

Cultivate interest in science, students urged

NST 2.7.13 7

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KOTA KINABALU: Students are urged to continue cultivating interest in science and technology and to become catalyst to the country's vision of becoming a developed nation by 2020.

Universiti Malaysia Sabah (UMS) Vice Chancellor Professor Datuk Dr Mohd Harun Abdullah said that in order to achieve developed nation status, science must be emphasised through education in producing science-literate and science-cultured society.

He however noted that in reality the number of students who are science-literate is dwindling which negatively affects the country's vision.

"Study on the direction of science and technology human resource 2020 plan which requires 60 per cent of science stream and 40 per cent of art stream has not been realised.

"This situation has to some extent stunted the efforts to enhance technological innovation towards transforming the country's economy into a high income nation," he said.

His speech was delivered by Deputy Vice Chancellor (Students Affairs & Alumni) As-

sociate Professor Datuk Dr Kassim Md Mansur at the third Sijil Asasi Sains presentation ceremony at UMS here yesterday.

At the ceremony, a group of students who completed the basic three-semester science course at the university's Pusat Peralaksanaan Sains & Teknologi (PPST) received their certificates.

The course was meant to prepare the students for various science undergraduate programmes at the university.

Also present were PPST director Dr Sazmal Effendi Arshad and the students' parents among others.



Dr Kassim (second left) presenting a certificate to one of the students as Dr Sazmal (left) looks on