

SAMALAJU: The Samalaju Industrial Port Sdn Bhd (SIPSB) celebrated a significant milestone as it proudly welcomed the maiden call of MV Lila Bhum, an international vessel owned by Regional Container Lines (RCL), a Thailand-based company. The event was commemorated with a special Welcoming Ceremony held at SIPSB and attended by key representatives from SIPSB, RCL, and Ben Line Agencies, the shipping agent.

Leading the SIPSB delegation was chief operating officer, Nizam Ismail who emphasised the importance of MV Lila Bhum's maiden call at SIPSB. He highlighted that this achievement is a testament to SIPSB's commitment to becoming a pivotal hub for containers, fostering economic growth, and providing trade opportunities. Eizam also acknowledged the collective efforts of the Group, which started in 2021 with the introduction of container services at Samalaju Port.

MV Lila Bhum will transport a total of 148 TEUs of laden containers carrying cargo from Press Metal. SIPSB foresees RCL becoming one of the primary shipping liners to call Samalaju Port, reflecting the ongoing efforts to strengthen the partnership between both companies and further develop Samalaju Port as a key shipping destination.

Celebrating the maiden call of MV Lila Bhum



THE special welcoming ceremony at SIPSB.

Moreover, Samalaju Port aims to attract more shipping routes and offer a wider array of shipping options to investors, facilitating direct exports from Samalaju to various destinations.

According to Alphaliner statistics as of December 27, 2023, Regional Container Lines (RCL) holds an impressive rank of No. 23

among global container shipping enterprises and is the leading shipping liner in Thailand. RCL has been listed on the Stock Exchange of Thailand since 1988, consistently demonstrating commendable performance. Currently, RCL operates 49 container vessels, serving 69 destinations across Asia, India, the Indian subcontinent, and

the Middle East. Captain Pensak Vimontaya, the regional operation manager, represented RCL at the event and expressed gratitude to SIPSB for ensuring the success of the Maiden Call and providing RCL with the opportunity to expand its port of call to SIPSB.

The maiden call of MV Lila Bhum at Samalaju Industrial Port

marks a significant step forward in enhancing trade opportunities and strengthening the position of Samalaju Port as a crucial shipping hub. The event signifies the collaborative efforts between SIPSB, RCL, and Ben Line Agencies, and brings optimism for the future growth and development of the port.

Petrol stations receive diesel supplies



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KUCHING: After a recent fuel supply disruption, Petronas petrol stations in Sarawak have started receiving additional diesel supplies yesterday.

According to the Sarawak office of the Ministry of Domestic Trade and Cost of Living (KPDN), Petronas Dagangan Berhad (PDB) is actively delivering the much-needed fuel.

"Current monitoring and inspections are underway.

"We conducted inspections of petrol stations in various locations around the city here to ensure that the subsidised diesel supplies delivered by the oil company are received in full by subsequent petrol stations

following the second bulk quota from the terminal for subsidised diesel.

"The officer is currently verifying that the station has received supplies according to the actual quantity, and we are concerned about any discrepancies in the information.

"Coordination in deliveries needs to be synchronised due to logistical movements involving the entire Sarawak region," KPDN confirmed when contacted yesterday.

The ministry added that if any violations are found under the Control of Supplies Act 1961 and its subsidiary legislation, action will be taken without compromise.

On a related note, PDB announced on Tuesday that

Petronas petrol stations nationwide were experiencing shortages in diesel stocks. The situation is expected to continue until December 31, and the company expressed regret for any inconvenience caused to users.

"However, we want to assure the public that we are actively working with authorities and stakeholders to mitigate such disruptions," KPDN said.

Furthermore, individuals seeking assistance or additional information can contact Mesralink at 1300-888-181.

The public can lodge complaints and make inquiries through KPDN's official website or via 082-537703 (Operation Room), 019-2794317, and 019-8488000 using WhatsApp, or their hotline at 1-800-886-800.



ENFORCEMENT officers inspect a petrol station.