

UMS targets 5,000 naval reservists

BP 24.11.2012 A9

By Mariah Doksil

KOTA KINABALU: Universiti Malaysia Sabah (UMS) is the 10th higher learning institution in Malaysia to train cadets to become naval reservists (PALAPES-Laut).

"The smart partnership between the Royal Malaysian Navy and UMS is important to create opportunities for tertiary graduates to get involved in naval activities after they have completed their training under the naval reservist programme," Royal Malaysian Navy deputy

chief Vice-Admiral Datuk Mohammed Noordin Ali said when launching UMS PALAPES-Laut at the ground of UMS Chancellor Hall, yesterday.

"We are targeting about 5,000 participants in this programme. To date, we have registered about 3,000 students to join this three-year-programme. About 1,500 of them are now attached to the Royal Malaysian Navy.

"This partnership acts as a catalyst to realise the integrated defence concept and as an effective contribution towards the nation," he told a press conference.

Earlier in his speech, Mohammed Noordin said since joining PALAPES-Laut, the first batch of 29 UMS students are ready to play a role in maintaining the security of the country.

He added that the Royal Malaysian Navy was not looking for huge numbers in the programme but focused on quality of its PALAPES-Laut after finishing the programme.

As a new member of 'The Navy People', he hoped the programme would enable them to contribute to any organisations as quality human capital.



Mohammed Noordin (centre) inspecting UMS PALAPES-Laut at the launching, yesterday.