

KERATAN AKHBAR

TARIKH : 14 OKTOBER 2025
AKHBAR : NEW STRAITS TIME
MUKA : 9
SURAT

PuTERA35 pacu agenda ekonomi Bumiputera

2026 BUDGET

Major boost for Northern Corridor growth

KUALA LUMPUR: The 2026 Budget delivers a strong signal that strategic federal investment will drive significant growth in the Northern Corridor Economic Region (NCER), offering a clear roadmap to improve operational efficiency, strengthen supply chains and open new markets.

Northern Corridor Implementation Authority (NCIA) chief executive Datuk Mohamad Haris Kader Sultan said the budget reflects the government's commitment to balanced regional growth through targeted allocations to accelerate economic progress in the northern region.

"The 2026 Budget is a forward-looking and transformative plan that aligns with NCER's long-term development goals across the states of Perlis, Kedah, Penang and Perak."

"This Madani Budget unlocks the full potential of these four states, fortifying a key pillar of Malaysia's economic resilience and global competitiveness," he said.

INFRASTRUCTURE, TRADE AND LOGISTICS UPGRADES

A key highlight is the PLUS Traffic Dispersal Initiative from Juru to Sungai Dua, a long-awaited project expected to ease severe congestion on this crucial economic artery. The initiative aims to enhance logistics' efficiency, reduce business costs and improve daily commutes.

The budget also prioritises upgrading border trade facilities, particularly at the Bukit Kayu Hitam-Sadao Border Control.

The introduction of new scanning technologies at this checkpoint supports the creation of *Jelanan*, a



The 2026 Budget is a forward-looking and transformative plan that aligns with NCER's long-term development goals across the states of Perlis, Kedah, Penang and Perak. FILE PIC

RM2.7 billion Special Border Economic Zone.

Positioned as a major logistics and digital hub, Delapan will serve as a critical node in Asean supply chains, speeding up cargo clearance and boosting cross-border e-commerce.

"The faster cargo clearance at Bukit Kayu Hitam will give Malaysia a competitive edge in trade, attracting more investments in logistics and e-commerce," he said.

EMPOWERING INDUSTRY AND AGRICULTURE

Flood mitigation efforts in the Chuping Valley Industrial Area in Perak are expected to protect busi-

ness operations and attract high-value industries.

In Perak, RM124 million has been allocated for infrastructure development at the Perak Halal Industrial Park (PHIP) in Manjung.

This investment aims to position the state as a key player in the global halal economy, creating jobs and drawing synergistic industries.

BOOST FOR TOURISM SECTOR

Tourism receives a strategic push with funding for geotourism projects such as the Kilim Geoforest Park in Langkawi and strong support for the Visit Malaysia 2026 campaign.

"These tourism investments will

complement the region's trade and industrial growth, creating a diverse and sustainable economy."

FEDERAL BACKING FOR REGIONAL GROWTH

"The allocations validate NCER's ongoing masterplanning efforts and provide federal support to elevate the corridor's position in trade, logistics and high-value tourism."

"This budget is not just about building infrastructure; it's about building futures. With the Madani government's partnership, we are confident of delivering meaningful and lasting prosperity to the people of the north," he said.



Datuk Mohamad Haris Kader Sultan