual staffing numbers and deploy relief medical officers to ease the workload and ensure safe shift rotations.

He also called for proper rest-rooms and adequate food and beverage facilities for doctors working in the extended shifts.

"I propose an automatic replacement mechanism for district hospitals whenever medical officers take leave for extended study or training.

"Our young doctors enter the medical profession to serve the community, not to be broken by administrative neglect and substandard facilities," said Henrynus, urging the authorities to act swiftly to protect staff welfare and patient safety.



Thomas (third left) and others pose for a photo call during the visit.

SESB urged to resolve power supply issues in Liawan

KENINGAU: Three kapitans have urged Sabah Electricity Sdn Bhd (SESB) to address unstable electricity supply and insufficient capacity affecting seven residential areas in the Liawan constituency.

The delegation, led by Kapitan Lin Ten Kin @ Thomas Liew and accompanied by Kapitan Fang Hui Min and Kapitan Foh Su Ming, raised the issue during a recent courtesy visit to the SESB Keningau branch.

Thomas said the visit followed repeated complaints from residents of Jalan Biriawa, Jalan Bariawa Ulu Bukit Permai, Taman Adika Phases 11 and 12, Kampung Keningau, Taman Anika and Jalan Masak.

He said electricity supply in Kampung Bariawa Ulu Bukit Permai was insufficient, causing voltage drops and unstable loads when residents used refrigerators and freezers simultaneously.

"This has been going on for a long time," he said.

He urged SESB to carry out immediate improvements and implement permanent solutions, including upgrading substations and cables and balancing electrical loads to meet the growing number of homes.

The SESB Keningau branch assured the delegation that it would look into the complaints and conduct follow-up action on the ground.

Median monthly wage rises to RM3,000, Sabah RM2,045

PUTRAJAYA: Malaysia’s median monthly wage for formal sector employees rose 4.8 per cent to RM3,000 in June 2026, but a significant income gap persists between the country’s highest- and lowest-paid workers, according to the Employee Wages Statistics (Formal Sector) Report for the Second Quarter of 2026, released by the Department of Statistics Malaysia (DOSM).

DOSM said that the top 10 per cent of formal sector employees earned at least RM9,600 a month, while those in the bottom 10 per cent earned RM1,700 or less.

“Therefore, employees in the 90th percentile earned more than five times the wages of those in the lowest-wage group, underscoring the gap in monthly wages between the highest and lowest earners,” it said in a statement on Tuesday.

DOSM said the number of Malaysian formal sector employees increased 3.3 per cent to 7.20 million in June 2026 from 6.97 million a year earlier.

Despite the overall improvement, DOSM said wage

disparities remained evident across states, economic sectors and age groups, with Kuala Lumpur recording the highest median monthly wage at RM4,245, followed by Selangor (RM3,245) and Penang (RM3,000). Meanwhile, the lowest median monthly wages were recorded in Kelantan (RM1,827), Perlis (RM1,864) and Sabah (RM2,045).

By economic activity, the mining and quarrying sector recorded the highest median monthly wage at RM6,722, although it accounted for only 0.5 per cent of total formal sector employment.

“On the other hand, the agriculture sector, which accounted for 1.8 per cent of total formal employees, reported the lowest median monthly wage at RM2,282 during the same period,” it said.

In terms of gender, DOSM said male employees, who made up 55.1 per cent or 3.97 million of the formal workforce, earned a median monthly wage of RM3,000. However, female employees, accounting for 44.9

per cent or 3.23 million workers, received a slightly lower median monthly wage of RM2,964.

Meanwhile, employees aged between 45 and 49 continued to earn the highest median monthly wages throughout the second quarter, recording RM4,000 in April and RM3,945 in both May and June.

DOSM said those aged between 50 and 54 registered the highest year-on-year increase in median monthly wages, while employees below 20 years old saw their median wage remain unchanged at RM1,700 since February 2025.

On a positive note, DOSM said the proportion of Malaysian formal sector employees earning below RM1,700 a month declined to 8.2 per cent in June 2026 from 10.4 per cent in the corresponding month last year, a reduction of 2.2 percentage points.

Overall, DOSM said Malaysia’s formal labour market remained stable and resilient in the second quarter of 2026, supported by continued growth in formal employment and median monthly wages. — Bernama

AI investment in Sarawak set to benefit Sabah — Mustapha

KUALA LUMPUR: An investment worth US\$50 billion (RM204 billion) in the artificial intelligence (AI) sector in Sarawak is expected to serve as a new catalyst for economic growth in the Borneo region, particularly through the creation of high-skilled job opportunities and broader economic spillover effects.

Minister in the Prime Minister’s Department (Sabah and Sarawak Affairs) Datuk Mustapha Sakmud said this development reflects the ongoing efforts of the federal government, under the leadership of Prime Minister Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim, to showcase the potential of both states on the international stage.

“We highly welcome Sarawak’s involvement in the field of AI, as it will not only boost the state’s economy and create career opportunities for locals, but the spillover benefits will also be enjoyed by Sabah.

“Wherever the Prime Minister goes on the international stage, he consistently highlights the potential of both these states,” he

said when met after appearing as a guest on the programme *The Nation*, produced by Bernama TV, at Wisma Bernama on Tuesday.

Last Sunday, while speaking at the *Sentuhan Kasih MADANI* programme and the launch of the National Cost of Living Action Plan 2030 (NCLAP30) in Melaka, Anwar said a global investor intends to invest US\$50 billion in AI, new technologies, and data centres across Sarawak and the Peninsula.

He noted that investments in these technology sectors have the potential to create new, better job opportunities for the people particularly the younger generation, including students in schools and higher education institutions.

In a related development, Sarawak Premier Tan Sri Abang Johari Abang Openg said on Monday that the state government is prepared to welcome the investment, while ensuring that all plans are executed in line Sarawak’s development priorities.

Meanwhile, commenting on the government’s measures to prevent the recurrence of “stalled” (or “sick”) projects and delays in the implementation of development projects in Sabah, Mustapha said the government would strengthen project management to ensure that the RM18.7 billion allocation truly benefits the people.

According to him, the government must learn from the observations raised in the Auditor-General’s Report, particularly concerning site preparation, utility management, and project execution.

“We must learn from the audit observations that have been made recently and reported,” he said.

He added that weaknesses in project management are often among the factors that contribute to implementation delays and cost increases.

In this regard, he emphasised that the improvement of project management must consistently remain a priority for all parties involved. — Bernama

JKR Sabah, IEM promote better road quality through technical seminar

KOTA KINABALU: Approximately 70 participants from JKR Sabah, the Institution of Engineers Malaysia (IEM) Sabah Branch, local council engineers, engineering consultants and contractors attended the “Building Better Roads: From Construction to Long-Term Pavement Performance” technical seminar at Institut Latihan Jabatan Kerja Raya Sabah, Kepayan on Tuesday.

The seminar was jointly organised by JKR Sabah, IEM Sabah Branch, the Pavement Knowledge Sharing Community (PKSC) and KBC. Ir Siti Alessa, Assistant Director, represented JKR Sabah, while Datuk Ir Willy Chin, Past Chairman, represented IEM Sabah Branch.

The seminar featured three speakers: Ir Lee Chee Mun, Christophe Duboscq and Dr Hideto Harai. Key topics included pavement engineering best practices, International Roughness Index (IRI) assessment, performance-

based materials and sustainable asphalt production.

The presentations highlighted the importance of construction quality control, appropriate material selection, pavement-condition monitoring and effective maintenance in delivering safer, more durable roads.

JKR Sabah’s participation connected the technical discussions with public-sector road infrastructure needs, while IEM Sabah Branch promoted professional knowledge sharing among engineering practitioners.

Commenting on the importance of the seminar, IEM Sabah Branch chairman Ir Ts Tan KJ, JP, said continuous technical learning and collaboration are essential to improving road quality and extending pavement service life.

“By applying sound engineering practices and innovative solutions, we can support Sabah’s infrastructure development and deliver greater long-term value to the public,”

he added.

The seminar’s focus on road quality and long-term pavement performance aligns with the aspirations of Sabah Maju Jaya (SMJ) 2.0. Reliable roads strengthen connectivity, facilitate the movement of people and goods, support economic activities and improve access to essential services.

Applying sound engineering practices and effective maintenance planning can extend pavement service life and maximise the value of public investment.

The seminar reinforced the importance of translating technical knowledge into practical improvements for Sabah’s road infrastructure.

Through continued professional development and the application of engineering best practices, JKR Sabah, IEM Sabah Branch and industry stakeholders can contribute to safer roads, longer-lasting pavements and more sustainable infrastructure for Sabah.



The participants at the seminar.

Filipino man found dead after falling from vessel in Kudat

KOTA KINABALU: A Filipino man in his 20s was found dead on Tuesday after he was believed to have fallen into the sea from an anchored vessel at the Ko-Nelayan Jetty in Kudat on Monday night.

The victim was found by local fishermen near the scene at 10.20 am on the second day of the search and rescue (SAR) operation.

The Sabah Fire and Rescue Department (JBPM) said in a statement that a medical

officer confirmed the man dead at 10.30 am, and the body was subsequently handed over to the police for further action.

According to the department, the Kudat Fire and Rescue Station was alerted to the incident after receiving a call from the Kudat police station at 10.37 pm Monday.

A friend of the victim who witnessed the incident dived into the water around the jetty in an attempt to locate him, but was unsuccessful. Firefighters and

police then conducted a surface search in the surrounding area.

The operation was suspended at 11.10 pm due to darkness and resumed at 9.20 am Tuesday using a fire rescue boat.

The search involved 14 personnel from the Kudat Fire and Rescue Station and the Kudat Zone Water Rescue Unit (PPDA), assisted by the police, the Malaysian Maritime Enforcement Agency (MMEA), and the Malaysian Civil Defence Force (APM). — Bernama

JCI Keningau Baru shines, earns national recognition

Mariah Doksil

KENINGAU: JCI Keningau Baru has been named the 2026 JCI Malaysia Most Outstanding New Local Organisation at its first JCI Malaysia National Convention since affiliation.

In a statement, the organisation described the achievement as an important milestone in its efforts to develop young leaders and create a meaningful impact in the Keningau community.

The award recognises its progress in membership development, organisational management and community initiatives, including Protect the Pulse, which earned a place in the JCI Malaysia Impact Gallery Wall of Fame.

JCI Keningau Baru also secured nine recognitions across national and Area Sabah awards, reflecting its performance in organisational management, innovation, recruitment and community engagement.

Among the honours were ‘Super Efficient Local Organisation Management’, ‘Innovation Local Organization, Top Recruitment Award’ and ‘Outstanding



JCI Keningau Baru team members pose with their awards.

Impactful Project for What Is My Government Doing?’. The organisation also celebrated Addam Pan Chen Yang, who emerged second runner-up in the Malay Public Speaking Competition, underscoring its commitment to nurturing confident communicators and providing young people with opportunities to develop their skills beyond the local community.

Meanwhile, Adoria Tan Xin Lin

was named Top Recruiter under the Area Sabah Incentive Awards for the second quarter.

The organisation attributed its achievements to the collective efforts of its members, as well as the support of community partners, sponsors and supporters who share its belief in the potential of young people to make a difference.

It also extended its appreciation to JCI Sibu, the host local organisation, for delivering a

memorable national convention experience.

Moving forward, JCI Keningau Baru aims to expand its reach and encourage more young people in the district to participate in leadership development and community service.

The organisation is inviting Keningau youths to join its growing network and contribute to the district’s future through meaningful initiatives and community action.

St Mary Bingkor Basic Christian Community celebrates 25th anniversary

BINGKOR: The Basic Christian Community (BCC) under the St Mary Bingkor Christian Community Area celebrated its 25th anniversary alongside the feast of its patron saint St John the Baptist recently.

The celebration was held at the Our Lady of Lourdes Open Hall at St Mary Church, Bingkor and featured a thanksgiving Mass celebrated by Rev Fr Brywin Edren Godon.

The Mass carried the theme ‘The People of God Walking Together in Unity, Faithfulness and the Holiness of Jesus Christ’.

Also present was Assistant

Finance Minister and Bingkor assemblyman Datuk Mohd Ishak Ayub.

His attendance reflected the spirit of unity and harmony among the local community, demonstrating that differences in faith need not hinder the close ties and sense of family among residents. The Silver Jubilee celebration brought together members from across the St Mary Bingkor Christian Community Area, reaffirming their unity in faith and the community’s commitment to strengthening family values and promoting positive values in society.



Mohd Ishak (fourth left) joins in the cake cutting during the 25th anniversary celebration.

‘Explain, probe cancellations of devt projects in Borneo’

KOTA KINABALU: PAS Sabah has called for a thorough investigation into the cancellation of projects in Sabah and Sarawak, urging the government to disclose the reasons for the decisions and identify those responsible.

PAS Sabah Commissioner Datuk Dr Aliakbar Gulasan

said any cancellation made unfairly and without reasonable justification could amount to discrimination against the two states.

“Sabah and Saraw ak are not second-class states within the Federation of Malaysia.

“The people of Borneo are entitled to fair and equitable

development,” he said in a statement on Tuesday.

Aliakbar, who is also Karambunai assemblyman, called on the government to investigate the reasons for the cancellations and the decision-making process, including disclosing the individuals or parties involved.

He said the government should not hide behind bureaucratic explanations and must openly clarify whether the cancellations were due to technical or financial considerations.

“If there were elements of favouritism, discrimination or abuse of power, firm action must be taken based on the findings

of the investigation,” he said.

Aliakbar emphasised that development was the government’s responsibility and that every cancelled project could directly affect the people’s livelihoods, basic amenities and the future of coming generations.

He said the issue was not

about state sentiment but about ensuring justice and equal development opportunities for Sabah and Sarawak.

“Do not let Sabah and Sarawak be remembered only when they are needed, but sidelined when decisions concerning their development rights are made,” he said.

Sarawak DUN sends notice of dissolution to Election Commission



KUCHING: The State Legislative Assembly (DUN) yesterday sent out a letter of notification of its dissolution to the Election Commission (EC).

DUN Speaker Tan Sri Datuk Amar Mohamad Asfia Awang Nassar said the EC is now expected to fix key dates for the 13th Sarawak state election.

"In this regard, I have informed the chairman of the Election Commission of Malaysia, Datuk Seri Ramlan Harun, that the DUN was dissolved on Oct 26.

"My letter is dated today, Oct 27, and we have sent it to the chairman of the EC," he told a press conference.

Mohamad Asfia said earlier Sarawak Governor Tun Pehin Sri Dr Wan Junaidi Tuanku Jaafar had exercised his powers under Article 21(2) of the Constitution of the State of Sarawak to dissolve the 19th DUN effective Oct 26.

"With the said dissolution, all proceedings of the current state assembly have concluded, paving the way for the state democratic process to take its course," he said.

He explained that following the dissolution, the EC will issue a Writ of Election and publish a Notice of Election in the government gazette.



Mohamad Asfia shows the letter of notification of the DUN's dissolution, flanked by Nur Azhar (left) and Abang Mohammad Adib. — Photo by Roystein Emmor

From this point, he said the EC assumes full responsibility for administering the state election, including announcing the specific dates for Nomination Day and Polling Day.

Under Regulation 3(1) of the Elections (Conduct of Elections) Regulations 1981, Nomination Day must be set no less than four days after the Notice of Election is published, whereas Polling Day must be scheduled no less than 11 days after Nomination Day, guaranteeing a minimum campaign period of 11 days for all candidates, he said.

"In strict accordance with Article 21(4) of the Constitution of the State of Sarawak, a general

election must be held within 60 days from the date of the dissolution.

"Once the voters of Sarawak have cast their ballots and the returning officers have declared the winning candidates, the official election results will be gazetted," he added.

Under Article 21(4) of the Sarawak State Constitution, the new DUN must be summoned by the Governor to convene for their first meeting no later than 120 days from the date of the dissolution, said Mohamad Asfia.

He also pointed out that the proposed creation of 17 new DUN seats, which required finalisation processes, have yet

to be completed by the EC and would therefore not be utilised in the upcoming election.

"For the Sarawak state election, only the 82 existing seats will be contested. Unfortunately, the 17 additional seats approved by the DUN on July 7, 2025, cannot be used in this election because there is insufficient time to implement them."

Mohamad Asfia said in Sarawak there is no need for the DUN Speaker to also be an elected representative.

However, the former Semop assemblyman said if he were to be nominated again by Parti Pesaka Bumiputera Bersatu (PBB) as a candidate in the next state election, he would not hesitate to comply.

On another matter, Mohamad Asfia said the names of any candidate's proposer and seconder must be in the electoral roll.

"If the names of the proposer and seconder do not appear on the electoral roll of that particular constituency, their nomination papers will be rejected.

"The proposer and seconder must be registered electors in that particular constituency where their names appear in the electoral roll. If their names do not appear, they should not be the one nominating and supporting the candidacy of that person," he stressed.

Also present at the press conference were DUN Secretary Nur Azhar Bujang and acting Deputy DUN Secretary Abang Mohammad Adib Abang Sallehadin.

EC to meet Nov 6 to set key dates for Sarawak polls

KUCHING: The Election Commission (EC) will hold a special meeting on Nov 6 to determine key dates for the 13th Sarawak Election following the dissolution of the 19th State Legislative Assembly (DUN) on Oct 26.

EC secretary Datuk Khairul Shahril Idrus said the commission had officially received notification of the dissolution from DUN Speaker Tan Sri Datuk Amar Mohamad Asfia Awang Nassar through a letter dated Oct 27.

"In addition to the key dates, the special meeting, which will be chaired by EC chairman Datuk Seri Ramlan Harun, will also discuss the issuance of the election writ, nomination day, and polling day, as well as the electoral roll to be used and other preparations for the election.

"A press conference will also be held immediately after the meeting concludes," he said in a statement.

Khairul Shahril said following the dissolution, which was in accordance with Article 21(2) of the Sarawak State Constitution, an election must be held within 60 days of the dissolution under Article 21(4).

Earlier, Mohamad Asfia told a press conference here that the DUN had sent out a letter of notification of its dissolution to the EC after which the commission is expected to fix the key dates for the state election.

He said following the dissolution, all proceedings of

the current state assembly have concluded, paving the way for the democratic process to take its course.

He also said that from this point, the EC assumes full responsibility for administering the state election, including announcing the specific dates for Nomination Day and Polling Day.

Meanwhile, Khairul Shahril said applications for postal voting for the 13th Sarawak Election are now open for eligible voters, including media personnel and Malaysians residing overseas.

He said applications for all three categories of postal voting opened on Oct 26.

"Category 1A covers police and military personnel, election workers, EC members and officers, as well as media personnel while Category 1B is for Malaysian citizens residing overseas.

"For agencies and organisations, they fall under Category 1C," he said, adding that all applications must be submitted online via the MySPR portal at <https://myspr.spr.gov.my>.

"Eligible voters who wish to vote by post must first register for a MySPR account or ensure they already have one before submitting their applications," he said.

He said the closing date for postal voting applications for all categories would be announced later.

For enquiries, the public may contact the EC on 03-88927080 or email upup@spr.gov.my.

Russia keen on sharing aerospace devt expertise with Sarawak

KUCHING: Russia is ready to share its expertise with Sarawak in aerospace development, including the construction of rocket launch facilities and satellite manufacturing, said Russian Ambassador to Malaysia Naiyl M. Latypov.

He said Sarawak had potential locations for a rocket launch centre, although developing such facilities would require supporting infrastructure, technical expertise and a trained local workforce.

"I hope this cooperation will benefit both parties, as we can share our experience in building rocket launch sites.

"We are also ready to cooperate in satellite production and construction, as well as capacity building," he said, according to a Sarawak Public Communications Unit report.

He said this after paying a courtesy call on caretaker Premier Datuk Patinggi Tan Sri Abang Johari Tun Openg at the Satria Pertiwi Complex here yesterday.

Latypov said the proposed cooperation could also be extended to i-CATS University, particularly in education and training related to the aerospace industry.

"We are ready to offer Malaysian students opportunities to pursue their studies in Russia and hope to meet with i-CATS University to identify potential areas of cooperation in capacity building.

"We have experience working with UniKL MIAT and hope similar cooperation can be extended to i-CATS University or other universities," he said.

He added that further discussions between experts from both countries would be necessary to translate the proposed areas of cooperation into concrete follow-up actions.

Latypov also said Russia was keen to explore collaboration with Sarawak in agriculture, particularly in rice cultivation technology, agricultural research and animal feed production.

He said Sarawak's expertise

and technological capabilities in these areas could pave the way for knowledge exchange and joint research initiatives to boost agricultural productivity.

"We are very interested in Sarawak's experience and capabilities in veterinary science, particularly in animal feed production, including the methods used to produce it and the types of medicines that can be developed for animals.

"We are also interested in Sarawak's technology and knowledge in rice cultivation," he said.

He noted that despite Russia being widely associated with a cold climate, its vast geographical expanse encompassed regions with varying climatic conditions, including areas suitable for rice cultivation.

As such, he said Sarawak's experience and technological know-how could provide opportunities for cooperation through the exchange of expertise and collaborative research to improve agricultural yields.

Sibu Hospital expands specialist services for regional status

SIBU: Sibu Hospital is working towards becoming a regional hospital with more specialised services for patients across central Sarawak, its director Dr Nanthakumar Thirunavukkarasu said.

He said the state's second-largest hospital had expanded its specialist services from 18 to 19 to nearly 28 over the past six years, alongside improvements to its infrastructure and facilities.

Dr Nanthakumar said he had been advocating for Sibu to become a regional hospital for the past six years.

"That means we are equipped as well as SGH (Sarawak General Hospital). So that's what has been happening for the last six years. We have transformed a lot. We have improved a lot of infrastructure development. At the beginning, we only had 18 to 19 specialisations.

"Over the last six years, we have developed to almost 28 specialisations. That means we have various specialties, not just the core ones. The core specialties include radiology, medical, surgical and orthopaedic services.

"Now we have rheumatology and dermatology," he said at the presentation ceremony of three

Hillrom Centuris electric beds for the hospital's Neurosurgery Department yesterday.

The beds were donated by TAS Offshore Sdn Bhd and Hartanah Kenyalang Bhd, with the donation coordinated by the Sarawak Heart Foundation.

Dr Nanthakumar said Sibu Hospital served a wide area stretching from Bintulu and Kapit to Belaga and Saratok, making access to specialised treatment in Sibu important for patients who faced difficulties travelling to Kuching.

"Sending them from here to Kuching is also another big challenge. So you only have a fraction of patients going to Kuching. Most of them either refuse or tend to stay here," he said.

He said improving facilities and equipment was significant to support specialists and provide better patient care.

He pointed out that timely treatment was particularly crucial in neurosurgery especially for patients with traumatic brain injuries or bleeding in the brain.

According to him, the hospital has upgraded 10 beds to provide high-dependency care, with appropriate power outlets and backup switches to support

patients requiring closer monitoring.

The three donated electric beds would improve comfort and care for patients who were bedridden or had difficulty moving independently, he said.

"The hospital had also completed its neuro-intensive care unit over the past year, with nurses undergoing specialised training to support the service," he added.

Meanwhile, Neurosurgery Department head Dr Nelson Yap said the department, established in 2013, had performed nearly 6,000 surgeries and handled about 500 to 600 elective and emergency cases annually.

He said the department had helped reduce the need to transfer patients to Kuching for treatment, saving the government an estimated RM60 million in medical evacuation costs alone.

He said at least half of the patients would otherwise require medical evacuation, with each transfer costing at least RM20,000.

"We treat a wide range of conditions, including brain and spinal tumours, spinal trauma, aneurysms and other neurovascular diseases.



See (second right) hands over his membership form to Chen. Also seen are Dr Sim (right) and Ting.

Batu Lintang incumbent See Chee How applies to join SUPP

KUCHING: Batu Lintang incumbent See Chee How yesterday submitted his application to join the Sarawak United People's Party (SUPP), a day after the dissolution of the State Legislative Assembly (DUN).

His application form was submitted to SUPP central organising secretary Datuk Matthew Chen, witnessed by party president Datuk Amar Dr Sim Kui Hian and secretary-general Datuk Sebastian Ting.

See's move indicates the likelihood of him representing SUPP to defend the seat on a Gabungan Parti Sarawak (GPS) ticket.

He was first elected Batu Lintang assemblyman in the 2011 state election under Parti Keadilan Rakyat (PKR), and retained the seat in 2016.

He was sacked by PKR in April 2020 following disagreements within the party and went on to

join Parti Sarawak Bersatu (PSB) in May the same year.

See contested the 2021 state election on a PSB ticket and retained Batu Lintang with a narrow 93-vote majority, polling 4,420 votes against closest challenger Sih Hua Tong of GPS in a five-cornered fight.

The other three candidates were PKR's Cherishe Ng (1,823 votes), Parti Bumi Kenyalang's Voon Lee Shan (1,570 votes), and Parti Aspirasi's Leong Shaow Tung (187 votes).

See resigned from PSB in August 2022 and became an independent assemblyman up until the DUN's dissolution on Monday.

Meanwhile, SUPP headquarters in a statement said further details regarding the acceptance of See's membership would be provided in the coming days.

See is also expected to issue a full statement soon.

In January this year, Sih—currently SUPP Batu Lintang chairman—had expressed his desire for another shot at contesting the Batu Lintang seat in the coming state polls.

Speaking at the branch's 39th anniversary commemoration ceremony, he said he was prepared to continue shouldering the responsibility as long as he had the trust of the party and grassroots.

See and Sih have contested against each other in the last three state elections, with the former victorious each time albeit with his majority reducing each round—8,381 in 2011, 4,385 in 2016, and 93 in 2021.

It is worth noting that the voter turnout for Batu Lintang in the 2021 state election was 42.08 per cent, down from the over-60 per cent recorded in the two earlier polls, amid strict Covid-19 standard operating procedures at the time.

Pang: 2021's razor-thin majority constantly on my mind

BINTULU: Tanjong Batu incumbent Johnny Pang is well aware that his victory in the 2021 state election was down to a mere 23-vote majority.

He said the narrow win has been constantly on his mind during his time as the area's elected representative.

Pang, who is from Gabungan Parti Sarawak (GPS) component Sarawak United People's Party (SUPP), polled 4,092 votes against Democratic Action Party's (DAP) Chiew Chan Yew, who managed 4,069 votes.

His victory ended the DAP's 20-year hold on the seat.

"Twenty-three votes. A number I will never forget for the rest of my life," he said when reflecting on his five years in office.

"Behind every single vote was a precious trust that I could never afford to betray."

Recalling the closely fought election, Pang said his team began visiting communities three years earlier to introduce themselves, listen to residents, and understand their aspirations.

He said the slim majority reinforced his determination to fulfil his responsibilities and serve the people to the best of his abilities.

