



KEMENTERIAN PERDAGANGAN DALAM NEGERI  
DAN KOS SARA HIDUP

## Keratan Akhbar

### Berita Online

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24 JAM

# BERITA

# KPDN

## KERATAN AKHBAR & BERITA ONLINE

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Tarikh: 18 Oktober 2024



KEMENTERIAN PERDAGANGAN DALAM NEGERI  
DAN KOS SARA HIDUP

# KERATAN AKHBAR **KPDN**



## 598 kapal nelayan asing masuk 'pukat'

451 daripadanya adalah kapal nelayan Vietnam

Oleh MUHAMMAD AFHAM RAMLI  
PUTRAJAYA

**S**ebanyak 598 tangkapan kapal nelayan asing dengan nilai rampasan berjumlah RM209 juta direkodkan sepanjang Op Naga dilaksanakan sejak Mei 2019 sehingga September lalu.

Ketua Pengarah Agensi Pengurusan Maritim Malaysia, Laksamana Muda Maritim Datuk Mohd Rosli Abdulla berkata, sepanjang tempoh lima tahun, sebanyak 75 peratus tangkapan dilakukan melibatkan 451 kapal nelayan asing warga Vietnam termasuk 4,391 kru ditahan membabitkan nilai rampasan melebihi RM190 juta.

"Angka ini merupakan sebahagian jumlah kapal nelayan asing yang dikesan memasuki perairan negara.

"Pasukan keselamatan terlibat dalam Op Naga sentiasa melaksanakan pemantauan dalam usaha membanteras pencerobohan kapal-kapal nelayan asing yang mengaut hasil laut di perairan negara," katanya da-



Pihak berkuasa memeriksa kapal nelayan warga asing ketika Op Naga.

lam satu kenyataan pada Khamis.

Dalam pada itu, Mohd Rosli berkata, ancaman aktiviti perikanan secara haram tidak dilaporkan dan tidak dikawal perlu ditangani dengan kerjasama semua pihak.

Jelas beliau, jika tidak dibanteras, aktiviti tersebut menjadikan habitat ekosistem marin, selain mengancam pembibitan benih ikan, sekali gus menjejaskan sumber pendapatan nelayan tempatan.

"Diharap Op Naga dapat diperkasakan lagi demi menjaga keadilan dan memastikan sumber

ekonomi negara sentiasa terpelihara," katanya.

Op Naga merupakan operasi berspadu dikoordinasikan Maritim Malaysia yang melibatkan Tentera Laut Diraja Malaysia (TLDM), Tentera Udara Diraja Malaysia (TUDM), Polis Diraja Malaysia (PDRM), Jabatan Kastam Diraja Malaysia (JKDM), Jabatan Perikanan Malaysia (DOF), Jabatan Laut Malaysia (JLM), Jabatan Imigresen Malaysia (JIM) dan Jabatan Pelabuhan dan Dermaga Sabah.

Turut terlibat ialah Lembaga Kemajuan Ikan Malaysia (LKIM), Kementerian Perdagangan Dalam Negeri dan Kos Sarawak (KPDN) serta Jabatan Perikanan Sabah.



MOHD ROSLI

## Penari jadi duta perkenal pelbagai tarian Malaysia di Jepun

CHIBA: Persembahan unik gabungan pelbagai tarian di Malaysia diangkat dua penari profesional negara untuk dipertontonkan kepada masyarakat Jepun menerusi program Malaysia Fair-Taste of Malaysia di AEON Mall Makuhari New City di sini.

Firdaus Neilan Boader, 37, bersama rakannya Noorsyaza Afrina Md Zakaria, 24, berkata tugas memperkenalkan keindahan tarian negara dalam program empat hari itu (11-14 Okt) bukanlah mudah kerana ia memerlukan koreografi yang memukau bagi menarik dan memastikan penonton kekal fokus.

"Mengadakan persembahan di negara sendiri dengan luar negara tidak sama kerana kalau di Malaysia khalayak biasanya sudah tahu secara asas tarian-tarian kebudayaan yang kita ada, namun di sini pandangan orang luar, rasa ingin tahu mereka lebih tinggi."

"Semua orang boleh menari tetapi untuk menari secara profesional sangat susah apa lagi apabila sudah berada di peringkat ini, bagaimana untuk saya pastikan kebolehpersembahan (showmanship) saya mampu memukau penonton dari awal hingga akhir, cabarannya adalah sejauh mana jiwa tarian kita itu sampai kepada penonton untuk mereka berasa teruja menyaksikan persembahan," katanya kepada Bernama.

Mengulas lanjut, Firdaus yang berasal dari Sabah dan telah berkecimpung dalam industri tarian selama 14 tahun berkata teknik dan penghayatan merupakan elemen utama yang mampu membuatkan sesuatu tarian itu 'hidup' dan menjadi indah.

"Macam berlakon jugalah, kalau lakonan kita tiada penghayatan, apa yang kita lakonkan itu tidak sampai... menari pun begitu kalau kosong, maka tarian kita seperti tiada nilai, jadi kenalah betul-betul menghayati barulah sampai pada penonton, lagi-lagi penonton itu orang luar negara," katanya.

Menurutnya pada program tersebut, tiga kategori tarian dipersembahkan iaitu tarian tradisional Melayu iaitu zapin dan joget, tarian rakyat Malaysia (Watimang Landak dan Embun Sok Sek) serta tarian Sabah dan Sarawak merangkumi Ngajat, Sumazau, Datu, Julud dan Magunatip. - Bernama

"Setiap hari kita ada enam sesi persembahan dan setiap sesi tempoh menari adalah selama 10 minit. Sambutan penonton memang amat memberansangkan dan orang Jepun memang memberikan sokon-



FIRDAUS bersama Noorsyaza Afrina menampilkan persembahan tarian sempena Program Citarasa Malaysia di AEON Makuhari New City, Chiba, 15 Okt. – fotoBERNAMA

gan yang positif.

