



UMP, PAHANG SEDC FORGED TIES TO SPUR PAHANG'S WEAVING INDUSTRY

In an effort to boost Pahang's weaving industry in Malaysia, Universiti Malaysia Pahang (UMP) joined forces with Pahang State Economic Development Corporation (SEDC) by signing a memorandum of understanding (MoU) at Sultan Haji Ahmad Shah Pahang Royal Weaving Development Complex in Kampung Soi, Kuantan on May 23, 2012.

It was held in conjunction with the official opening of Tunku Azizah

Pahang Royal Weaving Excellence Centre.

UMP was represented Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Research & Innovation), Professor Dato' Dr. Rosli Mohd Yunus while Pahang SEDC by its Chief Executive Officer, Dato' Haji Lias Mohd Noor.

Also present were Pahang Menteri Besar, Dato' Sri Diraja Haji Adnan Haji Yaakob and State Tourism, Heritage, Family and Women Development Committee

Chairman, Dato' Shafik Fauzan Sharif.

In his speech, Dato' Sri Diraja Haji Adnan suggested that researches be carried out to identify methods that could ensure products produced by the industry could be marketed in a large scale, completed in a short time and sold at a lower price.

He also suggested that the products be diversified and made into things such as bags, chair pads and shoes.

He noted that product branding was equally important and hoped that products created could be patented as soon as possible to see to it the safety and security of intellectual property.

Professor Dato' Dr Rosli Mohd Yunus said the collaboration would involve the expertise of two UMP's researchers - Associate Professor Dr. Mimi Sakinah Abdul Munaim of Faculty of Chemical & Natural

Resources Engineering and Associate Professor Dr Zularisam Ab Wahid of Faculty of Civil Engineering & Natural Resources.

Dr. Mimi Sakinah would work on making permanent coloured threads by using bio-mass material such as dragon fruit while Dr. Zularisam Ab Wahid would treat the industrial waste by using membrane bio-reactor (MBR) so the discharge is safe and harmless to the environment, he added.

He also said they would engage Universiti Teknologi MARA (UiTM) Shah Alam, Perbadanan Kraftangan Malaysia dan SIRIM Berhad in the works.

Later, Dr. Mimi Sakinah received a letter of appointment as a member of the Pahang Royal Weaving Excellence Executive Council.

More than 500 people turned for the event and had the opportunity to witness the launching of Blueprint 2012-2016 and visited the complex.

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