Over the past five years, Pang said his team has worked on issues involving roads, drainage, flood mitigation, water supply, schools, healthcare, community facilities, and places of worship.

Based on a preliminary compilation, he said his team has

helped coordinate and secure over RM100 million in development and community-related allocations for the constituency.

He said the team was active during Covid-19 relief efforts, distributing food and essential supplies to families and assisting healthcare workers during the vaccination programme.

The 2025 Bintulu floods were another defining experience, he said, as the team helped affected residents with flood relief and post-flood clean-up operations.

Pang thanked his team, government departments, community leaders, and residents for their support, while acknowledging that some projects remained ongoing and required further work.

Ballon d'Or crowns Putellas's return to top

LONDON: Alexia Putellas picked up her third Ballon d'Or in her new home city of London on Monday, crowning a spectacular return to the top of women's football after injury cut her down in her prime.

Putellas previously picked up the prize for the best player in the world in 2021 and 2022 as the creative heartbeat of an all-conquering Barcelona side.

But an anterior cruciate ligament tear just as she was preparing for Spain's bid to win Euro 2022 derailed her rise to global stardom.

Putellas recovered to play a bit part role in Spain's World Cup triumph a year later, but was overshadowed by team-mate Aitana Bonmati for both club and country as it took nearly two years to rediscover her best form. — AFP



Putellas poses with the Ballon d'Or Feminin award. — AFP photo

Kane beats Yamal to taste Ballon d'Or glory



Kane smiles after receiving the award. — AFP photo

LONDON: Harry Kane became England's first Ballon d'Or winner in 25 years in his native city of London on Monday, beating Lamine Yamal and Kylian Mbappe.

Alexia Putellas claimed the women's prize for a third time to extend Spain's domination of the award, thanks to her role in leading Barcelona to last season's Champions League before moving to London City Lionesses.

The first ever Ballon d'Or ceremony on English soil got off to an inauspicious start as the London traffic caused a delay of nearly an hour, with many of the star names arriving late.

But there was a happy ending for the hometown hero as Kane collected the crowning glory of his career to date, becoming the first Englishman to win the award since Michael Owen in 2001.

The 33-year-old Bayern Munich forward struck a remarkable 73 goals in 65 games for club and country last season, propelling the German giants to a league and cup double. He also scored six times as England finished third at the World Cup.

"I love to represent my country and to bring this trophy back to them and have an English winner I think is something that's really, really special, especially here in London," Kane told AFP. "What a crazy night and I'm really, really happy."

Despite being England and Tottenham's all-time record goalscorer, Kane's medal collection is limited to German domestic triumphs.

He was on the losing side for Spurs in the 2019 Champions League final against Liverpool and twice tasted bitter defeat in the final of the European Championship with England.

But joining Bayern in 2023 and his remarkable goalscoring consistency have earned him the highest individual award in football.

"Making the move to Bayern Munich was a big step in my career," Kane told AFP earlier. "Some people saw it as a risk but for me it was always about improving and seeing if I could get better around the team-mates, the team, the club and it has pushed me onto another level."

"Being a number nine for Bayern and England you are expected to score goals and to do that the number of times I did last year is something I'm really proud of," he added.

The winner in 2021 and 2022, Putellas's third Ballon d'Or caps her return to the top of the women's game after an anterior cruciate ligament injury derailed her rise four years ago.

Putellas succeeds Spain team-mate Aitana Bonmati, the winner the past three years whose season was quashed by a leg break.

"This is a consequence of all that we achieved last season," said Putellas. "I am really grateful for having been (at Barcelona) 14 seasons as a player, it is something incredible. It was like a perfect story."

Yamal made the boldest fashion statement of the contenders with a pink flower on the front of his black suit.

The Barcelona winger scooped up the first award of the night for young talent of the year for the third consecutive time.

But the 19-year-old fell short of becoming the youngest ever Ballon d'Or winner, finishing third, after he failed to produce his best form during Spain's World Cup success.

Mbappe finished second but his wait to win the Ballon d'Or goes on despite being the top scorer in the World Cup, Champions League and La Liga as his goals did not lead to collective triumphs for France or Real Madrid.

Luis de la Fuente beat out Paris Saint-Germain's Luis Enrique and Arsenal boss Mikel Arteta to be named men's coach of the year after leading Spain to World Cup glory.

"This is recognition for a job very well done over many years," De la Fuente said. — AFP



KENYATAAN SEBUTHARGA
JABATAN TANAH DAN UKUR SABAH
KENYATAAN SEBUTHARGA

SEBUTHARGA ADALAH DIPELAWA DARIPADA PEMBEKAL-PEMBEKAL TEMPATAN YANG BERDAFTAR DENGAN PUSAT PENDAFTARAN KONTRAKTOR KERJA, BEKALAN DAN PERKHIDMATAN NEGERI SABAH SECARA TERBUKA BAGI SEBUTHARGA BERIKUT: -

No Sebutharga	Tajuk Sebutharga	Kod Bidang	Tempoh Penyiapan
JTU66/2026	PERKHIDMATAN KAWALAN KESELAMATAN YANG DILENGKAPKAN DENGAN SENJATA API UNTUK MENGHANTAR KUTIPAN HASIL DI IBU PEJABAT, PEJABAT TANAH DAERAH TAWAU, SANDAKAN, LAHAD DATU, KUDAT, PUTATAN, PENAMPANG, PAPAR, BEAUFORT DAN KENINGAU	220302	1 TAHUN
JTU67/2026	PERKHIDMATAN MENCUCI DAN MEMBERSIHKAN BANGUNAN PEJABAT UNIT HAL EHWAL ANAK NEGERI SABAH (PANTAS) KOTA KINABALU	220401	1 TAHUN
JTU69/2026	PERKHIDMATAN KAWALAN KESELAMATAN DI BANGUNAN PEJABAT TANAH DAN UKUR DAERAH BELURAN	220302	1 TAHUN
JTU70/2026	PERKHIDMATAN KAWALAN KESELAMATAN DI BANGUNAN PEJABAT TANAH DAN UKUR DAERAH KENINGAU	220302	1 TAHUN
JTU71/2026	PERKHIDMATAN KAWALAN KESELAMATAN DI BANGUNAN PEJABAT TANAH DAN UKUR DAERAH KOTA BELUD	220302	1 TAHUN
JTU72/2026	PERKHIDMATAN KAWALAN KESELAMATAN DI BANGUNAN PEJABAT TANAH DAN UKUR DAERAH LAHAD DATU	220302	1 TAHUN

1. BORANG SEBUTHARGA, SYARAT-SYARAT DAN SPESIFIKASI AKAN DIJUAL SECARA ONLINE MELALUI E-COMMERCE DI WWW.JTU.SABAH.GOV.MY (GAREWAY TO JTU E-SERVICE) MULAI TARIKH 28 OKTOBER 2026 HINGGA 5 NOVEMBER 2026 SECARA ONLINE SAHAJA. BORANG SEBUTHARGA TIDAK AKAN DIJUAL SELEPAS TEMPOH DINYATAKAN.

2. PEMBEKAL YANG INGIN MENYERTAI SEBUTHARGA DI ATAS ADALAH DIKEHENDAKI MENYEDIAKAN RESIT CETAKAN SABAH PAY BERNILAI RM 20.00 SEBAGAI BUKTI BAYARAN BORANG SEBUTHARGA.

3. PEMBELIAN BORANG SEBUTHARGA SECARA ONLINE ADALAH HANYA KEPADA PEMBEKAL, UNTUK MAKSUD INI, PIHAK PEMBEKAL HENDAKLAH MENDAFTAR KE SISTEM E-COMMERCE (SEKALI SAHAJA) SERTA MEMASUKKAN KOD BIDANG BEKALAN/PERKHIDMATAN PUKONSA DAN TARIKH TEMPOH SAH SUIL. PENDAFTARAN PUKONSA DI DALAM SISTEM E-COMMERCE. SALINAN SUIL PENDAFTARAN ASAL PUSAT PENDAFTARAN KONTRAKTOR KERJA, BEKALAN DAN PERKHIDMATAN NEGERI SABAH (PUKONSA) HENDAKLAH DIMASUKKAN KE DALAM SISTEM (FORMAT PDF).

4. BORANG SEBUTHARGA YANG TELAH LENGKAP DIISI HENDAKLAH DIMASUKKAN KE DALAM SAMPUL SURAT YANG BERLAKRI (SEALED ENVELOPE) DAN DITULIS PADA RUANGAN DI ATAS DAN DIALAMATKAN KEPADA:

SETIAUSAHA
JAWATANKUASA SEBUTHARGA
JABATAN TANAH DAN UKUR
KOTA KINABALU

5. BORANG SEBUTHARGA HENDAKLAH DIHANTAR DAN DIMASUKKAN TERUS KE DALAM PETI SEBUTHARGA (QUOTATION BOX) DI TINGKAT BAWAH, WISMA TANAH DAN UKUR, KOTA KINABALU SEBELUM PUKUL 10.00 PAGI PADA 6 NOVEMBER 2026 (JUMAAT)

6. BORANG SEBUTHARGA YANG LEWAT DITERIMA PADA WAKTU YANG DITETAPKAN DI ATAS AKAN DITOLAK.

7. KERAJAAN TIDAK TERIKAT UNTUK TAWARAN TERENDAH ATAU MANA-MANA TAWARAN.

PENGARAH
JABATAN TANAH DAN UKUR
WISMA TANAH DAN UKUR
JALAN PERWIRA,
88200 KOTA KINABALU

288354/KK/KKG

IN THE MATTER OF
THE COMPANIES ACT 2016
AND IN THE MATTER OF
AMAT MUHIBAH SDN BHD
(In Creditors' Voluntary
Liquidation)
(Company No.
198701000600) (159267-K)
("the Company")

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN
THAT the creditors of the
Company are required on
or before 5.00 p.m., 18
November 2026 to send
their names and addresses
with particulars of their debts
and claims, together with
the original and/or certified
true copy of the supporting
documents, e.g. invoices,
delivery orders, statement
of accounts and debit/
credit notes to satisfactorily
substantiate their respective
claims, and the names
and addresses of their
solicitors (if any) to Baker
Tilly Insolvency PLT, Baker
Tilly Tower, Level 10, Tower
1, Avenue 5, Bangsar South
City, 59200 Kuala Lumpur,
and if so required by notice
in writing by the Liquidators,
by their solicitors or personally
to come in and prove their
said debts and claims at
such time and place as shall
be specified in such notice, or
in default thereof, they will be
excluded from the benefit of
any distribution before such
debts and claims are proved.

Notes:
1. Notice is issued pursuant
to Rule 91 of the
Companies (Winding-up)
Rules 1972.
2. Creditors must submit
their Proof of Debt in
accordance with the
prescribed form which
may be obtained from the
Liquidators' office stated
above.

Dated this 28 October 2026

ANDREW HENG
KUMARAKURU A/L
JAI PRKASH KRISHNAN
Liquidators of
Amat Muhibah Sdn Bhd
(In Creditors' Voluntary
Liquidation)

bakertilly

MALAYSIA

IN THE HIGH COURT IN
SABAH AND SARAWAK
AT KOTA KINABALU

PETITION NO. BKL-
32NCvc-213-10/2026
(HC3)

IN THE ESTATE OF
NIGEL PAUL ROGERS,
Deceased
(BRITISH PASSPORT
NO. 134103105
(NEWY/800393208
(OLD))

All persons having claim on
the estate of NIGEL PAUL
ROGERS, deceased who
died testate at No. 1-7-9,
Tingkat 7, Blok A, Fairway
Mansion Apartment, Jalan
Bundusan, Kota Kinabalu,
Sabah on the 20th day of
May 2026 are required to
submit their claims in
writing to the undersigned
within three (3) months
from the date hereof (not
later than 28th day of
January 2027) after which
the estate will be distributed
among the persons entitled
thereto subject to lawful
claims received on or
before that date.

Dated this 28th day of
October 2026.

Messrs. Tan Pang Tsen &
Co. (kk)
Lot No. 20, 1st Floor,
K.K. Specialist Centre
Jalan Kalam, Luyang
Phase 8
88810 Kota Kinabalu
Sabah, Malaysia.

Advocates for the
Executrix
TAN LEE UN

288237/KK/JLT

The
Borneo
Post
Reaching
Out to you

TOTO
DRAW NO: 6204/26 DATE: 27.10.2026
STM LOTTERY SDN. BHD.
196901000090 (8420-D)

1st Prize	2nd Prize	3rd Prize
9241	6818	4768
Special	Consolation	
8125 5347	5344 2712	
4866 7512	2624 2574	
0613 2365	9618 5358	
8874 0587	6033 9743	
4517 5924	4839 7060	

4D JACKPOT
Jackpot 1 RM 13,377,460.83
9241 + 6818 6818 + 9241
9241 + 4768 4768 + 9241
6818 + 4768 4768 + 6818
Jackpot 2 RM 559,881.22
Winning combination of any 1 of Top 3 & any 1 of Special prizes.

4D Fireball 6

1st Prize	2nd Prize	3rd Prize	4th Prize	5th Prize	6th Prize
9241	6818	4768	Special Prize	Consolation Prize	Any 4D drawn number
9241	6818	4768	Special Prize	Consolation Prize	Any 4D drawn number
9241	6818	4768	Special Prize	Consolation Prize	Any 4D drawn number
9241	6818	4768	Special Prize	Consolation Prize	Any 4D drawn number
9241	6818	4768	Special Prize	Consolation Prize	Any 4D drawn number
9241	6818	4768	Special Prize	Consolation Prize	Any 4D drawn number

TOTO 5D & 6D PRIZE PAYMENTS GUARANTEED IN FULL
1ST 7 6 9 8 8
2ND 2 3 1 0 2
3RD 8 0 1 0 1
4TH 6 9 8 8
5TH 9 8 8
6TH 8 8

TOTO 6D
1ST 3 4 7 7 7 7
2ND 3 4 7 7 7 7
3RD 3 4 7 7 7 7
4TH 3 4 7 7 7 7
5TH 3 4 7 7 7 7

TOTO GAMES GIVES YOU MORE WINNING CHANCES!
SUPREME 9 13 23 24 39 56

Jackpot
RM 9,317,378.93
POWER
18 20 37 40 42 55
Jackpot
RM 20,682,279.84
STAR
8 16 27 31 38 47 + 9
Jackpot 1
RM 1,911,329.59
Jackpot 2
RM 100,000.00

Toto 6D
RM 1,000,000
Toto 4D Jackpot 2 (i-System)
RM 104,391
won on 25/10/2026!
Visit www.sportstoto.com.my for e-Results and more info.



Magnum Corporation Sdn Bhd (2072-D)
Winning Results
Full Payment Guaranteed

Draw No: 441/26 Date: 27-10-2026

play the game



1st prize	2nd prize	3rd prize
2974	9329	2493

special	consolation
6295 6550	6376 8991
0708 0001	0068 6153
3285 6737	3088 0171
3120 0873	0453 9464
4629 9765	2581 5394

4 JACKPOT

Jackpot 1
RM 23,090,442.46
2974 + 9329 9329 + 2974
2974 + 2493 2493 + 2974
9329 + 2493 2493 + 9329

Jackpot 2 **RM 386,043.80**

Winning pair matches any 1 of Top 3 & any 1 of Special prizes.
Both Jackpot amounts stated above are for this Draw. For the next Draw, please visit www.magnum4d.com.my or enquire at any of our agencies

Group 3 Prize
– One of the pair matches any of 1 of the Top 3 Prizes.
Group 4 Prize
– One of the pair matches any 1 of the Special Prizes.
Group 5 Prize
– One of the pair matches any 1 of the Consolation Prizes.

da ma cai **WINNING NUMBERS**
PRIZE MONEY GUARANTEED IN FULL

There's Magic in Numbers
3D
1st 750
2nd 964
3rd 263

1+3D
1st 7750
2nd 3964
3rd 8263

STARTERS
0232 1111 3699 4480 5148
1726 7410 6438 5609 2108

CONSOLATION
5214 1172 6727 3836 1846
7787 5975 9485 9540 7734

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DIRIWAN RESULT
PRIZE PAYMENTS GUARANTEED IN FULL
Draw: 4270/26 Date: 27.10.2026

SABAH 4D
1ST PRIZE 8723
2ND PRIZE 3524
3RD PRIZE 9204
LUCKY
5473 3923
5885 0628
5504 1676
8971 0861
7822 2500
CONSOLATION
0126 2583
9794 5231
8197 9396
3224 8976
9194 9168

SABAH 4D JACKPOT
JACKPOT 1 RM 8,334,420.38
8723 + 3524 3524 + 8723
8723 + 9204 9204 + 8723
3524 + 9204 9204 + 3524
JACKPOT 2 RM 137,370.21
Winning combination of any 1 of Top 3 & any 1 of Lucky Prizes

SABAH 3D
1ST PRIZE 989
2ND PRIZE 029
3RD PRIZE 159

SABAH LOTTO 6/45
06 13 16 25 26 29 + 31
JACKPOT 1 RM 941,775.62
JACKPOT 2 RM 16,124.79

SABAH LOTTO 6
Group 1 1 1 2 9 2 + 19 JACKPOT 1 RM 176,507.58
Group 2 1 7 3 6 0 + 05 JACKPOT 2 RM 9,904.15
Group 3 7 4 3 7 3 + 12 JACKPOT 3 RM 9,400.44
Group 4 7 1 1 1 4 + 25 JACKPOT 4 RM 12,891.31
Group 5 0 7 0 6 4 + 01 JACKPOT 5 RM 7,680.88

SABAH LOTTO 5
Group 1 2 8 8 5 + 08 JACKPOT 1 RM 33,706.57
Group 2 8 0 6 2 + 08 JACKPOT 2 RM 3,913.47
Group 3 3 5 7 0 + 10 JACKPOT 3 RM 2,600.64
Group 4 8 0 6 7 + 11 JACKPOT 4 RM 626.32
Group 5 0 8 4 3 + 10 JACKPOT 5 RM 5,810.07
Group 6 4 8 9 5 + 26 JACKPOT 6 RM 1,010.75
Group 7 7 7 8 4 + 04 JACKPOT 7 RM 1,371.17
Group 8 4 1 1 7 + 20 JACKPOT 8 RM 1,129.28

For confirmation of the above results, please contact 080-237089
For live results, visit: www.diriwan88.com

URGENT NOTICE

Anyone who can help locate
or provide information on the
whereabout of the following
persons, please contact –

MR ROBERT WONG
H/P No. 0168108610

1) Normah @ Norgam Binti
Mohd Ansit
I/C No. 610603-12-5522

2) Abdul Majid Bin Abd
Hamid
I/C No. 590820-12-5435

3) Abdil Bin Siali
I/C No. 590929-12-5439

288196/KK/JYTP

4D STC
PRIZE PAYMENT GUARANTEED IN FULL

Draw No. : 135/26 Date : 27/10/2026		
1ST PRIZE	2ND PRIZE	3RD PRIZE
0844	7714	4341

SPECIAL
9334 0434 3940 2367 9405
1361 1843 9742 8366 3046

CONSOLATION
3493 4604 4190 8274 6709
9238 7234 0348 1542 9234

4D JACKPOT
JACKPOT 1 RM 3,184,734.89
0844 + 7714 7714 + 0844
0844 + 4341 4341 + 0844
7714 + 4341 4341 + 7714

JACKPOT 2 RM 174,534.46
Winning combination any 1 of Top 3 and any 1 of special prizes.

2nd prize – match ONE 4-digit number against any one of Top 3 prizes in any order.

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IN THE STATE OF SABAH, MALAYSIA
IN THE HIGH COURT IN SABAH AND SARAWAK
AT KOTA KINABALU
BANKRUPTCY NOTICE NO. BK1-29NCC-300-5/2026

RE: **ABDUL RAHMAN BIN JAINULLA** [NRIC NO: 920725-12-5671] ...JUDGMENT DEBTOR

EX-PARTE: **BANK ISLAM MALAYSIA BERHAD** [REGISTRATION NO:198301002944(98127-X)] ...JUDGMENT CREDITOR

SUBSTITUTED SERVICE OF THE BANKRUPTCY NOTICE
[In the matter of the Bankruptcy Notice issued on 08.05.2026 and by an Order of the Court dated 06.08.2026]

To: **ABDUL RAHMAN BIN JAINULLA** [NRIC NO: 920725-12-5671]
Kampung Air 89057 Kudat, Sabah.

TAKE NOTICE that Bankruptcy Notice has been issued against you in this Court by **BANK ISLAM MALAYSIA BERHAD** [Company No. **98127-X**] and the Court on 06.08.2026 has ordered that the validity of the said Bankruptcy Notice be extended for another 3 months commencing from 07.08.2026 until 06.11.2026 and the service of the Bankruptcy Notice on you be effected by advertisement of this Notice in English in one issue in local newspaper and that such advertisement shall be deemed good and sufficient service of the said Bankruptcy Notice upon you on the day of publication.

TAKE NOTICE that within seven (7) days after service of this Notice on you excluding the day of such service, you must pay to **BANK ISLAM MALAYSIA BERHAD** [REGISTRATION NO: **198301002944(98127-X)**] of Pusat Sokongan Kredit Runcit, Tingkat 14, Menara Bank Islam, No.22, Jalan Perak, 50450 Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia the sum of RM155,586.92 being the amount due as at 08th day of May, 2026 on a final Judgment obtained by them against you in the Sessions' Court at Kudat dated 24th day of February, 2026 under Suit No. KDT-A52M-3-1/2026 wherein execution has not been stayed, or you must secure or compound for the said sum to Bank Islam Malaysia Berhad satisfaction or the satisfaction of the Court, or you must satisfy the Court that you have a counter-claim, set-off, or cross demand against Bank Islam Malaysia Berhad, which equals or exceeds the sum claimed by Bank Islam Malaysia Berhad and which you could not set up the action in which the Judgment was obtained.

PARTICULARS OF AMOUNT CLAIMED	
Judgment Sum obtained on 24th day of February, 2026 at the Sessions' Court, Kudat	RM153,703.18
Add: Costs awarded under the said Judgment	RM1,436.00
Add: Agreed Ta'widh (compensation) calculated as at 08/05/2026	RM447.74
Total outstanding amount under the said Judgment calculated as at 08th day of May, 2026	RM155,586.92
Dated the 08TH DAY OF MAY, 2026.	
You are specially to note:	

That the consequences of not complying with the requisition of this Notice are that you will have committed an act of Bankruptcy on which Bankruptcy proceedings may be taken against you.

If however, you have a counter-claim, set off, or cross-demand which equals or exceeds amount claimed by **BANK ISLAM MALAYSIA BERHAD** in respect of the judgment, and which you could not set up in the action in which the said Judgment was obtained, you must within seven (7) days apply to the Court to set aside this Notice by filing with the Registrar and Affidavit to the above effect.

This Notice can be inspected by you on an application to the Court.

Dated the 28th day of October 2026.

By Order of the Court,
Senior Assistant Registrar
In the High Court In Sabah and Sarawak
At Kota Kinabalu

This Bankruptcy Notice is inserted by Messrs Antin Zakaria & Rauf Advocates for the abovenamed Judgment Creditor, whose address for service is at whose address is at House No.910, Lorong Burung Keleupin, Taman Melor, Mile 2.5, Jalan Tuaran, Likas, 88450 Kota Kinabalu, Sabah. Tel: -088-485380, Email:- azrlaw@yahoo.com [Our Ref : AZR/RR/LI/BI/MB(1/26)/52/08]

IN THE HIGH COURT AT LABUAN
IN THE FEDERAL TERRITORY OF LABUAN, MALAYSIA
BANKRUPTCY NOTICE NO. LBN-29NCC-34-7/2026

RE: **RICH ROGER JELSSON** [NRIC NO: 911220-12-5321] ...JUDGMENT DEBTOR

EX-PARTE: **BANK ISLAM MALAYSIA BERHAD** [REGISTRATION NO: 198301002944 (98127-X)] ...JUDGMENT CREDITOR

SUBSTITUTED SERVICE OF THE BANKRUPTCY NOTICE
[In the matter of the Bankruptcy Notice issued on 08.07.2026 and by an Order of the Court dated 09.10.2026]

To: **RICH ROGER JELSSON** [NRIC NO: 911220-12-5321]
Lot C1 10845 Simpang 19 Kampung Ganggarak
Jalan Tun Mustapha 87008 Labuan.

TAKE NOTICE that Bankruptcy Notice has been issued against you in this Court by **BANK ISLAM MALAYSIA BERHAD** [Company No. **98127-X**] and the Court on 09.10.2026 has ordered that the validity of the said Bankruptcy Notice be extended for another 3 months commencing from 07.10.2026 until 06.01.2027 and the service of the Bankruptcy Notice on you be effected by advertisement of this Notice in English in one issue in local newspaper and that such advertisement shall be deemed good and sufficient service of the said Bankruptcy Notice upon you on the day of publication.

TAKE NOTICE that within seven (7) days after service of this Notice on you excluding the day of such service, you must pay to **BANK ISLAM MALAYSIA BERHAD** [REGISTRATION NO: **198301002944 (98127-X)**] of Pusat Sokongan Kredit Runcit, Tingkat 14, Menara Bank Islam, No.22, Jalan Perak, 50450 Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia the sum of RM316,975.48 being the amount due as at 08th day of July, 2026 on a final Judgment obtained by them against you in the Sessions' Court at Labuan dated 29th day of April, 2026 under Suit No. LBN-B52M-6-3/2026 wherein execution has not been stayed, or you must secure or compound for the said sum to Bank Islam Malaysia Berhad satisfaction or the satisfaction of the Court, or you must satisfy the Court that you have a counter-claim, set-off, or cross demand against Bank Islam Malaysia Berhad, which equals or exceeds the sum claimed by Bank Islam Malaysia Berhad and which you could not set up the action in which the Judgment was obtained.

PARTICULARS OF AMOUNT CLAIMED	
Judgment Sum obtained on 29th day of April, 2026 at the Sessions' Court, Labuan	RM314,676.94
Add: Costs awarded under the said Judgment	RM1,436.00
Add: Agreed Ta'widh (compensation) calculated as at 08/07/2026	RM862.54
Total outstanding amount under the said Judgment calculated as at 08th day of July, 2026.	RM316,975.48
Dated the 08TH DAY OF JULY, 2026.	
You are specially to note:	

That the consequences of not complying with the requisition of this Notice are that you will have committed an act of Bankruptcy on which Bankruptcy proceedings may be taken against you.

If however, you have a counter-claim, set off, or cross-demand which equals or exceeds amount claimed by **BANK ISLAM MALAYSIA BERHAD** in respect of the judgment, and which you could not set up in the action in which the said Judgment was obtained, you must within seven (7) days apply to the Court to set aside this Notice by filing with the Registrar and Affidavit to the above effect.

This Notice can be inspected by you on an application to the Court.

Dated the 28th day of October 2026.

