

Youth organisations registered under RoY to receive RM6,000 grant – Tawfik

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KOTA KINABALU: Youth organisations registered under the Registrar of Youth (RoY) would receive RM1,000 launching grant in addition to a RM5,000 annual grant, according to Minister of Youth and Sports Datuk Tawfik Abu Bakar Titingan.

Tawfik added that there are currently over 400 organisations registered under the RoY in the State.

He encouraged the youth from both rural and urban areas to participate in Youth Organisations for them to learn leadership skills and form connections with people from all walks of life.

"The strength of a nation depends on the people's unity," Tawfik told reporters at the launching of the first ever State level Red Crescent Society (BSMM) Youth Camp at Universiti Malaysia Sabah (UMS) Outdoor Development Centre (ODEC), here, yesterday.

Also present at the launch were BSMM Sabah Advisor Tan Sri Datuk Dr. Herman Luping, BSMM Sabah Chair-

man Asirin Abdul Kadir, BSMM Sabah Director Simon Chin and BSMM Malaysia Deputy Director cum Organising Chairman Kevin Lo.

Meanwhile, Tawfik said that his Ministry would like to provide programme based allocation to the BSMM as a show of support for its service to the society.

Tawfik added that although the BSMM falls under the Ministry of Community Development and Consumer Affairs, his Ministry will find ways to provide programme based allocations to the organisation.

He said that organisations that promote service to the society like BSMM is an integral part towards cultivating community conscious leaders.

"Organisations like this not only train the new generation of youths to be of service to the people but they also teach leadership.

"This is the kind of leadership would be beneficial for the people in the future," he said.

The five-day Youth Camp is BSMM's first state-wide programme, participated by over 300 secondary school students and 100 facilitators from the West Coast.

Organising Chairman Kevin Lo said that he hopes the participants will adapt what they learned from the Youth Camp to benefit their respective districts.

"We're not only focusing on first aid alone. For example, we have the Sabah Amateur Radio Society here to teach the students communication.

"We also have the Environmental Action Centre here to teach them about environmentalism and also representatives from UMS to tell the students a little bit about the university in hopes that they'd enrol here some day.

"BSMM Pahang are also flying in tomorrow to teach participants on how to cook different types of meals for people who are affected by natural disasters.

"I hope that the students would be able to use what they learnt from the camp to benefit their districts in some way," said Kevin.

Kevin also expressed gratitude to UMS for sponsoring half the cost of the activities.

"This programme is also part of UMS' 20th Anniversary and we're grateful that they've provided us with a venue and support," he said..



Tawfik (centre) with Herman Luping on his left and Asirin Abdul Kadir on his right, launches the BSMM Youth Camp at UMS.