Baram dam issue can be overcome, says MP

BY GOH PEI PEI

KOTA SAMARAHAN: Baram Member of Parliament (MP) Dato Jacob Dungau Sagan is confident in overcoming the Baram dam premature issue and leading the people to look into a bigger picture as how the dam can benefit them.

"We (government) have direct engagement with the villagers who may be affected by the dam and let them understand how the dam can change their lives, provide them better quality of living standard by attracting more foreign investments.

"This is because the dam is one of the government development agenda to improve the livelihood of the remote area, just like how the government developed other rural places as well. Therefore, I believe the issue can be overcome soon," he said.

He added studies and surveys for the dam which is planned to be built in 2018 have yet be complete. Thus, it is the issue of the area for the coming General Election.

"It is still long way to go and as far as we need to let the people understand the area has potential with resources which can produce electricity and could bring development," he added.

Dungau who is also the International Trade and Industry (MITI) Deputy Minister was speaking at a press conference held after officiating at `MITI Day with agencies, college and university students' held at DeTAR Putra Universiti Malaysia Sarawak (UNIMAS) here yesterday.

He said, the event organised by MITI with the objective of creating awareness university and college students of the roles and functions of the Ministry and its agencies such as MASTRAD, MIDA, MIDF, SME Corp, Malaysia, SME Bank, HIC and MAI.

He also revealed a total of 3,950 projects for the private investment in the services sector had been approved in 2011 involving RM 64.3 billion.

Over 1,500 students from UNIMAS, University Technology MARA (UiTM), International College of Advanced Technology Sarawak (ICA TS) and Swinburn University of Technology were at the function.

Earlier, the Deputy Minister also presented the 1Malaysia Student Discount Cards (KADSIM), launched earlier this year to the selected students.

SME CORP. MALAYSIA, UNIMAS, and KPDNKK Sarawak state office together with Bank Rakyat Kuching branch manager Azman Abdul Aziz also revealed a total of 3,950 projects for the private investment in the services sector had been approved in 2011 involving RM 64.3 billion.

Representative of (CATS) receives the mock card of the 1Malaysia discount card from Dungau (second right). Looking on are (from 2nd left) KPDNKK state director Wan Ahmad Uzir Wan Sulaiman, UNIMAS Deputy Vice Chancellor (Research & Innovation) Prof Dr Peter Songan, and Bank Rakyat Kuching branch manager Azman Abdul Aziz, and MITI Policy & Strategy Division director Isham Ishak.

STUDENTS attending the globalization talk at UNIMAS.