"Alhamdulillah selama empat hari, pengunjung program sendiri telah memberikan pandangan yang positif terhadap persembahan kami," katanya yang sebelum ini pernah mengadakan persembahan di Istanbul, Bulgaria dan Singapura.

Sementara itu, Noorsyaza Afrina berkata pengalaman, gaya dan teknik gerakan serta raut wajah antara kriteria yang dilihat dalam memilih penari untuk mewakili negara.

"Kalau ikutkan, kita ada sangat ramai penari dalam kumpulan persembahan komersial yang dikenali sebagai Sanggar Mustika Ventures, jadi bukan mudah untuk dipilih buat persembahan ke luar negara. Macam saya yang telah berjinak dengan dunia tarian ini sejak berusia lima tahun, mungkin pengalaman itulah yang membolehkan saya terpilih."

"Persembahan di Jepun merupakan persembahan ketiga saya di luar negara selepas China sebanyak dua kali pada 2017 dan 2022," katanya.

Menurutnya sebagai penari sepenuh masa, membuat persembahan kebudayaan sambil membawa nama negara merupakan sesuatu yang sangat membanggakan.

Program Malaysia Fair-Taste of Malaysia anjuran Kementerian Perdagangan Dalam Negeri dan Kos Sara Hidup (KPDN) dengan kerjasama AEON Co (M) Bhd (AEON) bertujuan untuk memperkenalkan produk-produk Malaysia yang berjaya menembusi rangkaian pasar raya itu di samping mengetengahkan tarian tradisional negara.

Program dirasmikan Ketua Setiausaha KPDN Datuk Seri Mohd Sayuthi Bakar pada Sabtu lepas dan turut diadakan secara serentak di AEON Mall Kasai, AEON Mall Minamisuna, AEON Mall Style Shinonome, AEON Mall Style Himonya dan AEON Mall Narita. - Bernama

## PPM Semporna rampas lebih 1,000 liter petrol

Azmie Lim

SEMPORNA: Pasukan Polis Marin (PPM) di sini menahan seorang lelaki dan merampas lebih 1,000 liter petrol dalam tiga kes berasingan, pada Rabu.

Pegawai Pemerintah PPM Semporna, DSP Mohamad Ismail berkata, pasukan PPM mengesan sebuah bot mencurigakan ketika membuat rondaan berhampiran perairan Kampung Singamata.

Apabila menyedari kehadiran PPM, tekong bot itu memecut ke arah kawasan cetek sebelum melarikan diri ke Pulau Bum Bum.

Beliau berkata, hasil pemeriksaan ke atas bot itu mendapati bot itu membawa muatan 16 jerigen masing-masing mengandungi 30 liter petrol.

"Petrol itu dipercayai untuk diseludup keluar ke negara jiran. Rampasan yang dianggarkan bernilai RM7,894 itu dibawa ke pangkalan PPM Semporna untuk tindakan lanjut," katanya, menambah kesalahan itu dilakukan di bawah Akta Kawalan Bekalan 1961.

Menurut Mohamad Ismail, pada masa yang sama, pasukan PPM memeriksa sebuah bot ketika membuat rondaan berhampiran jeti Kampung Air.

Beliau berkata, hasil pemeriksaan menemui 24 jerigen berisi 25 liter petrol setiap satu, yang disyaki untuk diseludup keluar ke negara jiran.

"Pasukan itu menahan seorang lelaki yang berada di atas bot semasa pemeriksaan dan membawa rampasan yang diang-

garkan bernilai RM20,260 ke pangkalan PPM untuk tindakan lanjut," katanya.

Sementara itu, pasukan PPM merampas lapan jerigen berisi 25 liter petrol setiap satu dan dua jerigen berisi 30 liter setiap satu, susulan pemeriksaan ke atas sebuah bot berhampiran jeti Kampung Air.

Mohamad Ismail berkata, pasukan itu menunggu kira-kira sejam, namun tiada individu atau pihak yang datang menuntut hak milik barang berkenaan.

"Rampasan yang dianggarkan bernilai kira-kira RM16,553 dibawa ke pangkalan PPM Semporna untuk tindakan lanjut.

"Kes dirujuk kepada Kementerian Perdagangan Dalam Negeri dan Kos Sarawak Hidup (KPDN) Semporna untuk siasatan lanjut," katanya.

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Among the jerry cans containing petrol seized by MPF in Semporna.

## Petrol seized in Semporna

**Azmie Lim**

SEMPORNA: The Marine Police Force (MPF) detained a man and seized more than 1,000 litres of petrol in three separated cases, on Wednesday.

Semporna MPF Commanding Officer, DSP Mohamad Ismail said, MPF team spotted a suspicious boat when patrolling near Kampung Singamata waters.

Upon noticing MPF presence, the boat skipper sped towards the shallow areas before escaping to Pulau Bum Bum.

He said, result of inspection on the boat found 16 jerry cans containing 30 litres of petrol.

"The petrol was believed to be smuggled out to a neighbouring country. The seizures estimated worth RM7,894 were taken to Semporna Marine base for further action," he said, adding that the offence was committed under the Control of Supplies Act 1961.

According to Mohamad Ismail, the MPF team also inspected a boat while

patrolling near Kampung Air jetty and found 24 jerry cans containing 25 litres of petrol each, suspected to be smuggled out to the neighbouring country.

"The team detained a man who was onboard during the inspection and took the seizures estimated worth RM20,260 to the Marine base for further action," he said.

Meanwhile, the MPF team seized eight jerry cans containing 25 litres of petrol each and two jerry cans containing 30 litres each following an inspection on a boat near Kampung Air jetty.

Mohamad Ismail said the team waited for about an hour but no one came to claim ownership of the items.

