



**LAPORAN LIPUTAN MEDIA HARIAN
RABU 6 MEI 2026**

BIL.	TAJUK KERATAN AKHBAR	KEMENTERIAN / JABATAN / AGENSI
1.	CADANGAN NAIK, STRUKTUR HARGA BERAS TIDAK BOLEH BEBANKAN PENGGUNA, DALAM NEGERI, UTUSAN MALAYSIA, M/S – 5	KEMENTERIAN PERTANIAN DAN KETERJAMINAN MAKANAN (KPKM)
2.	TAMBAH BAIK INDUSTRI PADI BARU BINCANG TENTANG HARGA, DALAM NEGERI, UTUSAN MALAYSIA, M/S – 5	LAIN – LAIN
3.	'SYOR HARGA LANTAI PADI RM3,000 SETAN METRIK, JANGAN SEKADAR JANJI POLITIK', NASIONAL, SINAR HARIAN, M/S – 21	
4.	WANG PENDAHULUAN RM200 SEHEKTAR BANTU PESAWAH, NASIONAL, BERITA HARIAN, M/S – 2	
5.	BANTUAN RM200 SEHEKTAR, NASIONAL, SINAR HARIAN, M/S – 2	
6.	PESAWAH HARGAI INISIATIF RM200 SEHEKTAR, TAPI SYOR FLEET CARD LEBIH BERKESAN, NASIONAL, SINAR HARIAN, M/S – 2	
7.	PADI FARMS GET EARLY HELP, NATION, THE STAR, M/S – 2	
8.	AID LIFELINE FOR TRADERS, FARMERS, NEWS, NEW STRAITS TIMES, M/S – 4	
9.	OF FOOD SECURITY AND FAIR WEATHER, NEWS, NEW STRAITS TIMES, M/S – 2	
10.	FARMERS TURN CLIMATE CHAOS INTO CROP GAIN, NATION, THE STAR, M/S – 7	
11.	FISHERMAN FINDS HIGHLY VALUABLE AMBERGRIS, OTHER NEWS & VIEWS, THE STAR, M/S – 12	
12.	TEMBIKAI 'KEMIK' SEBAB CUACA PANAS, NEGARA, KOSMO, M/S – 13	

UKK KPKM

UNIT KOMUNIKASI KORPORAT
KEMENTERIAN PERTANIAN DAN KETERJAMINAN MAKANAN
(UNTUK EDARAN DALAMAN KPKM, JABATAN DAN AGENSI SAHAJA)

TARIKH	MEDIA	RUANGAN	MUKA SURAT
6/5/2026	UTUSAN MALAYSIA	DALAM NEGERI	5

Cadangan naik, struktur harga beras tidak boleh bebankan pengguna

Oleh **NURUL IRDINA SUMALI**
irdina.sumali@mediamula.com.my

PETALING JAYA: Setiap cadangan untuk menaikkan atau menstrukturkan semula harga Beras Putih Tempatan (BPT) perlu mengambil pandangan semua pihak supaya keputusan akhirnya tidak membebankan pengguna.

Kementerian Pertanian dan Keterjaminan Makanan berkata, oleh itu kerajaan sentiasa mengambil pendekatan berhati-hati dan berhemah kerana ia melibatkan makanan ruji negara dan kepentingan rakyat secara langsung.

Katanya, sebarang keputusan juga tidak akan dibuat

secara tergesa-gesa dan mesti mengambil kira pandangan pesawah, pengilang, pengedar dan pemain industri.

"Kementerian akan terus melaksanakan sesi libat urus bersama pemain industri, pesawah, pengilang, pengedar serta pihak berkepentingan bagi memastikan sebarang keputusan yang diambil bersifat inklusif, seimbang dan mengambil kira kepentingan semua pihak," katanya kepada *Utusan Malaysia*.

Ahad lalu, Perikatan Nasional (PN) memaklumkan bersedia menetapkan harga lantai belian padi pada kadar RM3,000 bagi setiap tan metrik sekiranya diberi mandat membentuk kerajaan selepas Pilihan Raya Umum

ke-16 (PRU16).

Komitmen itu akan dimasukkkan dalam manifesto gabungan berkenaan sebagai usaha meningkatkan pendapatan pesawah serta memperkukuh sektor agromakanan negara.

Jelasnya, kadar semasa sekitar RM1,500 per tan metrik dilihat tidak lagi mencukupi dan kenaikan kepada RM3,000 adalah munasabah bagi menjamin kelangsungan hidup pesawah.

