

# HARVARD

BUSINESS SCHOOL ALUMNI CLUB OF MALAYSIA.

### N.E.W.S.L.E.T.T.E.R

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Circulated to members only

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### THE PRESIDENT'S COLUMN



### Dato' Dr. Mohd Shahari Ahmad Jabar

In February this year the EXCO decided to organize the first National Entrepreneurial Convention in Kuala Lumpur on 5th and 6th Sept. 1995.

The Convention, to be held every other year is intended to provide a platform for the encouragement of enterprise and the development of a bona fide commercial class within the business and corporate environment of Malaysia.

The creation of the new Ministry of Entrepreneurial development after the recent National Elections has given the above event a new dimension and meaning. It is now positioned as one of the Club's major ongoing projects to compliment the Government's strategy and integrated approach of encouraging the development of a pool of entrepreneurs thereby enlarging private sector participation in the country's vision for greater continuity and enhanced economic growth.

It is hardly surprising that the Ministry has been unanimously welcomed by the business community. The Club is particularly impressed by the sustained support given by the business community to its



Patron

YAB Dato Seri Dr. Mahathir bin Mohamad Prime Minister of Malaysia

President
Dato' Dr Mohd Shahari Ahmad Jabar

Vice Presidents Wong Heng Wooi Raja Sharifuddin Abidin

Hon Secretary Mohd Ghazalie Kamal Baharein

Hon Asst Secretary G. Gnanalingam

Hon Treasurer Dato Tay Ah Lek

Director of activities Haji Othman Yusoff

Committee members
Abdullah Mat Zaid
Mrs Lillian Too
Tan Sri Dato Mohd Jalaludin bin Zainuddin
Tan Sri Datuk Zainal Abidin bin Sulong
Tan Sri Dato Alwi Jantan ( ex officio)

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HBSACM ANNIVERSARY DINNER

A BLACK TIE AFFAIR TO BE HELD AT CARCOSA ON THE 19th JULY 1995. HIGHLIGHT OF THE EVENING WILL BE CHAMBER MUSIC KERONCONG ASLI. WE HOPE AS MANY OF YOU AS POSSIBLE WILL TRY TO MAKE FOR THIS YEAR'S ANNIVERSARY DINNER.



CHARITY CONCERT

THE NEW NAMES, WORLD RENOWNED CONCERT ARTISTES FROM RUSSIA WILL BE VISITING MALAYSIA FROM SEPTEMBER 14th to 27th TO PLAY A SERIES OF CONCERTS, UNDER THE AUSPICES OF THE HBSACM. THERE WILL BE THREE PERFORMANCES IN KUALA LUMPUR, ON the 22nd and 23rd September, including a MATINEE PERFORMANCE FOR SCHOOL CHILDREN. THE GROUP WILL ALSO PERFORM IN PENANG ON the 25th September. THE ENTIRE PROCEEDS OF THE CONCERTS AFTER EXPENSES, WILL BE DONATED TO THE AMANAH IKHTIAR MALAYSIA, A CHARITY NGO ORGANISATION SET UP TO HELP THE VERY POOR.



### NETWORKING LUNCHEONS

MAY'S LUNCHEON WHICH WAS HOSTED BY THE SARAWAK SEDC WAS A HUGE SUCCESS ( See feature on the Kuching trip elswhere in this newsletter). THE LUNCHEON WHICH WAS TO BE HOSTED BY SIME DARBY IN APRIL FELL ON ELECTIONS DAY AND HAS HAD TO BE POSTPONED. PLEASE LOOK OUT FOR CIRCULAR LETTER INFORMING YOU OF THE NEW DATE. MEANWHILE THE JULY LUNCHEON WILL BE HOSTED BY FELDA. MEMBERS WILL NOTE THAT FELDA'S CHAIRMAN, TAN SRI RAJA ALIAS WAS ONE OF THE FOUNDING MEMBERS OF THE CLUB AND HAD SERVED AS CLUB PRESIDENT FOR TWO YEARS IN 1978 and 1979. AGAIN DO LOOK OUT FOR THE CIRCULARS and DO TRY TO MAKE IT. THESE MEMBERS' LUNCHEONS ARE BECOMING INCREASINGLY POPULAR, ESPECIALLY AMONGST OUR YOUNGER SMDP ASSOCIATE MEMBERS.