"The seizures estimated worth about RM16,553 were taken to the Semporna Marine base for further action.

"The case was referred to Semporna Ministry of Domestic Trade and Cost of Living (KPDN) for further investigation," he added.



**ROYAL INTEREST ...** The Raja Muda of Selangor Tengku Amir Shah visiting a booth at an exhibition held in conjunction with the 4th Selangor Life Sciences Convention at the Kuala Lumpur Convention Centre yesterday. — ADAM AMIR HAMZAH/THESUN

# Budget 2025 expected to boost living standards

Focus likely to be on maintaining economic growth while ensuring welfare of vulnerable segments of society

**KUALA LUMPUR:** Budget 2025 will be a delicate balance between maintaining economic growth and ensuring that the welfare of the most vulnerable segments of society comprising low-income earners, single mothers and people with disabilities are looked after against a backdrop of rising prices.

Prime Minister Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim knows only too well the relentless struggle the people have to grapple with on a daily basis, especially with high food prices, problems with housing, healthcare needs, and other challenges.

Raising the people's living standards will surely be the concern of Anwar, who is also the finance minister, as he unveils the country's financial blueprint for next year in the Dewan Rakyat at 4pm today.

There is obviously no shortage of accounts of individuals and families struggling economically despite multiple initiatives in Budget 2024 to help them.

Hence, expectations are high for a larger allocation in the budget to facilitate a more equitable distribution of economic growth among a wider population.

As for taxes, Anwar had said the government would only implement the goods and services tax (GST) if the minimum wage

threshold is at RM3,000-RM4,000. With the minimum monthly wage currently at RM1,500, one can be assured that GST is off the lists.

Kingsley Strategic Institute for Asia Pacific economic adviser Anthony Dass said the government is likely to explore measures to broaden the tax base.

"For 2025, we believe the government may introduce or implement a sugar tax, a high-value goods tax (HVGT) and the global anti-base erosion tax."

Dass explained that an expansion of the sugar tax is anticipated, following the health minister's proposal to raise the tax on sugar-sweetened beverages to 20% of the retail price as part of a "war on sugar" campaign.

He added that the HVGT is expected to reappear after a delay in its implementation.

Dass said the government might also expand the scope of the sales and services tax (SST) to increase revenue.

Currently, the SST only covers 41% of goods and services while previously it covered 76%.

Speculation is also rife that an inheritance tax will be introduced, but Transport Minister Anthony Loke shot down claims of its possible introduction.

The Real Estate and Housing Developers'

Association said should such a tax be introduced at any point in the future, "we believe that residential properties should be given an exemption from the new rule".

There have also been high expectations of the rationalisation for RON95, following the rationalisation of diesel subsidies in June 2024 that resulted in savings of RM4 billion for the government.

However, Economy Minister Rafizi Ramli's comments, that the stronger economy and appreciating ringgit have given more flexibility for the government to achieve its fiscal consolidation targets, mean that the implementation of the RON95 subsidy rationalisation may be delayed.

On a macro scale, the government is expected to remain steadfast in achieving its gradual fiscal consolidation target by reducing national debt, while continuing to invest in improving the quality of life for all Malaysians, Bernama reported.

The national debt currently stands at 64% of GDP, with the government aiming to reduce this figure to at least 60% in stages.

Anwar had previously said the fiscal deficit had been lowered to 5.0% of GDP in 2023 from 5.6% in 2022, with a projection of further reduction to 4.3% this year.

Budget 2024 themed "Economic Reforms, Empowering the People" involved an allocation of RM393.8 billion, with RM303.8 billion for operating expenditure, RM90 billion for development expenditure, with RM2 billion for contingencies.

## Program MADANI Rakyat 2024 Sayangi Sabah provides various attractions to visitors

KOTA KINABALU, 17th October 2024 – Program MADANI Rakyat 2024 Sayangi Sabah (PMR 2024), is scheduled to be held at Likas Sport Complex from 18th till 20th October, offering an array of attractions for visitors.

Themed 'Improving Consumer Well-being', this event is the final leg of PMR 2024 series, following previous events in Selangor, Penang, Pahang, Johor, and Sarawak.

The implementation of the programme in Sabah involved a strategic collaboration with the Ministry of Domestic Trade and Cost of Living (KPDN) as the lead ministry, as well as the Sabah state government and the Performance Leap Coordination Unit (PACU) of the Prime Minister's Department (JPM).

The event focuses on eight key programmes, including People's Well-being by the Implementation Coordination Unit (ICU) of the Unity Agenda (Ministry of National Unity), Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET) and Career Carnival (Ministry of Human Resources) and State Government Services (Sabah government).

Others are Agriculture and Food Security (Agriculture and Food Security Ministry), Health Services (Health Ministry) and science, technology, engineering and Mathematics (STEM) and Artificial Intelligence (AI) programmes (Science, Technology and Innovation Ministry (MoSTI), Education Ministry (MOE) and the Higher Education Ministry (KPT)).

It also involves a strategic collaboration with government-linked companies (GLCs), non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and the private sector. Additionally, visitors can also enjoy the RAHMAH MADANI Sales Program (PJRM) that offers discounts between 10% to 30% on daily necessities.

Its main objective is to offer government services directly to the people, interact with them and promote the new policies and initiatives introduced by the MADANI Sales Program (PJRM). Government to the people, thereby increasing public understanding and awareness of the direction and goals of the government.

This program involves KPDN (Ministry of Domestic Trade and Consumer Affairs) to bring products under the Buy Malaysian Products Campaign (KBBM), which helps local

entrepreneurs in marketing and showcasing their products to the Malaysian public, while also drawing public interest in the Buy Malaysian Products Campaign (KBBM).