Bagaimanapun, Pengerusi Pengilang-Pengilang Beras Malaysia, Marzukhi Othman berkata, cadangan PN itu tidak realistik dan hanya sekadar janji politik kerana ia boleh menyebabkan harga beras melonjak sehingga RM60 bagi 10 kilogram.

Menurut kementerian lagi, kerajaan selama ini mengambil langkah berterusan membantu pesawah melalui penyelarasan Harga Lantai Belian Padi (HLP), bantuan subsidi, insentif dan pelbagai program sokongan lain bagi memastikan industri berkenaan terus berdaya tahan.

Jelasnya, setiap langkah yang diambil juga bertujuan memastikan sistem sedia ada dapat disesuaikan dengan realiti kos semasa supaya pesawah terus mampu bertahan dan industri padi tempatan tidak semakin mengecil.

Katanya, jika pendapatan pesawah tidak lagi berdaya saing, negara berdepan risiko generasi muda tidak berminat untuk ter-

libat dalam sektor penanaman padi.

"Keadaan ini boleh meningkatkan kebergantungan negara terhadap beras import dan memberi kesan kepada keterjaminan makanan negara," katanya.

Kementerian menambah, cadangan penstrukturkan harga BPT tidak boleh dilihat secara sempit sebagai isu kenaikan harga semata-mata, sebaliknya perlu difahami dalam konteks kelangsungan industri padi dan beras negara.

Katanya, harga kawalan BPT pada kadar RM2.60 sekilogram dikekalkan sejak 2008 bagi memastikan rakyat terus mendapat akses kepada bekalan beras pada harga berpatutan

TARIKH	MEDIA	RUANGAN	MUKA SURAT
6/5/2026	UTUSAN MALAYSIA	DALAM NEGERI	5

Tambah baik industri padi baru bincang tentang harga

PETALING JAYA: Cadangan menaikkan harga lantai belian padi kepada RM3,000 tidak memberi kesan menyeluruh kepada industri sekiranya masalah asas dalam skop pengeluaran padi tidak diselesaikan.

Pengerusi Persatuan Pengilang Beras Melayu Malaysia (PPBMM), Mohamad Termizi Yop berkata, perkara itu termasuklah dalam aspek kos input, kualiti baja, sistem saliran dan penggunaan benih padi yang lebih memberi kesan langsung kepada pengeluaran serta pendapatan pesawah.

“Kalau perkara asas ini tidak diselesaikan, kenaikan harga tidak akan memberi kesan menyeluruh.

“Bukan soal harga semata-mata, tetapi bahan input seperti baja yang tidak berkualiti perlu diperbaiki. Sistem saliran, pengurusan air hujan dan benih padi juga memainkan peranan penting. Ada keadaan padi tidak menjadi langsung kerana faktor ini.

“Cadangan harga RM3,000 bagi setiap tan metrik adalah tidak realistik sekiranya penambahbaikan terhadap asas industri padi dan beras tidak dilakukan terlebih dahulu,” katanya kepada *Utusan Malaysia*.

Perikatan Nasional (PN) kelmarin meletakkan janji untuk menaikkan harga lantai belian padi kepada RM3,000



Cadangan harga RM3,000 bagi setiap tan metrik adalah tidak realistik sekiranya penambahbaikan terhadap asas industri padi dan beras tidak dilakukan terlebih dahulu.”

MOHAMAD TERMIZI YOP

bagi setiap tan metrik sekiranya gabungan itu membentuk kerajaan selepas Pilihan Raya Umum Ke-16 (PRU16).

Pengerusi Gabungan Pengilang-Pengilang Beras Malaysia, Marzukhi Othman dberkata, janji tersebut tidak masuk akal dan jika dilaksanakan boleh menyebabkan harga beras melonjak sehingga RM60 bagi 10 kilogram (kg).

Beliau berkata, adalah lebih baik dipertimbangkan kenaikan subsidi harga padi kepada pesawah dari RM500 kepada RM1,500.

TARIKH	MEDIA	RUANGAN	MUKA SURAT
6/5/2026	SINAR HARIAN	NASIONAL	21

'Syor harga lantai padi RM3,000 setan metrik, jangan sekadar janji politik'

IPOH- Pertubuhan Persaudaraan Pesawah Malaysia (PeSAWAH) menyambut baik cadangan untuk menaikkan harga lantai belian padi kepada RM3,000 bagi setiap tan metrik seperti ditawarkan Perikatan Nasional (PN).

