

P A K A T A N  
**HARAPAN**

# **NEW DEAL FOR SARAWAK**

## **[PART 2]**



## **PREAMBLE OF THE NEW DEAL FOR SARAWAK**

**PAKATAN HARAPAN**, together with the People of Sarawak, needs to overturn the damages brought by the neglect, corruption, and bad governance of the past 55 years by the ruling Barisan Nasional Government.

Sarawak must reshape the direction of its future in accordance with the wishes of the Rakyat, for the Rakyat and built on the basis of our immutable rights enshrined within the Malaysia Agreement of 1963 (MA63) and the Federal Constitution of Malaysia.

Our first duty is the removal of the current ruling Barisan Nasional Government and the formation of a new Federal Government by Pakatan Harapan.

This **NEW DEAL FOR SARAWAK** outlines the path towards the transformation of Sarawak. Our policies signal a new era of equality, opportunity, and possibilities drawing on the Agreement made in 1963 between us and the Federated States of Malaya, Sabah, and Singapore when together, we formed our nation **MALAYSIA**.

Our agenda, first and foremost, is to address and dismantle the **TWO** fundamental pillars that Barisan Nasional continues to employ to deceive Sarawakians and sustain its grip over Sarawak:

1. **THE STRIPPING OF TERRITORIAL INTEGRITY;** and
2. **THE ABROGATION OF POWERS.**

In this regard, we propose **TWO** restorative pillars to heal the festering wounds of 55 years in Malaysia, as follows:

1. **THE RESTORATION OF TERRITORIAL INTEGRITY;** and
2. **THE DEVOLUTION OF POWERS.**



# **1. THE RESTORATION OF TERRITORIAL INTEGRITY**

## **1.1 PAKATAN HARAPAN SHALL HONOUR THE MALAYSIA AGREEMENT OF 1963 (MA63)**

- 1.1.1 Pakatan Harapan is committed to the Federation of Malaysia.
- 1.1.2 Sarawak was one of four territories with the Federated States of Malaya, Singapore, and North Borneo, which together formed Malaysia in 1963.
- 1.1.3 In 1976, the Barisan Nasional Government amended the Constitution and made Sabah and Sarawak the 12<sup>th</sup> and the 13<sup>th</sup> states.
- 1.1.4 Pakatan Harapan is committed to restoring Sarawak to its **ORIGINAL STATUS** within the context of the Malaysia Agreement of 1963 which we will revisit and review.

## **1.2 A ROYAL COMMISSION TO RESTORE SARAWAK'S RIGHTS**

- 1.2.1 We will form a **ROYAL COMMISSION** to review various legislations that affect Sarawak's **IMMUTABLE RIGHTS** to its natural resources, including but not limited to:
  - 1.2.2 **THE CONTINENTAL SHELF ACT OF 1966;**
  - 1.2.3 **THE PETROLEUM DEVELOPMENT ACT OF 1974; AND**
  - 1.2.4 **THE TERRITORIAL SEA ACT OF 2012.**

## **2. DEVOLUTION OF POWERS**

### **2.1 TRADE & COMMERCE**

The trade control and licensing system of the Barisan Nasional Government encourages monopolies, cronyism, and rent-seeking. Controlled import permits on cars, rice, sugar, cement, and other commodities have artificially inflated the prices of these goods.

Pakatan Harapan is committed to devolving the power of trade and commerce to Sarawak, thereby ensuring fairer opportunities and more **EQUITABLE TRADE POLICIES** that will benefit consumers and create a better and more conducive business environment.

### **2.2 FISCAL DECENTRALISATION: TAXATION & PUBLIC REVENUES**

Under the Barisan Nasional Government, the Federal Government controls most revenues related to budgetary allocations for development and funds for the implementation of projects.

We are committed to fiscal decentralisation and shall devolve the power of taxation such that Sarawak shall retain **50% OF ALL TAX REVENUES COLLECTED IN SARAWAK**.

In addition, Sarawak will receive **20% OIL AND GAS ROYALTIES OR VALUE EQUIVALENT** from the Federal Government.

The Government of Sarawak shall use these funds to shoulder the fiscal responsibility of the Federal Government in **EDUCATION** and **HEALTH**. This shouldering of fiscal responsibility is to be accompanied and guided by good governance practices: a high quality of service delivery; competency; accountability; and transparency.

## **2.3 BORNEONISATION OF THE CIVIL SERVICE AND A COMPETENT SARAWAK**

We shall ensure that **TOP PRIORITY** is given to competent and eligible Sarawakians for their employment and promotion in Federal Government departments and agencies in Sarawak.

We shall also promote **MERITOCRATIC, EQUAL OPPORTUNITY POLICIES** based on competency and eligibility in Sarawak, nonetheless aware that inequalities between ethnic groups are real and will need to be addressed equitably to ensure no group is left behind.

## **2.4 SPORT**

Under the Barisan Nasional Government, Sarawakian athletes are compelled to leave Sarawak to obtain further development to develop their abilities and potential for them to compete on an international scale.

We shall provide world-class coaching facilities in a **SPORTS INSTITUTE** in Sarawak to fully equip and harness the vast potential of young Sarawakians so that we can compete on the **NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL STAGE**.