By Order of the Court,
Senior Assistant Registrar
In the High Court Federal Territory Of Labuan
At Labuan

This Bankruptcy Notice is inserted by Messrs Antin Zakaria & Rauf Advocates for the abovenamed Judgment Creditor, whose address for service is at whose address is at House No.910, Lorong Burung Keleupin, Taman Melor, Mile 2.5, Jalan Tuaran, Likas, 88450 Kota Kinabalu, Sabah. Tel: -088-485380, Email:- azrlaw@yahoo.com [Our Ref : AZR/RR/LI/BI/MB(13/26)/52/08]

IN THE STATE OF SABAH, MALAYSIA
IN THE HIGH COURT IN SABAH AND SARAWAK
AT SANDAKAN
BANKRUPTCY NOTICE NO. SDK-29NCC-58-5/2026

RE: **AZRIN BIN YAKOB** [NRIC NO: 810612-12-5547/RF515105] ...JUDGMENT DEBTOR

EX-PARTE: **BANK ISLAM MALAYSIA BERHAD** [REGISTRATION NO:198301002944(98127-X)] ...JUDGMENT CREDITOR

SUBSTITUTED SERVICE OF THE BANKRUPTCY NOTICE
[In the matter of the Bankruptcy Notice issued on 20.05.2026 and by an Order of the Court dated 02.09.2026]

To: **AZRIN BIN YAKOB** [NRIC NO: 810612-12-5547/RF515105]
Kampung Sharif Pulau Jambongan 90109 Beluran, Sabah.

TAKE NOTICE that Bankruptcy Notice has been issued against you in this Court by **BANK ISLAM MALAYSIA BERHAD** [Company No. **98127-X**] and the Court on 02.09.2026 has ordered that the validity of the said Bankruptcy Notice be extended for another 3 months commencing from 19.08.2026 until 18.11.2026 and the service of the Bankruptcy Notice on you be effected by advertisement of this Notice in English in one issue in local newspaper and that such advertisement shall be deemed good and sufficient service of the said Bankruptcy Notice upon you on the day of publication.

TAKE NOTICE that within seven (7) days after service of this Notice on you excluding the day of such service, you must pay to **BANK ISLAM MALAYSIA BERHAD** [REGISTRATION NO: **198301002944 (98127-X)**] of Pusat Sokongan Kredit Runcit, Tingkat 14, Menara Bank Islam, No.22, Jalan Perak, 50450 Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia the sum of RM118,462.53 being the amount due as at 20th day of May, 2026 on a final Judgment obtained by them against you in the Sessions' Court at Beluran dated 10th day of April, 2026 under Suit No. BLR-A52M-2-2/2026 wherein execution has not been stayed, or you must secure or compound for the said sum to Bank Islam Malaysia Berhad satisfaction or the satisfaction of the Court, or you must satisfy the Court that you have a counter-claim, set-off, or cross demand against Bank Islam Malaysia Berhad, which equals or exceeds the sum claimed by Bank Islam Malaysia Berhad and which you could not set up the action in which the Judgment was obtained.

PARTICULARS OF AMOUNT CLAIMED	
Judgment Sum obtained on 10th day of April, 2026 at the Sessions' Court, Beluran	RM116,849.98
Add: Costs awarded under the said Judgment	RM1,436.00
Add: Agreed Ta'widh (compensation) calculated as at 20/05/2026	RM176.55
Total outstanding amount under the said Judgment calculated as at 20th day of May, 2026.	RM118,462.53
Dated the 20TH DAY OF MAY, 2026.	
You are specially to note:	

That the consequences of not complying with the requisition of this Notice are that you will have committed an act of Bankruptcy on which Bankruptcy proceedings may be taken against you.

If however, you have a counter-claim, set off, or cross-demand which equals or exceeds amount claimed by **BANK ISLAM MALAYSIA BERHAD** in respect of the judgment, and which you could not set up in the action in which the said Judgment was obtained, you must within seven (7) days apply to the Court to set aside this Notice by filing with the Registrar and Affidavit to the above effect.

This Notice can be inspected by you on an application to the Court.

Dated the 28th day of October 2026.

By Order of the Court,
Senior Assistant Registrar
In the High Court In Sabah and Sarawak
At Sandakan

This Bankruptcy Notice is inserted by Messrs Antin Zakaria & Rauf Advocates for the abovenamed Judgment Creditor, whose address for service is at whose address is at House No.910, Lorong Burung Keleupin, Taman Melor, Mile 2.5, Jalan Tuaran, Likas, 88450 Kota Kinabalu, Sabah. Tel:-088-485380, Email:- azrlaw@yahoo.com [Our Ref : AZR/RR/LI/BI/MB(16/25)/52/08]

IN THE HIGH COURT AT LABUAN
IN THE FEDERAL TERRITORY OF LABUAN, MALAYSIA
BANKRUPTCY NOTICE NO. LBN-29NCC-33-7/2026

RE: **ROSLEE BIN MOHD DULLAH** [NRIC NO: 841210-15-5067] ...JUDGMENT DEBTOR

EX-PARTE: **BANK ISLAM MALAYSIA BERHAD** [REGISTRATION NO: 198301002944 (98127-X)] ...JUDGMENT CREDITOR

SUBSTITUTED SERVICE OF THE BANKRUPTCY NOTICE
[In the matter of the Bankruptcy Notice issued on 08.07.2026 and by an Order of the Court dated 08.10.2026]

To: **ROSLEE BIN MOHD DULLAH** [NRIC NO: 841210-15-5067]
J30332, Kampung Lajau Simpang Rimba,
87000 Wilayah Persekutuan Labuan.

TAKE NOTICE that Bankruptcy Notice has been issued against you in this Court by **BANK ISLAM MALAYSIA BERHAD** [Company No. **98127-X**] and the Court on 08.10.2026 has ordered that the validity of the said Bankruptcy Notice be extended for another 3 months commencing from 07.10.2026 until 06.01.2027 and the service of the Bankruptcy Notice on you be effected by advertisement of this Notice in English in one issue in local newspaper and that such advertisement shall be deemed good and sufficient service of the said Bankruptcy Notice upon you on the day of publication.

TAKE NOTICE that within seven (7) days after service of this Notice on you excluding the day of such service, you must pay to **BANK ISLAM MALAYSIA BERHAD** [REGISTRATION NO: **198301002944 (98127-X)**] of Pusat Sokongan Kredit Runcit, Tingkat 14, Menara Bank Islam, No.22, Jalan Perak, 50450 Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia the sum of RM532,418.32 being the amount due as at 08th day of July, 2026 on a final Judgment obtained by them against you in the Sessions' Court at Labuan dated 23rd day of December, 2025 under Suit No. LBN-B52M-15-10/2025 wherein execution has not been stayed, or you must secure or compound for the said sum to Bank Islam Malaysia Berhad satisfaction or the satisfaction of the Court, or you must satisfy the Court that you have a counter-claim, set-off, or cross demand against Bank Islam Malaysia Berhad, which equals or exceeds the sum claimed by Bank Islam Malaysia Berhad and which you could not set up the action in which the Judgment was obtained.

PARTICULARS OF AMOUNT CLAIMED	
Judgment Sum obtained on 23rd day of December, 2025 at the Sessions' Court, Labuan	RM548,720.87
Less: Payment Received	RM18,015.00
Add: Costs awarded under the said Judgment	RM1,436.00
Add: Agreed Ta'widh (compensation) calculated as at 08/07/2026	RM276.45
Total outstanding amount under the said Judgment calculated as at 08th day of July, 2026.	RM532,418.32
Dated the 08TH DAY OF JULY, 2026.	
You are specially to note:	

That the consequences of not complying with the requisition of this Notice are that you will have committed an act of Bankruptcy on which Bankruptcy proceedings may be taken against you.

If however, you have a counter-claim, set off, or cross-demand which equals or exceeds amount claimed by **BANK ISLAM MALAYSIA BERHAD** in respect of the judgment, and which you could not set up in the action in which the said Judgment was obtained, you must within seven (7) days apply to the Court to set aside this Notice by filing with the Registrar and Affidavit to the above effect.

This Notice can be inspected by you on an application to the Court.

Dated the 28th day of October 2026.

By Order of the Court,
Senior Assistant Registrar
In the High Court Federal Territory Of Labuan
At Labuan

This Bankruptcy Notice is inserted by Messrs Antin Zakaria & Rauf Advocates for the abovenamed Judgment Creditor, whose address for service is at whose address is at House No.910, Lorong Burung Keleupin, Taman Melor, Mile 2.5, Jalan Tuaran, Likas, 88450 Kota Kinabalu, Sabah. Tel:-088-485380, Email:- azrlaw@yahoo.com [Our Ref : AZR/RR/LI/BI/MB(16/25)/52/08]

IN THE MATTER OF THE COMPANIES ACT 2016

AND

IN THE MATTER OF
AUTOYON PART & MACHINERY (M) SDN. BHD.
[200801014130 (733881-X)]
(In Members' Voluntary Liquidation)

At an Extraordinary General Meeting of the Members of AUTOYON PART & MACHINERY (M) SDN. BHD. duly convened at S25, Taman Tai Fai Ying 10, Batu 8, Jalan Utara, 90000 Sandakan, Sabah, the following Special Resolution was duly passed :

"That the Company be wound up by voluntarily pursuant to Section 439(1)(b) of the Companies Act 2016 and that Madam Wong Shin Yean of Platinum Solution Services Sdn. Bhd., Certified Company Secretary of Lot 23, Block B2, 1st Floor, Bandar Utama, Mile 6, Jalan Utara, 90000 Sandakan, Sabah be and is hereby appointed as Liquidator for the purpose of such winding up with all powers given by Section 456 of the Companies Act 2016."

Dated this 28th October 2026

CHAIRMAN

IN THE STATE OF SABAH, MALAYSIA
IN THE HIGH COURT IN SABAH AND SARAWAK
AT SANDAKAN
BANKRUPTCY NOTICE NO. SDK-29NCC-89-7/2026

RE: **LIJUAN BIN EMBUAS** [NRIC NO: 820714-12-6187] Trading under the name and style of "L & S Auto Enterprise" Business Registration No. R35399/2017 ...JUDGMENT DEBTOR

EX-PARTE: **PERBADANAN USAHAWAN NASIONAL BERHAD** [REGISTRATION NO:199101010745 (221057-V)] ...JUDGMENT CREDITOR

SUBSTITUTED SERVICE OF THE BANKRUPTCY NOTICE
[In the matter of the Bankruptcy Notice issued on 06.07.2026 and by an Order of the Court dated 06.10.2026]

To: **LIJUAN BIN EMBUAS** [NRIC NO: 820714-12-6187]
Lot 1701C, Block 148, Sendang 3,
Taman Mawar, 90000 Sandakan, Sabah.

TAKE NOTICE that Bankruptcy Notice has been issued against you in this Court by **PERBADANAN USAHAWAN NASIONAL BERHAD** [REGISTRATION NO: **199101010745(221057-V)**] of Tingkat 10, Blok 1B, Plaza Sentral, Jalan Steen Sentral 5, Kuala Lumpur Sentral, 50470 Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia the sum of RM109,307.24 being the amount due as at 06th day of July, 2026 on a final Judgment obtained by them against you in the Sessions' Court at Sandakan, dated 25th day of June, 2025 under Summons No. SDK-A52M-28-5/2025 wherein execution has not been stayed, or you must secure or compound for the said sum to Perbadanan Usahawan Nasional Berhad satisfaction or the satisfaction of the Court, or you must satisfy the Court that you have a counter-claim, set-off, or cross demand against Perbadanan Nasional Berhad, which equals or exceeds the sum claimed by Perbadanan Usahawan Nasional Berhad and which you could not set up the action in which the Judgment was obtained.

TAKE NOTICE that within seven (7) days after service of this Notice on you excluding the day of such service, you must pay to **PERBADANAN USAHAWAN NASIONAL BERHAD** [REGISTRATION NO: **199101010745(221057-V)**] of Tingkat 10, Blok 1B, Plaza Sentral, Jalan Steen Sentral 5, Kuala Lumpur Sentral, 50470 Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia the sum of RM109,307.24 being the amount due as at 06th day of July, 2026 on a final Judgment obtained by them against you in the Sessions' Court at Sandakan, dated 25th day of June, 2025 under Summons No. SDK-A52M-28-5/2025 wherein execution has not been stayed, or you must secure or compound for the said sum to Perbadanan Usahawan Nasional Berhad satisfaction or the satisfaction of the Court, or you must satisfy the Court that you have a counter-claim, set-off, or cross demand against Perbadanan Nasional Berhad, which equals or exceeds the sum claimed by Perbadanan Usahawan Nasional Berhad and which you could not set up the action in which the Judgment was obtained.

PARTICULARS OF AMOUNT CLAIMED	
Judgment sum dated 25th day of June, 2025 under Summons No. SDK-A52M-28-5/2025	RM106,608.55
Add : Agreed Ta'widh (compensation) at the rate of 1.00% per annum on RM106,608.55 from 15/05/2025 to 31/12/2025	RM674.70
Add : Agreed Ta'widh (compensation) at the rate of 1.00% per annum on RM106,608.55 from 01/01/2026 to 06/07/2026	RM546.19
Add : Charges due as at 25/07/2024	RM41.80
Add : Costs awarded under the said Judgment	RM1,436.00
Total outstanding amount under the said Judgment calculated as at 06th day of July, 2026	RM109,307.24
Dated the 06th day of July, 2026.	
You are specially to note:	

That the consequences of not complying with the requisition of this Notice are that you will have committed an act of Bankruptcy on which Bankruptcy proceedings may be taken against you.

If however, you have a counter-claim, set off, or cross-demand which equals or exceeds amount claimed by **PERBADANAN USAHAWAN NASIONAL BERHAD** in respect of the judgment, and which you could not set up in the action in which the said Judgment was obtained, you must within seven (7) days apply to the Court to set aside this Notice by filing with the Registrar and Affidavit to the above effect.

This Notice can be inspected by you on an application to the Court.

Dated the 28th day of October 2026.

By Order of the Court,
Senior Assistant Registrar
In the High Court In Sabah and Sarawak
At Sandakan

This Bankruptcy Notice is inserted by Messrs Antin Zakaria & Rauf Advocates for the abovenamed Judgment Creditor, whose address for service is at whose address is at House No.910, Lorong Burung Keleupin, Taman Melor, Mile 2.5, Jalan Tuaran, Likas, 88450 Kota Kinabalu, Sabah. Tel:-088-485380, Email:- azrlaw@yahoo.com [Our Ref : AZR/RR/LI/BI/MB(11/25)/71/10-BN]

IN THE STATE OF SABAH, MALAYSIA
IN THE HIGH COURT IN SABAH AND SARAWAK
AT KOTA KINABALU
BANKRUPTCY NOTICE NO. BK1-29NCC-462-7/2026

RE: **SULINA BINTI JUHAEPAH** [NRIC NO: 850609-12-5120] Trading under the name and style of "Rev Auto Works" Business Registration No. PPG2018/3029H ...JUDGMENT DEBTOR

EX-PARTE: **PERBADANAN USAHAWAN NASIONAL BERHAD** [REGISTRATION NO:199101010745(221057-V)] ...JUDGMENT CREDITOR

SUBSTITUTED SERVICE OF THE BANKRUPTCY NOTICE
[In the matter of the Bankruptcy Notice issued on 16.07.2026 and by an Order of the Court dated 13.10.2026]

To: **SULINA BINTI JUHAEPAH** [NRIC NO: 850609-12-5120]
Kampung Kivatu, Jalan Tambunan-Penampang,

TAKE NOTICE that Bankruptcy Notice has been issued against you in this Court by **PERBADANAN USAHAWAN NASIONAL BERHAD** [REGISTRATION NO: **199101010745(221057-V)**] and the Court on 13.10.2026 has ordered that the validity of the said Bankruptcy Notice be extended for another 3 months commencing from 15.10.2026 until 14.01.2027 and the service of the Bankruptcy Notice on you be effected by advertisement of this Notice in English in one issue in local newspaper and that such advertisement shall be deemed good and sufficient service of the said Bankruptcy Notice upon you on the day of publication.

TAKE NOTICE that within seven (7) days after service of this Notice on you excluding the day of such service, you must pay to **PERBADANAN USAHAWAN NASIONAL BERHAD** [REGISTRATION NO: **199101010745(221057-V)**] of Tingkat 10, Blok 1B, Plaza Sentral, Jalan Steen Sentral 5, Kuala Lumpur Sentral, 50470 Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia the sum of RM201,538.75 being the amount due as at 16th July, 2026 on a final Judgment obtained by them against you in the Sessions' Court at Kota Kinabalu, dated 22nd November, 2024 under Summons No. BK1-A52M-284-8/2024 wherein execution has not been stayed, or you must secure or compound for the said sum to Perbadanan Usahawan Nasional Berhad satisfaction or the satisfaction of the Court, or you must satisfy the Court that you have a counter-claim, set-off, or cross demand against Perbadanan Nasional Berhad, which equals or exceeds the sum claimed by Perbadanan Usahawan Nasional Berhad and which you could not set up the action in which the Judgment was obtained.

PARTICULARS OF AMOUNT CLAIMED	
Judgment sum dated 22nd November, 2024 under Summons No. BK1-A52M-284-8/2024	RM196,973.33
Less : Payment Received	RM1,000.00
Add : Agreed Ta'widh (compensation) at the rate of 1.00% per annum on RM196,973.33 from 26/07/2024 to 31/12/2024	RM 854.04
Add : Agreed Ta'widh (compensation) at the rate of 1.00% per annum on RM196,973.33 from 01/01/2025 to 31/12/2025	RM1,959.91
Add : Agreed Ta'widh (compensation) at the rate of 1.00% per annum on RM195,973.33 from 01/01/2026 to 16/07/2026	RM1,057.72
Add : Ta'widh due as at 25/07/2024	RM219.75
Add : Charges due as at 25/07/2024	RM10.00
Add : Costs awarded under the said Judgment	RM1,464.00
Total outstanding amount under the said Judgment calculated as at 16th day of July, 2026	RM201,538.75
Dated the 16th day of July, 2026.	
You are specially to note:	

That the consequences of not complying with the requisition of this Notice are that you will have committed an act of Bankruptcy on which Bankruptcy proceedings may be taken against you.

If however, you have a counter-claim, set off, or cross-demand which equals or exceeds amount claimed by **PERBADANAN USAHAWAN NASIONAL BERHAD** in respect of the judgment, and which you could not set up in the action in which the said Judgment was obtained, you must within seven (7) days apply to the Court to set aside this Notice by filing with the Registrar and Affidavit to the above effect.

This Notice can be inspected by you on an application to the Court.

Dated the 28th day of October 2026.

By Order of the Court,
Senior Assistant Registrar
In the High Court In Sabah and Sarawak
At Kota Kinabalu

This Bankruptcy Notice is inserted by Messrs Antin Zakaria & Rauf Advocates for the abovenamed Judgment Creditor, whose address for service is at whose address is at House No.910, Lorong Burung Keleupin, Taman Melor, Mile 2.5, Jalan Tuaran, Likas, 88450 Kota Kinabalu, Sabah. Tel:-088-485380, Email:- azrlaw@yahoo.com [Our Ref : AZR/RR/LI/PUNB(16/24)/71/10-BN]

IN THE STATE OF SABAH
IN THE HIGH COURT OF SABAH AND SARAWAK AT KOTA KINABALU
DIVORCE PETITION NO.: BK1-33-45-4/2026

IN THE MATTER OF dissolution of Marriage AND

IN THE MATTER OF section 53 of the Law Reform (Marriage and Divorce) Act 1976

RONER BIN MIKE [800716-12-5411 / RF137327] ... PETITIONER

AND

SYLVIA OLIVI RAWI [870112-49-6194] ... RESPONDENT

ADVERTISEMENT PURSUANT TO COURT ORDER

TO: SYLVIA OLIVI RAWI
Kg Bunut
Peti Surat Bil 120
88908 Tenom, Sabah

TAKE NOTICE that a Divorce Petition has been commenced against you in the High Court in Divorce Petition No. BK1-33-45-4/2026 by the abovenamed Petitioner, **RONER BIN MIKE** [800716-12-5411/ RF137327] of Kota Kinabalu, Sabah, Malaysia in which the Petitioner prays for the following orders:

- A decree of divorce dissolving the marriage;
- Custody and access rights to the child, subject to paternity determination and that child maintenance be deferred until paternity is established by DNA testing and thereafter determined in accordance with law;
- That spousal maintenance not be ordered, as the Respondent has wilfully neglected her marital obligations and is capable of self-support;
- That costs be shared due to the Respondent's unreasonable conduct; and
- Such further or other relief as this Honourable Court deems fit.

as at 23rd April, 2026.

And it has been ordered that the Petition of Divorce on you be effected by this advertisement, if you desire to defend and/ or answer to the said Petition, you must within 14 days of this from this publication, enter an appearance at the Registry of the High Court of Kota Kinabalu, Sabah. In default of such appearance, a decree of divorce may be entered.

Dated this 28th October, 2026

Messrs Rosliah Ramlan & Co.[KK Chambers]
Advocates & Solicitors for the Petitioner
Lot No. 11 (A-2-3) Block A, 2nd Floor, KK Taipan,
88450 Kota Kinabalu, Sabah.
Contact No : 011-16313727
E-mail : rosliahramlano.kk

THE BORNEO POST Classified

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 28, 2026

[CONTACT US @] Kota Kinabalu - 088 318 811, Labuan - 087 417 285, Tawau - 089 777 262, Sandakan - 089 274 191, Lahad Datu - 089 896 177

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MALAYSIA IN THE HIGH COURT IN SABAH AND SARAWAK AT KOTA KINABALU
IN THE BANKRUPTCY PETITION NO. SDK-29NCC-36-3/2026 (HC) BANKRUPTCY NOTICE NO. SDK-29NCC-36-3/2026 (HC) [SUIT NO. LHD-A52M-40-11/2025 (SC)]
RE : KAMARUZAMAN BIN ISHAH (NRC NO. : 730612-03-5031/ RF130215)
JUDGMENT DEBTOR
EX-PARTE : BANK ISLAM MALAYSIA BERHAD (CO. NO. : 98127-X) ...JUDGMENT CREDITOR
SUBSTITUTED SERVICE OF THE CREDITOR'S PETITION IN NEWSPAPERS
In the matter of a Creditor's Petition filed on the 23rd day of September, 2026 and Order granted on 19th day of October, 2026
To : KAMARUZAMAN BIN ISHAH (NRC NO. : 730612-03-5031/ RF130215)
BLOCK B2, Tingkat 2, Pintu 3, Kompleks Polis Baitalan 17, PGA, 91100 Lahad Datu, Sabah.
TAKE NOTICE that a Creditor's Petition has been presented against you in this Court by BANK ISLAM MALAYSIA BERHAD (CO. NO. : 98127-X) of Bank Islam Malaysia Berhad, Lahad Datu Branch, MLD 7940 & 7941, Harbour Town, Jalan Pantai 91100, Lahad Datu, Sabah, and the Court has ordered that the said Petition be served on you by posting the a Creditor's Petition and Order for Substituted Service by Registered Post to your last known address at Block B2, Tingkat 2, Pintu 3, Kompleks Polis Baitalan 17, PGA, 91100 Lahad Datu, Sabah; and affixing the Creditor's Petition and the Order for Substituted Service on the Notice Board of the High Court in Sandakan and by publication of this a Creditor's Petition in English language in one issue of the Borneo Post Newspaper and that shall be deemed good and sufficient service of the said Petition upon you; AND FURTHER TAKE NOTICE that the Petition will be heard at this Court on 18th day of November, 2026 at High Court 1 Sandakan on which day you are required to appear, and if you do not appear the Court may make a Bankruptcy Order against you in your absence.
The Creditor's Petition can be inspected by you on application to the Court.
Dated this 19th OCTOBER 2026

MALAYSIA IN THE HIGH COURT IN SABAH AND SARAWAK AT KOTA KINABALU
IN THE BANKRUPTCY PETITION NO. LBN-29NCC-38-11/2025 (HC) BANKRUPTCY NOTICE NO. LBN-29NCC-38-11/2025 (HC) [SUIT NO. : KGU-A52M-31-10/2024 (SC)]
RE : ALHADI BIN ABDUL (NRC NO. : 910823-12-5633)
JUDGMENT DEBTOR
EX-PARTE : BANK ISLAM MALAYSIA BERHAD (CO. NO. : 98127-X) ...JUDGMENT CREDITOR
SUBSTITUTED SERVICE OF THE CREDITOR'S PETITION IN NEWSPAPERS
In the matter of a Creditor's Petition filed on the 01st day of July, 2026 and Order granted on 09th day of October, 2026
To : ALHADI BIN ABDUL (NRC NO. : 910823-12-5633)
BLOCK 1, 2008 Taman Mutiara, Kampung Sungai Beduan 8700 WP Labuan, Labuan.
TAKE NOTICE that a Creditor's Petition has been presented against you in this Court by BANK ISLAM MALAYSIA BERHAD (CO. NO. : 98127-X) of Bank Islam Malaysia Berhad, Labuan Branch, Ground Floor, Bangunan Tabung Haji, Lot 3500, Jalan Bunga Kesuma, 87026 Wilayah Persekutuan Labuan and the Court has ordered that the said Petition be served on you by posting the a Creditor's Petition and Order for Substituted Service by Registered Post to your last known address at G-29-3 Kuarter Penjaja, Polis Kampung Tinuhan Tengahan KEM PGA 89257 Tamparuli, Sabah; and affixing the Creditor's Petition and the Order for Substituted Service on the Notice Board of the High Court in Sandakan and by publication of this a Creditor's Petition in English language in one issue of the Borneo Post Newspaper and that shall be deemed good and sufficient service of the said Petition upon you; AND FURTHER TAKE NOTICE that the Petition will be heard at this Court on 08th day of November, 2026 at High Court 2 Labuan on which day you are required to appear, and if you do not appear the Court may make a Bankruptcy Order against you in your absence.
The Creditor's Petition can be inspected by you on application to the Court.
Dated this 09th OCTOBER 2026

