

Sabah MP raises concerns over quality of graduates from UMS medical school

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KOTAKINABALU: A Sabah Member Parliament has raised concerns in Parliament over the quality of graduates from the medical school of Universiti Malaysia Sabah.

Tuaran MP, Datuk Wilfred Madius Tangau said being a young university with a very young Medical School, it is crucial for the University to put up some efforts to secure senior lecturers to ensure that medical graduates from UMS possess the necessary quality.

He also raised the issue of Diploma in Civil engineering undergraduate students from UiTM Kota Kinabalu being relocated to other branch campus in January.

Madius who is also UPKO Secretary General, said it is unfortunate that UiTM Kota Kinabalu Branch initiated the said course in Sabah and all of a sudden, its authorities decided to relocate the students.

"Many parents have sought my assistance and expressed concern on the burden that they have to bear when their children are relocated to various campuses in Peninsular Malaysia," he said.

According to him, the Minister of Higher Education Datuk Mustapa Mohamed had promised to look into the problem.



Madius

This had prompted the Tuaran MP to make an additional request, which is for the ministry to do whatever possible to retain the Diploma In Civil Engineering studies in UiTM Sabah by enhancing the necessary instrumentations and other teaching aids.

On another matter, Madius said the Federal Government would look into the possibility of setting up a Faculty of Indigenous People Studies should there be a need for such a facility.

Madius said the assurance was given by the Minister of Higher Education who was replying late Tuesday to points raised by him during the debate at the Committee Stage of his Ministry.

Madius when debating the 2007 budget at the Committee Stage for the Ministry of Higher Learning, proposed the setting up of a Borneo Indigenous People Studies in recognition of the contributions made by the various ethnic groups among the Indigenous People of Borneo.

Elaborating on his proposal, Madius said even in Taiwan where the percentage of Indigenous People is very small, there is a Faculty of Indigenous Peoples Study at the University of Tai Tong.

He said such a faculty could be located at either University Malaysia Sabah or at the University Malaysia Sarawak.