## **2.5 EDUCATION**

Pakatan Harapan upholds the National Education Policy.

To improve service delivery of education for the benefit of the children and youth of Sarawak, we shall return **DECISION RIGHTS** in **EDUCATION** to Sarawak.

Based on the needs and demographics of Sarawakians, rural and urban students alike, we shall implement the following:

- 2.5.1 Parents shall be given the **FREE CHOICE** to have their children educated in **BAHASA MELAYU, ENGLISH, OR MANDARIN** in schools offering these language options as the medium of

instruction. We shall allocate official budgetary support from public funds for this purpose.

- 2.5.2 **LOCALISE SYLLABI** reflecting local languages, local history, local politics, and local geography.
- 2.5.3 **REVIEW STAFFING AND ADMINISTRATIVE POLICIES**, allowing teachers to focus on teaching in the classroom and not overly burdened by administrative requirements.
- 2.5.4 Set up faculties in universities for the study and development of all **NATIVE LANGUAGES OF SARAWAK, INDIGENOUS KNOWLEDGE OF SARAWAK, SARAWAK HISTORY, AND ANTHROPOLOGY**.
- 2.5.5 Make available state **EDUCATION GRANTS** based on merit for financially challenged students and youths who wish to pursue tertiary education both locally and overseas.

## **2.6 HEALTH**

The over-centralised healthcare system has not catered to the different health needs and demographics of Sarawakians. The centralised procurement system in the form of the middle-man has also significantly increased the cost of healthcare and medicines. Therefore, we shall execute the following:

- 2.6.1 Return **DECISION RIGHTS** in **HEALTH** to Sarawak.
- 2.6.2 Encourage **OPEN COMPETITION** in the procurement process of medical supplies and pharmaceuticals, as well as the supply of services.
- 2.6.3 Improve and upgrade the quality of all general hospitals in Sarawak and equip them with **CANCER AND HEART CENTRES**.
- 2.6.4 Ensure adequate resident doctors in all rural and district hospitals and improve rural clinics with **UPGRADED FACILITIES, PROFESSIONAL MEDICAL SERVICES, AND MEDICINES**.

## **2.7 SOCIAL SECURITY**

With fiscal decentralisation, we will use additional revenues to bolster social welfare to expedite welfare benefits and enhance the social security network for all Sarawakians in times of need. The aim is to make **EVERY SARAWAKIAN FEEL SECURE** under the **NEW DEAL FOR SARAWAK**.

## **2.8 CIVIL INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENT**

Under the Barisan Nasional Government regime, corruption at Federal level and at the current State level has been the main reason why so many Sarawakians are still deprived of basic development infrastructure like bridges, roads, electricity, and treated water supply. Substantial amounts of development allocations have been diverted to enrich Barisan Nasional cronies.

Pakatan Harapan is therefore committed to:

- 2.8.1 Speed up the supply of **TREATED WATER and ELECTRICITY TO ALL HOMES**, both sub-urban and rural.
- 2.8.2 Construct inland highways and **ROADS CONNECTING RURAL NATIVE HEARTLANDS** to enhance native land value and **CATALYSE ECONOMIC GROWTH** in the interior.
- 2.8.3 Commission a study on a **TRANS-BORNEO RAILWAY SYSTEM** connecting all major towns and cities in Sabah and Sarawak.
- 2.8.4 Set up an **INDEPENDENT SUPERVISORY BODY (SARACAT – Sarawak's Select Committee on Competency, Accountability and Transparency)** to ensure that every Ringgit of allocation is genuinely utilised for development purposes that will benefit the Rakyat.

## **2.9 NATURAL RESOURCES (OIL & GAS)**

The present company PETROS set up by the Barisan Nasional State Government is merely a sub-contractor of PETRONAS, hopeful to receive some distribution and sub-contract works from PETRONAS.

- 2.9.1 We shall set up an **EQUIVALENT OF PETRONAS** in Sarawak called **SARAWAK PETROGAS** to be wholly owned by the Government of Sarawak.
- 2.9.2 We are committed to ensuring that **SARAWAK PETROGAS SHALL JOINTLY MANAGE OIL AND GAS RESOURCES WITHIN THE TERRITORIAL BORDERS AND WATERS OF SARAWAK TOGETHER WITH PETRONAS.**
- 2.9.3 **SARAWAK PETROGAS** shall be directly answerable to the **SARAWAK LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.**
- 2.9.4 We shall set up a **SARAWAK WEALTH FUND** funded by all revenues from **SARAWAK PETROGAS** for the well-being of all Sarawakians. The Sarawak Wealth Fund shall also be directly answerable to the **SARAWAK LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.**

## **2.10 TOURISM**

There is a need to fully develop the tourism potential of Sarawak's culture, heritage, and natural products.

We will **ENGAGE ALL STAKEHOLDERS** in the local tourism industry to further **DEVELOP CURRENT TOURISM PRODUCTS** such as tourist attractions, heritage sites, national parks, and **CREATE NEW PRODUCTS**, especially in the hospitality and food & beverage industry.

We shall also prioritise a robust development of civil infrastructure to create tourist-friendly **ACCESS TO THESE TOURISM PRODUCTS**, especially in the rural regions where our diverse cultures, cuisines and natural beauty are found and thrive.