



KEYNOTE ADDRESS BY

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MINISTER OF INVESTMENT, TRADE AND INDUSTRY

9th SELANGOR ASEAN BUSINESS CONFERENCE
(SABC) 2025

8TH OCTOBER 2025 (WEDNESDAY) | 1.00 PM

KUALA LUMPUR CONVENTION CENTRE

Y.A.B. Dato' Seri Amirudin bin Shari

Menteri Besar of Selangor

Y.B. Tuan Ng Sze Han

Selangor State Executive Councillor for Industry, Trade & Mobility

YBhg. Dato' Hasan Azhari Hj. Idris

CEO, Invest Selangor Berhad

CEOs and Captains of Industries,

Your Excellencies,

Members of the Media,

Distinguished Guests,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Assalamualaikum w.b.t, Good Morning and Salam Malaysia
MADANI

OPENING REMARKS

1. It is a pleasure to speak once again at the Selangor ASEAN Business Conference. It's truly encouraging to see how SABC

has evolved into a significant regional platform, shaping the way ASEAN connects, collaborates and conquers goals together.

2. As one of the powerhouses anchoring our economy, **Selangor's strengths are Malaysia's strengths** – which also contribute to ASEAN's collective prowess on the regional and global stage.
3. I also want to commend the Selangor MB for championing a bold and visionary roadmap for the state, starting with the **First Selangor Plan (RS-1), followed by the upcoming Second Selangor Plan (RS-2)**. This **policy clarity** and **commitment to proper execution** form the **bedrock of certainty** that investors and businesses look for.
4. This year's theme, "Selangor, the Gateway to a More Inclusive and Sustainable ASEAN", **mirrors the theme of Malaysia's ASEAN Chairmanship: "Inclusivity and Sustainability"**. To investors out there, you may take this as a clear conviction by the Federal Government and Selangor – that **both factors are crucial to build competitiveness and resilience**, particularly

in navigating the global trading landscape that has been torn asunder by the US tariff storm.

5. I previously mentioned that on the US tariff negotiations, **Malaysia came to the negotiating table from a position of strength. We were thorough, methodical and almost clinical in our approach.** But even as we drew some relief from the reduction of tariffs on Malaysian exports (from 25% to 19%), MITI began speeding up our industrial reform agenda.
6. Today, I want to share **three key points** on **how MITI is shaping Malaysia's investment, trade and industrial landscape**, and the importance of Selangor as one of our partners in marketing Malaysia to the world – for it is in that partnership that businesses will find growth opportunities.

MITI'S INDUSTRIAL POLICIES WILL TRUMP GLOBAL PITFALLS

Ladies and Gentlemen,

7. **First, economic resilience isn't built by chance—it's shaped by deliberate industrial policies that nurture**

strategic sectors, empower local ecosystems, and future-proof our supply chains.

8. Through policies such as NIMP2030, National Semiconductor Strategy (NSS) and the Green Investment Strategy (GIS), **we have been investing in both the depth and breadth of our industrial ecosystem**—to ensure we can weather shocks and lead with strength.
9. This was clearly borne out in **Malaysia's steady growth in the last two years** (2024 – 5.1%; 1H2025 - 4.4%). While our full-year 2025 growth forecast has been revised downwards to 4.0-4.8% due to tariff uncertainties, **increasing investments** prove that **investors' interest** has not just been sustained but also **strengthened**.
10. MITI is glad to have done its policy homework since December 2022 to strengthen our industrial foundations. And I strongly believe that **the more intense geopolitical tensions are, the faster we must act on rolling out reforms, strengthening our supply chains, and embracing sustainability.**

11. On that note, **Selangor** – with its strategic ports, world-class airports, and vibrant industrial clusters – is **a natural strategic partner in championing the change that our industrial policies are targeting.**
12. And where is **federal funding** flowing to? In terms of our policy, it is going into **promoted sectors** like aerospace, CCUS, chemical, circular economy, digital economy, E&E and pharmaceutical. Selangor has been hosting these sectors for decades. So, the key takeaway for investors and business in this room is this: **follow where the funding flows.**
13. **Second, Malaysia is clearing the path for our companies who are ready to go regional—and this year, this includes pushing for various economic deliverables that upgrade trade partnerships, forge new trading ties and increase intra-ASEAN trade.**
14. By expanding ASEAN's market access (e.g., with the GCC) and strengthening regional supply chains, we're not just growing intra-ASEAN exports; but also prepping the path for **businesses to scale, adapt, and lead across borders.** And

Selangor fits in strategically within this Malaysia-ASEAN policy confluence.