Bagaimanapun, Setiausaha PeSAWAH, Nur Fitri Amir Muhammad berkata, pihaknya berharap cadangan itu tidak sekadar janji politik semata-mata.

Menurutnya, cadangan tersebut dilihat realistik dan mampu dilaksanakan tanpa memberi beban tambahan kepada kerajaan kerana kenaikan harga lantai dijangka menyebabkan harga beras tempatan berada sekitar RM5.50 hingga RM6 sekilogram, namun ia masih boleh diterima pengguna berdasarkan situasi semasa pasaran.

"Ketika ini pun, beras tempatan yang lebih

mudah sukar diperoleh dan pengguna telah terbiasa membeli beras pada harga RM3.60 hingga RM4 sekilogram atau lebih.

"Jadi, jika harga bahu ini dilaksanakan bersama mekanisme subsidi yang lebih tersusun, ia mampu memberi manfaat kepada pesawah dan pengguna," katanya kepada *Sinar Harian* pada Selasa.

Mengulas lanjut, Nur Fitri berkata, PeSAWAH berpendapat pendekatan menaikkan harga padi adalah lebih baik berbanding mengekalkan pelbagai subsidi input pertanian yang disifatkan kurang efisien.

Jelasnya, subsidi seperti insentif pembajakan, penuaian dan input pertanian sering berdepan isu ketirisan serta kualiti bekalan tidak memuaskan.

"Jika pesawah mendapat harga padi lebih tinggi, mereka mampu membeli sendiri ke-

perluan pertanian tanpa bergantung kepada subsidi yang kadangkala tidak sampai atau berlaku pembaziran.

"Petani sebenarnya memilih harga padi lebih tinggi jika dibandingkan penerimaan subsidi," katanya.

Nur Fitri berkata, kerajaan perlu struktur semula subsidi dengan menumpukan bantuan secara langsung kepada pengguna khususnya golongan berpendapatan rendah (B40).

Dalam masa yang sama, beliau turut mencadangkan sebahagian subsidi dikekalkan dalam bentuk insentif bagi menggalakkan pesawah meningkatkan hasil pengeluaran.

Media sebelum ini melaporkan Setiausaha Agung PN, Datuk Seri Takiyuddin Hassan menetapkan harga lantai padi RM3,000 dimasukkan dalam manifesto menjelang Pilihan Raya Umum ke-16 (PRU16).

TARIKH	MEDIA	RUANGAN	MUKA SURAT
6/5/2026	BERITA HARIAN	NASIONAL	2



Insentif pembajakan dapat mengurangkan beban ditanggung pesawah akibat kenaikan harga diesel. (Foto hiasan)

Wang pendahuluan RM200 sehektar bantu pesawah

Insentif pembajakan berjumlah RM48j pastikan kegiatan penanaman padi dapat diteruskan

Oleh Zanariah Abd Mutalib dan Ilah Hafiz Aziz
bhnews@bh.com.my

Putrajaya: Kerajaan bersetuju membayar wang pendahuluan bagi insentif pembajakan berjumlah RM200 sehektar kepada pesawah padi berdaftar di seluruh negara bagi memastikan golongan itu dapat meneruskan kegiatan penanaman padi ketika berdepan kenaikan harga diesel.

Perdana Menteri, Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim, berkata pemberian membabitkan implikasi kewangan RM48 juta itu adalah sebahagian daripada Insentif Pembajakan Kepada Pesawah (IPKP) yang diumumkan Menteri Pertanian dan Keterjaminan Makanan, Datuk Seri Mohamad Sabu, pada 14 April lalu.

Perdana Menteri berkata, insentif yang akan memberi man-

faat kepada 240,000 pesawah berdaftar itu diputuskan pada mesyuarat Majlis Tindakan Ekonomi Negara (MTEN) yang dipengerusikan beliau semalam.

"Mereka (pesawah) terpaksa sewa mesin bajak, jadi program pembajakan itu mesti diteruskan, tetapi mereka perlukan modal.

"Justeru, kita berpendapat, lebih baik diberikan pendahuluan RM200 sehektar supaya mereka boleh terus bergerak menjalankan kegiatan penanaman padi," katanya pada sidang media Krisis Bekalan Global di Perdana Putra di sini, semalam.

Kenaikan kos bahan api

Pada 14 April lalu, Mohamad mengumumkan IPKP dinaikkan daripada RM160 kepada RM300 sehektar bagi membantu golongan pesawah susulan kenaikan kos bahan api akibat krisis tenaga global.