### CLUB FUNDS FOUR NGO OFFICIALS TO HARVARD B SCHOOL MANAGEMENT PROGRAM

Through the months of March and April 1995, the Club has organised and funded three seminars for officers and managers of NGO's and NPO's as part of its Caring and Sharing program. These seminars have spotlighted Advertising & Promotions; Finance, and Adminstration. All three seminars have been very well supported; and as a follow up to the seminars, the Club's Sub Committee on this project - which is aimed at providing management education for officers of NGO's - has selected four persons to attend a special Management Program for NGO officers at the Harvard Business School in Boston USA.

Attendance at this Program for the four selected NGO officials is being funded by the HBSACM's Education Trust Fund.

The four officials who will be proceeding to Boston are:

### Saifuddin Abdullah

### Secretary General of the Malaysian Youth Council (MYC)

formed in 1950 as a NG voluntary youth council and operates as the sole coordinating body for youth/student organisations in Malaysia. There are presently 34 National and State youth organisations affiliated to MYC with a total membership of 2.2 million. There are more than 2,500 youth clubs at grassroot levels affiliated to MYC affiliates. Abdullah hopes to pick up strategic management concepts from the Harvard program and to obtain a new perspective in youth resource development work.

### Marina Mahathir

### President, Malaysian AIDS Council (MAC)

this is an umbrella body of 22 NGO's involved in HIV/AIDS work in Malaysia. MAC was set up in 1993 to coordinate activities of its affiliates - which include organisations like the Council of Women's Organisations, which comprise 80 women's organisations, the Red Crescent and the Malaysian Medical Association. The MAC has also set up the Malaysian AIDS Foundation to raise funds for the Council affiliates. Marina hopes to professionalise the running of the MAC and enhance its credibility.

### Rex Michael

### Principal, Montfort Boys Town (MBT)

a welfare organisation catering for under-privileged youths. Run by the Gabrialite brothers of the Catholic Church, it is the only organisation of its kind in Malaysia. Fully residential, MBT takes in youths and dropouts of poor families from rural & urban areas, orphans and children of single parents. Montfort has about 200 boys who are given vocational training, and a chance in life.

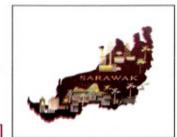
### Dato Hj Jumaat Mohd Noor

### Secretary General PEMADAM

National Organisation for the Prevention of Drug Abuse

### SARAWAK SEDC HOSTS MEMBERS' VISIT TO THIS DYNAMIC AND FAST GROWING STATE

### **KUCHING VISIT A HUGE SUCCESS**



### 11th & 12th May 1995

A full two day program, the highlight of which was a wonderfully refreshing dialogue session with the Chief Minister of Sarawak, YAB Datuk Patinggi Tan Sri Abdul Taib Mahmud, gave the 23 man HBSACM delegation a Sarawak visit to remember. Led by President Dato Dr Mohd. Shahrir Ahmad Jabar, the delegation comprised both ordinary and associate members and included past presidents Jen ( retired) Tan Sri Dato Zain Hashim, Abdullah Mat Zaid, and Lillian Too. Both the Vice Presidents, Wong Heng Wooi and Raja Sharifuddin together with present ExCo members, Ghazalie Baharein (Secretary); and Haji Othman Yusoff (Director of activities) also came along.

Snapped on arrival at Kuching airport are members of the delegation, (left to right) Lillian Too, Kamaluddin Ali, Jen Tan Sri Zain Hashim, Wong Heng Wooi, Chhoa Kwang Hua, Angie Ng, Ghazalie Baharein, Peter Lim, Pang Yok Tong, and Datuk Jaffar Indot.



On hand at the airport to greet the members on their arrival were representatives of the Sarawak SEDC. Members were transported to the offices of the SEDC for a briefing session given by the new Chairman of the SEDC, **Tuan Haji Talib Zulpilip** and senior officials of the Sarawak Ministry of Trade & Industry. Also present at the briefing was **Datuk Haji Mohd Taha Ariffin**, a HBSACM member, and also the Timbalan Setiausaha Kerajaan Sarawak - the man who made the visit not only possible but also tremendously successful and meaningful.

Dinner hosted by the Chief Minister, YAB Datuk Patinggi Tan Sri Taib Mahmud, shown here seated iin the centre. On his right is dato Dr Shahrir and on his left is YB Abang Johari Tun Abana Hj Openg, the Minister of Industrial development. The Dinner preceded an extremely refreshing and enjoyable dialogue session between visiting members of the HBSACM and the honourable Chief Minister.



