



Abdullah (ninth left) and Dr Shariff (third right) pose for a photo after the launch of UMS-KAL Bright Campus Programme 2012.

# RM28 mln to develop, upgrade UMS Labuan

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By Adrian Nandu

**LABUAN:** The federal government has allocated a total of RM28 million for the development and upgrading of facilities at Universiti Malaysia Sabah, Labuan International Campus (UMS-KAL), this year.

UMS registrar Datuk Abdullah Mohd Said on March 31 said the allocation was given through the Ministry of Higher Education.

"These projects are the construction of a lecture hall centre, costing RM25 million and be completed by February next year," he said, adding that the other projects expected to finish by this month were the covered walkways (RM0.35 million), cafeteria upgrading (RM0.34 million) and renovations on the fourth, fifth, eleventh and twelfth floors (RM0.32 million) of the main tower.

The electrical cable walkway project at the students' residence costing RM0.25 million, is also expected to be completed by the end of this month.

Another three projects to be completed at the end of May are a sports facility (RM1.1 million), institute development bank laboratory for Labuan Informatics Science School (RM1.5 million), and an elevator upgrading totaling RM0.38 million.

Abdullah announced the projects after he officiated the UMS-KAL Bright Campus Programme 2012.

In his speech, he hoped that students and campus staff would take good care of the facilities.

He also said the existence of UMS-KAL had helped improve the economy and boost the tourism industry here besides increasing the island population

with the presence of domestic and international students and lecturers.

"UMS-KAL is an inspiration to the younger generation here to further their studies to a higher level. This campus is expected to turn the island into a 'Knowledge Island' with high repute.

"The existence of this campus has provided jobs and businesses to the locals and has created better relationship between the university and society," he said.

Abdullah urged the citizens of UMS-KAL to go 'hand-in-hand' with the locals, especially among the leaders, to do some social activities to help students and the younger generation raise their standard of living both in economy and in education.

Also present at the programme was UMS-KAL director Associate Professor Dr Shariff Abdul Kadir Olang.