



Opposition Leader and Port Dickson MP Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim flanked by Bagan MP Lim Guan Eng and Kota Raja MP Mohamad Sabu dressed in batik in Parliament yesterday. – **BERNAMAPIX**

Lawmakers make it a bright, ^{The Sun} colourful day at the House — 29/10/2021 19:2

DEWAN RAKYAT members added not just colour but also poetry to the august House.

Many of them turned up in batik outfits and some even waxed lyrical about the change from staid business outfits that have traditionally been worn by men when they turn up to speak on behalf of their constituents.

The “batik day” was a suggestion by Tourism, Arts and Culture Minister Datuk Seri Nancy Shukri to show support for the country’s heritage.

In a proposal that was read to the House by Minister in the Prime Minister’s Department (Parliament and Law) Datuk Seri Wan Junaidi Tuanku Jaafar on Oct 11, Nancy had proposed that all lawmakers wear batik every Thursday.

Among those who turned up in batik yesterday was Speaker Datuk Azhar Azizan Harun.

Nancy made the first reference on the batik outfits by expressing her delight with the support given by members of Parliament (MP) in a *pantun*.

“I want to take this opportunity to say thank

you to the MP here who are donning their batik Malaysia outfit. You all deserve applause and to celebrate this historic day, all Malaysians will get a cash rebate of RM30 for every purchase of RM100 at any Kraftangan Malaysia outlet.”

She then reminded MP that there is also a Kraftangan Malaysia outlet in the Parliament building.

Kasthuri Patto (PH-Batu Kawan) followed up with another *pantun* before realising that she had stood up to pose a question to Communications and Multimedia Minister Tan Sri Annuar Musa.

“Looking at the Dewan Rakyat Speaker in batik today, I (almost) forgot to ask my question,” she said.

Kasthuri then thanked Nurul Izzah Anwar (PH-Permatang Pauh) and Muhammad Bakhtiar Wan Chik (PH-Balik Pulau) for helping to ensure that the MP donned their batik outfits to make the “batik day” a reality.

Annuar also recited a batik *pantun*, which helped to lighten the mood.