In order to achieve the objectives of PMR 2024, the organizers have arranged various programs and public focus activities, namely, ministry / PSUK state / agency meetings, people's touchpoint service programs, services related to food and live services and activities related to the youth group, Civil Sales Entrepreneurs, agencies with exhibitions government assets, the MyFuture Jobs Career Carnival and more exciting programs on stage.

Visitors have the opportunity to win lucky draw prizes at the ministry fair, witness craft demonstrations,

cultural performances and exhibitions of government assets from its agencies.

Furthermore, as many as 20 outdoor activities that are expected to gain public attention, namely, the PDRM discount summoning service, JPJ helmet exchange, Fun Run MADANI, Telco RAHMAH, e-sports competition, appetite stage under the breeze, health screening session and Sayangi Sabah Concert.

Prime Minister Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim is expected to launch Program MADANI Rakyat 2024 Sayangi Sabah on 19th October. More information can be obtained through the Malaysia Madani and KPDN portals.



RAHMAH MADANI Sales Program (PJRM) was also held.



(Content Partnership)

# KPDN buka dua kertas siasatan susulan Ops Samar di Limbang

ia melibatkan kes peniaga menyorok gula dan jualan bersyarat

Oleh Mastura Ismail

**LIMBANG:** Kementerian Perdagangan Dalam Negeri Dan Kos Sara Hidup (KPDN) Cawangan Limbang membuka dua kertas siasatan atas kesalahan menyorok bekalan gula pasir kasar sebanyak 324 kilogram dan menjual barang kawalan berjadual secara bersyarat dalam Ops Samar yang dilakukan pada 11 hingga 15 Oktober lepas.

Pengarah KPDN Sarawak Matthew Dominic Barin berkata, kedua-dua kes terbabit disiasat di bawah Seksyen 15 Akta Kawalan Bekalan 1961 dan Seksyen 19 Akta Kawalan Bekalan 1961.

Katanya, Ops Samar yang dijalankan di beberapa premis menjual barang kawalan di sekitar daerah ini bertujuan mengesan kesalahan peniaga dalam menjual barang kawalan.

"Hasil pemeriksaan yang dilakukan di dua premis perniagaan yang berbeza mendapati premis pertama telah mengenakan pembelian bersyarat yang mana setiap pembelian gula pasir kasar 1 kilogram (kg) yang berharga RM2.85 sebungkus dikenakan caj tambahan beg plastik RM0.50 bagi setiap



**TURUN PADANG:** Matthew memeriksapremis perniagaan semasa Ops Samar dijalankan di Limbang baru-baru ini.

pembelian gula.

"Manakala hasil pemeriksaan di premis perniagaan kedua didapati menyorok barang kawalan iaitu gula pasir kasar 1kg sebanyak 324kg di dalam stor simpanan premis tersebut.

"Peniaga terbabit mendakwa stok gula pasir kasar 1kg telah kehabisan stok semasa uji beli dilakukan oleh pegawai penguat kuasa yang melakukan pemeriksaan," katanya dalam kenyataan media semalam.

Kata Matthew lagi sekiranya sabit kesalahan boleh didenda tidak melebihi RM2 juta bagi kesalahan pertama jika orang itu adalah pertu-

bahan perbadanan.

"Jika orang itu bukan satu pertubuhan perbadanan, didenda tidak melebihi RM1 juta bagi kesalahan pertama atau penjara tidak melebihi tempoh selama tiga tahun atau kedua-duanya dan denda tidak melebihi RM3 juta bagi kesalahan kedua atau penjara tidak melebihi tempoh selama lima tahun atau kedua-duanya," jelasnya.

Katanya, masyarakat diminta menjadi mata dan telinga bagi membantu kerajaan dengan menghurkukan maklumat sebarang aktiviti penyelewengan barang kawalan bersubsidi bagi memastikan aktiviti

**“** Manakala hasil pemeriksaan di premis perniagaan kedua didapati menyorok barang kawalan iaitu gula pasir kasar 1kg sebanyak 324kg di dalam stor simpanan premis tersebut. **”**

Matthew Dominic Barin  
Pengarah KPDN Sarawak

penyelewengan ini dapat dibanteras sehingga ke akar umbi yang menyebabkan kerugian besar kepada rakyat dan negara.

Orang ramai yang mempunyai sebarang maklumat berhubung aktiviti penyelewangan barang kawalan bersubsidi boleh mensalurkan aduan yang lengkap kepada pihak kerajaan melalui saluran seperti WhatsApp 019-848 8000/019-279 4317, Portal Aduan; e-aduan.kpdn.gov.my, Call Centre 1-800-886-80, dan aplikasi telefon pintar Ez ADU KPDN.

## Pelbagai pengisian bermanfaat menanti pengunjung Program MADANI Rakyat 2024 Sayangi Sabah

**KOTA KINABALU:** Program MADANI Rakyat 2024 Sayangi Sabah di pekarangan Kompleks Sukan Likas di sini yang bermula hari ini (18 Oktober), menyediakan pelbagai pengisian menarik dan bermanfaat kepada pengunjung.

Ketua Pegawai Penguat Kuasa Kementerian Perdagangan Dalam Negeri dan Kos Sarawak (KPDN) negeri Zulfammy Mat Udi berkata, antaranya 215 Perkhidmatan Touchpoint Rakyat, 28 perkhidmatan kos sara hidup dan aktiviti untuk belia.

"Kita membawa perkhidmatan Kerajaan MADANI

kepada rakyat Sabah, dengan contohnya di reruai KPDN pengguna boleh berinteraksi secara langsung dan kementerian serta agensi juga boleh tambah baik perkhidmatan.

"Banyak perkhidmatan boleh dimanfaat pengunjung, antaranya kemudahan bayar saman dengan diskain sehingga 50 peratus. Turut disediakan perkhidmatan menukar topi keledar lama dengan 5,000 pengunjung terawal boleh bawa helmet lama yang tiada pengesahan SIRIM untuk ditukar baharu," katanya dalam temubual radio Sembang Ekspresi Sabah FM di sini.

