

LOCAL

50 UMS students learning Japanese

By YATIM TAUBATAL ANDAM

KOTA KINABALU, Mon. – Fifty second-year Universiti Malaysia Sabah (UMS) students currently pursuing international business programmes in the School of Business and Economics will be spending their final year in Japan.

According to UMS Vice Chancellor Prof. Datuk Abu Hassan Othman, it is compulsory for students taking up these programmes to learn Japanese to complement the university's new course on Culture and Politics of East Asia which includes learning and understanding political and cultural aspects of Japan.

This was to enable students to orientate themselves with Japanese work culture and, hence, acquire its management and other business skills.

Abu Hassan said this in appreciation to the donation of books and teaching materials on Japanese presented by the Consul of Japan for Sabah, Sarawak and Labuan, Dr Teruo Kamihigashi, at the UMS temporary campus in Likas Bay, near here, this morning.

He said UMS was embarking on a comprehensive programme of teaching several foreign languages to keep abreast with the current era of globalisation and inter-dependent world, as well as with the culmination of a knowledge-based society of today.

Some of the languages also to be introduced by UMS include Mandarin, Korean, Spanish, Arabic, Vietnamese, French and German.

“Aside from starting off by introducing Japanese, UMS is also keen to promote the cultural studies of Japan, he said.

Also present were Vice Consul Eiji Shinjo, Japanese Foundation representative Yukie Yamigashi and Deputy Vice Chancellor of UMS Prof Dr Wan Mohammad Rafaei.

Teruo handed 25 types of books, four visual cards and four Japanese language teaching cassettes.

He said as a university which takes interest in various aspects of knowledge, command in various world languages is required for national interest.



UMS students conversing in Japanese with their Japanese visitors yesterday.