

Sabah Hopes For Bigger Allocation From 2012 Budget For Agriculture Sector Development
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KOTA KINABALU, Oct 8 (Bernama) -- Sabah hopes to receive a bigger allocation from the Budget 2012 for the development of its agricultural sector.

Deputy Chief Minister Datuk Yahya Hussin, who is also the Agriculture and Food Industry Minister said Prime Minister Datuk Seri Najib Tun Razak, had announced RM1.1 billion for the agriculture sector in the budget yesterday.

"He had also repeatedly raised the need to further enhance development in Sabah and Sarawak and hoped the allocation to be made will be well utilised," he added.

Sabah's main focus is to enhance the production of food sources, particularly rice.

"We need more help to facilitate important infrastructure, especially the irrigation system for the planting of padi," he told reporters after officiating the state level 1Malaysia Youth Carnival in Putatan near here today.

Yahya said Sabah's self-sufficiency level in rice was 30 per cent.

He hoped the allocation to be given though the 2012 Budget will help improve the state's ability to produce more rice.

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