

**UPKO Kinabatangan Wants Education District Office Set Up In Tongod**  
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SANDAKAN, July 9 (Bernama) -- United Pasokmomogun Kadazandusun Murut Organisation (UPKO) Kinabatangan division, through its education bureau, wants the government to consider setting up a district education office (PPD) in Tongod, said its divisional head Masiung Banah.

Masiung, who is also Kuamut state assemblyman, said there was a need to set up a PPB as Tongod has 22 schools, including three secondary schools.

Out of the 25 districts statewide, only Tongod has yet to have a PPD even though it was declared a full district since 15 years years ago.

"It has created much confusion to various parties concerning the administration of these schools and a PPD set up in the district will improve bureaucracy, school administrative management and national education system delivery besides raising the excellence of rural education," he said when met after chairing the UPKO Kinabatangan division executive meeting here today.

He said all these schools were placed under the administration of Tongod PPD, Telupid about 52 km from Tongod town.

Over the last few years, several schools in Tongod town showed encouraging performance, including in the Sijil Tinggi Persekolahan Malaysia (STPM) results.

For the 2013 STPM results, he said, SMK Penangah in Tonhod district achieved the best results for rural schools.

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