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Taiping Rotary combats ills with project

TAIPING, Wed. - Spurred by calls from Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad for all quarters to join in the fight against social ills, the Rotary Club of Taiping has set up a "Build A Better Future" project to help combat the menace.

According to project chairman Mohd Akram Mohd Tahir, the first programme lined up was a one-day seminar on Combating Social Ills In Our Community.

Mohd Akram said the seminar, to be held at a hotel here on March 29, was expected to attract about 500 secondary students from the Larut Matang and Selama district.

"This is the first time such a seminar - with experienced speakers who are well-versed with the social problems in the local community - is being organised by a service club.

"Among the topics to be discussed in the seminar are juvenile crimes; education and youths; youths and development; sexually transmitted diseases and dadah abuse.

"Participants will also be showed exhibits and video clippings which will make them further realise the seriousness of some of these social ills," he said.

As the club's president Mohd Akram has been credited with bringing the Rotary Club to the rural areas here.

The club holds free vision testing, deworming and medical screening under its Titian Kasih project in these areas.

The project includes providing free medical screening services and the giving away of spectacles and vitamins for rural pupils and folks.

It attained great honour and recognition from rural folk here, and in particular, from the Larut Matang and Selama district territorial chief Datuk Seri Wan Omar Wan Ahmad Rasdi.

Wan Omar, who is also the advisor for the club's Build A Better Future project, will deliver a keynote address at the opening of the seminar.

Mohd Akram said the seminar is a good start for future programmes under the project because the target groups were mainly fifth and sixth formers.

"They are about to go into the real world and be exposed to numerous social ills and problems so they would benefit from advice on these problems and how to avoid them," he said.

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