MALAYSIA IN THE HIGH COURT IN SABAH AND SARAWAK AT KOTA KINABALU
IN THE BANKRUPTCY PETITION NO. BKI-29NCC-695-11/2025 (HC) BANKRUPTCY NOTICE NO. BKI-29NCC-695-11/2025 (HC) [SUIT NO. : BKU-A52M-129-4/2025 (SC)]
RE : FARID BIN DULLAH (NRC NO. : 830812-12-6139)
JUDGMENT DEBTOR
EX-PARTE : BANK ISLAM MALAYSIA BERHAD (CO. NO. : 98127-X) ...JUDGMENT CREDITOR
SUBSTITUTED SERVICE OF THE CREDITOR'S PETITION IN NEWSPAPERS
In the matter of a Creditor's Petition filed on the 14th day of August, 2026 and Order granted on 15th day of October, 2026
To : FARID BIN DULLAH (NRC NO. : 830812-12-6139)
G-29-3 Kuarter Penjaja, Polis Kampung Tinuhan Tengahan KEM PGA 89257 Tamparuli, Sabah; and affixing the Creditor's Petition and the Order for Substituted Service on the Notice Board of the High Court in Sandakan and by publication of this a Creditor's Petition in English language in one issue of the Borneo Post Newspaper and that shall be deemed good and sufficient service of the said Petition upon you; AND FURTHER TAKE NOTICE that the Petition will be heard at this Court on 08th day of November, 2026 at High Court 2 Labuan on which day you are required to appear, and if you do not appear the Court may make a Bankruptcy Order against you in your absence.
The Creditor's Petition can be inspected by you on application to the Court.
Dated this 15th OCTOBER 2026

PBLT SDN. BHD.
200501022368 (704498-D)
(Sebuah Syarikat Milik Menteri Kewangan Diperbadankan)
NOTIS TENDER
CADANGAN MEMBINA DAN MENYIAPKAN IBU PEJABAT POLIS DAERAH (IPD) KAPIT DAN BALAI POLIS KAPIT SERTA KEMUDAHAN BERKAITAN DI ATAS LOT 464, BLOCK 12, JALAN BLETHE, MENUAN LAND DISTRICT KAPIT, SARAWAK
FASA 2 : KERJA-KERJA BANGUNAN BAGI IBU PEJABAT POLIS DAERAH (IPD) KAPIT DAN BALAI POLIS KAPIT SERTA KEMUDAHAN BERKAITAN
Untuk butiran lanjut berkenaan Notis Tender di atas sila layari laman sesawang PBLT Sdn. Bhd. di **www.pblt.com.my**

PKPS PERBADANAN KEMAJUAN PERTANIAN SELANGOR
SELANGOR AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION
NOTIS TENDER
Syarikat-syarikat yang berdaftar sebagai pembekal Perbadanan Kemajuan Pertanian Selangor (PKPS), Suruhanjaya Syarikat Malaysia (SSM), Lembaga Pembangunan Industri Pembinaan (CIDB), Kementerian Kewangan Malaysia (MOF) dan mana-mana badan atau agensi yang berkaitan serta berminat untuk menyertai tawaran tender ini. Keutamaan diberikan kepada syarikat-syarikat yang berdaftar dan beroperasi di Sabah untuk menyertai tender seperti berikut:

No. Siri Tender	Tajuk Tender	Gred/Kod Bilangan	Harga Borang Tender (RM)	Tarikh, Masa Dan Tempat Taklimat Tender	Tarikh Tutup Tender
PKPS/UP/ TDR-3/26	TAWARAN TENDER BAGI KERJA-KERJA PEMENANGAN DI LADANG PKPS JAGHARHOMI	GRED : G3 KOD BIDANG CDB : 304- KERJA-AM BANGUNAN C21- KERJA-KERJA AM KEJURUTERAAN ANJAM	500.00	TARIKH: 4 NOVEMBER 2026 (RABU) MASA: 10:00 PAGI	26 NOVEMBER 2026 (KHAMIS)
PKPS/UP/ TDR-4/26	TAWARAN TENDER BAGI KERJA-KERJA PEMENANGAN DI LADANG PKPS APIN-APIN	GRED : G3 KOD BIDANG CDB : 304- KERJA-AM BANGUNAN C21- KERJA-KERJA AM KEJURUTERAAN ANJAM	500.00	TEMPAT: PROMENADE HOTEL KOTA KINABALU NO. 4, LORONG APIN-APIN, APIN-APIN CENTRE, KOTA KINABALU, 88000 SABAH	12:00 TENGAH HARI
PKPS/UP/ TDR-5/26	TAWARAN TENDER BAGI KERJA-KERJA PEMENANGAN SEMULA LADANG SAWIT BAGI LADANG PKPS APIN-APIN SELUSAR 68 HEKTAR	GRED : G4 KOD MOF : MOF-222104- TANAMAN/PERTANIAN	1,000.00		

NOTA & PERINGATAN:
a. Syarikat yang ingin menyertai tender ini perlu berdaftar secara dalam talian sebagai pembekal PKPS di <http://www.tenderwizard.my/PKPS>. Sebarang pertanyaan berkenaan penggunaan sistem ini, sila hubungi Helpdesk.Tenderwizard@pkps.com.my di talian 03-79627819-03-79627957/03-79627947.
b. Syarikat yang telah berdaftar sebagai pembekal PKPS secara dalam talian dan pendaftarannya masih berkuatkuasa, boleh terus mengambil dokumen tender di atas.
c. Borang tender boleh didapati mulai 4 November 2026 (Rabu) selepas jam 2:00 petang secara dalam talian di <http://www.tenderwizard.my/PKPS>. Bayaran bagi borang tender tersebut tidak akan dipulangkan walau dalam apa jua keadaan. Sebarang rayuan tidak akan dipertimbangkan.
d. Syarikat perlu mempunyai purata baki wang di bank syarikat sekurang-kurangnya 15% daripada harga yang ditawarkan bagi menyertai tender ini.
e. Petender hendaklah mengambil perhatian bahawa Fi Perkhidmatan sebanyak 0.8% daripada nilai kontrak dan SST 8% daripada nilai Fi Perkhidmatan tersebut akan ditolak daripada harga tawaran bagi syarikat yang berjaya. Nilai Fi Perkhidmatan tertakluk kepada had maksimum berjumlah RM9,600.00 bagi nilai kontrak RM1.2 juta atau lebih.
f. Borang tender serta lain-lain dokumen hendaklah dikemukakan secara dalam talian melalui <http://www.tenderwizard.my/PKPS> sebelum tarikh tutup seperti jadual di atas.
g. Manual penggunaan sistem ada disediakan di paparan portal: <http://www.tenderwizard.my/PKPS> > Pautan Mudah (Quick Link) > Muat Turun Manual/Pautan
h. Untuk penjelasan lanjut boleh hubungi:

Spesifikasi Kerja :
1. Enik Mohd Othman Bin Sasi/Said Ketua Bahagian Kejuruteraan PKPS No Tel : 019 481 1382
2. Enik Muhammad Hisham Bin Yahya Ketua Operasi Ladang PKPS Jagoharmoni & Sungai Sapi No Tel : 010 930 0443
3. Enik Abdullah Ezan Bin Abdullah Sani Officer In Charge (OIC) Ladang PKPS Irit & Ladang Apin-Apin No Tel : 017 208 2418
4. Enik Mohamad Zaharuzaman Bin Zulkifle Jurmuk Bahagian Kejuruteraan PKPS No Tel : 018 872 0533

ii) Dokumen tender : Bahagian Perolehan: 03 - 6650 2400

IN THE MAGISTRATES' COURT IN SABAH & SARAWAK AT KOTA KINABALU
SUIT NO. BKI-A72NCvC-267-6/2026 (MC3)
BETWEEN
MELINSUNG SUMMER BAY MANAGEMENT CORPORATION [REGISTRATION NO. PPR20263676]
PLAINTIFF
AND
ABD AZIZ BIN MUDA (NRC NO. 570930-11-5299)
DEFENDANT
ADVERTISEMENT PURSUANT TO COURT ORDER
To: ABD AZIZ BIN MUDA (NRC NO. 570930-11-5299)
No. 7, Lorong Buah Pala 13, Kompleks Polis, Taman Nelly, Phase 5, Kolombong, 88450 Kota Kinabalu, Sabah, Malaysia.
And
Lot No. S14-1, First Floor, Block S, Phase B Melinsung Summer Bay Resort Apartment 89600 Papar, Sabah, Malaysia
TAKE NOTICE that an action has been commenced against you as the above-named Defendant in the Magistrates' Court in Suit No. BKI-A72NCvC-267-6/2026 (MC3) by Melinsung Summer Bay Management Corporation of Papar, Sabah in which the Plaintiff's claim is for the outstanding sum of **RM38,893.72** (Ringgit Malaysia Thirty Eight Thousand Eight Hundred Ninety Three and Sen Seventy Two) only as at 12 January 2026; agreed interest at the rate of 2% (two percent) per month on the said sum of **RM38,893.72** (Ringgit Malaysia Thirty Eight Thousand Eight Hundred Ninety Three and Sen Seventy Two) only from 13 January 2026 until the date of full settlement and costs.

IN THE MAGISTRATES' COURT IN SABAH & SARAWAK AT KOTA KINABALU
SUIT NO. BKI-A72NCvC-354-8/2026 (MC3)
BETWEEN
OCBC BANK (MALAYSIA) BERHAD [Company No. 295400-W]
PLAINTIFF
AND
MD JAMIL BIN ABDUL KARIM (NRC NO. 660715-12-5135)
DEFENDANT
ADVERTISEMENT PURSUANT TO COURT ORDER
To: MD JAMIL BIN ABDUL KARIM (NRC NO. 660715-12-5135)
No. 17, Lorong Raja Udang 2B, Taman Kingfisher, PH.2, 88450, Kota Kinabalu, Sabah
TAKE NOTICE that an action has been commenced against you as the above-named Defendant in the Magistrates' Court in Suit No. BKI-A72NCvC-354-8/2026 (MC3) by OCBC Bank (Malaysia) Berhad of Kuala Lumpur in which the Plaintiff's claim is for the outstanding sum of **RM10,267.80** (Ringgit Malaysia Ten Thousand Two Hundred Sixty-Seven and Cent Eighty) only as at 29 September 2025; agreed interest at the rate of 18% (eighteen percent) per month on the said sum of **RM10,267.80** (Ringgit Malaysia Ten Thousand Two Hundred Sixty-Seven and Cent Eighty) only as at 29 September 2025; agreed interest at the rate of 18% (eighteen percent) per month on the said sum of **RM10,267.80** (Ringgit Malaysia Ten Thousand Two Hundred Sixty-Seven and Cent Eighty) only from 30 September 2025 until the date of full settlement and costs.

AND that by an Order of the Court dated 14 October 2026 it was ordered that service of the Writ of Summons and Statement of Claim in the said action on you be effected by this advertisement. If you desire to defend the said action, you must within **fourteen (14) days** from the date of completion of the publication of this advertisement inclusive of the day of such publication enter an appearance at the Magistrates' Court at Kota Kinabalu either in person or by your Advocate before the said Court. In default of such appearance, Judgment may be given against you.
Dated this 28th day of October 2026
MESSRS. LEE & THONG ADVOCATES & SOLICITORS
A1103-A, 11th FLOOR, WISMA MERDEKA, PHASE 1
88000 KOTA KINABALU, SABAH, MALAYSIA

IN THE HIGH COURT IN SABAH AND SARAWAK AT KOTA KINABALU
THE STATE OF SABAH
REGISTRY OF SANDAKAN
PETITION NO. SDK- 32NCvC-41-7/2026 (HC)
IN THE ESTATE OF
NG SZE TECK @ WONG YING TAK, DECEASED
PUBLIC NOTICE
All persons having claims against the estate of the abovenamed Deceased who died testate at Hospital Duchess of Kent, Sandakan, Sabah, Malaysia on the 3rd day of August 2025 are required to submit their claims in writing and with particulars to the undersigned within three (3) months from the date of this notice, after which the estate will be distributed among the persons entitled thereto subject only to claims received within the said period.
Dated this 28th day of October 2026.
Messrs S K Pang & Co. Advocates & Solicitors
Lot 41, Ground & First Floor and Lot 42, 1st Floor, Block F, Utama Place Phase 1, Bandar Utama, Mile 6, North Road, 90000 Sandakan, Sabah, Advocates for the Executrix
Chung Chien Ken @ Kong Chien Ken of Sandakan, Sabah.

IN THE HIGH COURT IN SABAH AND SARAWAK AT KOTA KINABALU
THE STATE OF SABAH
REGISTRY OF SANDAKAN
PETITION NO. SDK- 32NCvC-24-4/2026 (HC)
IN THE ESTATE OF
LAI AH SIN @ LAI YU FOOK, DECEASED
PUBLIC NOTICE
All persons having claims against the estate of the abovenamed Deceased who died testate at Batu 9, Jalan Lama, 90000 Sandakan, Sabah, Malaysia on the 11th day of February 2024 are required to submit their claims in writing and with particulars to the undersigned within three (3) months from the date of this notice, after which the estate will be distributed among the persons entitled thereto subject only to claims received within the said period.
Dated this 28th day of October, 2026.
Messrs S K Pang & Co. Advocates & Solicitors
Lot 41, Ground & First Floor and Lot 42, 1st Floor, Block F, Utama Place Phase 1, Bandar Utama, Mile 6, North Road, 90000 Sandakan, Sabah, Advocates for the Executrix
Lai Lee Lee of Sandakan, Sabah.

IN THE HIGH COURT IN SABAH AND SARAWAK AT KOTA KINABALU
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Chung Chien Ken @ Kong Chien Ken of Sandakan, Sabah.

IN THE HIGH COURT IN SABAH AND SARAWAK AT KOTA KINABALU
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REGISTRY OF SANDAKAN
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IN THE ESTATE OF
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PUBLIC NOTICE
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Lot 41, Ground & First Floor and Lot 42, 1st Floor, Block F, Utama Place Phase 1, Bandar Utama, Mile 6, North Road, 90000 Sandakan, Sabah, Advocates for the Executrix
Lai Lee Lee of Sandakan, Sabah.

IN THE HIGH COURT IN SABAH AND SARAWAK AT KOTA KINABALU
THE STATE OF SABAH
REGISTRY OF SANDAKAN
PETITION NO. SDK- 32NCvC-24-4/2026 (HC)
IN THE ESTATE OF
LAI AH SIN @ LAI YU FOOK, DECEASED
PUBLIC NOTICE
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Dated this 28th day of October, 2026.
Messrs S K Pang & Co. Advocates & Solicitors
Lot 41, Ground & First Floor and Lot 42, 1st Floor, Block F, Utama Place Phase 1, Bandar Utama, Mile 6, North Road, 90000 Sandakan, Sabah, Advocates for the Executrix
Lai Lee Lee of Sandakan, Sabah.

IN THE HIGH COURT IN SABAH AND SARAWAK AT KOTA KINABALU
THE STATE OF SABAH
REGISTRY OF SANDAKAN
PETITION NO. SDK- 32NCvC-24-4/2026 (HC)
IN THE ESTATE OF
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PUBLIC NOTICE
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Mirabel back for Maybank C'ship with new mindset

KUALA LUMPUR: Malaysian golfer Mirabel Ting is learning to trust herself and play for the love of the game, rather than the expectations of others, as she prepares to tee off at the LPGA Maybank Championship at the Kuala Lumpur Golf and Country Club (KLGCC) this week.

Having emerged as Malaysia's best-performing golfer in last year's edition, the 21-year-old Sarawakian is returning with a refreshed mindset, determined to enjoy the game and let her performance do the talking.

The experience of competing on different tours has helped her realise that golf is a personal journey, one in which her focus should be on her own game rather than the pressure to meet other people's expectations.

"I think after half of the season, I kind of realised that I don't play golf for people, I play golf for myself. I love the game of golf."

"So this year, I'm just going to go out there and play. I'm not going to think about things, still going to be the same," she told reporters at a press conference here on Tuesday.

That change in outlook could prove important as Mirabel takes on a strong field at the tournament, where she will also be looking to make the most of familiar surroundings without



Mirabel speaks during the press conference as fellow Malaysian golfer Natsasha Onn looks on. — Bernama photo

I don't play golf for people, I play golf for myself. I love the game of golf.

Mirabel Ting

allowing expectations to weigh her down.

On the course conditions, she believes players could be in for a low-scoring week, with wetter fairways and softer, more receptive greens offering greater

opportunities to attack the pins.

"I think the conditions this year are a little bit different from the past two years that I played."

"It's a lot wetter than the previous year that I played, and the greens are very receptive and you can spin the ball on the green."

"So, this year is a little bit different, and I think we'll see a couple of low scores this year," she said.

Mirabel finished joint 49th in last year's edition. Her best result at the tournament came in 2024 when she finished joint 12th.

— Bernama



Photos show Anthony presenting prizes to Men's Gross category champion Neil and Ladies' Gross category winner Dynneva.

Neil, Dynneva top 9th KGC Closed C'ships

KOTA KINABALU: Neil Redmond Bainon and Dynneva Joyce Donni lifted the Men's and Ladies' Gross titles at the recent 9th Kinabalu Golf Club (KGC) Closed Championships in Tanjung Aru near here. Neil led from start to finish in the three-day tournament, carding a total of 228.

The one-handicapper kicked off his campaign with a 73 before playing 79 and 76 to cement a three-shot win over nearest rival Alexander Lau Seng Yew.

Lau put up a strong final round score of 74 but it was not enough for the two-handicapper who settled for 231 overall after playing 79 and 78 in the opening two rounds. Chua Poh Guan, who is also KGC Captain, finished third with 233 (79, 77 and 77).

In the Ladies' Gross event, Dynneva was in her own class after recording a massive 33-shot win.

A seven-handicapper, Dynneva played 80, 82 and 83 for a total of 245.

Rosie E. Amir settled for second place with 278 (92, 90, 96) while Cyriany Donysius came third with 296 (93, 100, 103).

In the Nett category, the top three winners in the men's event were Edi Rizal Kassim (137), Azmi Awang Talip (140) and Jaini Jeffery (140) while the top two in the ladies' event were Habibah Abdullah (144) and Vivian Koh Shuk Bang (153). KGC deputy president Anthony Kiob officiated the prize giving ceremony.



Sharanjit (fourth right) presenting a souvenir to Maskilone (sixth right) as Malakun (centre) and others look on.

Over 100 from media attend pool, darts friendlies

KOTA KINABALU: The Kota Kinabalu Media and Communications Recreational Club (MedComm KK) bagged gold in dart and silver in pool during its inaugural pool and dart friendly tournament here, Saturday.

Over 100 participants from MedComm KK, National Press Club (NPC), Energy Commission of Sabah (ECOS), Sabah Tourism Board (STB) and Youth Development, Sports Advancement and Creative Economy Ministry (KBS) took part.

During the closing ceremony, MedComm KK chairman Christopher Bernad Maskilone said the event was part of ongoing efforts to promote camaraderie amongst agencies and other press clubs in the nation.

He reiterated MedComm KK's goal of widening its network beyond professional duties.

When closing the event,

Assistant Minister to the Chief Minister Datuk Ceaser Mandala Malakun said relations like these were important for work and other purposes, outside work.

"Sometimes we forget that a single game together like this and enjoying each other's company means a lot, a thousand times more than all our work," he remarked.

He added that, in terms of media relations, the state government respects and values fair and honest reporting in its vision to build a better Sabah, adding that he understood that the media have their responsibilities to get news out, gather facts and ask questions.

"Although sometimes, we (politicians) are not happy about the questions, we understand you are just doing your job and we respect that," Malakun said.

"We value constructive criticism and honest engagement because despite our political differences and views that might

not necessarily align, our hope is to build a better Sabah," he said.

The friendly matches brought together participants including media and communications practitioners from Peninsula Malaysia and state agencies.

Earlier during the opening, Sabah Tourism Board (STB) Deputy Chairman Datuk Tan Kok Liang said programmes such as these promotes healthy lifestyle and fosters better relations between state agencies, government officials and media practitioners.

Also present were National Press Club (NPC) vice-president Datuk Farrah Naz Karim and treasurer Sharanjit Singh, STB Deputy CEO Tay Shu Lan.

Meanwhile, NPC honorary treasurer Sharanjit Singh said a larger media sports gathering is expected in Kuala Lumpur next year.

Plans would include football, badminton and bowling, alongside pool and darts.

M'sia's doubles experiment bearing fruits — Herry

KUALA LUMPUR: Malaysia's quest for stronger and more competitive men's doubles combinations is beginning to bear fruit, according to head coach Herry Iman Pierngadi who highlighted encouraging results on the European tour.

Aaron Tai-Yap Roy King captured the Arctic Open title while Man Wei Chong-Tee Kai Wun emerged champions at the French Open.

Herry said building successful partnerships was a process that required patience, as the coaching team needed time to assess players' compatibility, understand their strengths and identify combinations capable of delivering consistently at the highest level.

"As a coach, I work with the players every day and, of course, I want to bring out the best in them."

"However, this is a process that takes time."

"We cannot expect results overnight," he told reporters at Akademi Badminton Malaysia



Herry Iman Pierngadi

(ABM) in Bukit Kiara here on Tuesday.

He said the assessment went beyond performances in training, with players' personalities, individual roles and understanding on court also playing crucial roles in determining whether a partnership could succeed.

Herry stressed that revamping the men's doubles pairs was never intended to break up existing partnerships permanently, but rather to give the coaching team a clearer picture of the potential offered by different combinations.

"We never said they would be split up permanently because it was only an experiment."

"Now, we are beginning to see the results, with some of them reaching the finals," he added.

Meanwhile, Herry believes that Aaron Chia-Soh Wooi Yik still have the ingredients to remain a formidable partnership after producing encouraging results since reuniting, including finishing runners-up at the World Championships in India and the Denmark Open.

He said their performances demonstrated that the pair remained competitive and capable of challenging the world's best, reinforcing the rationale behind the temporary changes to the national doubles lineup.

"They have certainly proved their ability by reaching the World Championships final, even though they did not win the title."

"We split them up earlier only to experiment, and it wasn't meant to be permanent," he said.

— Bernama

Manchester United crisis deepens as Carrick faces axe

MANCHESTER, United Kingdom: Winless in eight games and hovering just above the Premier League relegation zone, struggling Manchester United are facing the prospect of yet another managerial change, with Michael Carrick likely to pay the price.

The former United midfielder was warmly applauded by fans as he made his way down the tunnel after his team's chastening 3-0 defeat by Bournemouth at Old Trafford on Sunday.

Moments later a chorus of boos erupted as the players left the pitch – with fans clear in their minds where the blame lies for United's current malaise.

Carrick was handed a two-year deal in May after inspiring an impressive revival following the team's struggles under Ruben Amorim – United secured third place in the Premier League and a return to the Champions League.



But a drastic decline this season is an all-too-familiar story for United supporters, who last witnessed a Premier League title

triumph 13 years ago under Alex Ferguson.

An emotional Carrick denied his lap of the pitch at full-time on Sunday was a goodbye as he struggles to come to terms with his team's precipitous decline.

"I definitely knew that we hadn't cracked it and there was a lot of work to be done, but that doesn't mean to say that it should have gone this way," he said.

Carrick, 45, is clinging on but his position appears increasingly precarious, with former Newcastle boss Eddie Howe and ex-Germany boss Julian Nagelsmann apparently in the frame for the job.

The United boss, who won multiple titles in the club's golden era under Ferguson, was the seventh permanent appointment since the Scot retired.

David Moyes was proven in the Premier League, Louis van Gaal and Jose Mourinho had stellar

records and Erik ten Hag and Amorim were seen as rising stars of coaching.

Carrick is in the same category as Ole Gunnar Solskjaer, who was in charge for three years from 2018 – a sentimental choice as a former player who played a major role in the club's glory years under Ferguson.

"The Manchester United fans are singing the Michael Carrick song because I think they know what's going to happen here. They've seen this before. He's one of their own and he's popular," former United captain Gary Neville told Sky Sports.

"But the owners, the sporting department and the players are not popular and they've badly let this football club down."

The problems at the club, as Neville points out, go far beyond the dugout.

Despite fierce, ongoing protests from fans, the US-based Glazer family still hold a majority stake

in the club. Malcolm Glazer bought via a leveraged takeover in 2005, saddling United with huge debts. Any hopes that the arrival of British billionaire Jim Ratcliffe as a minority owner in 2024 would signal a new dawn have been dashed.

Ratcliffe has overseen cost-cutting measures including widespread redundancies and ticket hikes but the club's debt has still soared above £1.1 billion (US\$1.47 billion).

United, who for years bullied their rivals in the transfer market, lost out on the biggest names as they targeted a summer midfield rebuild, with Elliot Anderson, Sandro Tonali and Mateus Fernandes all choosing other clubs.

United instead recruited Carlos Baleba, Youri Tielemans and Andrey Santos – none of whom have made a strong impression – for combined fees of about £150 million.

Significant rifts have emerged in recent weeks.

Lisandro Martinez criticised director of football Jason Wilcox for not doing more to strengthen Carrick's squad.

Last week captain Bruno Fernandes publicly questioned Carrick's tactics in a 4-1 humbling by Champions League debutants Como.

Carrick is expected to take the blame, but the route back to the top for one of the world's biggest clubs appears tougher than ever.

"It can't just be the manager again. There has got to be consequences above that. You can't keep letting the people pick the manager who keep getting it wrong," said Neville.

"It's years now without a Premier League title. That will be another five or 10 before you know it because there are other clubs set up for success and Manchester United aren't."

— AFP

'Harmony of Hope' concert Nov 15 to support youth

Nancy Lai

KOTA KINABALU: A charity orchestra concert organised by the Rotary Club of Kota Kinabalu, Jesselton Philharmonic Orchestra and Sabah Skills and Technology Centre (SSTC) will be held on Nov 15 to raise funds for youth development initiatives in Sabah.

Titled 'Harmony of Hope', the concert aims to support leadership and community service programmes, music education and talent development, as well as skills training to prepare school leavers for employment.

"The initiative seeks to help young people realise their potential, build confidence and acquire skills for a better future," the organisers said.

Funds raised will benefit youths at different stages of development, from students cultivating leadership abilities to aspiring musicians and school leavers seeking pathways into the workforce.

The public, businesses, foundations and community



(From left) SSTC director Natalie Fung, Jesselton Philharmonic Orchestra representative Yap Ling, organising chairman Datuk George Taitim Tulas, Rotary Club of Kota Kinabalu president Daniel Wong and organising committee member Benjamin Lo promote the concert.

organisations are invited to support the initiative through ticket purchases, sponsorships, donations and programme advertisements.

The concert will be held at Dewan Anil, Dewan Bahasa dan Pustaka Sabah branch in Likas, in two sessions.

The first session, from 2pm to 4pm, is dedicated to residents of charity homes and students, while the second session, from 7.30pm to 10pm, is open to the general public.

Beyond fundraising, the organisers hope the event will foster community collaboration

and encourage greater investment in Sabah's next generation through music and service.

The public is encouraged to attend and support efforts to expand educational, artistic and vocational opportunities for young people in Sabah.

Health outreach in Keningau covers initial target of 40 villages

KENINGAU: The health roadshow, led by Bingkor Health Clinic and Keningau Hospital's Rehabilitation Medicine Department, has reached its initial coverage target of 40 villages.

Launched last year, the 'Jelajah Kesihatan-Rehab in Community' has listed Kampung Sandapak as the latest beneficiary.