Picture shows Members attending the SEDC Briefing which was followed by a video presentation and morning coffee. Members also received the SEDC Literature pack, a very comprehensive set of publications which potential investors will find extremely useful. Members wishing to receive these SEDC brochures can fax direct to Sarawak SEDC at 082 441 677



Left to right, the three gentlemen who made the HBSACM Sarawak Trip meaningful and memorable - **Tuan Haji Talib** (Pengerusi SEDC); **Dato Dr. Shahrir** (President, HBSACM) and **Datuk Haji Mohd Taha**, Timbalan Setiausaha Kerajaaan Sarawak.



## SEDC BRIEFING offers comprehensive overview of State's economic aspirations.

Sarawak's economic diversification program began in the mid Eighties when specific measures were undertaken to spur the growth of manufacturing and tourism in the state. Manufacturing has since seen very encouraging growth to the extent that the sector now contributed about 17% of GDP in 1994 compared to only 7.7% in 1980. The forecast is the figure will rise to 28% by the year 2000.

Timber based industries feature prominently in the State's efforts.

Starting out at first in the primary processing of logs, the current emphasis is on integrated timber complexes - and to ensure availability of logs, as much as 35% of all logs are set aside for domestic processing. This figure will rise to 55% in 1996. Playing an equally important role in the State's manufacturing sector plans is the Petrochemical Industires - the big players

being two LNG plants in Bintulu; an ASEAN joint venture Urea ammonia plant and a modern Distillate Synthesis plant to produce aviation fuel and paraffin. A third industry sector are the **Ceramics based industries**.

The State has a very good supply of excellent clay suitable for making all kinds of construction tiles. Silica sand of high quality is also available.

Sarawak invites investors to set up manufacturing ventures, and to this end, the State is developing another 7 new industrial estates in addition to the existing 9. Another 4 are in the planning stage- so that altogether 12,500 additional acres of land are being earmarked for industrial use. Amongst other attractive tax incentives, the State allows duty exemption on raw materials and components even if available in Malaysia as well as staggered payments for land premiums.

#### VISIT TO SARAWAK ... DINNER WITH THE CHIEF MINISTER

Dinner with the Chief Minister was held at the Riverside majestic Hotel's Chinese restaurant. Present at the dinner were senior members of Sarawak's Cabinet as well as important private sector figures.









#### VISIT TO SARAWAK ... DIALOGUE WITH THE CHIEF MINISTER

Pictures on this page highlight the warmth and candour which characterized the informal evening session. YB the Chief Minister, in offering advice to potential investors said "Come to Sarawak with an open heart ... and you will find us a warm, friendly and welcoming people ..." HBSACM members enjoyed the dialogue session and left with an enhanced understanding of the Sarawak CM's vision.







### VISIT TO SARAWAK ... SEMINAR CONDUCTED BY HBSACM MEMBERS

The Club's half day seminar on RE- ENGINEERING FOR 2020 was very well attended by middle managers from Kuching's private sector. EXCO members and past presidents Gnanalingam and Lillian Too presented seminar sessions on Marketing perspectives and Entrepreneurship respectively. The Seminar was jointly chaired by Tuan Hj Talib, Chairman of the SEDC and Dato Dr Shahrir, president of the Club. A lively Q/A session followed the presentations.



The theme was STRATEGIC POSITIONING





VISIT TO SARAWAK ... the play part of the program also in pictures ...

GOLF!! How could anything organised by the HBSACM not include a round of golf! Members took time off to visit the Kelab Golf Sarawak to play a round with their SEDC hosts ... although not every flight managed to finsih all eighteen holes. Shown in the pictures below and overleaf are (i) group shot featuring non golfing ladies Lillian Too and Angie Ng together with golfing die hards ... Dato Ishak Yusof, Dato Jeff Indot, Ghazalie Baharein, Ibrahim Keling and Yusof Talif and (ii) members enjoying the spectacular course ..





Ibrahim Keling in action! - the third flight at the first hole.













The networking benefits of the visit were supplemented with tours to some of Kuching's tourist attractions. First time visitors went to the cultural centre at the base of Mt Santubong (fantastic dancers!), visited Damai beach resort (wow!), toured the wonderful Sarawak Musuem before having tea at Kuching Hilton's waterfront Cafe'.







