

Set up proposed petroleum engineering faculty at UMS-KAL - PBS

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LABUAN: Parti Bersatu Sabah (PBS) Labuan chief Peter Mak yesterday welcomed the proposal of former Prime Minister Tun Dr Mahathir Mohamad that Universiti Malaysia Sabah (UMS) set up a petroleum engineering faculty.

On Monday, the former prime minister was invited to UMS, Kota Kinabalu to deliver his lecture: "Sabah's Socio Politics Development In The Context Of Malaysia".

Dr Mahathir proposed for the faculty to be set up in view of the emerging oil and gas industry in Sabah.

Peter said the proposal was most timely and he suggested that the proposed faculty be set up in UMS, Labuan International Campus (UMS-KAL).

"Currently, UMS-KAL is conducting programmes mainly for the international financial industry in line with Labuan's status as an international business and financial sector.

"However, compared to the international financial sector, Labuan has a much longer history in the oil and gas sector.

"There are many established industries and companies, both Malaysian and international, set

up here on this island to serve the industry's upstream and downstream activities," he said.

He said further that the transformation of Daat Island here in Labuan into an oil and gas development was further testimony of the island's continuing growth in the industry.

"By having UMS-KAL's petroleum engineering faculty in Labuan, prospective students will find little difficulty in getting places to undergo their industrial training and conduct the required related research.

"I am certain the industry

players here in Labuan will be more than willing to do their part by assisting the students in fulfilling their academic requirements.

"On the same token, we will be able to seek the assistance and support of industry professionals working on the island to impart their knowledge and expertise to the students," he said.

Peter explained further that the professionals would do so through lectures, sharing of experience and even career advice to the undergraduate and graduate students of the proposed petroleum faculty.

"Labuan has the infrastructure and fundamentals to contribute to the success of the proposed petroleum faculty.

"While UMS Kota Kinabalu is already host to the Tun Ahmad Shah Oil and Gas Academy in Sabah, therefore, PBS Labuan urges the authorities to consider this suggestion favourably.

"Ultimately, graduates of the proposed faculty will not only serve the industry in Labuan, but Sabah and the rest of Malaysia as well," he said, adding it would augur well for the long-term development of Labuan and the nation as a whole.



Peter