

The Rise of East Kalimantan on 2013

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The vision of East Kalimantan Province is to plan East Kalimantan to be the center of agro-industry and leading energy producer for the welfare of its community. This was stated by the Second Assistant for Economic Affairs and Development of East Kalimantan Government, Ir. H Syahbani, M.Sc., in the Talkshow "Kaltim Bangkit 2013", together with the Chairman of the Yayasan Corp Indonesia, Mr. Adi Sasono, guided by the Chairman of the Organizing Committee Agrinex Expo 2011, Ir. Rifda Amarina, 4 March 2011, at the Jakarta Convention Center, Jakarta.

Kaltim is noted for its natural wealth. "Kaltim Bangkit" is planned to make Kaltim to be more competitive with other regions in Indonesia such as Java or Bali, and also to accelerate its development,"said Syahbani

According to him, this program was planned to accelerate the community toward a prosperous East Kalimantan, by exploiting natural resources, particularly energy and agriculture sector endowed by this province. "For our agricultural sector, it will geared toward the plantation, such as oil palm, rubber, cocoa, and food estate from food crops. It is well understood, that grain is dominant product or East Kalimantan. In addition to agribusiness as the main sectors, East Kalimantan will be directed to be the leading energy source in the future,"he said.

East Kalimantan has taken several steps, such as improving human resource capacity by providing scholarships to about 24 thousand students for junior high school to college each year. Then strengthening social institutions, encourage local authorities to change its status to be a Regency of city of co-operative, and finally to set up acceleration to speed up the infrastructure development, to make affordable access the city by public.

Mr. Adi Sasono, former Minister of Cooperation suggested steps to be taken in relation to "Kaltim Bangkit 2013", which is currently implemented by the East Kalimantan Government. Some of the suggestions are as follows: a). Improving the quality of human resources; b). Strengthening social institutions, and most importantly requirement to rectify the production sharing of the natural resources in East Kalimantan. "In the framework of autonomy, East Kalimantan Government should become the representative and spokesman of its people to ask for their rights. The public should enjoy the fruits of the natural resources inherited by his ancestors long ago,"he said. (Wied)