

UMS helps transform Sabah devt — Musa

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KOTA KINABALU: Universiti Malaysia Sabah (UMS) has helped the state to generate a rapid transformation in development in a short period of time, said Chief Minister Datuk Seri Musa Aman.

Since it was established in 1994, UMS has worked in tandem with the state in meeting the economic and social needs of students.

"The positive implications have given added value and improved the standard of living and the economy of the community," he said at the pledge-taking by 4,579 UMS students of the 2016/2017 intake at the university yesterday.

Musa, who is also UMS pro-chancellor, said the state government would remain committed to and cooperate in all efforts to improve the standard of national higher education.

He urged students to prepare themselves to meet increasingly challenging times.

"What is most important is

to be independent in seeking information because lecturers can only guide and show the path," he said.

Referring to Malaysia Day on Sept 16, Musa urged students to join in the celebrations to mark the country's independence, sovereignty and prosperity.

"Be thankful for these blessings because the students of today will inherit and champion the stability, peace and prosperity in our beloved Malaysia," he said.

Musa said the prosperity and success of the country did not come easy but as a result of the government's development policies and programmes, participation of the private sector and support from the people.

UMS vice chancellor Professor Datuk Dr Mohd Harun Abdullah in his speech warned UMS students against pursuing activities that were detrimental and could threaten the safety and harmony of society and the

country.

"Do not be easily persuaded by external negative elements with undefined or vague agendas. All these will only serve to destroy your future. When you become engrossed in such activities, you have less focus on your studies, your concentration easily wavers and your mind rebels against acceptable norms," he said.

He gave a stern warning that UMS would not compromise when it comes to matters of discipline and rule infringement.

Harun also said that the students have to adhere to the acts, constitution, statutes, rules and codes of discipline as long as they are a member of the UMS family.

"This is by no means aimed at curtailing your freedom and movement; rather the rules are put in place to inculcate the concept of discipline within you and at the same time to prevent imposition on others," he said.



Musa (second from right) accompanied by Harun (right) entering the main hall of UMS for the oath-taking and pledges ceremony of the new students of the university yesterday.