Beliau berkata, peningkatan bantuan tunai BUDI Agri-Komoditi daripada RM300 kepada RM400 sebulan juga membuktikan kerajaan memahami beban yang sedang ditanggung oleh lebih 200,000 petani dan pekebun kecil yang kini bergelut dengan peningkatan kos operasi pertanian.

Dalam usaha menyokong penanaman padi juga, Perdana Menteri mengarahkan Tentera

Udara Diraja Malaysia (TUDM) serta Jabatan Bomba dan Penyelamat Malaysia (JBPM) meningkatkan operasi pembenihan awan di utara Semenanjung susulan musim kemarau panjang melanda kawasan berkenaan.

Anwar menegaskan, operasi berkenaan perlu dilaksanakan dengan kadar segera.

"Kita sedar di utara Kedah terutama yang menghadapi musim kemarau yang agak lebih panjang daripada biasa. Itu menyebabkan kesukaran peladang dan juga pesawah.

"Kita telah mengarahkan pembenihan awan ditingkatkan oleh TUDM dan saya juga minta JBPM yang mempunyai keupayaan yang relatif lebih kecil meneruskan kegiatan (pembenihan awan) dalam beberapa hari ini," katanya.

Kelmarin, Anwar dilaporkan mengarah Jabatan Meteorologi Malaysia (MetMalaysia) menyegerakan pelaksanaan operasi pembenihan awan di negeri yang berada pada tahap kritikal, khususnya Kedah dan Perlis.

Beliau berkata, langkah itu adalah keperluan mendesak dalam mendepani situasi cuaca semasa, selain menyarankan penggunaan teknologi dron bagi mengatasi kekangan logistik agar operasi berkenaan dapat dilaksanakan dengan lancar.

TARIKH	MEDIA	RUANGAN	MUKA SURAT
6/5/2026	SINAR HARIAN	NASIONAL	2

Bantuan RM200 sehektar

Insentif pembajakan bantu 240,000 pesawah teruskan penanaman padi

Oleh TUAN BUQHAIRAH TUAN MUHAMAD ADNAN

PUTRAJAYA - Kerajaan bersetuju menyalurkan wang pendahuluan Kadar Khas Inisiatif Pembajakan sebanyak RM200 sehektar kepada pesawah bagi memastikan aktiviti penanaman padi dapat diteruskan. Perdana Menteri, Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim berkata, inisiatif itu melibatkan implikasi kewangan sebanyak RM48 juta dan memberi

manfaat kepada 240,000 pesawah berdaftar.

"Majlis Tindakan Ekonomi Negara (MTEN) dalam mesyuarat tadi (Selasa), bersetuju menyalurkan wang pendahuluan kerana pesawah terpaksa sewa mesin bajak.

"Aktiviti pembajakan mesti diteruskan juga tetapi mereka perlukan modal. Jadi, kita berpendapat lebih baik diberikan pendahuluan RM200 supaya mereka boleh terus bergerak menjalankan kegiatan penanaman padi," katanya.

Beliau berkata demikian semasa Sidang Akhbar Krisis Bekalan Global di bangunan Perdana Putra di sini pada Selasa.

LAPORAN MUKA DEPAN

Kita berpendapat lebih baik diberikan pendahuluan RM200 supaya mereka boleh terus bergerak menjalankan kegiatan penanaman padi."

-Anwar



Kenaikan harga diesel memaksa ramai pesawah menanggungkan kerja di sawah susulan peningkatan kos operasi yang semakin membebankan.

Menurut Anwar yang juga Menteri Kewangan, kerajaan prihatin terhadap keluh pesawah dan Bantuan Khas Insentif Pembajakan itu telah diumumkan Menteri Pertanian dan Keterjaminan Makanan (KPKM), Datuk Seri Mohamad Sabu pada 14 April lalu.

"Bantuan itu ditingkatkan daripada RM160 kepada RM300 sehektar bagi mem-

bantu pesawah susulan kenaikan harga diesel komersial," katanya.

Tambah beliau, musim kemarau yang lebih panjang daripada kebiasaan di utara Semenanjung termasuk Kedah turut menjejaskan aktiviti penanaman padi di kawasan berkenaan.

"Kerajaan telah mengarahkan pembenihan awan dipertingkatkan oleh Tentera Udara Diraja Malaysia (TUDM) dan Jabatan Bomba dan Penyelamat Malaysia dalam beberapa hari ini," ujarnya.



