



UMS vice chancellor Prof Dr Mohd Harun Abdullah (second left) and Sawit Kinabalu's managing director Haji Othman Walat exchanging documents after the signing witnessed by Musa (centre) and others



Othman (right) hands over a mock cheque for RM1 million to NSTP's managing editor Abdul Jalil Hamid (left) watched by Musa

People play role in Sabah's progress

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KOTA KINABALU: The people have a responsibility to help bring further progress, to the State, said Chief Minister Datuk Seri Musa Haji Aman.

And, he reminded that there is a need to adopt a balance approach in ensuring every development project would benefit the people.

"There are still many opportunities to bring Sabah to

greater heights including developing the oil palm sector in Sabah," Musa who is also Finance Minister said when attending the signing of a memorandum of understanding (MoU) between Sawit Kinabalu Group and Universiti Malaysia Sabah (UMS) and breaking of fast here yesterday.

He hailed the cooperation

between Sawit Kinabalu and UMS as this was in line with the State government's policy which laid stress on sustainable economic development.

And, Musa hoped the setting up of the Palm Oil Research Unit would help boost further the oil palm industry in the State.

And, he also hoped that the products from research

through this MoU later on could be commercialised.

"Today we also witness the handing over of RM1 million from Sawit Kinabalu to the New Straits Times Press (M) Berhad for its 'free newspapers for students' programme involving 50 schools and two universities.

"I welcome such an effort... it is a corporate social

responsibility," the Chief Minister said.

Some 500,000 copies of the New Straits Times and Berita Harian will be distributed under the programme.

Musa also expressed the hope that the programme would enable students to acquire more knowledge on current affairs.

And on the payment of dividend by Sawit Kinabalu to smallholders from Bagahak (RM6.68 million) and Silabukan (RM215,000) in Lahad Datu, he said this proved the success of the cooperation between both parties.

"It is also the government's aspiration to improve the people's standard of living," he said.