

Students from 11 countries participate in Asian Science and Math Olympiad

NST 4.11.2018 8

By MOHD IZHAM HASHIM

KOTA KINABALU: Sabah's first Asian Science and Math Olympiad (ASMO) gathered 200 students from 11 countries at the launching yesterday for the fun-filled international challenge.

In his opening remarks, ASMO International president Allen Chan highlighted the growing importance of Science and Mathematics in driving technological advancements in the modern era, aiding transformation across various fields.

"With technology playing an increasing role in everyday life, its essential to empower young people in the Sciences and Mathematics which would help them reach full potential in their development," he said at the programme, held at the Universiti Malaysia Sabah (UMS) Recital Hall here.

The competition, participated by pupils between ages 9 to 15, also provides a conducive platform for young people from different countries to exchange views and learning experiences in Math and Science.

This year, the countries joining the ASMO Olympiad include participants from Macau, Hong Kong, Taiwan, Indonesia, Philippines, Singapore, Vietnam, Iran



Prof Dr Baba striking the gong to mark the launching of this year's Asian Science and Mathematics Olympiad International held for the first time in Sabah.

as well as hosts, Malaysia which includes observers from China.

Meanwhile, UMS Dean of Faculty of Science and Natural Resources Professor Dr Baba Musta extended his welcome to participants, some visiting Sabah for the first time.

"The knowledge of Science and Maths has been an important focal point to expand advancements in fields related to science and technology

through education and research, this is in line with the national aspiration to become a developed nation," he said.

Correspondingly, he believes such events would build a strong foundation and interest in the fields of science and mathematics, which in turn help support their future development.

Underlining the importance of early education in Science and Maths, Prof Baba noted ASMO

encourages positive exchanges and meeting of young minds from different countries, instil high-order thinking skills while improves school-based curricula towards international standards.

"Having beneficial international competitions would also help promote good relations, cultural exchanges and friendships among young participants who come from different countries," he added.