15. There are also **other key ASEAN deliverables in which Malaysia has developed an industrial advantage – like EVs and Semiconductors. Selangor** has these advantages, too – making it **a natural beneficiary** of MITI's target deliverables through our leadership of ASEAN this year.
16. Furthermore, with upgrades to the ASEAN Trade in Goods Agreement (ATIGA) and the rollout of the Digital Economy Framework Agreement (DEFA), ASEAN is fast becoming **a dynamic, self-reinforcing economic bloc**, and looks set to be the world's fourth largest economy by 2030.
17. **Third, MITI is also focusing on industrial talent, ESG and digitalisation initiatives – the pillars that make up a holistic approach to future-proofing Malaysia's economy. Our investment in skills development is equipping the workforce for high-value sectors like aerospace, E&E, and advanced manufacturing.** Selangor, with its deep talent pool, supported by top universities and technical institutes, is again

a natural strategic partner to achieving this ambition – and a clear beneficiary of the same.

18. Through **ESG** initiatives, we're **embedding sustainability and ethical standards into supply chains**—boosting investor confidence and global competitiveness. And with **digitalisation**, MITI is accelerating **Industry 4.0 adoption**, enabling SMEs and large firms alike to innovate, scale, and integrate seamlessly into regional and global value chains.
19. As the state advances ESG adoption, digitalisation, and green growth, Selangor is contributing to making Malaysia a **future-ready destination for sustainable investment**. Practical advice to businesses and SMEs? **Follow where the policy funding and investment flow.**

SELANGOR STRENGTHENS MALAYSIA'S POSITIONING AS THE GATEWAY TO ASEAN

Ladies and Gentlemen,

20. Two weeks ago, **MITI successfully hosted the 57th ASEAN Economic Ministers Meeting**. In two weeks' time, Malaysia will be hosting **the 47th ASEAN Leaders Summit** – and we will

be welcoming the likes of Trump, Le Qiang and Modi to Kuala Lumpur.

21. This is more than a high-level visit. It is a **geoeconomic milestone that underscores ASEAN's growing authority as a middle-power convenor** – and MITI is **proud and deeply honoured to have played a central role in shaping and driving ASEAN's economic agenda** that enhances Malaysia's authority as ASEAN Chair.
22. But our efforts mean nothing if they don't reel in the results that we aim for. **Numbers don't lie**, and for Selangor, they come in the form of **~RM35 billion of approved investments in 1H2025**. In **2024** alone, Selangor topped the list at **over RM101 billion**, almost double the **RM55 billion received** in the year prior.
23. With strong policy execution that matches MITI's, it is clear **Selangor has the capacity to increase the ROI from its assets** – and to **continue being a major contributor (~26%) to Malaysia's GDP**.

24. Be it Port Klang and KLIA; its industrial parks or Puchong Semiconductor IC design Park; the recently launched *Selangor Aero Park @ KLIA Aeropolis* or Subang Aerospace Park – all these are but **a small sampling of Selangor's major assets** that can help **investors ride the growth trajectory of high-value, innovation-driven industries.**

25. In short, **Selangor** is more than Malaysia's industrial heartland—it can be **investors' launchpad into ASEAN.** With world-class infrastructure, deep supply chain capabilities, and a dynamic business ecosystem, **Selangor is helping position Malaysia as a key export and investment gateway to the region.**

CLOSING

Ladies and Gentlemen,

26. When we launched our industrial reform policies in 2023, **we knew the world would be changing, and challenging.** We just didn't know how intensely, or how the US tariff storm would redefine supply chains to mirror geopolitical alignment.

27. I strongly believe that in a fractured world, **success belongs to those who can pivot with purpose, and with promptness. Agility and adaptability** aren't just survival traits — they're **strategic assets** that allow nations and businesses to **navigate uncertainty, seize opportunity, and lead with resilience.**
28. So, my final message to the investors out there is this: **MITI, and the state of Selangor** are offering you all these, and more, to provide you with the **clarity, confidence and comfort** to **partner with us on this growth journey.**
29. Last but certainly not least, my heartfelt thanks again to the Selangor State Government, under the able leadership of Y.A.B. Dato' Seri Amirudin Shari, for their unwavering commitment to Malaysia's vision and progress.
30. Thank you, and I wish all attendees of the 9th SABC a successful conference.