



UMS newly intake students during the "aku janji" oath taking ceremony in conjunction with the university orientation week. More than 4,500 new students registered for the university 2011-2012 academic session. - Photo by Aniq Azraei

UMS campus in Keningau to benefit rural students — CM

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 By Murib Morpi

KOTA KINABALU: The State Government will continue its commitment to further develop the education sector in Sabah, said Chief Minister Datuk Seri Musa Aman.

This includes the construction of the state-of-the-art Sandakan Education Hub and various other modern facilities at public and private higher learning, vocational and technical institutions across the state.

"This is all for producing first class human capital, by providing better facilities and opportunities for our students and public in general," he said when speaking at the Aku Janji (I

Pledge) ceremony for the new intake at UMS yesterday.

In line with this commitment, he said UMS has adopted a vision of becoming a world class innovative university through various holistic teaching and learning programmes aimed at producing well-rounded graduates.

He noted that since starting operation in 1995, UMS has experienced rapid physical development, continuously enhancing its capacity to provide high quality education in various fields.

In addition to its main campus at Jalan Sulaman and two branch campuses in Labuan and Sandakan, a new campus in Keningau

is expected to be developed soon, Musa said.

The decision by UMS to set up a campus in the interior of Sabah would allow more rural students to continue their studies at tertiary level, he said.

"The state government readily approved UMS' application for 30 acres (12 ha) in Kampung Apin-Apin, Keningau that had been identified for the purpose.

"UMS is also planning to develop a university hospital to complement its existing medical school," he said.

Meanwhile, UMS vice chancellor Prof Datuk Seri Dr Kamaruzaman Ampon said the campus to be built in Keningau would contribute significantly towards achieving the government's



Musa

target of having 60 percent of students in the country studying in science stream.

"We hope the project to build this much-needed campus could start as soon as possible," he said.