

**Budget 2012: Government Is Focused On Developing Sabah, Sarawak**  
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KUALA LUMPUR, Oct 7 (Bernama) -- The federal government is becoming more focused in its effort to close the development gap between the peninsular and the two Malaysian Bornean states, Sabah and Sarawak.

This can be seen in the RM5 billion allocation to implement rural projects such as road, water supply and electricity nationwide, including in Sabah and Sarawak, as spelled out in the 2012 Budget, members of parliament from the two states said.

Sarawak's Batang Sadong MP Nancy Shukri told Bernama the inclusive budget which takes into account the need of both states showed that the prime minister was making good his promise to bring development throughout the country.

"The implementation of maintenance projects for public infrastructure and basic infrastructure will benefit over 29,000 Class F contractors. This is something that the people of Sarawak have been waiting for," she said.

Beluran MP Datuk Ronald Kiandee of Sabah said the budget was not only a balance budget, but also take into consideration the needs of the two states.

"We hope that measures spelled out in the budget will be implemented soon," he said.

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