IKHTIAR MEMBELA PESAWAH PENDAHULUAN TUNAI MEMBANTU PESAWAH

RM200 SEHEKTAR
Bantuan Khas Insentif Pembajakan

RM48 JUTA
Peruntukan bagi menjayakan inisiatif ini

OPERASI PEMBENIHAN AWAN
Agensi kerajaan termasuk TUDM dan bomba segerakan operasi di kawasan kritikal

240,000 PESAWAH BERDAFTAR
akan menerima manfaat

TARIKH	MEDIA	RUANGAN	MUKA SURAT
6/5/2026	SINAR HARIAN	NASIONAL	2

PeSAWAH hargai inisiatif RM200 sehektar, tapi syor *fleet card* lebih berkesan

ALORSETAR - Pemberian *fleet card* diesel bersubsidi disifatkan sebagai langkah lebih berkesan bagi membantu pesawah berdepan peningkatan kos operasi ketika ini.

Pengerusi Pertubuhan Persaudaraan Pesawah Malaysia (PeSAWAH), Abdul Rashid Yob berkata, walaupun pihaknya menghargai inisiatif kerajaan menyalurkan wang pendahuluan RM200 sehektar, jumlah tersebut masih tidak mencukupi untuk menampung kos sebenar ditanggung pesawah.

Menurutnya, kos penggunaan diesel bagi aktiviti penanaman padi kini mencecah sekitar RM700 sehektar, sekali gus

menjadikan bantuan itu hanya mampu menampung sebahagian kecil perbelanjaan.

"Penggunaan bahan api merangkumi kira-kira 80 peratus kos operasi tanaman padi, jadi apabila harga-diesel meningkat, keseluruhan kos turut terkesan," katanya kepada *Sinar Harian* pada Selasa.

Tambahnya, selain kos diesel, pesawah turut berdepan kenaikan harga input lain termasuk baja, pembajakan dan penuaian yang terus menekan margin keuntungan.

Justeru, katanya, pemberian ke-



ABDUL RASHID

mudahan *fleet card* diesel bersubsidi kepada pengusaha traktor dilihat langkah lebih berkesan mengawal kos operasi.

"Jika *fleet card* diberikan, pengusaha boleh mendapatkan diesel pada harga subsidi dan ia secara langsung membantu mengurangkan beban

kos.

"Bantuan tunai seperti RM200 hanya mampu mengurangkan sedikit beban tetapi tidak menyelesaikan punca utama kenaikan kos," ujarnya.

Padi farms get early help

Govt to provide RM200 per hectare to sustain planting

By QISTINA SALLEHUDDIN
qistina.atikah@thestar.com.my

PETALING JAYA: Rising fiscal strain from the prolonged Middle East conflict has led the government to intensify cost-of-living support measures for the people, says Prime Minister Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim.

At a press conference yesterday, Anwar said padi farmers will receive an advance of RM200 per hectare under the ploughing and harvesting incentive to ease the rising costs.

He said the decision, made at the National Economic Action Council meeting yesterday, takes into account the need for padi farmers to rent machinery and ensure the ploughing programme continues without disruption.

He said the measure will cost the government RM48mil and is expected to benefit some 240,000 registered padi farmers nationwide.

"They are required to rent ploughing machinery, and the programme must continue, but it requires upfront capital.

"Therefore, the government believes it is appropriate to provide an advance of RM200 per hectare so that planting activities can proceed smoothly," he said.

Last month, Agriculture and Food Security Minister Datuk Seri Mohamad Sabu said the government will increase the Ploughing Incentive for Padi Farmers (IPKP) from RM160 to RM300 per hectare.

Anwar said the prolonged Middle East conflict has strained government finances, noting that despite aid and diesel subsidies, Putrajaya is now shouldering an extra RM5bil a month in spending.

He, however, said the government must continue to confront these challenges and do its utmost to ease the burden faced by the public, particularly those who are relatively less well-off, poor and vulnerable.

On a related note, Anwar urged local authorities and state governments to cut rental rates for small businesses to ease rising cost pressures, with reductions to take effect this month.

He said this follows growing concerns over financial strain faced by small-scale traders, many of whom operate from premises owned by local councils and government-linked agencies.

"Within our means, the first step is to



Anwar:

"The government believes it is appropriate to provide an advance of RM200 per hectare so that planting activities can proceed smoothly."
— Bernama

reduce rental rates. Most of these premises are owned by government-linked companies or agencies such as Majlis Amanah Rakyat (Mara) and UDA Holdings Bhd, which from this month will begin reducing rental rates for all small business premises under their management.

"This also falls under the jurisdiction of local authorities and state governments, and I urge them to act swiftly, with reductions taking effect this month, to ease the financial pressure faced by these traders," he said.

