

**Sabah And Sarawak To Enjoy Various Developments Under 11MP - Najib  
Bernama  
May 21, 2015**

KUALA LUMPUR, May 21 (Bernama) -- Sabah and Sarawak will receive more development and progress in the long term, both in the urban and rural areas, under the 11th Malaysia Plan (11MP).

Prime Minister Datuk Seri Najib Tun Razak when tabling the new five-year plan from 2016 to 2020 in the Parliament, today said there were many development projects in store for both the states.

It involved, among other things, provision of basic facilities, increasing and improving roads and airport infrastructure, urban and rural development, increase in employment opportunities as well as improvement in healthcare and hospitals.

Najib began touching on the development of the two states when he reiterated plans for the implementation of three 1Malaysia Youth City pilot projects - one each in the Peninsula, Sabah and Sarawak, with an allocation of RM100 million as tabled in Budget 2015.

According to the 11MP themed 'Anchoring Growth on People', Najib said the government would focus on the Native Customary Rights (NCR) land for the Orang Asli and Bumiputeras of Sabah and Sarawak, to promote the development of the land.

Touching on the development of urban and rural areas, he said provision of basic rural infrastructure such as roads, would continue in Sabah and Sarawak.

"The government will build more than 3,000 kilometers of paved roads in the rural areas between 2016 to 2020," he said.

The 11MP, with a budget of RM260 billion, also aims to increase investment and employment in the five economic corridors in the country, namely Iskandar Malaysia, Sabah Development Corridor, East Coast Economic Region, Northern Corridor and the Sarawak Corridor of Renewable Energy (SCORE).

Najib explained that from 2011 to 2014, the five corridors had attracted investments worth RM307 billion.

The investments, according to Najib, had created more than 427,000 job opportunities.

"So, for 11MP, the government is targeting some RM236 billion in investments which would create another 470,000 jobs in the five regional corridors," he said.

On the improvement of healthcare standards and facilities, Najib drew attention to the Tawau Hospital and Kota Marudu Hospital in Sabah, as well as the Miri Hospital in Sarawak, which will be upgraded, in addition to setting up a new hospital at Sri Aman

(Sarawak).

The prime minister said 11MP also touched on major infrastructure projects including the construction of airports at Mukah and Lawas in Sarawak, which will boost the state's progress.

He said the government had also identified Kuching, Kota Kinabalu, Kuala Lumpur and Johor Baharu as cities that would boost economic growth, however, a comprehensive master plan would be required for it to be realised.

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