Beliau berkata Jualan Rahmah yang menawarkan diskain sehingga 30 peratus di samping Jualan Agro MADANI, turut dianjurkan sempena program tiga hari itu yang berakhir 20 Oktober.

"Kita bawa wakil TikTok dan Shoppe untuk memberikan penerangan mengenai cara promosi dalam talian dan peluang ini perlu direbut pengusaha produk di negeri ini," katanya.

Zulfammy berkata kira-kira 4,000 peluang pekerjaan yang ditawarkan 14 majikan juga menanti untuk pengunjung dan penduduk Sabah.

Beliau berkata turut berlangsung pameran aset keselamatan, pemeriksaan kesihatan, kempen beli barang buatan Malaysia dan jualan trak makanan, serta konsert artis terkenal antaranya Azharina, K Clique, Masmona dan Faradhiya.

Lebih 400,000 pengunjung dijangka menghadiri Program MADANI Rakyat 2024 Sayangi Sabah anjuran Pejabat Perdana Menteri melalui Unit Penyelaras Lonjakan Prestasi (PACU), dengan KPDN sebagai penyelaras di peringkat negeri. — Bernama



KEMENTERIAN PERDAGANGAN DALAM NEGERI  
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# KERATAN AKHBAR **UMUM**

# Debaran menunggu berita gembira

Belanjawan 2025 diharap membantu meringankan kos sara hidup rakyat

SHAH ALAM

Rakyat Malaysia hari ini menanti penuh debar pembentangan Belanjawan 2025 yang diharap bakal memberi berita gembira khususnya kepada segmen masyarakat paling mudah terjejas seperti ibu tunggal dan golongan berpendapatan rendah di tengah-tengah kenaikan kos sara hidup.

Peniaga makanan, Mohd Azman Ibrahim, 40, meminta kerajaan menyediakan lebih banyak bantuan kewangan dan kemudahan pinjaman yang mudah diakses.

Menurutnya, kebanyakannya peniaga tidak dapat memenuhi syarat pinjaman komersial yang ketat.

"Kalau boleh, kita hendak kerajaan bantu dari segi bantuan kewangan, pinjaman dan barang keperluan untuk peniaga kecil seperti kami."

"Bila ada sokongan kewangan melalui pinjaman dan sumbangan lain, ia akan membantu kami peniaga untuk terus berhala," katanya.

Dia yang sudah berniaga selama lebih 11 tahun di Kuantan, Pahang memerlukan, kenaikan gaji penjawat awam seperti diumumkan kerajaan sebelum ini adalah antara langkah positif kerajaan yang mampu meningkatkan kuasa beli rakyat.

"Bila gaji penjawat awam meningkat, mereka mungkin akan berbelanja lebih, dan itu boleh membawa pendapatan tambahan kepada peniaga kecil," ujarnya.

Seorang lagi peniaga makanan, Eaddy Sham Zainul Abidin, 46, berkata, Belanjawan 2025 diharap dapat memberi perhatian khusus kepada kestabilan harga barang asas rakyat secara keseluruhan, lebih-lebih lagi peniaga kecil.

"Barang mentah, barang kering, semua mahal belaka sekarang. Kawal harga semua barang ini. Sebagai peniaga, barang-barang ini kami gunakan dengan banyak dan kos menjadi tinggi sebab barang mentah harganya mahal," katanya.

Sementara itu, Presiden Persatuan Wanita Kurang Upaya Malaysia, K.



MOHD AZMAN

EADDY SHAM

Bathmavathi berharap, fasiliti dan kemudahan awam untuk orang kurang upaya (OKU) serta warga emas, dapat terus diberi perhatian dalam Belanjawan 2025

bagi menjamin kesejahteraan dan memenuhi keselesaan buat golongan itu.

Beliau berkata, ketika ini, tahap keselamatan dan kebolehgunaan kemudahan bagi golongan berkenaan masih rendah, sama ada melibatkan perkhidmatan bas, rel, lapangan terbang dan feri sekali gus menyukarkan mereka memilih perkhidmatan awam sebagai pengangkutan utama.

Presiden Persatuan Pengguna Pulau Pinang, Mohideen Abdul Kader pula berharap, kerajaan dapat mengembalikan cukai jualan ke atas rokok kerana ia akan menjimatkan wang yang dibelanjakan oleh ribuan keluarga untuk rokok.

Menurut beliau, kali terakhir cukai jualan dan perkhidmatan dikenakan ke atas

produk tembakau adalah pada 2018, justeru pihaknya berharap cukai jualan mandatori dikenakan ke atas rokok bagi mengurangkan jumlah lima juta perokok dalam negara ketika itu.

"Berdasarkan tinjauan CAP, perokok membelanjakan kira-kira RM500 setiap bulan sedangkan makanan yang sihat tidak memerlukan wang sebanyak itu.

"Kenaikan harga rokok melalui cukai lebih tinggi terbukti berkesan dalam mengurangkan bilangan perokok di negara-negara lain tanpa mengira tahap pendapatan, malah ia juga mendorong sesetengah perokok untuk berhenti dan menghalang orang lain daripada mula menghisap rokok," katanya.

## REAKSI

“

Sebagai seorang guru yang menjadi salah seorang penggerak masa depan pendidikan anak murid, saya harap pihak kerajaan dapat tambah baik bantuan atau bonus yang diberikan kepada kakitangan kerajaan. Langkah kerajaan dalam menjaga kebijakan kakitangan awam perlu bersesuaian dengan kadar tekanan hidup semasa. Saya tidak sabar dan sangat yakin dengan kemampuan kerajaan untuk menolong kami para guru serta sektor pendidikan."



