VC Disappointed with Misleading Headline

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WEDNESDAY, 8 JUNE – Vice-Chancellor of Universiti Malaysia Sabah (UMS), Professor Datuk Dr. Mohd Harun Abdullah expressed disappointment over a local newspaper, which printed inaccurate headline over the incident where a bus skidded inside the campus of UMS, yesterday.

He said, the newspaper printed on its front page today, "UMS bus lands on side: 34 hurt" did not reflect the real situation and could confuse readers, especially parents of those students involved.

"For the record, the bus involved in the incident was not UMS' bus nor was it chartered from other companies. It was an express bus from a private company that ferried 34 UMS students from 1Borneo Hyper mall to the residential colleges of in-campus students," he said in a statement.

According to Harun, the contents of the news published in the said newspaper was correct, however the title was contrasting and this would invite negative perception of UMS by the public.

"A report should be accurate and authentic not only in its content but more so its title as a representation of the main story," he added.

In the incident, the private bus skidded at the Mosque/Chancellery Junction; 23 students were sent to UMS Clinic, whilst 11 others were treated at Hospital Likas, before five of them were referred to at the Queen Elizabeth Hospital for an x-ray to ascertain any internal injuries.

All 34 students were discharged on the same day and went back to their respective residential colleges. -(fl)