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Call to create security corridor at border

KOTA KINABALU, Thurs. - The State Government is in contact with the Philippines authorities in ensuring safety and release of three Malaysians held captive on Jolo island.

Chief Minister Datuk Seri Osu Sukam, who is the State Security Council chairman, said the Philippines Government had assured Sabah of their cooperation.

"We (the Government) hope this cordial relationship augurs well to a speedy release of the hostages." he told reporters after launching a "Calendar on Voice of Dr Mahathir" at Hyatt Regency Kinabalu today.

On Sunday, kidnappers raided Pulau Pandanan, abducting Pandanan Semporna Island Resort manager Mohd Noh Sulaiman, divemaster Joe Joseph Jongkinoh and contractor Kan Wei Chong.

In a related development, the Government was urged to look into the possibility of creating a security corridor at the border, to prevent future encroachments.

Parti Bersatu Rakyat Sabah (PBRS) deputy president, Datuk Dr Jeffrey Kitingan, said the corridor would prevent anyone from crossing the border freely.

Kitingan told newsmen after visiting the family of dive master Joe Joseph Jongkinoh, at their home in Kampung Nosoob, Penampang.

Kota Belud MP Datuk Salleh Tun Said, visited Mohd Noh's family in Kota Belud today.

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