- Guru, An Nur Farrah Amanina Yasin, 34

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Bagi Belanjawan 2025, saya berharap tempoh setiap fasa Sumbangan Tunai Rahmah (STR) tidak mengambil masa yang terlalu lama. Sebagai contoh, saya sebelum ini dapat aghian sumbangan sebanyak tiga kali dalam setahun, jadi setiap fasa ambil masa empat hingga enam bulan. Jika nilai sumbangan boleh dinilai, ia amat berbaloi kerana kos sara hidup yang semakin meningkat. Sedikit sebanyak bantuan ini dapat membantu kami pada hujung bulan."



- Pekerja swasta, Zainur Shahira Zamri, 26

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Sumbangan kepada pelajar universiti selalunya kurang menyebabkan kami terpaksa hidup berjimat-jimat. Saya harap bantuan kepada pelajar universiti dapat diberikan dengan jumlah yang berpatutan. Ini kerana ada pelajar yang tidak menetap di kolej kediaman dan terpaksa mengeluarkan duit untuk hadir ke kelas setiap hari. Kami memang memerlukan wang tambahan pada setiap semester disebabkan jumlah pinjaman yang tidak mencukupi."



- Pelajar IPTA, Amal Hayati Fauzi, 22

“

Peningkatan jumlah pelepasan cukai individu perlu menggalakkan transaksi kewangan berlaku secara domestik atau lokaL Contohnya, peningkatan pelepasan cukai individu dari RM9,000 sekaran kepada RM12,000 tidak akan memberikan kesan ketara kepada hasil kerajaan kerana langkah ini juga akan membuka ruang kepada peningkatan perbelanjaan dalam negara."



- Profesor Madya Dr Muhd Khaizer Omar, UPM

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Saya berharap belanjawan kali ini dapat menyediakan bantuan berbentuk geran atau dana lain untuk peniaga kecil. Kami berniaga kecil-kecil, pasti hadapi pelbagai cabaran seperti harga bahan mentah semakin meningkat, jadi bantuan geran atau seumpamanya akan memberi kelegaan kepada kami."



- Peniaga, Mohd Faisal Norden, 38

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Saya berharap Belanjawan 2025 menyediakan bantuan untuk meringankan beban wanita bekerja. Bantuan seperti akses ke pusat jagaan kanak-kanak yang berkualiti, peningkatan kemudahan pusat jagaan di tempat bekerja serta kemudahan perkhidmatan perjagaan warga emas, dapat meringankan beban wanita yang bekerja."



- Presiden Persatuan Usahawan Wawasan Wanita Malaysia (Wawasanita), Dr Norlaili Alias



STIMULATE AND CATALYSE

# BIG SURPRISES MAY BE IN STORE

2025 Budget set to  
realise Madani  
Economy, spur  
growth and keep  
finances in check



ZURAIMI  
ABDULLAH

KUALA LUMPUR

THE 2025 Budget that will be tabled today may spring some big surprises as the government continues to stimulate and catalyse Malaysia's economic growth and keep its finances in check.

There may be clarity on the RON95 petrol subsidy rationalisation and further subsidy cuts, especially for electricity.

There may be new taxes, including for high-value goods, which was mooted in the previous budget, and for sugar-sweetened beverages. There are also rumours that the Goods and Services Tax



(GST) may return to replace the Sales and Service Tax (SST).

A GST revival is unlikely when Prime Minister Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim presents the budget in Parliament today.

Sources say the GST can be a solution for much of the government's fiscal woes, but it has its drawbacks — it can be regressive as it puts the poor at a greater disadvantage.

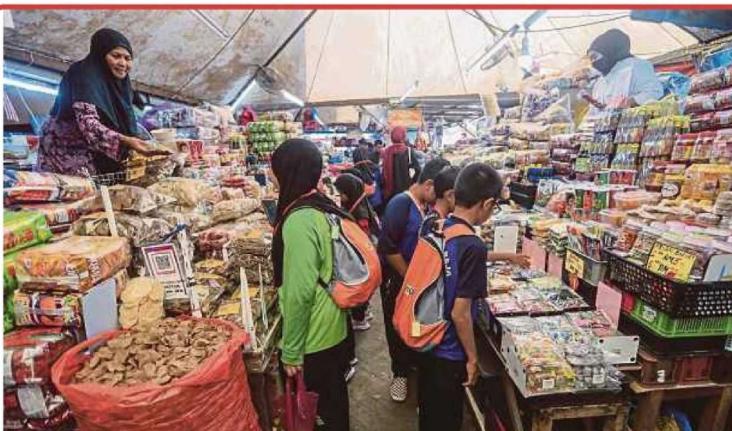
They say the budget will provide assistance for the people and small and medium businesses to alleviate the rising cost of living and operating costs.

The government must remain responsible and not be reckless despite the improving economic outlook this year and in 2025, they say.

Malaysia's gross domestic product (GDP) grew 5.1 per cent in the first six months of the year, after growing 5.9 per cent in the second quarter to follow up on the 4.2 per cent expansion in the first three months.

This was fuelled by robust domestic demand, a strong recovery in exports and a thriving tourism sector.

Given the country's economic



Stalls at Pasar Kedai Payang in Kuala Terengganu. An economist believes social security programmes like cash transfers will remain, with the possibility of increasing the allocation and expanding the scope to include the M40 group. NSTP PIC BY GHAZALI KORI

resilience, there are high chances that the government will revise the GDP growth forecast for the year to higher than the official four to five per cent.

This will be the prime minister's second full budget and it could be the toughest one thus far for his administration, industry observers say.

For one, there is a need to reduce government debt to a more sustainable level.

Up to June, the overall government debt stood at RM1.23 trillion, or 63.1 per cent of the GDP.

The statutory government debt is likely to register at 62 per cent of the GDP this year, below the limit of 65 per cent, but above the 60 per cent threshold. The Fiscal Responsibility Act mandates that the debt level must be below 60 per cent in the medium term.

