

Surat khabar: New Sarawak Tribune (TribunePrime)

Hari/Tarikh: 26/6/2016

Muka surat: 4

Tajuk : Increased quota of trained Iban language teachers call

Increased quota of trained Iban language teachers call

BY DOREEN LING

KUCHING: The Sarawak Teachers' Union (STU) is urging the Ministry of Education to increase the existing quota of trained Iban language teachers in the state based on the number of classes.

According to its president Jisin Nyud, in order to comply with the Iban language subject, some schools have teachers who are not well-versed in Iban to teach the language.

It was also brought up that another problem being faced is that most of the trained Iban language teachers are seniors who will retire soon; speeding up the need to prepare and train younger teachers to take over from them.

"For the quota of Iban teachers, we don't want other teachers

to be burdened because of this.

"If we look at the teachers for the Chinese and Tamil languages, they are extras but that is not the case for Iban language teachers.

"That is what we request, so that the Iban language classes are treated the same as the Chinese and Tamil language classes," he said.

Jisin said this during a press conference held after the STU's 4th Executive Council Meeting for the 2014 - 2016 term at Imperial Hotel here on Saturday.

During the meeting, the STU came up with five resolutions. These included hoping the ministry will meet two of them included urging the ministry to increase the number of trained Iban language teachers and to urge the ministry to increase the intake of

teacher trainees in local universities and IPGMs for the teaching of Iban Language Programme.

As for the other three resolutions, one of them was urging the government to make known the percentage of intakes of students

from the state to local universities and IPGMs in the Education Degree Programme to be in-line with the implementation of the 90:10 policy.

The 90:10 policy is an initiative by the State Education

Department to reach a ratio of nine local teachers to one from outside the state within the coming few years.

The other two policies are to urge the ministry to return the autonomy of offering Education

Degree Programmes to UNIMAS's Faculty of Education as well as a proposal to award a quantum sum of remuneration to the present serving teachers with PhD and Masters academic qualifications.



JISIN Nyud (centre) with STU members during the press conference. PHOTO: DOREEN LING