

Kingfisher robberies worry UMS students

By Jimmy Goh and Larry Ralon

KOTA KINABALU: More than 200 students from China currently studying at Universiti Malaysia Sabah (UMS) here are hoping that security around the Kingfisher Park area can be tightened.

They expressed this wish after some of them had become victims in more than five robbery cases in the area where they are staying with other students of the university.

The latest incident on Saturday evening involved a 25-year-old who is pursuing a Masters Degree in Human Resources.

Liang Zhen Long was said to be working on his laptop computer in a half-packed restaurant near Likas Mart about 7.30pm when three strangers who arrived in a black Storm approached him.

One of them hit Liang on the head until he fell and passed out before the trio grabbed his laptop worth RM4,500 and fled.

A friend from Penang, Sim, who arrived at the restaurant shortly later, took Liang to hospital with the assistance of the restaurant workers. They lodged a police report about 11pm the same day.

When met at the house where he is staying, Liang who was still traumatised said he dared not inform his family back home about what happened

"This is because when I first voiced out my intention to do further studies in Malaysia more than a year ago, my parents disagreed," said Liang, who required six stitches on his upper lips.

"But my parents later allowed me after I assured them that Malaysia is a peaceful country, unlike Iraq and now Lebanon," he added.

Liang has still more than a year to study at UMS.

His friend, Leila, who is pursuing a Degree in Art Design at UMS and staying in the same area, said they had actually tried to avoid going to the nearby Kingfisher Park commercial lots after learning of the robberies.

"But we didn't expect such incident to happen as it was only 7pm," she said.

She said she and her fellow students from China were hoping that the relevant authorities would improve the security situation around the area to ensure their safety during their stay in the State.



Liang resting in his rented home at Kingfisher: Received six stitches.