The objective of the programme is to bring health screening, specialist assessments and rehabilitation services closer to the rural communities.

In a statement, Kampung Sandapak village security and development committee (JKKK) head Nicole Zenno Mikat Atam Singgon commended Bingkor Health Clinic head Dr Ganesh Kumar Kanniah and Keningau Hospital rehabilitation medicine specialist Dr Punithamalar Sundrasegaran for spearheading the initiative.

"The outreach programme has improved access to healthcare, while raising awareness of early disease detection and rehabilitation," said Nicole.

The 'Jelajah Kesihatan' component of the programme



Dr Ganesh Kumar (seated, sixth left) and Dr Punithamalar, on his left, join the health workers in a group photo with Kampung Sandapak villagers.

provides screenings for blood pressure, blood glucose and cholesterol, colorectal cancer, cervical and breast cancer, as well as health assessments carried out under the PeKa B40 programme.

Other services include screening for sarcopenia, malaria and sleep quality, alongside advisory related to healthy eating, medication use and vaccination.

On the other hand, the 'Rehab in Community' component identifies physical impairments

and rehabilitation needs among stroke survivors, people with spinal cord or brain injuries, diabetic patients requiring foot examinations and those with musculoskeletal conditions.

The initiative also raises awareness of specialist rehabilitation services available at Keningau Hospital, with selected patients being referred for further assessment and treatment.

Depending on clinical indications, treatment options

may include platelet-rich plasma therapy, prolotherapy and ultrasound-guided interventional procedures.

For the latest leg, the programme also received support from Keningau Health Office's dental and tuberculosis teams, as well as Keningau Hospital's blood bank.

The JKKK, together with Bingkor Health Clinic Advisory Panel deputy chairman Jakol Wong Langkab, also helped out with the coordination.

Stroke not always dramatic: Early action and recovery are crucial

KUALA LUMPUR: A stroke does not always present dramatic situations and individuals experiencing it are not always unconscious, paralysed or unable to speak.

Sunway Medical Centre, Sunway City (SMC) Consultant Emergency Physician Dr Aaron Lai Kuo Huo said a person experiencing a stroke may still be awake, walking and talking while developing subtle but critical warning signs.

He said these initial symptoms can include sudden numbness or weakness on one side of the body, difficulty finding words, a sudden loss of balance or changes in vision.

"Many people expect a stroke to look dramatic, but that is not always the case. When symptoms appear mild, many people choose to wait and see if they improve, but these delays can reduce the opportunity for timely assessment and treatment," he said in a statement.

Dr Aaron added that even if symptoms disappear after a few minutes, it could indicate a transient ischaemic attack (TIA) often referred to as a "mini-stroke", which serves as a critical warning sign that requires urgent medical assessment.

He recommended using the 'BE FAST' tool to recognise potential stroke symptoms, which includes Balance (sudden loss of balance or coordination),

Eyes (sudden vision changes), Face (facial drooping), Arms (weakness or numbness in an arm), Speech (difficulty speaking or understanding speech) and Time (to seek emergency help immediately).

However, Dr Aaron stressed that a person does not need to experience every single 'BE FAST' symptom before seeking emergency medical help.

"Someone experiencing a stroke may still be able to walk or talk, which is why the condition is sometimes overlooked."

If a stroke is suspected, families should call for an ambulance and try not to drive them to the hospital themselves where possible, he said, adding that paramedics can begin monitoring the patient on the way and alert the hospital to prepare for urgent treatment.

Meanwhile, SMC Consultant Neurosurgeon & Spine Specialist Dr Lim Swee San highlighted that many people underestimate the invisible challenges stroke survivors face after being discharged from the hospital.

"Families often judge recovery based on whether someone can walk again. However, stroke can also affect speech, memory, concentration and emotional wellbeing. These difficulties may not always be visible, but they can have a major impact on daily life, work and independence," he explained. —Bernama

Super El Nino: Risk of hotter, drier weather next year

KUALA LUMPUR: Malaysia may experience hotter and drier weather towards the end of the 2026/2027 Northeast Monsoon (MTL), especially from late January to March next year, following expectations of a Super El Niño phenomenon that could lead to reduced rainfall across the country.

Malaysian Meteorological Department (MetMalaysia) National Weather and Earthquake Operations Centre senior director Maqrun Fadzli Mohd Fahmi said these conditions could increase the risk of heatwaves and droughts, especially if rainfall decreases during that period.

He said the El Niño phenomenon is currently in a strong phase and is expected to intensify to a very strong level or Super El Niño towards the end of this year and into next year.

"With reduced rainfall, hot weather or heatwaves often emerge, along with drought due to water shortages caused by insufficient rainfall," he said as a guest on Bernama TV's 'Fokus 15'

programme on Tuesday.

However, he said the initial phase of the 2026/2027 MTL, which begins today, is expected to bring three to five episodes of prolonged heavy rainfall, particularly between this November and January 2027.

He said that these conditions could heighten the risk of flooding, particularly in the East Coast states of Kelantan, Terengganu and Pahang, as well as eastern Johor.

"Residents in flood-prone areas should remain vigilant regarding the risk of heavy rain during the early part of the monsoon, while drier conditions towards the end of the monsoon will require preparations for possible hot weather and water shortages," he said.

Maqrun Fadzli said MetMalaysia monitors weather developments around the clock and will issue heavy rain warnings when necessary to enable relevant agencies and the public to take appropriate precautionary measures. —Bernama

Creative duo takes street fashion brand beyond local market

KOTA KINABALU: Creative partners Harold Egn and Chris Pereira are looking to take their street fashion brand, EGNism, beyond the local market following the recent launch at Ruang Tamu Ekosistem Alamesra.

The event, attended by collectors, artisans, students, friends and family, took the form of a forum moderated by Sabahan podcaster Stevell Lumbasi.

During the session, the duo expressed gratitude to those who supported the project and shared the challenges they faced in turning EGNism into reality.

According to Harold, the idea for the brand first emerged in

2006, during his early years as an artist, but only became achievable in recent years after they had found the right connections to realise their ideas and designs.

Chris oversees the brand's marketing and technical aspects, while Harold is responsible for its creative direction.

Chris also handles videography and photography to promote EGNism, with the duo collaborating with various companies, groups and individuals to develop their products.

Although the process may appear largely do-it-yourself, these collaborations have helped

them work towards producing merchandise that meets their expectations.

"We plan to expand our range of artistic merchandise, with products expected to be available to the public soon," said the duo.

EGNism aims to become a sustainable brand with a presence beyond the local market and has already secured a physical retail platform in Plymouth, UK, to sell its merchandise.

The opportunity marks a step towards introducing the Sabahan creative label to an international audience while continuing to develop its identity through street fashion and artistic expression.



The creative duo with collectors, artisans, students and their friends and families gather for a group photo at the launch in Ruang Tamu Ekosistem Alamesra.

Vibrant MYTC bazaar celebrates community engagement, youth creativity



Wong (fifth right) and other guests jointly cut the ribbon to mark the programme.

KINARUT: Montfort Youth Training Centre's (MYTC) 17th annual Open House Bazaar brought together the community in a celebration of culture, creativity and youth talent at its residential campus here last Sunday.

The event on Oct 25 attracted a large crowd of supporters, families and visitors, with more than 50 stalls offering local delicacies, homemade treats, handcrafted products and second-hand items.

The bazaar was officially opened by WSG Group managing director Datuk Susan Wong and Montfort Open House chairperson Datuk Margaret

Fung, who joined the Brothers of St Gabriel, members of the Montfort Board of Governors and MYTC director Frederick Mah for the ribbon-cutting ceremony.

A key highlight was the Trainees' Showcase, featuring handmade carpentry and welded items produced by MYTC trainees. Visitors had the opportunity to view and purchase the products, showcasing the trainees' skills and creativity. Community partners known as the Friends of Montfort also participated, offering second-hand treasures and home-based products.

Visitors were also treated to an animal encounter session by

a team from Lok Kawi Wildlife Park, featuring a python, Indian star tortoise, rabbit and gecko.

The event also promoted environmental awareness by encouraging visitors to bring their own shopping bags and food containers to reduce waste.

MYTC thanked the donors, sponsors, volunteers and visitors who contributed to the success of the bazaar.

The centre also called on the public to continue supporting its programmes for underserved youth in Sabah through cash or in-kind contributions. More information is available at www.montfortsabah.org.



India orders evacuations as cyclone looms

KAKINADA, India: Indian authorities ordered nearly 100,000 people to evacuate homes in Andhra Pradesh and Odisha, ahead of a severe cyclone the national weather office expects to make landfall by Wednesday.

Neighbouring Nepal and Sri Lanka have also issued weather warnings.

Cyclone Arnab is forecast to hit India's southwestern Andhra Pradesh coast as a "very severe cyclonic storm", with gusts of up to 150 kilometres per hour on Wednesday morning, the India Meteorological Department (IMD) said in a bulletin.

Torrential rain lashed the coast in the port city of Kakinda as heavy waves crashed on shore.

"I've never seen anything like this before," Kotesk Kumar, 35, told AFP, adding the government warned people to stock up on groceries.

"There was a cyclone here three years ago, but the water didn't rise this much."

Cyclones, called hurricanes in the North Atlantic and typhoons in the Pacific, are a regular menace in the Bay of Bengal and northern Indian Ocean.

The storm season, however, has been turbocharged by the El Nino weather phenomenon

I've never seen anything like this before. There was a cyclone here three years ago, but the water didn't rise this much.

Kotesk Kumar

that has caused unprecedented warming.

Neighbouring Sri Lanka, meanwhile, closed schools with warnings of torrential rain, with the island's Department of Meteorology warning storms could trigger flash floods and mudslides.

The military has been placed on alert, Colombo's Disaster Management Centre said.

Indian media reported that as many as 50,000 people have been told to move to safe areas in Andhra Pradesh, and 48,000 in Odisha.

Nepal's disaster authority issued a warning on Tuesday, saying that as the storm travels inland towards the Himalayas - likely overnight Thursday - it will bring heavy rainfall as well as "a high risk of heavy snowfall, snowstorms and avalanches".

It called on tourists to avoid travelling to high mountain areas and advised those already there to remain in safe locations.

Nepal is still recovering from a catastrophic Aug 26 flood sparked by a glacial mountain collapse, which swept away more than 1,400 people and left over 5,000 missing. India's weather bureau said it expects the cyclone to result in "total destruction" of thatched houses and create localised flooding, uprooting of power and communication poles, and "widespread damage" to standing crops.

In Kakinada, police barricaded roads leading to the sea.

Andhra Pradesh State Chief Minister Nara Chandrababu Naidu ordered the storm to be "constantly monitored and advance precautions taken", his office said in a statement on Monday.

"Adequate shelters and evacuation arrangements have been made," New Delhi's Cabinet Secretariat said in a statement.

The neighbouring Indian state of Odisha opened 1,735 cyclone shelters and imposed restrictions



People carrying umbrellas along the Bay of Bengal coast during rainfall in Andhra Pradesh's Kakinada ahead of Cyclone Arnab's expected landfall. — AFP photo

on movement in landslide-prone zone areas, the state's information office said.

Local media reported that Andhra Pradesh authorities

ordered evacuations in key, low-lying areas and shut "all educational institutions" in some districts from Tuesday until Saturday.

Over 4,700 pregnant women residing in potentially dangerous sites were moved to hospitals, according to The Indian Express newspaper. — AFP

UN: World's climate pledges would cut emissions a tenth of what's needed

WASHINGTON, United States: The latest climate pledges put forth by nations will cut global greenhouse gas emissions just six percent by 2035, a UN report said Tuesday, weeks before COP31 talks in Turkey.

That is a tenth of the roughly 60 percent reduction from 2019 levels that scientists say is needed to limit warming to 1.5 degrees Celsius, significantly down from last year's estimate after the United States withdrew from the Paris Agreement.

The report by UN Climate Change is a synthesis of 154 countries' nationally determined contributions (NDCs) - obligatory submissions under the 2015 Paris deal - received between January 2024 and August 2026, covering 71 per cent of global emissions.

It found that if the countries fully implemented their plans and also met conditional targets, emissions cuts would still amount to just nine percent.

The UN last year estimated a 10 per cent cut by 2035, but that was before a large number of NDCs had come in, leaving it to model the missing pledges, and before the US was taken out of the equation.

Under President Donald Trump, the US has left the Paris Agreement for a second time and is pursuing policies that heavily



The latest climate pledges put forth by nations will cut global greenhouse gas emissions just six percent by 2035, a UN report said, weeks before COP31 talks in Turkey. — AFP file photo

favor fossil fuels.

Last week, the United Nations Environment Programme found that global commitments to cut planet-heating emissions put the world on course for 2.6 degrees Celsius warming this century.

"With its focus on practical measures to support greater implementation," the COP31

meeting in Turkey "can help address some of the key gaps," UN climate chief Simon Stiell said in a statement.

To have a reasonable chance of limiting warming to 1.5 degrees Celsius by 2100 compared to pre-industrial levels, the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change estimates that

global greenhouse gas emissions need to fall by 60 per cent from 2019 levels by 2035.

For pathways to limiting warming to below 2 degrees Celsius - the Paris Agreement's fallback goal - emissions would need to fall by 37 per cent by 2035.

Scientists warn that every additional fraction of a degree above 1.5 degrees Celsius increases extreme weather events and the likelihood of irreversible changes to the planet, from dying coral reefs to melting permafrost.

The world has already warmed roughly 1.4 degrees Celsius relative to pre-industrial times, and crossing 1.5 degrees Celsius is expected in a matter of years.

In another report released on Tuesday, the UN found that progress has been made in increasing financing to curb warming, but it still falls far short of what is required.

Global climate finance flows reached an average of US\$1.9 trillion per year in 2023 and 2024 - a 32 per cent increase compared with 2021 and 2022 - driven largely by private investment in low-emission technology, including renewable electricity generation, and private household investment in electric vehicles and heat pumps. — AFP

Dementia accounts for over 10 pct of deaths in Australia

SYDNEY: Dementia, including Alzheimer's disease, accounted for more than 10 per cent of all deaths in Australia in 2025 and remained the country's leading cause of death, according to official data released on Tuesday, reported Xinhua.

The Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) said 19,019 people died from dementia in 2025, accounting for 10.1 per cent of all registered deaths, up from 18,291 in 2024.

Ischaemic heart diseases remained the second-leading cause of death, claiming 16,228 lives, or 8.6 per cent of the total. The mortality rate for the disease fell to its lowest level since official records began in 1968.

Cerebrovascular diseases, lung cancer and chronic lower respiratory diseases rounded out the five leading causes of death, which together accounted

for 33.3 per cent of all registered deaths.

A total of 188,421 deaths were registered across Australia in 2025, an increase of 1,153 from the previous year.

However, the age-standardised mortality rate fell from 507.8 to 495.5 deaths per 100,000 people, indicating a return towards pre-pandemic mortality trends, the ABS said.

Over the past decade, deaths caused by dementia increased by 37.3 per cent, while those from ischaemic heart diseases and cerebrovascular diseases declined by 16.2 per cent and 12.1 per cent, respectively.

The report also showed that accidental falls rose to the seventh-leading cause of death in 2025, with 5,519 fatalities, an increase of 59.5 per cent compared with 2016. — Bernama-Xinhua

Climber dies in 1,500m fall on Nepal mountain

KATHMANDU, Nepal: A German climber fell about 1,500 metres (4,920 feet) to his death on Monday, a day after reaching the summit of Ama Dablam mountain, according to a trekking company operator.

Wolfgang Waschiczek, 57, was reported missing from Camp 3, which lies at around 6,200 metres. He had been resting after reaching the 6,812-metre summit

on Sunday, before his planned descent.

"After a successful summit, he spent a night at Camp 3 on Sunday, and on Monday morning, his guide found him missing," Gokul Thapa, head of the trekking company Real Himalaya, told AFP.

Waschiczek's body was spotted by another Sherpa at Camp 2 at around 8am on Monday. — AFP

Climate-threatened Fijian utopia rejects calls to relocate

SERUA ISLAND, Fiji: As the sun sets over Fiji's tiny Serua Island, its climate-threatened inhabitants soak in one of the reasons they have rejected attempts to relocate their village - the "US\$100 million views".

The island looks like a utopia from the mainland, two steep palm-covered knolls sandwiching its low-lying centre, flanked by coral reefs and rich fishing grounds.

But it is on the island itself that the risk from rising seas becomes clearer, with a concrete sea wall providing the only defence against waves that are already swamping homes.

"The stronger the air pressure, the higher the waves. So the waves wash through inside the village," Serua Island resident Avenai Ranuku told AFP.

Dozens of homes are in harm's way when cyclones hit Fiji, as are vegetable crops and graves.

Water laps at the feet of concrete piles where homes and a hospital once stood on the island's eastern end, and two homes were also moved from the western side where land has been washed away.

Despite the risks, most residents say they would rather strengthen the island's defences



Photo shows an aerial view of Serua Island in Fiji. — AFP file photo

than abandon their ancestral home.

Ranuku remembers when category five cyclone Winston hit as a child and the island's population moved up one of the island's peaks to take shelter.

"Terrifying," Ranuku said of that night.

"All of the villagers, when the chief mention it, we go up. No one left behind. We help everyone, carry everything from the house, food. This is our evacuation plan."

Safe on higher ground, Ranuku could hear "waves going around, and the roof of the houses being washed away".

From that same haven on the

hill, Ranuku explained why the threat of cyclones and sea level rise doesn't deter people from living on the island.

"We love this island, you know. Fresh air, go out fishing every day, that's why they don't want to leave."

"Many people used to say, they go to that house on the hill to see the sunset, it's a US\$100 million view."

Serua Village worked with Habitat for Humanity in 2025 to write a detailed disaster risk reduction plan, as most of the population rejected calls for it to relocate.

Instead residents wanted to protect their ancestral home and

the culture linked to it.

The report found nearly 20 percent of homes on the island were in critical condition, and just three houses were strong enough to withstand a cyclone.

"Serua Island experiences more frequent seawall overtopping during high tides and king tides, saline intrusion affecting soil fertility, and standing water after rainfall, elevating health risks," the report said.

"The assessment shows there is a lack of natural form of wave breakers on Serua Island, and it is constantly threatened by sea level rise and cyclones."

More than 50 percent of houses have a combination of

unstable foundations and roofs, and weak joints, walls, and bracing, making these homes most vulnerable to cyclones and severe weather events."

On receiving the report, the village wasted no time in working to strengthen its resilience.

During AFP's visit in October, dozens of workers were renovating homes along the northern coastline.

Flimsy walls and corrugated iron roofing were being removed and taken by boat to the mainland.

Some homes had already been raised to mitigate flood risk, and others would soon follow.

The report also recommended improving access to the island by building a more robust path.

During low tide, it is possible to walk the 750 metres to the island, guided by a string of power lines protruding from the sea floor.

But at high tide the only access is by boat, and even then the report said work is needed to make docking on the island safer and easier.

It is work Ranuku said his village is committed to.

"Why would we want to leave?", he said, looking across the water to Fiji's Coral Coast. — AFP

Jordan strikes militant groups in Syria after church attack

AMMAN: The Jordanian military said it had struck "terrorist organisations" in neighbouring Syria on Monday in retaliation for a deadly jihadist attack on a church last week, hours after authorities arrested three men they accused of the killings.

It said air force jets had "destroyed several terrorist positions" and killed and wounded "numerous members" of groups linked to the perpetrators of the church attack.

Syrian authorities reported civilian casualties from the raids, with health officials in Daraa province saying six people, including three children and a woman, were killed.

Syria's civil defence agency reported seven deaths in total.

On Friday, gunmen killed nine people during a funeral service at the Greek Orthodox St George's Church in the village of Hammoud in Karak governorate, southern Jordan.

Karak is home to a significant Christian community in Muslim-majority Jordan. — AFP

Australia warns of 'unprecedented' AI threat

SYDNEY: Artificial intelligence poses an "unprecedented" threat as foreign governments turn it loose to hack computer networks and critical infrastructure, Australia's cyber security agency warned on Tuesday.

The Australian Signals Directorate said rapidly advancing artificial intelligence models could be of huge benefit if harnessed for good, even using some AI tools to compile its own annual 'cyber threat' report.

But recent months had also shown how AI was helping criminals and state-sponsored hackers launch attacks at "greater scale than ever before", the directorate said in the report.

"AI has been the defining force in the cyber threat landscape over the past year, allowing malicious actors to find vulnerabilities faster and exploit them at unprecedented scale, speed and sophistication," the report read.

"In recent weeks, new threats have emerged from the unintended actions of AI agents



File photo shows the letters AI for Artificial Intelligence on a laptop screen (right) next to the logo of the Chat AI application on a smartphone screen in Frankfurt am Main, western Germany. — AFP photo

and model testing."

Global worries about the power of advanced AI tools are mounting after a string of hacking incidents involving models from leading developers such as OpenAI and Anthropic.

The report documented a stark increase in cyber security incidents.

The Australian Signals Directorate issued more than 4,400 warnings about potentially malicious activity over the past year – an 80 per cent increase compared to the prior 12 months.

"State-sponsored cyber actors continued to target Australian organisations primarily to gain access to sensitive or non-public

information.

"This activity extends beyond government networks, and includes critical infrastructure entities, private businesses and individuals."

The report said hackers linked to China, Russia and North Korea had targeted Australia or its allies in recent times.

Defence Minister Richard Marles said the nation could not ignore the AI revolution.

"AI is here and it's real. People need to engage," he told reporters.

"There's no turning the clock back in relation to that. Malicious actors are using AI to find vulnerabilities in systems."

Marles urged Australians to update their computers and "harden their systems".

Governments and firms have in recent days been rushing to fix critical flaws in a programming language that runs a large share of the world's websites.

The vulnerability was found using a powerful model from OpenAI. — AFP



File photo shows a person watching a news feed running a Russia's FSB security service footage of the operation to detain a Japanese journalist accused of espionage, on a smartphone in Moscow. Japanese officials have met a journalist detained in Russia for the first time since his arrest on spying accusations. — AFP photo

Japan says officials met detained reporter in Russia

TOKYO: Japanese officials have met a journalist detained in Russia for the first time since his arrest on spying accusations earlier this month, Tokyo has said.

Officials from Japan's embassy in Russia "conducted a consular meeting" with the reporter and "confirmed that the individual has no health issues", Japan's foreign ministry said in a statement late Monday.

Russian authorities had earlier said journalist Yuki Imai had been arrested on Sakhalin, an island in Russia's Far East, on suspicion of conducting espionage activities.

"The Government of Japan strongly urges the Government of the Russian Federation to release the Japanese national immediately and to extend humanitarian consideration as well as fair and impartial

treatment," the foreign ministry statement said.

Moscow has also accused Japan of the widespread use of journalists for espionage, an allegation denied by Prime Minister Sanae Takaichi.

Imai's employer, Hokkaido Shimbun newspaper, has also stressed its independence from the Japanese government.

The two countries have a decades-old dispute over the status of a string of islands in the Pacific Ocean, off the northeast coast of Japan and to the southwest of Sakhalin. Japan has also imposed sanctions on Russia after its invasion of Ukraine.

Russia has detained several citizens of what it calls "unfriendly" countries in recent years, accusing them of working for Western intelligence services. — AFP

Experts warn of effects of oil slick seen on UAE beach

DUBAI: An oil slick in the Gulf has reached a beach in the United Arab Emirates, AFP video showed on Tuesday, with experts warning it could threaten desalination plants as it spreads.

UAE authorities last Friday said they had "detected a tanker oil spill affecting Umm Al Quwain's beaches", referring to an emirate north of Dubai.

By Tuesday morning, footage shot by AFP showed workers cleaning up oil on the emirate's beaches, which had earlier been shut by authorities along with other beaches in the country.

Satellite images taken on Oct 21 and analysed by AFP show what appears to be a slick of about 180 square kilometres in that area. Three days later images showed it had quadrupled in size to about 750 sq km.

Experts from NGOs including Dutch peace group PAX said the tanker GEM NO.2 spilled oil after it was attacked on Oct 9.

They warned the slick could affect operations at UAE desalination plants, crucial for supplying water to the Gulf country.

"Satellite imagery from Oct 26 shows oil slicks a few hundred metres away from the intake of the Naqaa desalination plant. It remains unclear to what extent this will affect the process at the plant itself," said Wim Zwijnenburg from PAX.

Greenpeace researcher Insaf Benzaki said: "As the spill moves closer to the beaches, the priority is to intensify containment and cleanup operations to minimise the risk of harm to natural habitats and coastal communities."

"The rapid response by UAE authorities and the intensive efforts underway to contain and clean up the oil spill are critical to limiting its potential impacts," she added.

The British maritime security agency UKMTO reported on Oct 9 that a vessel had been hit by a projectile off the UAE coast, causing a fire that was later brought under control.

Maritime security company Vanguard identified the vessel as the oil tanker GEM NO.2, sailing under a Panamanian flag. — AFP



A volunteer (right) assisting a woman with a nasal oxygen cannula at a shelter run by the Central Kalimantan Forest and Land Fire Smoke Response Coalition (RAKAT) to aid residents experiencing respiratory difficulties in Palangkaraya, Central Kalimantan province. — Photo by Reina/ AFP

Borneo residents struggle as island burns

PALANGKARAYA, Indonesia: Sudarsono shuddered as he inhaled from an oxygen tank while being evacuated from his small house in Palangkaraya on Indonesian Borneo, yellow, acrid wildfire smoke billowing all around.

The 57-year-old fell sick after going out with three friends days earlier to fight fires creeping closer to homes on the outskirts of the city in Central Kalimantan province, one of the regions hit hardest by months of blazes and haze.

"I wore a mask, goggles, everything, but I was surrounded by smoke. I went home since I couldn't take it anymore," the construction worker and farmer told AFP as he was being loaded into an ambulance to go to hospital last week.

Sudarsono's backyard had been blackened by flames, with only a few tree stumps and a cloying smoke left.

"I hope that there will be no more haze, that Central Kalimantan will be free from fires so people can feel safe, work and earn a living," Sudarsono

said before the ambulance doors closed.

He is among more than 11,000 people treated for respiratory infections in Palangkaraya during a months-long wildfire crisis that has also affected Indonesia's neighbours with toxic haze pollution.

More than 300,000 people in seven provinces were laid low by respiratory tract infections from August to October, according to Indonesia's health ministry.

At a nearby shelter run by NGOs in Palangkaraya, Alexandra Surya Habsari was treated with a nebuliser and oxygen for breathing difficulties and a headache.

"I'm really fed up, but I don't even know who I'm supposed to be angry with ... this is already way beyond what can be considered normal for a human being to endure," Alexandra told AFP.

The toxic smog emitted by wildfires contains harmful elements including formaldehyde, hydrogen cyanide and ammonia, as well as PM2.5 particles small enough to penetrate the lungs or

bloodstream.

