

Perfect avenue for military veterans and retirees to generate income – Musa

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By PAUL MU

KOTA KINABALU: The State Government welcomes and supports the veteran economic development programme (PPSEV) for the military personnel.

Chief Minister Tan Sri Musa Haji Aman said the programme introduced in 2016 by the Ex-Servicemen Affairs Corporation (PERHEBAT) has until Feb 2018, benefited 485 veteran servicemen from Sabah.

“I believe the programme enables the veterans and retirees to acquire new knowledge and skills to enhance their ability in generating income.

“And able to compete and be independent in this challenging economic situation,” said Musa during the launch of the PERHEBAT-Universiti Malaysia Sabah (UMS) Satellite Campus at Resital Hall, UMS here yesterday.

“I was informed with the number of retired military personnel each year, the need to acquire additional skills, to help them continue to live and improve their economic status have been given attention by PERHEBAT,” he noted.

He also congratulated UMS as the first public university to become a satellite campus for PERHEBAT to carry out teaching and learning activities for the veterans and retired military personnel in Sabah.

As we march towards a developed nation, we need an all-rounder community that is educated and had knowledge in various fields to compete in today’s technology and digital era,

“Thus, we encourage the veterans and retired military personnel to take this opportunity to improve them which is in line with the current development and needs,” said Musa.

UMS vice chancellor Prof Datuk Dr D Kamarudin D Mudin said this year, UMS has partnered with PERHEBAT to organise the PPSEV skills courses for the military per-



AGREEMENT ... Musa witnessing the exchanging of Memorandum of Agreement between PERHEBAT and UMS. PERHEBAT was represented by its Chairman Lieutenant General Datuk Seri Abdul Aziz Ibrahim while UMS Vice-Chancellor Prof. Datuk Dr. D. Kamaruddin D. Mudin represented the university.



LIGHT ... Musa sharing a light moment with PERHEBAT members while its chairman Lieutenant General Datuk Sri Abdul Aziz Ibrahim and UMS VC Prof. Datuk Dr. D. Kamaruddin D. Mudin look on.

sonnel who had completed their service and the non-pensionable to help them generate income.

“Forty veterans attended the various courses on basic aquaculture and marine fish as well as handmade bakery and chocolates,” he said, adding that UMS also proposed to expand the course to aquaculture and freshwater fish at the Borneo Marine Research Institute.

Other courses in the offing are culinary and bakery by the Faculty of Food Science and Nutrition and agriculture by the Faculty of Sustainable Agriculture and entrepreneurship by the Faculty of Business, Economics and Accountancy.

PERHEBAT chairman Lt Gen Dato’ Sri Abdul Aziz Ibrahim said to date, there are 400,000 ex-service men in Malaysia of which 130,000 are pensioners. Of the total, 15,000 are in Sabah with about 4,000 are pensioners.

“This is the first time we entered a partnership with UMS in February, and 50 members have attended the courses conducted by UMS.

“In Sarawak, we work with



AT THE LAUNCH ... Musa with PERHEBAT members and members of the armed forces after launching the PERHEBAT-UMS Satellite Campus on Tuesday.

UNIMAS (Universiti Malaysia Sarawak) while in peninsula we have yet to collaborate with other public universities,” he said, adding that

the corporation’s main campus is in Sungai Buloh.

Meanwhile, the Chief Minister also witnessed the signing of Memorandum of Agree-

ment (MoA) between UMS and PERHEBAT and a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between PERHEBAT and the Federation of Sabah

Hawkers and Small Entrepreneur Associations as well as the MoU between AP-KU Akademi and ANS Sdn Bhd.