



Community leaders need to understand development policies: Jabu

Courses for village chiefs

By Lester Melanyi

KUCHING—The BN state government will provide development courses for community leaders and relevant rural-based associations if it is returned to power in the September 7-8 state election.

Chairman of the rural development committee Tan Sri Datuk Amar Alfred Jabu ak Numpang said here yesterday such courses are necessary so that village leaders can "conceptualise the programmes and policies of any rural development projects".

He added that such understanding is important to ensure smooth implementation of rural development projects.

"Such courses would be for community leaders, tuai rumah, heads of parents-teachers associations and members of village development committees.

"They may be well-versed in customary laws and other fields but may not be in development strategies. So the government must initiate a programme that can educate the people in the kampung on development policies," he told newsmen after witnessing the signing of a memorandum of understanding (MoU) between Centre for Modern Management (CMM) and Universiti Malaysia Sarawak (UNIMAS).

CMM chairman Datuk Haji Abdul Aziz Haji Husain, who is also

Deputy State Secretary represented CMM while UNIMAS vice chancellor Dato Zawawi Ismail signed on the University's behalf.

The MoU is to develop and promote consultancy and training programmes particularly in human resource and organisation development for the state civil service.

The MoU will also cover the joint consultancy activities, joint organisation of training programmes and special programme of studies.

Tan Sri Jabu, who is also Deputy Chief Minister and Minister for Agriculture and Community Development, said such courses would be held within the next "two or three years".

He added institutions such Angkatan Zaman Mansang, a government development communication agency, UNIMAS and CMM, would be requested to assist in conducting such courses.

He said the BN, being development-oriented, has always strived to ensure that all levels of society have a clear understanding of the development projects. "The Barisan Nasional has conducted political seminars to produce quality politicians. Likewise, in the civil service, they were many courses held to ensure that they are competent in their job," he said.



UNIMAS vice chancellor Dato' Zawawi Ismail (right) exchanging the signed the MoU with CMM chairman Datuk Haji Abdul Aziz Haji Husain while Tan Sri Datuk Amar Alfred Jabu looks on. PHOTOGRAPH : T H LU

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