The World Health Organisation has linked PM2.5 exposure to increased illness and death.

The Southeast Asian giant has for months struggled to contain fires that deforestation monitor Nusantara Atlas says have consumed more than 1.9 million hectares in the nine months to September.

The government has not confirmed or disputed the figure.

The health ministry said it has set up nearly 500 facilities countrywide where people can access free oxygen and treatment for haze-related ailments.

Nearly 300 of them are in Central Kalimantan, where the fires and the haze have been particularly bad.

The local government has also deployed buses with oxygen tanks around Palangkaraya.

Local health official Riduan, who like many Indonesians has one name, said the people most affected by respiratory ailments were aged between 17 and 59 – those who go out to work even in the toxic air. — AFP

US assigns first nuclear-powered submarine to Australian base

SYDNEY: The Pentagon has assigned the USS Colorado as the first US nuclear-powered attack submarine to join a rotating force to be based in western Australia.

The 115-metre Virginia-Class submarine, armed with land-attack missiles and sophisticated torpedoes, will sail to the new Australian base in late 2027, officials said Tuesday.

The deployment is a "significant milestone" in building up a joint US-Australia-UK deterrence in the Pacific under their AUKUS defence pact, the allies said in a joint statement.

The defence agreement, seen as a response to China's military buildup in the region, aims to equip Australia's navy with a fleet of stealthy nuclear-powered submarines and expand military cooperation between the three allies.

Australia does not permit foreign military bases on its

soil, but hosts US Marines for exercises for six months of the year in the northern city of Darwin.

The rotating force of nuclear-powered submarines – known as Submarine Rotational Force-West – is to be hosted at a naval base in Western Australia, HMAS Stirling.

The base is projected to host up to five fast-attack submarines – four from the United States and one from the UK – on a rotational basis.

It will help Australia prepare for operating and maintaining its own nuclear-powered submarines while supporting its allies' deployments and maintenance, the three countries said.

The rotating submarine force was the first "really big milestone" under the AUKUS agreement, Australian Defence Minister Richard Marles told news channel News24. — AFP

India media groups challenge new data privacy rules in top court

NEW DELHI, India: India's Supreme Court on Tuesday sought the government's response to a challenge by news publishers who say changes to data privacy rules threaten press freedom.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi's government introduced the rules last year to guide the law to strengthen personal data protection, but critics say their sweeping scope risks

undermining public interest reporting.

The new rules "fail to provide any exemption in favour of journalistic activity" and "threaten the full spectrum of journalistic activity", according to the petition by the Digital News Publishers Association (DNPA), which represents some of India's biggest news organisations. — AFP

Houthi official says Egypt's military support for Saudi declaration of war

SANAA: A Houthi official said Tuesday that the Egyptian parliament's decision to authorise military support for Saudi Arabia to defend against the Iran-backed group's attacks was a declaration of war.

The comment was part of a long statement reacting to a Monday visit to Tehran by the Saudi defence minister, alongside Pakistan's army chief and Turkey's intelligence chief, in a

bid to de-escalate tensions in the Middle East war.

"It is truly remarkable that while these people go to discuss what they call 'peace in the region', Egypt and its parliament declare support for the so-called defence of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, and in doing so, declare war against the Republic of Yemen," said Mohammed Ali al-Houthi, a member of the Houthis' political bureau, in a Telegram

post.

Saudi Defence Minister Khalid bin Salman, Pakistan's army chief General Asim Munir and Turkey's intelligence chief Ibrahim Kalin attended the talks with Mohsen Rezaei, head of Iran's Supreme National Security Council.

They also met Iranian President Masoud Pezeshkian.

Iran, Pakistan and Turkey recently signed a Nato-style defence pact in Mecca that says

an attack on one country is to be considered an attack on all three.

But since the Houthis ramped up attacks on Saudi Arabia earlier this month, the two other countries have not announced any strikes on the group.

Al-Houthi said the pact was "a clear and blatant act of aggression against the Islamic Republic of Iran", adding that the group was "not afraid of any alliance that may be formed".

In July, Yemen's conflict flared up again as a fragile 2022 truce fell apart after the Houthis allowed an Iranian plane to land in Yemen's capital Sanaa, in defiance of Saudi control over Yemeni airspace, setting off a spate of attacks.

The Houthis then declared a maritime blockade of Saudi Arabia and began hitting its ships, territory and oil facilities, before launching a major offensive

in September in which they seized Yemeni government-held territory along the Red Sea coast.

In response, the Houthis have reported frequent Saudi strikes targeting areas under their control.

In October, the Houthis ramped up their attacks on Saudi Arabia, forcing the cancellation of flagship events and a shutdown of Riyadh airport for two weeks. — AFP

Deeply divided Israel heads to elections

JERUSALEM: A deeply divided Israel headed to the polls on Tuesday for the first time since Hamas's Oct 7, 2023 attack, with voters delivering their verdict on veteran Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and the country's rightward drift.

Israelis are casting their ballots in the shadow of three years of multi-front regional wars triggered by Oct 7, with the trauma still fresh and questions over accountability and security central to the campaign.

The close-fought vote comes as Israel looks increasingly isolated on the world stage, driven by a devastating military campaign in Gaza, soaring settlement construction and violence in the occupied West Bank, along with a move towards hard-right religious nationalism.

The last opinion polls to be published showed Netanyahu, Israel's longest-serving prime minister, running neck and neck with his main centrist rival Gadi Eisenkot, a political novice and former military chief whose mild manner is seen as the antithesis of the incumbent.

"I want change in our country. I want a good democratic centrist government," Alexandra, 65, told AFP at a Jerusalem polling station, where a few dozen people waited to vote early in the morning.

Some 7.3 million people are eligible to vote, with hundreds of thousands of young people due to cast their ballot for the first time. Surveys show they

I want change in our country. I want a good democratic centrist government.

Alexandra

overwhelmingly identify as centre-right or right-wing.

Tens of thousands of Israelis are estimated to have flown in from abroad to vote in an election seen as crucial to deciding the future character of their country.

"I think this is one of the most important election days in the history of the state of Israel," Uriel Brandler, a 58-year-old real estate agent, told AFP in Jerusalem the day before the vote, saying he hoped for change.

Netanyahu, 77, has served as Israel's prime minister on and off for more than 19 years.

The wily political operator focused heavily on his security credentials during his campaign, playing on his relationship with US President Donald Trump and insisting he is the only one who can keep Israelis safe.

In the years since Oct 7, Netanyahu led multiple wars that have seen Israeli forces reduce Gaza to rubble, occupy southern Lebanon and for the first time pummel arch-foe Iran with US help.

At home, Israelis have faced bombardment from Iran, Hamas, Lebanese militant group Hezbollah, and Yemen's Houthis rebels.

Zipporah Bennett, an 85-year-

old retiree, said she was voting for Netanyahu "because he has had the experience of navigating the country through a lot of difficult seasons", praising his support from the US and adding: "He's a man who's not afraid to take action."

Netanyahu returned to power in December 2022, bringing into his coalition far-right ultra-nationalists who have since seen their political clout skyrocket.

Wearing his trademark noose-shaped lapel pin, far-right National Security Minister Itamar Ben Gvir cast his ballot in the West Bank settlement of Kiryat Arba, where his supporters had set up banners and speakers.

The opposition has scorned Netanyahu for his backing of ultra-Orthodox parties fighting to keep exemptions for religious Jewish students from drafting into the military, which faces personnel shortages.

But one of the biggest criticisms levelled at the premier is his failure to take responsibility for the Oct 7 attack, the deadliest day in the country's history.

Eisenkot, 66, has pledged to establish an independent state commission of inquiry into the security failures that led to the attack, something Netanyahu's



A man casting his ballot to vote at a polling station in the Arab-Israeli town of Umm al-Fahm on the day of Israel's legislative election. — AFP photo

government has resisted.

Seeking to unseat the premier is an informal bloc of parties led by Eisenkot's Yashar and spanning from the right to the centre-left.

Eisenkot has vowed to prevent the creation of a Palestinian state and expressed support for Israeli settlements, but has promised to crack down on violent settlers.

Neither Eisenkot nor Netanyahu has publicly said

they would partner with the predominantly Arab lists, which represent some 21 percent of Israel's population and who could become kingmakers if the results are as close as expected.

Yousef Jabareen, who heads one of the Arab-majority lists, told AFP he hoped for a high turnout among his community to help topple Netanyahu's coalition, after voting in the northern town of Umm al Fahm.

Most polling stations will close at 10pm (2000 GMT).

Final results could take days to trickle in and it is highly unlikely that any single party will come close to the 61 seats needed for a majority in the 120-member parliament.

Cobbling together any coalition could take weeks or months, with possible new elections on the horizon if negotiations fail. — AFP



A man walking past a kiosk selling newspapers whose frontpage display the victory of Brazil's President Lula, a day after the presidential runoff election in Rio de Janeiro. — AFP photo

Bolsonaro party concedes Lula's election win

SAO PAULO: Flavio Bolsonaro's Liberal Party on Monday recognised the outcome of Brazil's presidential runoff, despite the candidate's objections to the poll won by leftist President Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva.

Lula, who turns 81 on Tuesday, pulled off a dramatic comeback after trailing Bolsonaro in a first-round vote, a defeat which fired up the left on the streets and social media to secure him a fourth term in office.

In the end, Lula pulled around 4.4 million more votes than his rival on Sunday.

Bolsonaro, a right-wing senator and 45-year-old son of far-right former president Jair Bolsonaro, cried foul after polling was extended nationwide for two hours, at Lula's request, due to transport problems in some cities.

Though Bolsonaro maintained that he will seek annulment of the presidential election, his party later distanced itself from that position and opted to accept the official vote.

"We recognise the presidential election results, as proclaimed by the Superior Electoral Court (TSE), but we believe that the concerns raised need to be sufficiently addressed within a balanced and democratic political debate," the party said in a statement late Monday.

Flavio Bolsonaro had also requested polling stations stay open in some regions due to heavy rains, but he described the vote extension as "unacceptable" and a "dirty trick."

"While congratulations rolled in for Lula from world leaders on both sides of the political divide, Trump, an ally of the Bolsonaro family, said the election "looked terrible to me."

"I didn't take sides but it looked like another rigged election frankly," he told reporters in Washington. "It looked so corrupt."

In a video posted to social media on Monday afternoon, Flavio Bolsonaro said police had ordered he surrender his passports, adding "I am now prohibited from

leaving the country."

He said the decision came from a Supreme Court justice, and was based on a comment by his US-based brother Eduardo Bolsonaro, who told a US podcast two days before the election that "if my brother does not win, I am in favor that he would leave the country."

Eduardo cited investigations against his brother.

Brazilian police are probing Flavio Bolsonaro for corruption over the financing of the biopic 'Dark Horse' about his father.

"I never had any intention of leaving the country. I will surrender my passports and defend myself against this travesty," Flavio Bolsonaro said.

The right-wing candidate also took up the mantle as "leadership of the opposition" in a separate statement.

Brazil's markets tumbled nearly 17 per cent and the dollar surged against the real in response to leftist Lula's re-election, as investors worried about fiscal discipline. — AFP

Ex-FBI chief and Trump critic James Comey hit with fresh charges

WASHINGTON, United States: Former FBI director James Comey has been charged with allegedly disclosing national defense information, the third criminal case brought against the outspoken critic of US President Donald Trump.

In a criminal complaint unsealed on Monday, Comey is accused of communicating the information in October 2016, when he was head of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, to a "person not entitled to receive it."

Comey was charged in September 2025 with making false statements to Congress and obstructing a congressional proceeding in what was widely seen as retribution by the Republican president against a political opponent.

A federal judge threw out the case on the grounds that the US attorney handpicked by Trump who brought the charges had been unlawfully appointed.

Comey was indicted again in April, this time for allegedly threatening Trump's life in an Instagram post that showed the



James Comey

numbers "86 47" spelled out in sea shells.

The Trump administration's Justice Department has claimed that '86 47' constitutes a threat to the president – '86' meaning to kill and '47' a reference to Trump being the 47th president.

Comey has denied threatening the president's life.

In the latest case, Comey is accused of directing an unidentified individual to "disclose national defense information to a reporter for a national news publication."

"They're back again," Comey said in a video posted on his Substack in response to the latest charges.

"It would almost be funny if it

weren't such an appalling abuse of the Department of Justice," he said. "I'm still innocent. I'm still not afraid of these people, and I still believe in the independent federal judiciary."

In a statement to US media, Comey's attorney, Patrick Fitzgerald, said the charges in the latest case had been investigated by prosecutors during the first Trump administration and "the Government determined that no charges should be brought against anyone."

"Mr Comey steadfastly maintains his innocence," Fitzgerald said.

The unsealing of the court documents came just hours after a US federal judge ruled that the July 2025 firing of Comey's daughter, Maurene Comey, a former federal prosecutor in New York, was unlawful.

Maurene Comey filed suit against the Department of Justice claiming she had been dismissed "solely or substantially" because of her father's criticism of Trump or "because of her perceived political affiliation and beliefs." — AFP

Human body parts found in Rhine river

GENEVA, Switzerland: Parts of a man's body were found in the Rhine river near Switzerland's border with Germany, police said, adding investigators suspect he may have been the victim of a violent crime.

The remains were found on Sunday after three men walking along the riverbank in the town of Stein, near Basel, spotted a bag floating in the water.

When they pulled it ashore, they found a human leg inside, Aargau cantonal police said.

Police later recovered several more bags containing other body parts during searches involving divers and a boat.

"Everything points to the individual having been the victim of a violent crime," police said, noting the circumstances of the killing and the identity of any suspect remain unknown.

Authorities have appealed for witnesses, and prosecutors have opened a criminal investigation. — AFP

Ukraine, Russia say US-brokered truce holding in ravaged city

KYIV, Ukraine: A local truce between Ukraine and Russia aimed at allowing humanitarian aid into the Russian-occupied city of Oleshky appears to be tentatively holding, hours after Russia fired missiles on a university campus in Kyiv.

Both sides said the ceasefire brokered by US First Lady Melania Trump had begun at 3am local time (0100 GMT) and was in effect through the morning.

AFP was not able to immediately verify whether there had been a decrease in fighting.

The war-ravaged city in Ukraine's southern Kherson region has been caught in middle of the fighting since 2022, when it was seized by Russian forces at the start of their invasion.

Former residents told AFP earlier this year that those remaining in the city were starving, lacked medicine and could not easily leave.

"In connection with preparations for a humanitarian operation in the area of Oleshky, Kherson Oblast, (Russian forces) have ceased fire in the Kherson sector and introduced a 'regime of silence,'" Russia's defence ministry said on its Telegram channel overnight.

A spokesman for Ukraine's Marine Corps, Pavlo Drogala, told reporters that "the enemy is observing the ceasefire" as of 9am local time.

Kremlin spokesman Dmitry Peskov also said there had been no reports of violations.

Kyiv's human rights

ombudsman Dmytro Lubinets said earlier on Telegram that "the sides are adhering to the agreements that we reached."

But elsewhere, Russia continued to pummel the rest of Ukraine with air barrages.

Ballistic missiles struck a university campus in Kyiv on Monday evening, damaging a dorm and wounding 12 people, including five students and university staff, Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelensky said.

Another strike hit the capital's Southern Bridge – a major transport artery – damaging infrastructure for the Kyiv metro.

In Russia, two people were killed "as a result of explosive devices being dropped" on the western city of Bryansk, regional acting governor Yegor Kovalchuk said.

The ceasefire in Oleshky comes as the Ukraine war grinds through its fifth year, with no signs of a broader end to the conflict.

Neither Russia nor Ukraine have said how long the truce will last.

The city, on the southern bank of the Dnipro River, was seized by Russian troops in 2022.

The population has since dropped from about 24,000 to around 2,000 today, including as many as 50 children, according to Ukrainian and US estimates.

Former residents told AFP earlier this year that remaining residents were starving, forced to hunt pigeons or subsist on whatever they had in their garden. — AFP

Drone strike on Sudan's Nyala kills 21, injures 40

KHARTOUM: A drone strike on a market in Nyala, the de facto capital of Sudan's paramilitary Rapid Support Forces in western Darfur, killed 21 people and wounded at least 40 others, a medical source and witnesses told AFP Tuesday.

One Nyala resident said a market in the city's north was struck by a drone on Monday

around 8pm (1800 GMT). Another said the market was frequented by young men, particularly RSF fighters.

"Twenty-one people were killed in last night's bombing, and more than 40 others injured," a medic at Nyala Hospital said, though he was unable to identify how many were RSF fighters.

Sudan's military, at war with

the RSF since April 2023, regularly strikes Nyala, where the RSF has declared a rival government to the army's internationally recognised one in Khartoum.

The war is currently being fought primarily via drones, with both sides launching sophisticated attacks from across the country, killing dozens of civilians at a time.

In the first three weeks of October alone, drone strikes killed over 300 people and injured hundreds more, according to a UN tally.

Since it began, the war has killed more than 200,000 people, aid workers estimate, and has triggered the world's largest hunger and displacement crises. — AFP



Misha Omar proves her vocal prowess remains undiminished

Marfika Adnan Haris Fadzilah

PETALING JAYA: The stage may not have been as grand as that of a mega concert, but Misha Omar's charisma and vocal prowess shone through at her 'Aku & Lelaki' showcase, proving that the golden-voiced singer's appeal remains undiminished after 24 years in the entertainment industry.

Captivating fans at JioSpace here recently, the powerhouse vocalist presented a different concept, highlighting the male figures who had shaped her musical journey and personal life, alongside a repertoire of her popular hits.

The showcase was initially planned as a curtain-raiser for a mega concert to celebrate the 25th anniversary of her career at a stadium next year. However, the plan has yet to materialise due to various other events, including the SEA Games. Nevertheless, the evening was filled with the excitement and energy of a full-scale concert, despite being staged on a smaller scale.

Misha, whose real name is Samihah @ Aishah Omar, looked elegant in an all-black outfit as she opened the show with a medley of Tak Ku Duga, Kacamata and



Misha Omar's charisma and vocal prowess shines through at her 'Aku & Lelaki' showcase at JioSpace, Petaling Jaya. — Bernama photo

Januari, immediately setting the mood with her powerful vocals and relaxed interaction with fans.

As the performance gained momentum, the Kelantan-born singer also took the opportunity to address the mixed reactions she had received ahead of the showcase, including remarks dismissing it as lacklustre and requests for complimentary or discounted tickets.

"Some people sent me direct messages asking for free tickets or discounts, while others said the showcase seemed rather lacklustre.

To me, if people want to come, I welcome them wholeheartedly. If they don't, that's fine too. Even if only these people turn up, it is already more than

enough," she said, drawing thunderous applause from the audience. Touched by the support of loyal fans who had purchased tickets despite competition from various other entertainment events, the 44-year-old pop queen clearly appreciated everyone who had turned up to support her performance.

Not wanting to dwell too long on her emotions, Misha lightened the mood with a candid revelation about her youthful fantasy of becoming the wife of popular singer Anuar Zain, prompting laughter from the audience.

"I think I was among millions of women who once dreamed of becoming his wife. Don't lie to me, girl — you must have had the same fantasy too! But when we grow up and get the chance to meet and work with him, our tastes change," she joked, sending the audience into fits of laughter.

Beyond the humour, the 2003 Anugerah Juara Lagu winner also expressed her appreciation for Anuar, describing him as a senior artiste who had always welcomed emerging talent and given her the confidence to go further in the industry.

As a tribute to the singer, Misha performed a medley of Lelaki Ini and Keabadian Cinta, before the evening took a heartwarming turn when her son, Idris Ezzwa, joined her on stage as a guest artiste.

Idris captured the audience's attention with his rendition of Just The Way You Are, before teaming up with his mother for

Risk It All. Their spontaneous and playful exchanges added a delightful touch to the performance.

The show continued with an emotional segment featuring Bahagiamu Deritaku, dedicated to her duet partner Hafiz Suip, followed by Bahasa Kalbu, a composition by Indonesian composer Andi Rianto.

Misha then paid tribute to three prominent Malaysian music icons through a segment titled The Music Moguls, performing a medley of Sentuhan Listrikmu, Penghujung Rindu and Merisik Khabar in honour of Datuk M. Nasir, Datuk Jamal Abdillah and the late Datuk Sudirman Arshad.

The venue subsequently transformed into a dance party as Misha invited fans to join her for the upbeat numbers Teh Hijau, Back At One and Can We Talk, before stepping down from the stage to get closer to the audience while singing Bunga-Bunga Cinta and Semoga Abadi.

After more than two hours on stage, she brought the showcase to a close with two vocally demanding songs, Break and Sampai Bila, earning thunderous applause and a standing ovation from the audience.

The evening was a testament to the fact that, after 24 years in the music industry, Misha's charisma and vocal prowess remain as strong as ever, silencing doubts about her ability to continue captivating audiences. — Bernama



Seyfried attends the Sixth Annual Academy Museum Gala at the Academy Museum of Motion Pictures in Los Angeles. — AFP photo

Amanda Seyfried doesn't regret turning down role in MCU

AMANDA Seyfried turned down the chance to star in the 'Guardians of the Galaxy' movie over fears it would 'ruin' her career.

The 40-year-old actress was offered the chance to join the Marvel Cinematic Universe (MCU) by playing Gamora in the 2014 superhero film, but she turned the role down over fears the movie could be "bad" and the part went to Zoe Saldana instead.

Speaking in a question-and-answer session with the SAG-AFTRA Foundation, Amanda explained: "I think turning down 'Guardians of the Galaxy' was just so obvious to me at the time.

"I'm like: 'This is not going to be a hit. The tree and the raccoon are talking to each other. And also they're all in space.' And I was just like: 'This will ruin my career if this is bad. And there's a high chance that this could be bad.'"

The movie was a huge hit becoming the third-highest-grossing film of 2014 and it went on to spawn two successful sequels while the cast also appeared in the Avengers series.

Amanda now admits she was "wrong" about the film but she doesn't regret her decision.

She added: "I mean, obviously I was wrong. But I still don't take back that decision. I made it for myself. I made it for my family that I knew I wanted to have.

"And I just don't want to spend all the time in the make-up trailer. I just can't sit still anyway. I really don't like stunts,

and I don't like heights, and I don't like pretending the entire world. I need something to hold on to."

It comes after Zoe previously confirmed she is walking away from the role of Gamora, but she's hoping another actress will revive the character in the future.

She told Variety: "I keep saying this time and time again — I can't wait to see what's next for Gamora. I hope they're not done with her, and I hope a woman of color or a woman with special needs can take on the role next. That would be incredible."

Zoe also previously told the publication she didn't fully understand the character until she'd finished work on the films, saying: "I wish I could go back and reshoot what Gamora was going through in the Avengers movies.

"I was not quite understanding what the Russo Brothers [were doing]. They're excellent filmmakers and the opportunity they gave me was of a lifetime. To highlight Gamora in such a way in their films is something I'll always be grateful.

"I wish I could go back and redo it so I could push a little harder because it was such a great opportunity to play a daughter having issues with a dad and whether or not she's having this opportunity to reconcile or to simply just walk away.

"That would've been a great opportunity had I been a little more aware of it then." — Bang Showbiz

US rapper Macklemore launches 'Free Palestine Tour' after Ed Sheeran fallout

DUBLIN: US rapper Macklemore on Monday launched his new "Free Palestine Tour" in Dublin after being dropped as a supporting act by British pop star Ed Sheeran over pro-Palestinian comments.

Standing in lines outside the venue for the first show in the Irish capital, which promoters said had sold out, excited fans praised the 43-year-old's stance.

"Macklemore's support for Palestine is huge. He's stood up and he's put himself on the line instead of taking the easy way out," said Michael Keating, a 31-year-old who works in insurance, told AFP.

"He's risking his popularity, his future, his family's future — everything just for peace. And it is very important."

The 'Thrift Shop' star was removed from Sheeran's US tour after shouting 'Free Palestine!' on stage and telling Palestinians they were "not forgotten".

Sheeran has said the decision



Macklemore launched his new 'Free Palestine Tour' in Dublin after being dropped as a supporting act by Ed Sheeran. — AFP file photo

to drop Macklemore was made by tour promoters, not him — provoking outrage among musicians and pro-Palestinian activists.

"The USA is supposed to be the country of free speech and instead people are being shut down. (Sheeran) should have stood up for what Macklemore

was doing," said Grainne Healy, a 60-year-old retiree who had come to the Dublin concert with a former schoolfriend.

Four other supporting artists, including American singer Finneas, also pulled out of Sheeran's tour in solidarity with Macklemore and Sheeran later broke his

silence on the situation in Gaza at a concert in Philadelphia, calling it 'unjustifiable and disproportionate'.

Last month Macklemore announced his Free Palestine Tour, with shows in London and Paris in late October and US dates also planned, saying all proceeds would benefit pro-Palestinian organisations.

Outside Dublin's 3Arena, traders were selling fans half-Irish half-Palestinian flags, Free Palestine bucket hats and Palestinian-style keffiyeh scarves.

"Ever since (Macklemore) started talking about Palestine, it makes us like him even more," said one fan, Freya Dorrity, an 18-year-old student.

Maria Liddy, a 40-year-old in a red-and-white Palestinian-style keffiyeh scarf, said she was there 'to show solidarity' with the people of Palestine, adding that "artists should never be censored in any capacity". — AFP

Kudrat 1968: High Council delivers lessons, not normalising bullying

KUALA LUMPUR: Amid depictions of conflict and violence among boarding school students, Kudrat 1968: High Council carries a message that bullying leaves lasting consequences not only for victims but also for perpetrators.

Director Zulaikha Zakaria said the latest production by Astro Shaw, which combines a television series and film format, is not intended to glorify or normalise violence but rather to highlight the consequences of violent acts through the storyline and the fate of its characters.

She said the narrative had been carefully crafted to ensure that audiences could understand the characters' actions and the repercussions that followed.

"People out there perceive us as promoting bullying, but every episode actually shows the immediate consequences. We show what happens when you act this way and the repercussions that follow. These consequences are portrayed quickly, and every scene has its own lesson. We are not depicting tragedies without a purpose," she said at the film's media screening.

Zulaikha, who co-directed

the production with young director Khairi Asyraf, said the narrative also traces the characters' development and the consequences of their actions to illustrate how violence can trigger a chain of events that damages lives.

"We want audiences to realise that violence is not a solution," she said.

The view was echoed by producer and Astro Shaw head Raja Jastina Raja Arshad, who stressed that the production sought to encourage society to examine the root causes of violence among teenagers, which often stem from family environments and social inequalities.

"We are not merely addressing bullying, but also showing how a person can become a bully. Through this production, we raise questions about social disparities and personal conflicts. Sometimes, the values instilled at home and family upbringing shape a child's character and can eventually lead to violent behaviour," she said.

