

Musa handing over PTPTN Loan Advance Financing to a student at UMS yesterday



## PTPTN loan facilities available to students to pursue further studies

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KOTA KINABALU: The people should be grateful that the government has allocated large sums of money for the education sector, starting with preschool, primary and secondary schools up to the higher learning institutions through Perbadanan Tabung Pendidikan Tinggi Nasional (PTPTN) loan.

However, graduates across the country and the young people have a choice whether to pursue their studies at the university level with PTPTN funds or otherwise.

Chief Minister Datuk Seri Musa Haji Aman said this at the handing over of PTPTN Loan Advance Financing (WPP) throughout Malaysia to the Universiti Malaysia Sabah (UMS) students at the Chancellor Hall, UMS here yesterday.

"University is like a knowledge store that has its role to develop and produce high quality graduates in order

to generate excellence in religion, race and country. This is in line with its role in educating and nurturing the young and transforming them into professional who are knowledgeable and competitive," he said.

Hence, Musa said, it is hoped that the students will take advantage of available opportunities to enter university and be a graduate who excelled in their field of endeavour.

According to him, before PTPTN was established, students with the opportunity to pursue higher studies were only about 27,000 people in the mid-1990s.

However, with the existence of PTPTN, a total of 227,000 students were able to pursue university studies.

Thus, he stated, this is evidence of the government's concern to struggle for all communities including the youths and students.

He remarked that previously before the PTPTN was established, parents had to sell their land, house or borrow from the bank to enable their children to

pursue further studies.

Now with this educational loan facility, parents were no longer worried and burdened with such matter.

He expressed the state government's appreciation for the PTPTN's noble efforts to ensure that an efficient financing is available to qualified students and undergraduates to further their studies.

This, said Musa, is in line with government's policy to allow each student to have access to quality education and to pursue further studies at higher learning institutions.

He hoped all the recipients of the PTPTN will use the money wisely to fund their studies and wished all the students every success in their field of endeavour whilst on the way to becoming an excellent human capital to spearhead the drive for excellence, especially in Sabah.

Present at the event were the vice chancellor of UMS, senior officials of PTPTN, community leaders, parents of the students and some 1,000 students.