Then, there is the fiscal deficit issue.

The country's fiscal deficit missed the 3.5 to 3.0 per cent target set during the mid-term review of the 12th Malaysia Plan and is expected to reach 4.3 per cent of the GDP, or RM84 billion, this year.

CGS International economists Nazmi Idrus and Mas Aida Che Mansor said the miss reflected the government's struggle to keep its finances in check.

This comes amid expectations of lower revenue collection next year and lower dividends from Petronas, as well as a jump in spending on emoluments following civil servant pay hikes.

The economists said the government had limited low-hanging choices for revenue enhancement and was pressured by higher spending commitments.

"The options are clear, but not necessarily easy. Either raise revenue or find ways to cut spending. Either option could negatively affect the consumer base."

"As such, we think the main element for this budget is how the government addresses its fiscal constraints but also formulates a mitigating measure to minimise the impact on the lower-income group, regardless of what is announced," they said recently.

Still, government revenue is expected to be higher this year and in 2025 than in 2023. But this may mean higher expenditure for next year.

Bank Muamalat chief economist Dr Mohd Afzanizam Abdul Rashid said this year had seen the implementation of several fiscal consolidation measures.

They included the increase in SST to eight per cent from six per cent, diesel subsidy rationalisation and e-invoicing.

"I believe these fiscal consolidation steps have yielded results, opening up a lot of fiscal policy space."

"This means that, in terms of revenue, the collection might be higher and spending is optimised, creating more room for the government to plan the budget for the coming year."

"With such conditions, the government can allocate a larger budget next year to further expand all sectors of the economy,

ensuring that groups like the B40 and others benefit."

He said in general, the budget's focus would be broad.

"In terms of social security, programmes like cash transfers will be maintained. There's also a possibility of increasing the allocation and expanding the scope to include the M40 group."

"That might be something to consider, as well as how the government encourages more private sector investment."

"There may be more tax incentives to encourage companies to invest, especially in areas like energy transition."

In 2024, the government allocated RM393.8 billion for expenditure. The figure will likely be revised higher when the 2025 Budget is presented.

Of the RM393.8 billion, operating expenditure accounted for RM303.8 billion, with the bulk of spending going to emoluments following the revision of civil servant salaries as well as a hike in pension payments.

The balance of about RM90 billion went to development expenditure to finance infrastructure projects, among others.

Overall, the 2025 Budget may continue the government's focus on economic reforms to make Malaysia more competitive and attractive for investments, and at the same time, enhance the rakyat's livelihoods and standard of living.

"The gist of the 2025 Budget is to realise the Ekonomi Madani by raising the ceiling in encouraging competitiveness and quality investments and raising the floor in improving the rakyat's livelihoods and social protection," a source said.

The government aimed to create a prosperous future for Malaysians by fostering a competitive and innovative economy, improving public sector efficiency and promoting social equity, the source said.



The 2025 Budget may continue the government's focus on economic reforms to make Malaysia more competitive and attractive for investments and enhance the rakyat's livelihoods and standard of living. NSTP PIC BY AIZUDDIN SAAD

## Belanjawan 2025 bantu golongan berdepan cabaran tangani kenaikan kos sara hidup

**KUALA LUMPUR:** Belanjawan 2025 akan mengimbangi antara mengekalkan pertumbuhan ekonomi dan memastikan kesejahteraan segmen masyarakat yang paling mudah terjejas, terdiri daripada golongan berpendapatan rendah, ibu tunggal dan orang kurang upaya, yang diberi perhatian dalam menghadapi kenaikan kos sara hidup.

Perdana Menteri Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim memahami cabaran yang perlu dihadapi rakyat setiap hari, antaranya harga makanan dan perbelanjaan yang tinggi,

perumahan yang tidak mencukupi dan akses kepada penjagaan kesihatan.

Usaha menaikkan taraf hidup rakyat akan menjadi fokus belanjawan yang akan diberi tumpuan oleh Anwar, yang juga Menteri Kewangan, dalam membentangkan pelan tindakan kewangan negara untuk tahun depan pada Jumaat ini pada jam 4 petang di Dewan Rakyat.

Berdasarkan sikap beliau yang prihatin terhadap kesejahteraan rakyat, belanjawan kali ini dijangkakan menyediakan sesuatu untuk semua golongan, termasuk

petani, nelayan, pekebun kecil, pekerja yang dibayar gaji secara harian, golongan muda yang mencari pekerjaan serta suri rumah dan pekerja gigi.

Apapun pasti tidak keluar ga dan individu yang masih bergelut dari segi ekonomi di sebalik pelbagai inisiatif disediakan dalam Belanjawan 2024 untuk membantu mereka, yang sudah tentu diambil kira oleh Perdana Menteri dalam merangka belanjawan kali ini.

Oleh itu, jangkaan adalah tinggi untuk itu ini dapat ditangani kemungkinan

dengan peruntukan yang lebih tinggi dalam belanjawan tersebut berdasarkan kenyataan Anwar bahawa ia akan memudahkan pengagihan pertumbuhan ekonomi yang lebih saksama dalam kalangan penduduk dan memperkenalkan langkah-langkah untuk menaikkan gaji.

Belanjawan 2024 bertemakan 'Reformasi Ekonomi, Memperkasa Rakyat' melibatkan peruntukan sebanyak RM393.8 bilion, dengan RM303.8 bilion untuk perbelanjaan mengurus dan RM90 bilion untuk perbelanjaan

pembangunan, dengan RM2 bilion untuk simpanan luar jangka.

Menurut Institut Penyelidikan Ekonomi Malaysia (MIER) dalam ulasan perbelanjawan 2025 baru-baru ini, belanjawan itu bertujuan mengimbangi pertumbuhan ekonomi dengan langkah-langkah bersasar untuk menyokong sektor isirumah, perniagaan dan ekonomi utama selain mengekalkan disiplin fiskal.

