

Procurement law needed: Chin

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By: David Thien

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“Malaysia doesn’t have one. With procurement legislation, there is a clear guideline for awarding contracts.

“It requires open tenders, transparency in selection criteria and strict auditing mechanism. It takes away discretionary powers in awarding contracts.

“What a procurement legislation would do is prevent favouritism, inflated costs and illicit kickbacks.

“The time has come to just put in a procurement legislation. And make the punishment very grave. Make it hurt badly so that people will think many times before they breach it.”

“A procurement legislation would certainly help besides a political financing legislation.

“It will show you where the funds come from for political parties and candidates. It will also show you how they use the money. For example, if Mr. Y gave Party Z, and Party Z won the elections.

“Then Mr. Y’s people and Mr. Y’s companies have all been awarded contracts. Straight away you know there is quid pro quo.

“That deters politicians from rewarding the people who help them. This is the transparency standard that will be the game changer. But it may not be taken up in Parliament. Because they know it will cut off a lot of their lifelines.

“These two — procurement and political funding legislations — will help Sabah and Malaysia cut down on a lot of corruption cases,” he said.

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"Sabah Voices to Action - Shaping Sabah's Future Together" is a citizen-driven, non-partisan initiative running from March to June 2025, dedicated to amplifying Sabahans' voices, fostering meaningful discussions, and shaping policies on education, healthcare, public infrastructure, and good governance.

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Together, we can build a stronger, more inclusive Sabah!

GLCs must stop competing with private sector: Group

KOTA KINABALU: The National Consumer Foundation Malaysia (Sabah Chapter) has called on Federal and State governments, as well as government-linked companies (GLCs), to shift from competing with private businesses to fostering collaboration that strengthens Malaysia's economic ecosystem.

Its Chairman David Chan said the private sector remains the backbone of economic growth, generating jobs and contributing 26 per cent in corporate taxes.

"GLCs straying from their original mandate of supporting, rather than displacing, private enterprises risk stifling entrepreneurship and long-term prosperity," he said in a statement, here, Sunday.

"GLCs were never meant to dominate industries pioneered by private players. Their role is to enable, not eliminate," he added.

He likened the ideal relationship to a parent and subsidiary dynamic, where GLCs provide stability while private firms drive innovation and agility.

The foundation expressed alarm over GLCs increasingly encroaching into commercial sectors, edging out local businesses. This trend, it argued, could erode job creation and weaken economic resilience.

Among key recommendations include reforming GLCs to focus on gap-filling rather than competition, boosting support for SMEs and start-ups through incentives, encouraging public-private partnerships for shared growth and ensuring fair markets by curbing monopolistic practices.

"A thriving economy requires synergy not rivalry between government and private stakeholders," Chan said.

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MYTC batch 24th graduation ceremony.

44 graduate at Montfort's 24th

Lorena Binisol

KINARUT: Forty four trainees mostly from rural Sabah graduated in various skills at Montfort Youth Training Centre's (MYTC) 24th convocation recently.

They underwent over two years of rigorous technical training.

Among them were 14 trainees from the Motor Mechanics department who com-

pleted their SKM examination; 10 from the Welding Technologies programme, nine excelled in the prestigious 6G SMAW Competency Test conducted by CIDB Technology; while 11 from the Facilities Maintenance & Carpentry programme who passed their SKM examinations and nine from the Oil Palm Plantation Conductorship programme.

It was officiated by Tan Sri Bernard Giluk