



**KUMPULAN YAYASAN SABAH**

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# SIARAN MEDIA

## [ MEDIA RELEASE/STATEMENT ]

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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### **OPENING CEREMONY OF PUSAT KRAFTANGAN SABAH HOSTEL, KENINGAU**

**KOTA KINABALU, Sunday:** Yayasan Sabah Group is moving a step further in developing the State's rural communities with the completion of the Pusat Kraftangan Sabah (PKS) hostel in Keningau.

According to the Director of Yayasan Sabah, Dato' Sri Haji Gulamhaidar @ Yusof bin Khan Bahadar, PKS, which began operations in 2012, is a one-stop centre for the collection, training, and marketing of handicrafts, as well as research and development. PKS focuses on improving the standard of living of Malaysians in Sabah through the Human Capital Development Programme under the Special Programme for Natives of Sabah (PKAN) through the Implementation Coordination Unit (ICU) of the Prime Minister's Department.

He said the target group for this programme was rural communities from all over Sabah, where PKS at that time needed accommodation facilities for its outstation participants.

"So with the number of trainees increasing yearly, Yayasan Sabah Group took the initiative to propose to the ICU of the Prime Minister's Department to construct a hostel to meet the need," he explained.

Following the recommendation, in 2021, the ICU approved allocations for the hostel construction under the 12th Malaysia Plan.

Deputy Chief Minister I/Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food Industry cum Member of Parliament for Keningau, Datuk Seri Panglima Dr Jeffrey G. Datuk Kitingan, will officiate the opening ceremony of the hostel, which is located within the PKS compound on 24 July 2023.

"This hostel will provide accommodation facilities to the trainees who attend the various courses organised by PKS. Furthermore, the presence of this hostel will pique the interest of trainees from outside the Keningau district in future PKS-organised courses," he said.

"Yayasan Sabah Group's involvement in handicrafts development is in line with one of its objectives, which aims to reduce the poverty rate in the State," explained Dato' Sri Haji Gulamhaidar.

Along with this objective, the handicraft industry has become one of the focuses of Yayasan Sabah Group in developing rural communities due to the potential and strength found in the industry.

"On behalf of Yayasan Sabah Group, I thank the Federal Government for the funds provided for the construction of the hostel. This demonstrates the Federal Government's concern and commitment to providing the necessary infrastructure in developing the handicraft industry in the State," he said.

"We also express our utmost appreciation to the Public Works Department for closely monitoring this project to ensure that it is completed according to the work time frame," he added.

Yayasan Sabah Group is confident that this hostel will make it easier for PKS to implement courses in situ and, as a result, will act as a catalyst in advancing the handicraft industry in this State to a higher level.



Photo 1 : Dato' Sri Haji Gulamhaidar @ Yusof bin Khan Bahadar, Director of Yayasan Sabah



Photo 2 : Pusat Kraftangan Sabah hostel

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