The Prime Minister also instructed that the Madani Rahmah Sales Programme be further expanded in all states on a weekly basis as part of ongoing efforts to reduce the cost of living.

He said the initiative, which is currently managed by the Domestic Trade and Cost of Living Ministry, has already helped lower prices of essential goods by up to 30% below market rates.

"Last year, the government implemented more than 25,000 Jualan Rahmah programmes across all state constituencies in the country.

"I would like this to be implemented immediately, and for 2026, we have announced 30,000 programmes.

"This means an expansion in scale to cover all state constituencies, and to be held at least once every week, allowing buyers to know where goods are available,

on fixed days and schedules.

"We also want to ensure the programme is held not only in urban areas but also in selected rural and village areas," he said.

He added that the initiative also aims to ensure small businesses and traders are involved and benefit from it.

"We do not want this to become a platform for large companies, but rather to ensure the benefits of the programme provide opportunities for small traders to sell their goods at more affordable prices," he said.

Meanwhile, the Royal Malaysian Air Force (TUDM) has been instructed to intensify cloud seeding operations in response to the prolonged dry spell affecting parts of the northern region.

Anwar said the situation in states such as Kedah has been exacerbated by an unusually long dry season, causing difficulties for plantations and padi farmers.

"We have instructed cloud seeding to be stepped up by TUDM, and I have also asked the Fire and Rescue Department to continue its operations within its capacity," he said.

WATCH THE
VIDEO
TheStarTV.com



New government financial assistance

Ploughing incentive for padi farmers

■ Advance RM200 payment per hectare of farmland to 240,000 padi farmers.

■ To provide extra capital for farmers to rent ploughing machinery.



Lower rental for commercial premises under federal government-linked agencies

■ Lower rates to begin this month.

■ New rates to be announced separately on a district-by-district level later.

■ To lower operational costs for small traders, hawkers and food stall operators.



Jualan Rahmah Madani initiative

■ To be expanded to 30,000 locations nationwide this year.

■ Will be conducted on a weekly basis.



Source: Finance Ministry *TheStar*graphics

TARIKH	MEDIA	RUANGAN	MUKA SURAT
6/5/2026	NEW STRAITS TIMES	NEWS	4

NEW INITIATIVES

AID LIFELINE FOR TRADERS, FARMERS

PM unveils slew of measures from rental cuts to cash advances to ease the people's burden

HAKIM MAHARI
KUALA LUMPUR
hakimmahari@nst.com.my

PRIME Minister Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim announced several measures yesterday to lighten the people's cost of living burden.

He said rent for small business premises owned by government-linked agencies, like Majlis Amanah Rakyat (Mara) and Uda Holdings Bhd, will be reduced from this month to help traders and hawkers.

"Most of these premises are owned by government-linked companies or agencies, such as Mara and Uda. Starting this month, rent at these business premises will be reduced, with announcements to be made at the district level soon," he told a press conference yesterday to announce these measures.

Anwar, who is also finance minister, called on state governments and local authorities to follow suit, noting that several, including Kuala Lumpur City Hall

(DBKL) and the Selangor government had taken similar steps.

"Following the example of DBKL, which has reduced rent, I call on all local authorities and state governments to do the same starting this month.

"I would also like to thank Selangor Menteri Besar Datuk Seri Amirudin Shari for responding positively and announcing that rent for business premises — especially those occupied by small traders, hawkers and food operators — will be reduced soon."

DBKL has halved the rent for hawkers and small traders, from April 1 until Dec 31, 2027.

Anwar also said Jualan Rahmah markets, which offer goods at a discount, will be expanded to 30,000 locations nationwide this year and will held weekly to ensure consistent access for consumers.

"Last year, the government implemented more than 25,000 Jualan Rahmah programmes involving all state constituencies in the country.

"So, I want this to be implemented immediately, and for 2026 we have announced 30,000 Jualan Rahmah programmes.

"This means an expansion. First, to all state constituencies, and second, it must be carried out weekly. In this way, consumers will have certainty on where goods are available, as well as fixed days and schedules.

"And we also want to ensure that Jualan Rahmah pro-

grammes are held not only in urban fringe areas, but also in selected rural and village areas," he said.

Anwar said efforts will also be made to ensure small traders benefit from the programme.

"We do not want this to become a platform dominated by large companies, but rather to ensure that the benefits of the Jualan Rahmah Madani programme allow small traders to sell their goods at lower prices.

