

Digital transformation to ensure transparency in government administration - Sarawak CM



By Goh Pei Pei - November 1, 2021 @ 12:15pm



Datuk Len Talif Salleh (right) receiving a souvenir from Sarawak Forestry Corporation (SFC) Chief Executive Officer Zolkipli Mohamad Aton after the launch of the 2021 SFC Integrity Day held at the Borneo Convention Centre Kuching (BCKK) in Kuching today. - Pic courtesy of UKAS

KUCHING: The Sarawak civil service is undergoing a journey of digital transformation towards a world-class government administration and to ensure transparency, integrity and accountability.

Chief Minister Datuk Abang Johari Openg said the government is often perceived by the public as one of the sectors very susceptible to corruption in the economy of any country, particularly in developing countries.

He said corruption in the public sector would destroy the economy as it causes leakages to public funds, drives away foreign investments, reduces economic return on investments, and not to mention, its adverse impact on public safety and health.

"I have introduced several measures to ensure the state administration is efficient, clean and transparent, including training of officers under the Certified Integrity Officers' (CeIO) programme and their placement in relevant departments and agencies. This is an example of our initiative towards ensuring a clean administration," he said.

"There are other measures currently being implemented by the state's Integrity and Ombudsman Unit (Union) to enhance the check and balance mechanisms at all levels of government, law enforcement and policy implementation to establish a healthy and thriving environment."

Abang Johari, who was represented by the Assistant Minister of Urban Planning, Land Administration and Environment Datuk Len Talif Salleh said this at the launch of the Sarawak Forestry Corporation (SFC) Integrity Day 2021 held at the Borneo Convention Centre Kuching (BCCCK) here today.

He said Sarawak has formed the Anti-Corruption Committee at the ministry, division, and department levels to provide a platform to enable specific issues related to integrity and prevention of corruption to be addressed immediately.

"All these are enormous and essential reforms to ensure Sarawak is a developed state with high standards of good governance and integrity by 2030," he added.

Meanwhile, SFC Chief Executive Officer Zolkipli Mohamad Aton said over 3,500 live animals, 4,206 illegal logs, 361 protected plants, 1,024kg of wildlife meat and 9,708 pieces of other wildlife parts, were seized as of September this year.

"We managed to sell 200kg of confiscated edible bird's nests through tenders amounting to RM431,000," he said.

From 2020 to 2021, he said, there were a total 174 investigation papers opened, 18 cases prosecuted, and 32 accused charged, and fined RM362,600 in total.

He added there were another 83 cases compounded, where a total RM149,950 was collected.