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Stop unhealthy activities, Dayak community told

KUCHING, Sun. - Sarawak Deputy Chief Minister Tan Sri Alfred Jabu anak Numpang today reminded the Dayak community to stop indulging in unhealthy activities such as cock fighting, drinking, and gambling.

He said such activities, which had been associated with the Dayak community for generations, were "cheap thrills" and had no long-term benefits for them or their children.

"We should invest the money on the education of our children rather than waste it on such cheap thrills," he said.

Jabu, who is also State Minister of Rural and Land Development, made the call at Informatics Sarawak's graduation ceremony at the Crowne Plaza Riverside hotel.

Present were Informatics Malaysia's executive director Anthony Lee and Informatics Sarawak's regional manager Kok Li Choo.

A total of 166 students were present to receive their diplomas. Of these, 30 received Advanced Diploma in Computer Studies, six Diploma in Computer Technology and 130 Diploma in Computer Studies.

Jabu said the State Government had accorded priority to education over the last 20 years because it knew that only with properly trained human resources could the State develop faster.

In the case of information technology, the State Government had the foresight to establish the Sarawak IT Council and the Sarawak Information Systems (Sains) in the early 1990s to provide the necessary foundation to bring the people into the information age.

The latest initiative was the coming into operation of 1st Silicon (M) Sdn Bhd, the country's first wafer fabrication plant.

Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad declared open this RM6.46 billion hi-tech facility located at the Sama Jaya Free Industrial Zone last month.

Jabu said the various development programmes initiated by the Government had succeeded in bringing the State into the forefront of the nation's mainstream development.

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