Meanwhile, Zulaikha, who also wrote the screenplay, acknowledged the demanding nature of the project, which

required the series and film to be shot simultaneously, putting her team under considerable time pressure.

She said preparations and casting were carried out intensively, while the two formats adopted different perspectives to explore the characters' emotional development and the factors driving their actions in greater depth.

Carrying the tagline 'Darah Kita Sama' (Our Blood Is the Same), Kudrat 1968: High Council, starring Zarif Ghazzi, Mierul Aiman, Dai Fuad, Akmal Asyraf and Evertts Gomes, will hit cinemas on Oct 29.

The film continues the four-episode drama of the same title, which was screened on several streaming platforms. It also serves as a prequel to Projek: High Council (2023) and the film Kahar: Kapla High Council (2024).

The production has sparked controversy on social media over allegations that it encourages bullying among students, at a time when reports of school violence are becoming increasingly frequent, with some incidents resulting in fatalities. — Bernama

US rapper Jay-Z to headline 2027 Super Bowl half-time show

LONDON: United States rapper and hip-hop mogul Jay-Z will headline the 2027 NFL Super Bowl half-time show, it has been announced, PA Media/dpa reported.

After weeks of speculation, the news was confirmed in a joint announcement by Roc Nation, the NFL, and Apple Music ahead of the NFL's Monday night game between the Dallas Cowboys and Philadelphia Eagles.

The 2027 Super Bowl will take place on February 14 at SoFi Stadium in Los Angeles, California.

"From Reasonable Doubt to standing on the Super Bowl Halftime stage, this has been a journey," Jay-Z said in a statement.

"Thirty years of music, work, and culture on the world's biggest stage. This run continues to be a dream come true."

The rapper's entertainment company Roc Nation has produced the Super Bowl half-time show since partnering with the NFL in 2019, with

previous headliners including Shakira, Jennifer Lopez, The Weeknd, and Bad Bunny.

NFL Commissioner Roger Goodell said: "When we first reached an agreement with Roc Nation to produce the show, I had just one request: that Jay-Z take the stage himself one day, whenever the moment felt right to him."

Roc Nation produced rapper Kendrick Lamar's performance in 2025, which is the most watched Super Bowl half-time show in history and won the Emmy award for outstanding music direction.

Jay-Z, whose given name is Shawn Carter, has become one of hip-hop's most decorated names since rising to fame with his debut album, Reasonable Doubt, which was released in 1996.

His accolades include being the first rapper inducted into the Songwriters Hall of Fame, winning 25 Grammy awards, and being inducted into the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame in 2021. — Bernama-PA Media/DPA



Jay-Z attends the FIFA World Cup 2026 Round of 16 match between Brazil and Norway at New York New Jersey Stadium. — AFP file photo

Chris Brown avoids jail over nightclub brawl

LONDON: American singer Chris Brown avoided jail when sentenced by a UK court Monday after pleading guilty to a public order offence during a 2023 brawl at a London nightclub.

The former boyfriend of music sensation Rihanna was handed an eight-month jail term suspended for a year – meaning he will not be imprisoned unless he commits another offence during the period.

Brown, 37, who wore a black face mask, sunglasses and black baseball cap when he arrived at Southwark Crown Court in London, had admitted to affray at an appearance in July.

"Violence of this kind in a crowded nightclub is serious. It creates an obvious risk, not merely to the person against

whom it is directed, but also to others," judge Tony Baumgartner said, handing down the sentence.

Prosecutors had accused Brown and co-defendant Omololu Akinlolu, also a US national, of carrying out "a vicious and unprovoked attack" in a crowded nightclub "where Brown used a glass bottle as a weapon to strike the victim's head twice".

The guilty plea avoided a trial on several other charges, including attempting to cause grievous bodily harm with intent and possession of a bottle as an offensive weapon.

Brown, who has sold tens of millions of records worldwide, had previously denied those charges.

All of the allegations relate

to an incident at Tape, a private members' club in London, on February 19, 2023, while Brown was touring Britain.

The victim was struck several times with a bottle before being pursued, punched and kicked.

"This was not planned violence. It was nevertheless serious violence by two people in a crowded nightclub," the judge said.

Leaving court after the sentencing, Brown was greeted by loud cheers from fans. He posted a video on Instagram making a thumbs up sign from inside his car.

The singer is known for mid-2000s hits such as "Kiss, Kiss", as well as a litany of legal troubles including a US felony conviction

for assaulting Rihanna in 2009.

Brown rose from a church choir in Virginia to sudden fame with his rich R&B voice before turning to rap.

He was convicted of having beaten then-girlfriend Rihanna before the 2009 Grammy Awards, forcing the pop star to miss the gala.

In 2012, Brown was involved in an altercation at a New York nightclub with members of hip hop star Drake's entourage, during which French basketball player Tony Parker suffered an eye injury after being hit by a thrown glass bottle.

Two years later, Brown pleaded guilty to assaulting a fan in Washington.

Akinlolu, 40 also pleaded



Chris Brown arrives at the Southwark Crown Court in London. — AFP file photo

guilty to affray over the London incident. He was sentenced to four months' imprisonment suspended for a year. — AFP



Walter Koenig attends his Walk of Fame ceremony in Hollywood, California. — AFP file photo

Walter Koenig, who played original Chekov on 'Star Trek,' dies at 90

LOS ANGELES: Walter Koenig, the actor best known for his role as Pavel Chekov on the groundbreaking television show "Star Trek" and in the franchise's first seven movies, has died at age 90, his representative said Monday.

Koenig died overnight at his home in North Hollywood in Los Angeles, his agent Zachery McGinnis said in a statement, citing the cause of "old age" without further details.

The actor was known for playing the youthful Russian navigator Chekov in the original television series, as well as in several "Star Trek" feature films.

"Today we mourn the passing of Walter Koenig, whose talent, warmth, and unforgettable performances left a lasting mark on generations of fans around the world," read the statement. "Thank you, Walter, for the memories, the inspiration, and for boldly going where few have gone before."

The actor died surrounded by his daughter and niece, added the statement.

Ensign Pavel Chekov first appeared in the iconic series at the start of its second season, in 1967.

The character was meant to appeal to younger viewers. William Shatner, who played Captain James T Kirk) and Leonard Nimoy (Mr. Spock) were both in their mid-thirties at the onset of the series, nearly over the hill by the era's standards.

Koenig was 30 when he was cast, and producers hoped he'd appeal to teens, with his mop-top hairstyle not unlike Davy Jones of the Monkees, the famed TV-produced pop band.

'Navigating a steady course'
Born in Chicago and raised in

LOS ANGELES: Max Minghella "learned so much" working with Tom Rhys Harries on Clayface.

The 41-year-old actor plays Gotham City police detective John Borrelli in the DC Universe (DCU) body horror thriller and was impressed by the way Harries – who stars in the title role – led the cast both on and off screen.

Max told Collider: "I'm a big sponge. I really try and use every opportunity to learn from people around me, and I've been so lucky recently working with people I look up to so much."

"Tom Rhys Harries on Clayface, I learned so much from him. Just incredibly disciplined, amazing leadership on set."

"I think one of the things that doesn't get spoken about so much is the responsibility of being a number one on a call sheet. The day I got this job, he called me and was always, always in communication, always made me feel a part of the team."

"He did an amazing job, I think, on this film in all sorts of ways, on and off camera."

The movie centres on Matt



Max Minghella poses on the red carpet upon arrival to attend the European Premiere of 'Clayface' at Curzon Mayfair in London on Oct 20. — AFP photo

Hagen/Clayface – who turns to a scientist to transform his body into clay to restore his former appearance after he is disfigured by a mobster – and Minghella had an inkling that the movie would be "special" before he had even joined the cast.

The Babylon actor said: "To be honest, with Clayface, even before I was involved in the

movie, like when I just heard about it being announced, and I heard James Watkins was directing it, I had some weird instinct that it was going to be a special project and something that might connect with people."

Minghella explained that it became "normal" to see Harries, 34, in "incredibly grotesque" prosthetics as his alter ego came

to life.

He recalled: "We got to see lots and lots of stuff. We shot the movie very quickly, and Tom, God bless him, was often having to do so much in one day that he'd be in one prosthetic, he'd then be in another wardrobe, then he'd be going to shoot a different scene and be back in the prosthetic. So, you got to see all sorts of versions of him."

"What's funny is how normal it became. By week three, we got used to seeing Tom in these incredibly grotesque makeup effects. He would often call and FaceTime his family and then suddenly be in some mad get-up."

"But he had such a great manner. He just was so professional about it. He never complained once."

"He gave it his all, and it was a lot that they asked of him. This is a big part. He's in almost every frame of the film, and it's very physically taxing and emotionally taxing."

"So, I think without Tom, the whole thing would have fallen apart." — Bang Showbiz

How C-dramas strike a chord with global audiences

BEIJING: Even after watching the Chinese drama series "The Early Spring," Vietnamese marketing analyst Pham Thi Thuy Linh kept listening to its soundtrack every day – not just for the story, but for the moments that felt deeply familiar, echoing experiences from her own life.

"Although I cannot understand all the lyrics, they still touch my heart," said Linh, 35. Set against the backdrop of urban life, workplace challenges and the search for love and belonging, such Chinese drama series, often referred to as C-dramas, are striking a chord with audiences far beyond the country's borders.

Surging global audiences
"Many good Chinese dramas across various genres, including ancient-setting, modern and psychological dramas, have attracted young Vietnamese viewers," said Linh.

"The Early Spring" had climbed to second place on Netflix's weekly global chart for non-English-language series.

The social media accounts of Jing Boran, who plays the male lead, drew comments from viewers around the world.

Some viewers said they had rewatched the drama multiple times and thanked him for delivering such a compelling performance.

"Irreplaceable," despite not yet having become a major hit in China, drew 2 million views in its first week. It entered the platform's top 10 in 24 countries and regions.

Set in a fictional ancient world, "Pursuit of Jade" has also shown strong momentum. It has topped Google searches among Chinese costume dramas worldwide since 2025, racking up more than 10 million views.

Diversified genres to explore
As more Chinese series win over audiences abroad, viewers encounter a wider range of settings and stories, and come into contact with different



Film and television clothing is displayed at the booth of Hengdian cinematic and cultural industry cluster zone at the Hong Kong International Film and TV Market (FILMART), in Hong Kong, March 17, 2025. — Xinhua photo by Chen Duo

aspects of Chinese life and culture.

While enjoying the fashion pieces styled in "The Early Spring," Linh said the appeal also lies in its portrayal of relationships and working life. She sees something of herself in the female lead, who moves to a big city to study and work while navigating professional pressures.

For Zena Saidi, a university student in Tanzania, C-dramas hold great appeal for her thanks to their exquisite production, unique creativity and tightly woven plots.

In one of her favorites, "The Tale of Rose," "The heroine is beautiful and intelligent, and the way she experiences love makes you feel deeply for her," she said.

Female characters and their personal journeys are proving a draw for viewers abroad.

On iQIYI International, the overseas service of major Chinese streaming platform

iQIYI, "Pursuit of Jade" topped the platform's global charts for the first half of 2026.

Some overseas viewers praised the series for showing women taking the initiative to solve problems on their own.

Other popular titles on the platform appeal in different ways. "The Best Thing" weaves traditional Chinese medicine into a love story, while "Speed and Love" adds racing and boxing to its romantic plot.

More than a screen
For some fans, the interest continues after the final episode. They look up soundtracks and filming locations, or share favorite scenes online. Some also become curious about the food and everyday details they see on screen.

An article in India's Hindustan Times highlighted locations in Beijing and Harbin featured in "The Early Spring," giving fans ideas for places to visit and making the television drama

a starting point for travel inspiration.

Social media has also changed the way audiences engage with shows.

They share their reactions, create their own content and keep the conversation going beyond the screen.

Vietnamese film critic and writer Le Hong Lam said Chinese television series and films had influenced Vietnamese popular culture at different times.

He pointed to "Meet Yourself," a series about healing and finding beauty in everyday life. Its unhurried pace and focus on life's small pleasures offer viewers a different vision of modern living, he said.

Chinese cultural products such as television shows, films, animations, and video games have gained widespread popularity worldwide, said Benjamin Mgana, chief editor of foreign news at the Tanzanian newspaper The Guardian.

Through these works, an increasing number of Tanzanian people have come to understand and appreciate Chinese culture, Mgana noted.

Industrial capacity
Chinese streaming platforms have expanded their global reach, opening up more distribution avenues for C-dramas beyond platforms like YouTube.

In 2019, Tencent launched its overseas version WeTV in Thailand to offer original Chinese content with Thai subtitles and dubbing.

In the same year, iQIYI International was launched and gradually began localized operations in countries including Malaysia and Singapore.

These platforms have leveraged technology to break down language and cultural barriers.

Over 90 per cent of the translation and dubbing work for iQIYI International is done by AI, with humans only responsible for the final review. — Xinhua

Highlights

Bursa Malaysia ends higher on bargain hunting

BURSA Malaysia closed higher yesterday, supported by bargain hunting activities following the previous day's sell-off.

At 5 pm, the FTSE Bursa Malaysia KLCI (FBM KLCI) rose 7.49 points, or 0.47 per cent, to 1,611.85 from Monday's close of 1,604.36.

The benchmark index opened 2.98 points higher at 1,607.34 and traded between 1,606.14 and 1,611.94 during the trading session.

The broader market was positive, with gainers outpacing losers 683 to 380, while 571 counters were unchanged, 1,259 untraded, and 52 suspended.

Turnover rose to 3.37 billion units worth RM3.10 billion from Monday's 2.90 billion units worth RM2.15 billion.

Rakuten Trade Sdn Bhd vice-president of equity research Thong Pak Leng said the FBM KLCI remains attractively valued, underpinned by resilient domestic economic fundamentals.

"We see opportunities for selective accumulation of fundamentally sound blue chips following recent corrections. Nevertheless, persistent foreign selling, subdued liquidity and uncertainty ahead of the United States Federal Reserve's policy decision and major technology earnings could limit the recovery.

Lembaga Pemasaran Pertanian Persekutuan (FAMA)

Average Retail Prices Of Selected Commodities In Kuching (27 October 2026)

COMMODITIES

VEGETABLES Prices (RM/Kg)

Round Cabbage	4.88
Spinach	7.08
Chinese Mustard	10.00
Chinese Kale	10.00
Bean Sprout	3.00
Cucumber	5.88
Brinjal	9.13
Local Tomato	6.90
Highland Tomato	10.17
Long Bean	9.98
French Bean	13.73
Lady's Finger	10.88
Local	6.00
Pumpkin	6.00
Bitter Gourd	10.00
Lembing (Midin)	10.00
Old Ginger	8.23
Young Ginger	8.90
Red Chili (Kulai)	21.75
Red Chili (Local/Oil)	22.48
Shallot	8.50
Onion (Bombay)	5.23
Onion (Holland)	4.82
Garlic	9.50
Imported Potato	3.40
Imported Carrot	4.33
Grind Coconut	10.00
Seed Coconut	3.00
Santan	9.00

POULTRY

Crossbreed Male/Female	TU
Kampung Male/Female	TU
Guava	11.60
Super Chicken	12.50
Fresh Meat Local	65.00
Imported Meat	40.00

EGGS* RM/BUJ

Chicken Egg	0.56
- Grade A*	0.56
- Grade B*	0.54
- Grade C*	0.54
- Salted Egg*	1.20

FRUITS* RM/KG/(* RM/BUJ)

Papaya	5.50
Exotica Papaya	5.25
Watermelon	5.47
Guava	6.83
Starfruits 10	4.88
Orange (Local)	4.68
Mas Bananas	6.17
Embu Bananas	2.50
Rastali Bananas	4.38
Honey Dew	6.85
Sarawak Pineapple	3.50

* Prices collected at Medan Niaga Satok

RHB launches three-year Focus Income Bond Fund

KUCHING: RHB Banking Group, through RHB Asset Management Sdn Bhd (RHBAM), has launched the RHB Focus Income Bond Fund – Series 13 (RHB FIBF13), a three-year closed-ended fund offering exposure to global debt instruments, including the Australian dollar (AUD) fixed income market.

The fund aims to provide potential regular income distributions while seeking to capture bond yields amid geopolitical uncertainty and offer portfolio diversification.

The launch comes as global bond yields have climbed to multi-year highs amid persistent inflation concerns and shifting central bank

policy paths, while fixed income remains part of long-term asset allocation strategies.

RHB FIBF13 will invest predominantly in a diversified portfolio of global debt instruments, including bonds, commercial papers, bankers' acceptances and credit-linked notes.

It may also hold money market instruments and deposits for liquidity management.

Its three-year tenure is intended to support an investment approach focused on identifying attractive yields and potential capital appreciation.

RHBAM managing director and chief executive officer Ng

Chze How said the Australian bond market was among the region's more established fixed income markets outside the United States, providing access to issuers across government, financial and corporate sectors.

"Its depth and diversity make it an attractive market for investors looking to broaden their fixed income exposure," he said.

Ng said the fund would provide investors with access to a professionally managed portfolio of global debt securities through a single investment solution.

"Subject to the availability of distributable income and market conditions, the Fund aims to declare

quarterly distributions at approximately 5.25% to 5.75% per annum over its three-year tenure," he added.

The fund is targeted at investors seeking exposure to global high-grade fixed income investments who are comfortable committing to a three-year investment horizon.

RHBAM said the launch supports RHB's PROGRESS27 corporate strategy by strengthening the group's retail wealth proposition and expanding the range of wealth solutions available to clients.

The fund will be distributed through RHB's nationwide network of wealth and investment advisers.

DNB losses could weigh on telco FY27 earnings by up to 12 pct



Rachel Lau

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KUCHING: Digital Nasional Bhd's (DNB) ongoing financial losses could weigh on the earnings of CelcomDigi Bhd (CDB) and Maxis Bhd (Maxis) by as much as 12 per cent in financial year 2027 (FY27), as uncertainties surrounding the 5G network operator's financial position continue to cloud the telecommunications sector outlook.

In a sector update, researchers with Kenanga Investment Bank Bhd (Kenanga Research) expected the commencement of equity accounting for DNB by its mobile network operator (MNO) shareholders in the fourth quarter (4Q) of FY26 to be a key milestone for the MNOs.

The research house explained that greater clarity on DNB's financial and operational performance would be crucial in assessing whether further shareholder funding would be required before the company achieves sustainable cash-flow breakeven.

Based on CDB's guidance, Kenanga Research expects the initial impact of equity accounting for DNB to be relatively modest in FY26, accounting for less than five per cent of annual group net profit.

Against this backdrop, it has factored in RM62 million in associate losses each for CDB and Maxis, assuming DNB's net losses narrow to RM750 million annually in FY25 and FY26, from RM1.2 billion in FY24.

For FY27, the research house expects DNB's losses to decline further by 33 per cent to RM500 million, resulting in an estimated 8 per cent earnings impact on both mobile network operators.

However, under a worst-case scenario where DNB's annual losses remain at RM1.2 billion through FY27, the earnings impact could increase to 12 per cent for CDB and 11 per cent for Maxis.

That said, Kenanga Research cautioned that moving forward, recurring shareholder calls would be the bigger concern for MNO shareholders.

"We do not rule out the possibility of DNB requiring additional shareholder funding beyond the amounts received in 2024 to 2026, following three capital calls of RM117 million to RM233 million per MNO," it said.

The research house noted that potential funding requirements could arise from vendor and equipment payments, site and tower leases, spectrum fees and other network operating expenses, as well as additional capital expenditure (capex) for ongoing network expansion and modernisation, including improved in-building coverage and targeted capacity

enhancements at selected sites.

Nevertheless, Kenanga Research believes the immediate financial burden on MNO shareholders remains manageable, with both CDB and Maxis possessing sufficient debt headroom to absorb potential funding requirements.

Should DNB require an additional RM500 million in shareholder advances from each MNO in FY27, CDB's net debt-to-earnings before interest, taxes, depreciation and amortisation (EBITDA) ratio is projected to rise to 2.22 times from 2.13 times, while Maxis' would increase to 1.82 times from 1.70 times.

Both would remain comfortably below the research house's reference ceiling of 2.5 times.

"As such, near-term funding should be comfortably absorbed without materially constraining dividend capacity," it said.

Kenanga Research also believes DNB would also be able to fund a meaningful portion of its network capex through a combination of borrowings and other funding sources.

Beyond DNB-related uncertainties, Kenanga Research expects underlying earnings performance to increasingly differentiate CDB and Maxis, with the former offering greater potential for earnings upgrades as its post-merger synergies have yet to be fully reflected in forecasts.

Matrix Concepts to acquire 175 ha of land in Kulai for RM169 mln

KUALA LUMPUR: Matrix Concepts Holdings Bhd's unit, Matrix Concepts (Southern) Sdn Bhd, has signed separate sale and purchase agreements (SPAs) to acquire 57 parcels of land spanning about 174.77 hectares in Kulai,

Johor, for RM169.31 million in cash.

The agreements were signed with corporate and individual landowners, as well as the executors of the estates of deceased landowners.

In a filing with Bursa

Malaysia yesterday, Matrix Concepts said the proposed acquisition would expand the group's existing land bank, support its long-term growth strategy and provide a sustainable pipeline of future developments. — Bernama

Money Market

SHORT-TERM interbank rates remained stable yesterday after Bank Negara Malaysia (BNM) conducted operations in the financial system.

Liquidity in the conventional system eased to RM36.12 billion from RM36.42 billion yesterday morning, while liquidity in the Islamic system increased to RM34.92 billion from RM31.27 billion earlier.

Earlier, BNM conducted two reverse repo tenders.

The central bank also revised the Murabahah overnight tender from RM31.3 billion to RM34.9 billion.

At 4 pm, BNM called for a RM36.10 billion conventional money market tender and a RM34.90 billion Murabahah money market tender, both for one-day funds.

Rubber

THE Kuala Lumpur rubber market maintained its mixed trend yesterday, weighed down by losses in regional rubber futures and oil prices, as well as concerns over supply disruptions, a dealer said.

She said regional rubber futures fell on Tuesday as traders weighed persistent rain-related cost pressures in southern Thailand against lower oil prices.

"However, further losses were capped by weather-related supply disruptions in major rubber-producing countries, declining rubber exports from Thailand and positive economic indicators from China," she told Bernama.

The dealer said persistent rain in southern Thailand could further widen the price gap between Thai latex and cup lump rubber.

TOP 20 GAINERS

STOCK	CHANGE	LACP	BUY	SELL	L/DONE
NESTLE	92,300	9,530.0	8,956.0	9,428.0	+402.0
ALLIANZ-PA	100	2,028.0	2,028.0	2,028.0	+76.0
MPI	208,600	4,162.0	4,058.0	4,130.0	+72.0
UMSINT	23,800	760.0	740.0	758.0	+38.0
TM	1,607,000	805.0	781.0	805.0	+23.0
HSI-PWXI	6,000	87.0	83.5	87.0	+22.0
KEEMING	1,654,400	271.0	251.0	268.0	+20.0
WPRTS	16,371,200	708.0	666.0	708.0	+19.0
UWC	3,251,100	761.0	732.0	745.0	+19.0
DUFU	5,469,900	325.0	303.0	317.0	+19.0
KGB	2,477,900	858.0	836.0	858.0	+18.0
ITMAX	576,600	457.0	439.0	457.0	+15.0
BUSCAP	14,626,900	86.0	70.5	84.5	+14.5
YLPWR	35,451,600	514.0	500.0	510.0	+14.0
DLADY	1,500	2,890.0	2,866.0	2,880.0	+14.0
SUNCON	3,969,700	768.0	751.0	766.0	+12.0
PENTA	5,006,800	598.0	566.0	574.0	+12.0
BKAWAN	13,200	1,930.0	1,910.0	1,930.0	+12.0
KLK	1,297,300	2,056.0	2,020.0	2,052.0	+12.0
VITROX-C21	3,400	101.0	101.0	101.0	+12.0

TOP 20 LOSERS

STOCK	CHANGE	LACP	BUY	SELL	L/DONE
HEIM	1,942,300	1,334.0	1,268.0	1,274.0	-50.0
CARLSBG	833,500	1,320.0	1,260.0	1,260.0	-38.0
F&N	378,600	2,006.0	1,946.0	1,968.0	-32.0
PPB	1,989,700	904.0	866.0	880.0	-22.0
UTDPLT	377,300	3,002.0	2,936.0	2,970.0	-20.0
HSI-CWUA	28,000	43.0	42.5	42.5	-15.0
BIPORT	300	520.0	501.0	520.0	-15.0
HLFG	53,400	1,754.0	1,736.0	1,736.0	-14.0
APOLLO	4,200	584.0	570.0	570.0	-14.0
BURSA	925,000	809.0	793.0	796.0	-13.0
PETDAG	1,073,200	1,962.0	1,920.0	1,920.0	-12.0
HI	1,383,200	169.0	157.0	157.0	-11.0
BAT	106,800	426.0	420.0	420.0	-11.0
KGB-C6	3,500	56.5	56.5	56.5	-11.0
HSI-PWVQ	202,200	54.5	46.5	53.0	-10.0
JTIASA-C19	10,000	6.5	6.5	6.5	-8.5
ECOWLD-C6230	500	6.5	6.5	6.5	-8.5
QL	1,245,400	379.0	370.0	370.0	-8.0
KESM	80,300	478.0	443.0	459.0	-8.0
SCGBHD-WA	14,300	265.0	257.0	257.0	-8.0

Closing Indices

KLSE	FBMEMAS	12,022.89	(+45.89)
	FBM/KLCI	1,611.30	(+6.94)
	CONSUMER PRODUCTS	441.56	(+0.15)
	INDUSTRIAL PRODUCTS	176.63	(+1.22)
	CONSTRUCTION	313.20	(+0.42)
	FINANCIAL SERVICES	18,600.36	(+26.50)
	ENERGY	849.94	(+1.21)
	TELECOMMUNICATIONS	379.20	(-1.11)
	HEALTH CARE	1,571.79	(+16.41)
	TRANSPORTATION	1,017.53	(-7.64)
	PROPERTY	975.33	(-4.19)
	PLANTATION	8,640.86	(+16.89)
	FBMSHA	12,022.11	(+47.32)
	FBMACE	5,412.46	(+18.80)
	TECHNOLOGY	75.23	(+0.71)

• S'PORE	STI	5,397.03	-18.88
• TOKYO	NIKKEI	63,268.37	+1,078.72
	TOPIX	3,997.37	+24.39
• HK	HANG SENG	23,041.32	-170.49
• AUST	ALL ORDS	8,968.80	+42.20

Commodities

PEPPER

Date: 27.10.2026

* Average Pepper price (RM/tonne)

SOUTHERN REGION

KUCHING SERIAN SR AMAN BEHONG

24,460 24,710 24,000 24,980

BLACK G1 35,820 35,480 34,500 36,300

WHITE G1

NORTHERN REGION

SARIKEI BINTANGOR SIBU KAPIT BINTULU MIRI

BLACK G1 24,040 25,250 23,960 23,960 21,750 21,380

WHITE G1 35,410 36,250 34,400 34,400 31,500 31,250

Source: Malaysian Pepper Board

http://www.mpb.gov.my

COCOA

Dealer's buying prices of dry cocoa beans (RM/MT)

Centres in Sabah & Sarawak

SMC 1 SMC 2

High Low Avg High Low Avg

KUCHING 13,500 13,500 13,500 13,300 13,300 13,300

SARIKEI 13,500 13,500 13,500 13,300 13,300 13,300

SIBU 13,500 13,500 13,500 13,300 13,300 13,300

TAWAU 14,000 14,000 14,000 13,800 13,800 13,800

TENOM 14,000 14,000 14,000 13,800 13,800 13,800

* Not Graded

Source : Malaysian Cocoa Board

Ten Most Active

COUNTER (MIL)	VOL (SEN)	HI (SEN)	LO (SEN)	L/DONE (SEN)	+/-
ZETRIX	286,554,100	8.5	6.5	8.5	+1.0
HSI-CWUA	125,443,800	8.5	6.0	6.5	-2.0
TOPGLOV	76,382,600	97.5	91.0	96.5	+3.5
VELESTO	67,286,500	20.0	19.0	19.5	-0.5
NIHSIN	61,117,200	51.0	47.5	50.5	+3.0
HSI-CWWB	58,245,900	7.0	5.0	5.5	-2.0
VS	55,763,000	35.5	34.0	34.5	+1.0
MAG	47,428,700	16.0	15.5	15.5	unch
MRDIY	41,055,300	117.0	114.0	115.0	unch
AXTERIA	39,014,100	22.0	19.5	22.0	+2.5

Interbank Rates

KUALA LUMPUR INTERBANK OFFER RATES: OCT 27		HIBOR(HK\$)	
1M 3.02		1M 2.70000	
2M 3.35		2M 2.86304	
3M 3.55		3M 3.24054	
6M 3.58		6M 3.48363	
12M 3.79		12M 3.97512	

Gold

THE PHYSICAL PRICE OF GOLD AS AT 5 PM STOOD AT RM507.75 PER GRAMME, DOWN RM2.67 FROM RM510.42 AT 5 PM PREVIOUSLY.

