

Malaysians In Sabah Urged To Close Ranks, Focus On Developing State In 2015
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KOTA KINABALU, Dec 31 (Bernama) -- Sabah Chief Minister Datuk Seri Musa Aman called on all Malaysians in Sabah to close ranks and be focused on developing the state in the new year.

He hoped all quarters in Sabah would cooperate with one another and also urged the civil service to give its best in implementing plans and in ensuring the needs of all stakeholders were met.

"Do not allow parochial thinking to close our minds, as we need to work with the rest of the country in order to enjoy progress.

"For the New Year, it is my hope that Malaysians in Sabah will record achievements in your respective fields and ventures and together, we can help transform our state and nation, and put us at par with some of the best countries in the world," he said in his new year message here Wednesday.

Musa said in 2015, Sabah will continue to grow and become a state that is increasingly competitive within Malaysia and this region.

He noted initiatives such as the Economic Transformation Programme (ETP), the Sabah Development Corridor (SDC) and the continued focus on the state development agenda or Halatuju are on track to achieve the goals set.

According to him, the focus on tourism and logistics, palm oil as well as the oil and gas sectors was creating new sources of growth, in which projects generated via these initiatives were not only creating more local entrepreneurs, but were also helping in generating a pool of knowledge workers.

"By creating more quality jobs locally, we can start to retain youths from Sabah who currently seek jobs in other parts of the country.

"There are many positive spin-offs that come from a vibrant economy and one that is based on diverse sectors," he said.

Musa also said the strong relationship Sabah enjoyed with the Federal government allowed the state government to improve on public infrastructure, education needs and manpower requirements.

He said the Federal government was one that listened to the people's voices and took the necessary steps to ensure the people's needs, especially in Sabah, were met.

"I wish to urge Malaysians in Sabah to refrain from being drawn into the agendas of certain

quarters who claim that we are being mistreated by the Federal government.

"Calls for Sabah to pull out of the federation of Malaysia are irresponsible and must not be tolerated. For issues that need to be resolved, there are platforms that we can use to voice our concerns.

"Creating a tense situation and brainwashing people to go against the Federal government will only create disharmony and sidetrack us from our agenda of creating a better Sabah," he said.

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