"Of course, this initiative does not solve all problems, but I believe it can help ease the current burden. God willing, through our weekly engagements and cabinet meetings every Wednesday, we will continue to examine and explore new initiatives to reduce the burden of the people."

Anwar also said the government will provide padi farmers a RM200 advance to help them meet rising operational, land and machinery costs.

RM48 million will be spent on the initiative, approved by National Economic Action Council, and is expected to benefit about 240,000 padi farmers.

Anwar said he has ordered the Royal Malaysian Air Force to expedite cloud seeding operations in the north of the peninsula following the prolonged dry spell.

He said the Fire and Rescue Department has also been instructed to continue supporting the ongoing operations over the next few days.

TARIKH	MEDIA	RUANGAN	MUKA SURAT
6/5/2026	NEW STRAITS TIMES	NEWS	2

Of food security and fair weather

How to be prepared

WE are being told that padi farmers in Kedah have missed the first two planting dates due to high cost and water scarcity. A third date may be missed, too. This from a state that has been a "rice bowl" of the nation for decades. This is not an isolated event. Similar stories of heat stress, falling yields and water shortages were already flagged earlier this year and in previous cycles. The French have a phrase for it: *deja vu* (literally, already seen). This is a crisis of preparedness. Dry spells in the northern region are seasonal, cyclical and increasingly well documented. Yet each year, the same narrative repeats: delayed planting, falling yields and reactive measures. Why is a predictable annual event still treated as an emergency? Climate change isn't a 2026 challenge. We have faced extreme weather for years. It will only get worse as fossil fuels warm the Earth beyond liveable heat. True, climate change isn't Kedah's fault. So isn't the Israel-United States war on Iran. There are things that we can control and there are things that we can't. Of the former, food security planning is one, and we have to say that there is a policy disconnect in our food security planning. There is over-reliance on rainfall and ageing infrastructure. The current system remains heavily dependent on dam levels tied to monsoon cycles and traditional irrigation networks.

The current system remains heavily dependent on dam levels tied to monsoon cycles and traditional irrigation networks.

To start with, we need to invest in modern irrigation and water recycling systems, develop a national drought contingency framework for agriculture and have better data-driven planting schedules tied to climate forecasting. Start with irrigation and water recycling systems. But first, the context. Kedah padi farmers are of two types. About 54,000 farm on more than 100,000ha under the Muda Agricultural Development Authority while thousands more work on rice fields of their own. Early last year, Kedah was allocated RM5.4 billion to boost rice production in the state. Phase 1 of the multi-year project — rehabilitation of the Pedu Dam — is under way. The multi-year project certainly needs a revisit, given the dire situation the padi fields in Kedah are already in. Kedah isn't the only state to be hit by drought. Other states also come under heat stress every now and then. We need to draw up a comprehensive national drought contingency framework for agriculture.

Malaysian padi farmers are hesitant when it comes to the use of technology. Perhaps it is the cost. If cost is the reason for them to be opposed to technology, a funding avenue must be found to help them. They must be made to see the benefits in data-driven planting schedules tied to climate forecasting. These use Internet of things (IoT) sensors and satellite imagery to determine the optimal planting date for localised conditions, reducing the need to depend on calendar-based scheduling. The point to take note is: food security cannot depend on fair weather.

Malaysian padi farmers are hesitant when it comes to the use of technology. Perhaps it is the cost. If cost is the reason for them to be opposed to technology, a funding avenue must be found to help them. They must be made to see the benefits in data-driven planting schedules tied to climate forecasting. These use Internet of things (IoT) sensors and satellite imagery to determine the optimal planting date for localised conditions, reducing the need to depend on calendar-based scheduling. The point to take note is: food security cannot depend on fair weather.

TARIKH	MEDIA	RUANGAN	MUKA SURAT
6/5/2026	THE STAR	NATION	7

Farmers turn climate chaos into crop gain

JASIN: Unpredictable weather is no longer a hindrance but has instead become an advantage to local watermelon growers, who are leveraging seasonal variations across the country to sustain year-round production.

Entrepreneur Koh Eng Koon said differences in rainfall patterns between the northern and southern parts of Peninsular Malaysia allow for staggered planting, preventing supply disruptions in the market.

“Based on my over 30 years of experience, I have observed that weather patterns in Malaysia shift from north to south. So when it starts raining in the northern states, I start planting in the south.

“The weather is becoming more extreme, but if we understand the patterns and plan planting properly, we can still maintain supply,” he told Bernama.

He said the strategy of planting across multiple states ensures production remains unaffected while reducing the risk of losses due to extreme weather in any single location.