"Belanjawan itu juga dijangka menangani cabaran mendesak seperti tekanan kos sara hidup, gaji tidak

meningkat dan peralihan hijau," kata MIER.

Bagi cukai, Anwar berkata kerajaan hanya akan melaksanakan Cukai Barang dan Perkhidmatan (GST) sekiranya ambang gaji minimum sebanyak RM3,000-RM4,000.

Pada masa ini, gaji bulanan minimum di Malaysia adalah pada RM1,500. Oleh itu, diyakini GST tidak akan dikenakan.

Pada masa ini, SST hanya meliputi 41 peratus barang dan perkhidmatan manakala GST sebelum ini meliputi 76 peratus. — Bernama



**ROYAL INTEREST ...** The Raja Muda of Selangor Tengku Amir Shah visiting a booth at an exhibition held in conjunction with the 4th Selangor Life Sciences Convention at the Kuala Lumpur Convention Centre yesterday. — ADAM AMIR HAMZAH/THESUN

# Budget 2025 expected to boost living standards

Focus likely to be on maintaining economic growth while ensuring welfare of vulnerable segments of society

**KUALA LUMPUR:** Budget 2025 will be a delicate balance between maintaining economic growth and ensuring that the welfare of the most vulnerable segments of society comprising low-income earners, single mothers and people with disabilities are looked after against a backdrop of rising prices.

Prime Minister Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim knows only too well the relentless struggle the people have to grapple with on a daily basis, especially with high food prices, problems with housing, healthcare needs, and other challenges.

Raising the people's living standards will surely be the concern of Anwar, who is also the finance minister, as he unveils the country's financial blueprint for next year in the Dewan Rakyat at 4pm today.

There is obviously no shortage of accounts of individuals and families struggling economically despite multiple initiatives in Budget 2024 to help them.

Hence, expectations are high for a larger allocation in the budget to facilitate a more equitable distribution of economic growth among a wider population.

As for taxes, Anwar had said the government would only implement the goods and services tax (GST) if the minimum wage

threshold is at RM3,000-RM4,000. With the minimum monthly wage currently at RM1,500, one can be assured that GST is off the list.

Kingsley Strategic Institute for Asia Pacific economic adviser Anthony Dass said the government is likely to explore measures to broaden the tax base.

"For 2025, we believe the government may introduce or implement a sugar tax, a high-value goods tax (HVGT) and the global anti-base erosion tax."

Dass explained that an expansion of the sugar tax is anticipated, following the health minister's proposal to raise the tax on sugar-sweetened beverages to 20% of the retail price as part of a "war on sugar" campaign.

He added that the HVGT is expected to reappear after a delay in its implementation.

Dass said the government might also expand the scope of the sales and services tax (SST) to increase revenue.

Currently, the SST only covers 41% of goods and services while previously it covered 76%.

Speculation is also rife that an inheritance tax will be introduced, but Transport Minister Anthony Loke shot down claims of its possible introduction.

The Real Estate and Housing Developers'

Association said should such a tax be introduced at any point in the future, "we believe that residential properties should be given an exemption from the new rule".

There have also been high expectations of the rationalisation of RON95, following the rationalisation of diesel subsidies in June 2024 that resulted in savings of RM4 billion for the government.

However, Economy Minister Rafizi Ramli's comments, that the stronger economy and appreciating ringgit have given more flexibility for the government to achieve its fiscal consolidation targets, mean that the implementation of the RON95 subsidy rationalisation may be delayed.

On a macro scale, the government is expected to remain steadfast in achieving its gradual fiscal consolidation target by reducing national debt, while continuing to invest in improving the quality of life for all Malaysians, Bernama reported.

The national debt currently stands at 64% of GDP, with the government aiming to reduce this figure to at least 60% in stages.

Anwar had previously said the fiscal deficit had been lowered to 5.0% of GDP in 2023 from 5.6% in 2022, with a projection of further reduction to 4.3% this year.

Budget 2024 themed "Economic Reforms, Empowering the People" involved an allocation of RM393.8 billion, with RM303.8 billion for operating expenditure, RM90 billion for development expenditure, with RM2 billion for contingencies.



KEMENTERIAN PERDAGANGAN DALAM NEGERI  
DAN KOS SARA HIDUP

# BERITA ONLINE KPDN



UNIT KOMUNIKASI KORPORAT

BERITA ONLINE BERTARIKH 18 OGOS 2024			
TARIKH	TAJUK	PAUTAN	MEDIA
18-Oct	KPDN probing 2 cases of hoarding of coarse sugar in Limbang	<a href="https://www.theborneopost.com/2024/10/17/kpdn-probing-2-cases-of-hoarding-of-coarse-sugar-in-limbang/">https://www.theborneopost.com/2024/10/17/kpdn-probing-2-cases-of-hoarding-of-coarse-sugar-in-limbang/</a>	BORNEO POST
18-Oct	KPDN Limbang tangani kes sorok gula dan jualan bersyarat	<a href="https://www.utusanborneo.com.my/2024/10/17/kpdn-limbang-tangani-kes-sorok-gula-dan-jualan-bersyarat">https://www.utusanborneo.com.my/2024/10/17/kpdn-limbang-tangani-kes-sorok-gula-dan-jualan-bersyarat</a>	UTUSAN BORNEO
18-Oct	Limbang traders probed over hoarding 324 Kg of sugar, imposing illegal sales conditions	<a href="https://dayakdaily.com/limbang-traders-probed-over-hoarding-324kg-of-sugar-imposing-illegal-sales-conditions/">https://dayakdaily.com/limbang-traders-probed-over-hoarding-324kg-of-sugar-imposing-illegal-sales-conditions/</a>	DAYAK DAILY