

Role of Agriculture: Suppliers of Food, Feed and Energy

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The government policy to raise the fuel prices has resulted in an increased cost of production and agro-industry. In fisheries, for example, fuel is one of the important and strategic components of production for both capture fisheries and aquaculture.

"We can understand the fuel subsidy reduction policy applied by the government to reduce the burden and the deficit of the state budget. However, the higher fuel price will increase the cost of agricultural production and agroindustry. In fisheries, the proportion of fuel cost ranges from 35-60% of the total production cost depending on the type of business. Fuel is also needed for the production of saprotan, such as fertilizers and the operation of agricultural equipment and machinery. This is also the case with the transportation and distribution of agricultural products in the agribusiness chain, and production processes in the agro-industry," commented Rector of IPB Prof.Dr.Ir. Herry Suhardiyanto, MSc while giving a speech in the graduation ceremony of Stage V to confer graduation certificates at Graha Widya Wisuda building (3/7).

Energy need in the agricultural sector will be difficult to meet due to the depletion of energy reserves and rising energy prices nationwide. An alternative that can be done is to use other energy sources: new energy and renewable energy.

According to him, it marks the changing role of agriculture, not only as the supplier of food and feed, but also as a raw material supplier of energy, especially for bioenergy

In this graduation, IPB again releases its graduates as qualified human resources. IPB submits certificates to 800 graduates at Graha Widya Wisuda, Darmaga camus of IPB (3/7). They consist of 18 graduates of doctoral degrees, 147 Masters and 635 Bachelor degree graduates from nine faculties. IPB's best graduate of bachelor degree is Derby Octania Suryanto of Agroindustrial Technology Study Program, Faculty of Agricultural Technology, with the highest GPA of 3.99 and Cum Laude attribute.

"This graduation also coincides with the 50th anniversary of IPB. This Golden Anniversary is held with the theme: "Mainstreaming Agriculture for Sustainable Development", Rector said. (Mtd)