“So far, we have farms in almost all states except Kuala Lumpur, Penang, Sabah and Sarawak.

“At each location, we limit planting to around 300 to 500ha. This way, if one area is affected, we still have other locations as backup,” said Koh, who started with just 1.6ha of land in Tiang Dua, Melaka, in the early 1980s.

Fisherman finds highly valuable ambergris

A FISHERMAN in Kemaman, Terengganu, struck gold after discovering a wax-like object believed to be the highly valuable ambergris while fishing, reported *Kosmo!*.

Mohd Raffi Yusoff, 58, said he spotted the large white object floating about 7.4km from Kuala Kemarak while squid jigging at around 6pm last Thursday.

"At first I thought it was just a buoy or foam but up close, it actually resembled a soft lump of wax

and had a fragrant smell when cut," he said.

Mohd Raffi, with the help of his wife, intends to send a sample to Universiti Malaysia Terengganu for laboratory analysis and plans to sell the lump if it is confirmed to be ambergris.

Ambergris is a waxy substance produced in the intestines of sperm whales and can fetch up to RM645,000 per kg due to its scarcity.

It is used in high-end luxury

perfumes to make their scent last longer.

> Perlis has welcomed its first autism-focused preschool for children with special needs, reported *Harian Metro*.

Located in Kuala Perlis, the school began operations in January and currently has eight children, aged five and six, with mild autism.

It comes under the Tabika Tunas Istimewa programme.

State Community Development

Department (Kemas) director Mohamad Zaki Ismail said the school is specially designed to support the social development and inclusive education of children with autism at a reasonable fee.

"Students are currently managed by two teachers, and one helper and one cook. The monthly fee is very affordable at only RM100 with the school operating from 7.30am until 12 noon.

"Our main focus is to guide children with mild autism aged five

and six through the use of a syllabus aligned with the Education Ministry," he said.

Zaki said the programme, first piloted in Melaka, has since expanded nationwide with 19 classes, and plans to extend the initiative to Arau next year and Padang Besar by 2028.

The school's teachers report encouraging progress among students, particularly in self-management and social interaction skills.

Tembikai 'kemik' sebab cuaca panas

akibat cuaca panas.

"Sebiji buah tembikai perlu mencapai salz antara tujuh dan lapan kilogram untuk dikategorikan dalam gred premium yang boleh dijual pada harga tinggi.

"Begitupun rata-rata buah tembikai yang dihasilkan pada pusingan kali ini hanyalah gred B dan C," dakwanya ketika ditemui di Kampung Nyatoh, di sini semalam.

Mohd. Azhar berkata, rupa buah tembikai dihasilkan juga terjejas akibat cuaca panas dengan fizikalnya sedikit 'kemik'.

Dakwanya, rata-ratanya tembikai di kebunnya juga cepat masak berbanding kebiasaannya minimum 60 hari selepas ditanam.

"Ia menyebabkan kami sukar memasarkan tembikai ke pasaran luar ekoran kebanyakan buahnya tidak mencapai gred ditetapkan.

"Mahu tidak mahu, kami terpaksa menjual sendiri di tepi kebun dengan harga lebih murah," katanya.

Seorang lagi pengusaha, Sabri Razali, 42, pula mendakwa, selain cuaca panas, masalah tumbesaran tembikai dushahakan mereka turut disumbang oleh kekurangan sumber air.

"Pokok-pokok tembikai yang sedang membesar perlu disiram sekurang-kurangnya tiga kali sehari namun kali ini perlu dicatu.

"Ia disebabkan kebanyakan sumber air seperti telaga tub dan kolam tadahan semakin mengering ekoran musim kemarau," tambahny.



MOHD. AZHAR (kanan) dan Sabri menunjukkan antara buah tembikai bersaiz kecil yang matang awal di Kampung Nyatoh, Setiu semalam.

- **Petani mengeluh hanya hasil 'keluar' gred B, C**
- **Kemarau berpanjangan hampir dua bulan**

Oleh **MOHD. AZLI ADLAN**

SETIU – Cuaca panas yang berlarutan sejak awal bulan Mac lalu menjejaskan kualiti buah tembikai dihasilkan pengusaha di Kampung Nyatoh, di sini.

Kebanyakan buah tembikai tidak membesar mengikut saiz optimum ditetapkan iaitu sekurang-kurangnya tujuh kilogram (kg).

Salah seorang pengusaha, Mohd. Azhar Ibrahim, 45, mendakwa, tumbesaran buah tembikai dushahakannya terbantu