



26 Mar 2024

PAC MEDIA STATEMENT

1. The Public Accounts Committee (PAC) today tabled the **PAC Report on Finance Ministry (MOF) and Agriculture and Food Security Ministry (KPKM)'s follow-up actions on PAC's recommendations regarding the National Paddy and Rice Management Concession Agreement's social obligation payment receipts (DR.7/2023)**.
2. The report is to inform about the follow-up actions taken by the KPKM based on the recommendations made by PAC in the PAC Report DR. 7/2023, which was tabled in the Parliament on 11 October 2023. The Committee elaborated on each follow-up action as per the recommendations given to KPKM.
3. On 11 Mar 2024, PAC held proceedings on MOF and KPKM's follow-up actions and the witnesses who were present are as follows:
 - i. **Datuk Dr. Shahrizat binti Haji Ahmad**, Deputy Secretary General, MOF Treasury (Investment);
 - ii. **Datuk Lokman Hakim Ali**, Secretary General, KPKM; and
 - iii. **Datuk Azman Mahmood**, Director General of Paddy and Rice Supervision cum Division Secretary of Paddy and Rice Industry, KPKM.

4. Following that, PAC stressed that KPKM needs to ensure that each social obligation as agreed between BERNAS and the Government in the concession agreement signed is fulfilled at all times throughout the concession period.
5. Besides that, KPKM also needs to ensure that the trust account for social obligation is well maintained with the distribution and use of the fund be done according to the terms stipulated in the concession agreement and trust deed.
6. PAC also requested that the development of the SMART paddy sistem be accelerated and launched ealier than initially planned by KPKM and BERNAS to ensure the integrity of the farmers' data so that issuance of subsidy payment under the Paddy Price Subsidy Scheme can be carried out in a more transparent, efficient and organized manner.
7. PAC was informed that the KPI report for the implementation of the 10 social obligations has already been developed and prepared twice yearly. Therefore, PAC wanted the KPI reporting to be increased to four times yearly, that means to have the report prepared quarterly every year to ensure that BERNAS really complies with the implementation of the 10 social obligations.
8. Members of the public can view each of the KPKM's follow-up actions and PAC's comments at PAC website: www.parlimen.gov.my/pac

Thank you.

Hon. Datuk Wira Mas Ermieyati binti Samsudin
PAC Chairperson