

Pursue science, technology studies — VC

By Mariah Doksil

KOTA KINABALU: Universiti Malaysia Sabah (UMS) vice chancellor Professor Datuk Dr Harun Abdullah has urged more students to consider pursuing their education in science and technology.

He said science and technology are among key areas that need to be improved, as Malaysia is heading towards a developed nation by 2020.

“Malaysia’s 2020 Master Plan is to have 60 per cent students taking up science subject while 40 per cent in literature, but unfortunately we have not reached the target yet.

“I am hoping that with UMS high quality certificate in basic science, there will be more students looking forward to apply for this course. UMS certificate in basic science will be an additional ticket for students to apply for a

Bachelor’s degree course,” he said at the handing over of certificate to 353 students at the campus yesterday.

His speech was read by deputy vice-chancellor of student affairs and alumni, Prof Madya Datuk Dr Kasim Md Mansur.

As the nation is doubling its effort to achieve Vision 2020, Harun said it is important for more students taking up science and technology.

He added that with the drop in the number of students applying for science course, the vision of becoming a developed nation will be affected.

“We want more students to put their interest on science subject, and at the same time to be part of the economic transformation,” he added.

Also present was director of Preparatory Centre for Science and Technology of UMS, Dr Sazmal Effendi Arshad.



Kasim (second from left) handing over a certificate to one of the recipients, yesterday as Sazmal (left) looks on.

UMS to host PALAPES Accreditation Ceremony July 6

KOTA KINABALU: Universiti Malaysia Sabah (UMS) will be hosting the PALAPES Accreditation Ceremony on July 6.

UMS vice chancellor Datuk Dr Harun Abdullah said that he hoped the PALAPES cadet volunteers will continue to contribute to the welfare of Malaysia as a sovereign nation after receiving their accreditation.

He added that the cadet volunteers had undergone three

years of training and challenges in order to protect the country.

A total of 16 public tertiary institutes and one private tertiary institute will be taking part in the event and a total of 91 cadets out of the 1,340 cadets who would be receiving accreditation are from UMS.

Meanwhile, two cadets from UMS, Hizamihatim Maggisa Juara and Naty Koo Siew Ching, both 23 years old, shared that the experience they gained

as cadets have strengthened them physically and mentally, and improved many of their soft skills, particularly in regards to communicating with others.

“We learned about teamwork and basic war skills. We also took part in sports, shooting activities and forest training,” they said.

Kelantan Darul Naim Head of State, His Royal Highness Sultan Muhamad the Fifth, will also be gracing the event.