Exchange Rates

EXCHANGE RATES ISSUED BY MALAYAN BANKING BHD: OCT 27

BANKING BHD: OCT 27	SELLING	BUYING/BUYING	
	TI/OD	TI	OD
1 US Dollar	4.1595	4.0145	4.0045
1 Australian Dollar	2.9290	2.8110	2.7950
1 Brunei Dollar	3.2410	3.1410	3.1330
1 Canadian Dollar	2.9600	2.8780	2.8660
1 Euro	4.6420	4.4920	4.4720
1 New Zealand Dollar	2.3710	2.2840	2.2680
1 Papua N Guinea Kina	N/A	N/A	N/A
1 Singapore Dollar	3.2410	3.1410	3.1330
1 Sterling Pound	5.5450	5.3680	5.3480
1 Swiss Franc	5.0470	4.8330	4.8180
100 UAE Dirham	114.270	108.380	108.180
100 Bangladesh Taka	3.4160	3.1840	2.9840
100 Chinese Renminbi	62.6100	59.9800	N/A
100 Danish Krone	63.6600	58.5800	58.3800
100 Hongkong Dollar	53.4400	50.7900	50.5900
100 Indian Rupee	4.4500	4.1400	3.9400
100 Indonesian Rupiah	0.0240	0.0212	0.0162
100 Japanese Yen	2.6560	2.5340	2.5240
100 New Taiwan Dollar	N/A	N/A	N/A
100 Norwegian Krone	45.7400	42.0600	41.8600
100 Pakistan Rupee	1.5600	1.3900	1.1900
100 Philippine Peso	6.5900	6.2000	6.0000
100 Qatar Riyal	115.080	109.250	109.050
100 Saudi Riyal	111.770	106.110	105.910
100 South Africa Rand	25.8500	23.3500	23.1500
100 Sri Lanka Rupee	1.3100	1.1500	0.9500
100 Swedish Krone	43.0000	39.1500	38.9500
100 Thai Baht	12.8300	11.3800	10.9800

Government takes immediate steps to strengthen GLC, GLIC governance

KUALA LUMPUR: The government is taking immediate steps to strengthen the governance of government-linked companies (GLCs) and government-linked investment companies (GLICs), including a proposal to introduce legislation governing state-owned entities, Prime Minister Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim said.

He said the proposed bill would establish clearer and stricter rules, including limits on the powers and responsibilities of those leading the entities.

"Past experience has shown both strengths and weaknesses. These issues have been documented in Royal Commissions of Inquiry (RCIs), task force reports and White Papers on Malaysia Development Bhd (1MDB) and Felda, as well as in cases involving Tabung Haji. The breaches were numerous and clearly excessive, making them difficult to defend," he said during the Prime Minister's Question Time in the Dewan Rakyat.

He was responding to a supplementary question from Syahredzan Johan (DAP-Bangi) on measures to improve governance at GLCs, GLICs and statutory bodies to prevent a recurrence of scandals involving 1MDB and Tabung Haji.

Anwar said clear rules were also needed to regulate subsidiaries of government agencies.

He added that the government had not identified governance breaches in these companies on the scale of those previously seen at 1MDB and Tabung Haji.

Efforts to impose tighter controls and restrictions had faced strong resistance from political and business elites accustomed to the old ways, making political will essential to address the problem, he said.

"Governance must be strengthened, and the powers of those appointed to lead these entities must be clearly limited. They must be held accountable and must not treat these



Anwar is seen during the Prime Minister's Question Time in the Dewan Rakyat. — Bernama photo

institutions as their personal or family property," he said.

Earlier, Syahredzan had asked Anwar to explain the rationale for the involvement of government departments, GLICs, GLCs and statutory bodies in development projects, and how such involvement could accelerate solutions to public concerns without compromising the institutions' core mandates and responsibilities.

Anwar said investments by GLICs and GLCs helped local companies expand and attract private investment from domestic and foreign investors.

He cited Khazanah Nasional Bhd's Dana Impak, which has invested RM2.6 billion since its establishment in 2021.

One of the local companies backed by Khazanah was Farm Fresh Bhd, in which the sovereign wealth fund initially acquired a 30 per cent stake before the company went public at a valuation of RM2.5 billion.

Khazanah subsequently divested its stake after the company had established itself, Anwar said.

He added that Budget 2027 had allocated RM450 million through Jelawang Capital, Khazanah and the Retirement Fund Inc's (KWAP) Dana Perintis to develop start-ups.

Meanwhile, Anwar stressed the need for more rigorous scrutiny of overseas investments to avoid a repeat of the experience involving the Battersea Power Station redevelopment project in Britain.

He said the initial investment in the project had been too high and had incurred losses, while efforts were under way to recover the investment. He was responding to a supplementary question from Hassan Karim (PKR-Pasir Gudang) on the amount invested by GLCs and GLICs in the Battersea redevelopment in London and the benefits it had brought to Malaysia's economy.

Anwar said institutions such as KWAP, Khazanah and Permodalan Nasional Bhd continued to seek investment opportunities both at home and abroad.

However, the government had prioritised domestic investments over the past three years, setting an initial target of at least 20 per cent of investments to be channelled into the country, he said.

The proportion would be increased according to the readiness and capacity of the institutions concerned, he added.

Anwar said most overseas investments had generated substantial returns, although some had incurred losses.

Commenting on KWAP's investment in eFishery, he said the failed investment should not be taken as representative of the fund's overall performance, noting that KWAP had recorded RM8 billion in profits. — Bernama

AHTV devt records RM7 bln in realised investments from 2018-2026

KUALA LUMPUR: The development of the Automotive Hi-Tech Valley (AHTV) in Tanjung Malim, Perak, has recorded realised investments totalling RM7 billion for the 2018-2026 period, representing 23.3 per cent of the projected RM30 billion in total investments expected by 2035, with contributions including those from Geely.

Deputy Investment, Trade and Industry Minister Sim Tze Tzin said AHTV has recorded rapid growth in job creation, driven by the pace of investment and infrastructure development.

"The workforce, which began at around 2,000 people in 2018, has grown rapidly to 9,300 in 2026, and is projected to reach 22,800 by 2030," he said during the questions for oral answers session in the Dewan Rakyat yesterday.

Sim was replying to Tan Kok Wai's (DAP-Cheras) question

about the number and detailed list of projects that have materialised under Geely's US\$10 billion investment commitment in Tanjung Malim (US\$1=RM4.08).

He said one key achievement that has fully materialised is the upgrade of Proton's manufacturing facilities in Tanjung Malim, including expanded production capacity and capabilities, as well as the production of new engines and transmissions featuring advanced technology.

For 2025-2026, the development and upgrading of industrial facilities will also include electric vehicle production plants, increased engine production capacity, metal stamping facilities, new logistics centres and warehouses, and research and development testing laboratories, said Sim. — Bernama

EPF must help more M'sians achieve retirement adequacy – Amir Hamzah

KUALA LUMPUR: The Employees Provident Fund (EPF) must help more Malaysians achieve retirement adequacy by adapting to changing employment patterns while continuing to deliver sustainable returns, said Finance Minister II Datuk Seri Amir Hamzah Azizan.

He said EPF's ambition beyond its 75th anniversary should go beyond growing its size to becoming more relevant, inclusive and impactful, while remaining true to its core responsibility of safeguarding members' retirement savings.

"A modern retirement institution must see members not merely as contributors, but as people. People with aspirations

and responsibilities. People raising children while caring for ageing parents. People whose lives do not always move in straight lines and whose needs evolve over time.

"That is why EPF's journey continues to evolve. From savings to security. From security to wellbeing. And from serving individual members to helping build a stronger, more resilient nation," he said at the EPF's 75th Anniversary Gala Dinner on Monday.

Amir Hamzah, who served as EPF chief executive before being appointed Finance Minister II in 2023, said his experience at the fund and in government had given him two perspectives on its role. — Bernama



TAB Global president and managing editor Foo Boon Ping (left) presents the award to Teck Long.

OCBC named Asia Pacific's strongest bank, ranks third globally

KUCHING: OCBC has been named the strongest bank in Singapore and Asia Pacific and the third strongest globally in the latest World's 1,000 Strongest Banks ranking by The Asian Banker.

The recognition follows the bank's top position in the inaugural World's Top Performing Banks ranking by Forbes and Statista in September 2026.

The Asian Banker's ranking, introduced in 2023, saw OCBC become the first Singapore bank to finish among the world's top three.

The bank also recorded a 46.8 per cent year-to-date increase in its share price as of Oct 23, making it the top performer in the Straits Times Index this year.

OCBC Group chief executive officer Tan Teck Long said the recognition reflected the resilience of the bank and the trust it had built with customers over generations.

"Being named one of the world's strongest banks, soon after being recognised as the 'top performing bank', reflects the resilience of the OCBC franchise.

"Such resilience is built on customer trust that endures over generations," he said.

He added that OCBC employees across the group continued to sustain that trust by serving customers and helping them realise their aspirations.

"We will continue to build on

this strong foundation to create lasting value for our customers, communities and shareholders," he said.

OCBC Malaysia chief executive officer Tan Chor Sen said the awards served as a reminder of the bank's responsibility to improve its services to customers.

"OCBC's roots in Malaysia trace back to almost a hundred years, and we remain committed to serving our customers and growing our franchise here," he said, expressing gratitude to the bank's Malaysian team for contributing to the global recognition.

The Asian Banker's editorial team assessed the world's 1,000 largest banks across seven dimensions: sovereign risk, scale, balance-sheet growth, risk profile, profitability, asset quality and liquidity.

JPMorganChase and Saudi National Bank were the other banks in the top three.

TAB Insights research director Christian Kapfer said OCBC's diversified earnings, asset quality and capital position contributed to its financial strength.

"OCBC's diversified earnings, sound asset quality and strong capital position distinguish it from many of its regional peers.

"Its ability to combine profitability with prudent balance-sheet management has been an important factor in its financial strength," he said.

Analysis: FBM KLCI poised for recovery in 2027 on resiliency



Rachel Lau
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KUCHING: Malaysia's benchmark FBM KLCI is expected to stage a recovery in 2027 following its recent market correction, supported by resilient domestic economic growth and stronger corporate earnings, according to MBSB Investment Bank Bhd (MBSB Research).

In its latest strategy report, the research house noted that the FBM KLCI had climbed to a multi-year high of 1,770 points in the first quarter of 2026 (1Q26), supported by Malaysia's resilient gross domestic product (GDP) growth of 5.2 per cent in 2025, alongside foreign investment in data centres (DCs), green energy and semiconductor-related activities.

However, the market has since entered another correction phase amid rising global interest rates, elevated bond yields and foreign fund outflows following heightened geopolitical tensions in the Middle East. MBSB Research believes the latest downturn could pave the way for a recovery, provided Malaysia's economic performance remains resilient.

"Going into next year, we expect another recovery after the prevailing correction,



Alongside the resilient economic outlook, MBSB Research noted that market consensus expects FBM KLCI earnings to grow by 6.6 per cent y-o-y in 2027. — Bernama photo

provided that macroeconomic performance remains resilient," it said.

For 2027, MBSB Research projects GDP growth of 4.6 per cent, broadly in line with the Ministry of Finance's (MoF) forecast range of 4.2 to 5.2 per cent. Alongside the resilient economic outlook, MBSB Research noted that market consensus expects FBM KLCI earnings to grow by 6.6 per cent year on year (y-o-y) in 2027.

"This resilient growth provides clear fundamental support against prolonged, structural market declines," said the research house.

Against this backdrop, the research house has set a

preliminary end-2027 FBM KLCI target of 1,850 points, based on a forward price-to-earnings ratio (PER) of 15.4 times.

Meanwhile, the market consensus one-year bottom-up target stands higher at 1,952 points. MBSB Research also noted that the prevailing market correction has left many fundamentally sound companies trading at attractive valuations, potentially attracting institutional bargain hunters.

Additionally, it anticipates that easing geopolitical tensions in the Middle East could provide further support to local equity valuations, with Brent crude oil prices projected to moderate

towards US\$75 to US\$85 per barrel in 2027.

However, MBSB Research cautioned that the anticipated recovery could be delayed or constrained if global bond yields and US inflation remain elevated, potentially prompting further interest rate hikes and continued capital outflows from emerging markets.

That said, a deterioration in Malaysia's macroeconomic performance could also derail the projected rebound.

"As in previous instances, we believe domestic economic resilience will act as a key underpinning for the next market recovery," it said.

GEAR-uP implementation on schedule, investments expected to rise end-2026

KUALA LUMPUR: The implementation of the GEAR-uP programme remains on schedule, with investments expected to rise towards the end of this year and end-2027, Prime Minister Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim said yesterday.

Also known as the Government-linked Enterprises Activation and Reform Programme, GEAR-uP was spearheaded by the Ministry of Finance (MoF) a few

years ago.

Anwar, who is also the Finance Minister, said the programme's first year of implementation involved considerable planning, research and evaluation, with past experiences prompting the parties involved to exercise greater caution in investment-making decisions.

"The GEAR-uP programme is indeed a valid concern, but according to their plans,

investments are expected to pick up towards the end of this year and end-2027. Based on the progress outlined in the latest report, I can see that it remains on schedule," he said during the Prime Minister's Question Time session in the Dewan Rakyat.

He was responding to a supplementary question from Syed Saddiq Syed Abdul Rahman (Independent-Muar) on measures to accelerate investment

disbursements under the programme and ensure that the funds are not misused.

Anwar also stressed that the government prohibits political figures from interfering in project selection and setting project priorities.

"The projects must be determined by an investment body comprising professionals with the relevant expertise," he said. — Bernama



Dr Sim (centre) together with Impact Capital managing director Winston Chai (left) and Public Investment Bank Bhd chief executive officer Lee Yo-Hunn during Impact Capital's prospectus launch yesterday.

New Sarawak listing support digital growth

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These industries will require secure networks, reliable data infrastructure, cloud and computing capability, cybersecurity and resilient ICT systems.

Datuk Amar Dr Sim Kui Hian

KUCHING: Sarawak's digital transformation will create opportunities for local technology companies to expand their businesses and participate in higher-value industries, said Deputy Premier Datuk Amar Dr Sim Kui Hian.

He said companies such as Impact Capital Holdings Bhd (Impact Capital) could play a greater role in supporting the state's digital infrastructure needs as Sarawak advances towards a knowledge-driven economy.

Speaking at the launch of Impact Capital's prospectus in conjunction with its proposed listing on the ACE Market of Bursa Malaysia Securities Bhd yesterday, Dr Sim said digital infrastructure would be essential to the development of industries ranging from smart cities and renewable energy to healthcare, transport and financial services.

"These industries will require secure networks, reliable data infrastructure, cloud and computing capability, cybersecurity and resilient ICT systems," he said.

Dr Sim noted that Sarawak's economy expanded to approximately RM153.5 billion in 2025, while gross domestic product (GDP) per capita reached

RM73,757, exceeding the national average.

These achievements, he said, provided a foundation for the state to pursue its target of building a RM282 billion economy by 2030.

Dr Sim said economic growth should translate into better employment opportunities, stronger businesses and more accessible and reliable public services.

He added that Sarawak was moving beyond its traditional strengths in commodities and natural resource towards higher-value activities in renewable energy, the digital economy and advanced technologies.

The state's fiscal position had also strengthened its capacity to invest in infrastructure, connectivity, talent development and strategic industries, he said.

Dr Sim said private-sector participation would be important in developing these capabilities, particularly through investments in technology, innovation and solutions that could meet the needs of emerging industries.

He also stressed the importance of developing local talent, saying companies that

create skilled employment, train Sarawakians and build technical expertise could contribute to more inclusive and sustainable economic growth.

Impact Capital began operations in Kuching in 2005, trading computer accessories and providing consultancy services before expanding into Peninsular Malaysia and undertaking more complex information and communications technology (ICT) infrastructure and systems integration projects.

Dr Sim said the group's capabilities had since expanded to cover telecommunications infrastructure, enterprise networks, data centres, security systems and digital twin technology.

He said the company's development reflected years of building technical expertise, developing talent, earning customer trust and adapting to technological changes.

As Impact Capital progresses towards its proposed listing, Dr Sim urged the company to maintain sound governance, strong execution and a clear sense of responsibility while pursuing further growth.

MIDA calls for coordinated investment strategy to position Borneo as investment hub

KUALA LUMPUR: The Invest Borneo action plan should focus on shared value chains, improve cross-border ease of doing business and prioritise investment realisation to strengthen Borneo's position as an investment hub, according to the Malaysian Investment Development Authority (MIDA).

Its chairman Tengku Datuk Seri Zafrul Abdul Aziz said MIDA, through its offices in Kota Kinabalu and Kuching, stands ready to work with Invest Sabah, Invest Sarawak, the Brunei Economic Development Board, Indonesian colleagues and the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UN ESCAP) to advance the initiative.

"Borneo is unique. It is the only island in the world shared by three countries. To an investor, that means three sets of rules, three sets of incentives and, since Sabah and Sarawak each have their own investment agencies, at least four separate sales pitches.

"Borneo has never lacked resources or potential. What investors have often lacked is a clear picture of how its parts fit together," he said in his opening remarks at the Borneo Business Roundtable 2026 yesterday.

He said Malaysia recorded a historic RM426.7 billion in approved investments in 2025, while Sabah and Sarawak,

which account for about 60 per cent of the country's land area, collectively attracted less than seven per cent of total approved investments last year, representing an untapped investment opportunity for Borneo.

"The momentum is encouraging. In the first half of 2026 alone, Sarawak recorded RM10.8 billion in approved investments (about three quarters of its total for the whole of 2025), while Sabah recorded RM6.8 billion.

"Our cross-border numbers tell a similar story. Trade between Malaysia and Brunei was RM5.86 billion last year. For two close neighbours that share a long border and a common history, there is clearly room to do much more," he said.

Tengku Zafrul said that under the Asean Regional Investment Promotion Action Plan 2025-2030, Asean is positioning itself as a single investment destination across regional value chains, with investment-ready projects presented at the Asean Investment Forum in Kuala Lumpur last October.

He said Invest Borneo applied the same approach by leveraging complementary strengths, with Brunei offering downstream industries in methanol and fertiliser, and strength in halal products and Islamic finance; Sarawak providing renewable

energy; Sabah contributing oil and gas, agriculture and tourism; and Kalimantan offering opportunities through Nusantara and access to Indonesia's domestic market.

Meanwhile, Tengku Zafrul said Malaysia is expanding into high-value sectors like semiconductors, artificial intelligence (AI), and green technology via the New Industrial Master Plan 2030, the National Energy Transition Roadmap and the National Semiconductor Strategy, while strengthening regional digital infrastructure, sustainability and public-private partnerships.

"We are already part of the regional semiconductor and electric vehicle value chains.

And we are going strong on data centres," he said during his keynote address at the Brunei Business Conference 2026 on Monday.

Looking specifically at Brunei and Malaysia, three near-term sectoral opportunities stand out, namely energy transition and green industry, halal and Islamic finance, and digital and AI skills, he said.

"None of this happens by government decree alone. It happens when business leaders pick up the phone, sign the memorandum of understanding and take the first risk," he said, adding that when "Asean prospers, the world follows." — Bernama

Impact Capital eyes balanced orderbook towards ACE Market listing

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KUCHING: Impact Capital Holdings Bhd (Impact Capital) is gearing up for its upcoming listing on Bursa Malaysia's ACE Market with an orderbook of approximately RM169 million and an active tenderbook of nearly RM330 million.

According to its managing director Winston Chai, the group continues to actively tender for new projects to replenish its orderbook and sustain revenue growth across both public and private sectors.

"Our customer base historically maintains a balance of roughly 60 per cent government contracts and 40 per cent private sector contracts," Chai told a press conference held in conjunction with the group's prospectus launch here yesterday.

He noted that while a substantial portion of major projects in recent years originated from Sarawak, the group's project portfolio is distributed almost evenly between East and West Malaysia.

"In fact, Impact Capital established its footprint in West Malaysia as early as 2006 upon securing its first federal project, subsequently moving into a permanent office in Damansara in 2008," he said.

Addressing the group's



Chai (centre) and other directors during a press conference after Impact Capital's prospectus launch yesterday.

business segments, Chai explained that the integration of ICT equipment systems and solutions currently accounts for nearly 80 per cent of total group revenue, with the remainder coming from the supply of ICT hardware, software, and provisioning of solutions.

"ICT system integration has been in our DNA since we started. It encompasses multiple domains including telecommunications, data centres, enterprise networks, and security. We often start with a single domain, such as enterprise networks, and gradually expand into comprehensive end-to-end solutions as client requirements evolve," he added.

To support its operational growth, Impact Capital plans to relocate to a new office in the Klang Valley by the second half of 2027, which will house its first digital innovation and solutions centre. This will be followed by establishing permanent office

setups in Bintulu, Kota Kinabalu, and Johor Bahru through 2028.

On international exposure, Chai shared that while 99 per cent of current revenue is generated within Malaysia, the group actively serves multinational corporations operating locally, including Alibaba, Tencent, and McDonald's.

Commenting on the group's financial performance, recurring revenue currently contributes around 21 per cent of total group revenue, maintaining its historical average range of 18 to 20 per cent.

Looking ahead, Impact Capital aims to capitalise on major state infrastructure and digital transformation initiatives, including Sarawak's smart city allocations and digital infrastructure projects.

The group also expects its in-house, locally developed digital twin solutions to drive future margin improvements and overall revenue expansion.

Pansar unit secures RM170.86 mln subcontract for Samalaju water infrastructure project

KUALA LUMPUR: Pansar Bhd's wholly-owned subsidiary, Perbena Emas Sdn Bhd, has accepted a letter of acceptance from KKB Engineering Bhd for civil and structural subcontract works worth RM170.86 million.

The project pertains to the second phase of the water infrastructure upgrade in Samalaju, part of the Sarawak Corridor of Renewable Energy

(SCORE), said Pansar in a Bursa Malaysia filing today.

"The scope of work involves civil and structural works for the construction and completion of buildings and infrastructure for a 160 million litres per day (MLD) raw water intake and pumping mains, a 120 MLD water treatment plant and the associated facilities," it said.

The contract period is 36

months, and work is scheduled to begin next month.

"The contract is expected to contribute positively to the earnings and net assets of the group as the project progresses during the contract period," said Pansar, adding that none of its directors, major shareholders or persons connected to them have any direct or indirect interest in the contract. — Bernama

Aizo continues to explore green bitumen facility in Sarawak

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KUCHING: Aizo Group Bhd (Aizo Group) continues to explore a green bitumen facility in Sarawak producing crumb rubber modified bitumen and other sustainable products as it looks to turn end-of-life rubber into higher-value road materials.

Its executive chairman, Dato Abang Abdullah Izzarim Abang Johari, highlighted the venture

in the group's annual report 2026 as one of its milestones for the year.

The group's subsidiary Aizo Manufacturing International Sdn Bhd had signed a non-binding memorandum of understanding (MoU) with K2 Bitumen Sdn Bhd last November to explore the facility.

"The proposed green bitumen collaboration opens a pathway to greater resource circularity through the use of recycled rubber," said Abang Abdullah in the annual report.

Accordingly, the proposed crumb rubber modified bitumen



Dato Abang Abdullah Izzarim Abang Johari

would incorporate recycled tyre rubber, with the potential to reduce lifecycle emissions through material substitution and improved pavement durability.

The group said technical feasibility, commercial terms, investment requirements and approvals remain central to evaluation.

It added that the MoU remains exploratory and did not have a material financial effect during the reporting period.

"Any future financial effects will depend on whether the proposed collaboration proceeds, the investment required and the commercial demand for the resulting products," it said.

On the sector, the group noted that RM1.67 billion was allocated under Budget 2026 for the Pan

Borneo Sabah Highway alongside completion of the Pan Borneo Sarawak packages.

"Bitumen demand is closely tied to this road construction and resurfacing activity, while pricing continues to track global petroleum-linked input costs," it said.

The group's bituminous products business, which operates from its Batang Kali platform in Selangor with a monthly capacity of 1,000 tonnes, generated revenue of RM31.59 million for the financial year ended June 30, 2026 (FY26).

For the full financial year, Aizo

recorded revenue of RM145.84 million compared with RM155.10 million in the preceding 15-month financial period, as it returned to a full 12-month reporting cycle.

Loss before tax narrowed substantially to RM4.38 million from RM17.32 million, while loss attributable to owners of the company fell to RM8.24 million from RM18.73 million.

The group also said it would evaluate further renewable energy opportunities, including initiatives in Sarawak, against funding capacity and expected returns.*