### NATIONAL ENTREPRENEURIAL CONVENTION

### 5th & 6th SEPTEMBER 1995

A two day Convention for entrepreneurs and budding business tycoons is being organized by your alumni club. The Convention aims to provide a meaningful platform for the encouragement and advancement of enterprise within the business and corporate environment of Malaysia, highlighting in the process some of Malaysia's major success stories and including practical workshops arranged to address the accounting, legal and financial aspects of start up situations as well as strategic expansions undertaken by young companies.

### THE PRIME MINISTER of MALAYSIA, who is also our patron

has been invited to open the Convention with a keynote address

The Convention will feature very senior Private & Public sector professionals who will be mobilized to offer advice, suggestions and viewpoints; The Convention will also include addresses from specially identified professionals who are home grown and also super successful, and whose leap to magnate status during the Eighties and Nineties have made them into dynamic corporate leaders in modern day Malaysia. They will be approached to offer personal insights into what it really takes to make that quantum leap from small time business man to big time corporate tycoon.

If successful, the EXCO plans to recommend that the Convention be organized every other year to alternate with the Club's SMDP program. The EXCO has also decided that the costs of organizing the Convention will be borne by sponsors, and that fees for participants will be kept as low as possible, since it is **not** the intention of the Club to turn a profit on this event. Members who have additional ideas and who may be keen to participate in the organization of the Convention are cordially invited to communicate with the President. We need your help and your support.

This year's Convention will be held in the Selangor Room of the Shangri La Hotel, Kuala Lumpur, on the 5th and 6th September 1995.



### HBSACM REPRESENTED AT HARVARD BUSINESS SCHOOL INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE BRAZIL - 1995

### MOHAN RAMALINGAM REPORTS ON HIS LATIN AMERICAN EXPERIENCE AT SAO PAOLO IN MARCH OF THIS YEAR

"The conference was as interesting as its title. I was informed that the use of the word "betting" may have been a Freudian slip. The recent turmoil with the Mexican peso and the so-called tequila effect highlighted the nuances of the term betting in the context of discussing the national economies of Latin America.

**Peter Grabes**, President of the HBS Club of Brazil. On his left is **Raja Kamal**, Director of International Development at Harvard University, and on his right is **Mohan Ramalingam**.



I arrived in Sao Paulo on Sunday 12th March and checked into the **Maksoud**Plaza Hotel, the venue for the conference. The hotel was excellent but the cost of the 5 star rating somewhat matches the general high inflation scenario in South America.

The conference began on Wednesday 15th March. The speakers and the organization of the conference were excellent. The theme "Betting on Latin America was well covered and the mix of politicians, academics and businessmen was a good one.

### The speakers at the Brazil Conference included:

Dr. Pedro Malan (Finance Minister of Brazil Ph.D. Berkeley USA)

Dr. Domingo Felipe Cavallo (Finance Minister of Argentina PH.D. Harvard)

Senator Dr. Sebastian Pinera (from Chile PH.D. Harvard)

Prof. Stephen Kanitz (University of Sao Paolo. MBA Harvard '73)

### BRAZIL CONFERENCE contd ....

Prof. George Lodge (Harvard Business School))
Prof Walter Salmon (Harvard Business School))
Prof Sam Hayes III (Harvard Business School)
Prof John Coatsworth (Harvard Business School)
Mark Hogan (President General Motors, Brazil)
Roberta Civita (Chairman, Abril Group, Brazil)
Pablo Escandon (President Nadro SA. Mexico)

Antonio Gutierrez ( President, Gutsa Construcciones Mexico)

The objective of the speakers were to attract direct foreign investment in, and direct trade with countries in Latin America. Professor Stephen Kanitz, an Economics guru in Latin America and author of the bestselling BRAZIL THE EMRGING ECONOMIC BOOM - 1995 to 2005 set the stage with his umpteen reasons for the emerging economic boom. The rest of the speakers set about building the case for betting on latin America. The capability of the speakers was beyond question and the presentations were of a very high standard.

Second from left is Catharine Connet, Chairperson, Global Conference Selection Committee. Hey Connie ... come on over to Malaysia and see for yourself what a great country, and nice bunch of people we are!!



The conference organisers also put on a number of programs to entertain foreign participants and spouses. Tours were arranged before and after the conference into the Amazon jungle, the Iguazu Falls, Historical cities of Minas and Salvador, and to the city of Rio De Janeiro. Luncheons and dinners were elaborate affairs including a full blown carnival show one evening and a Latin American music show the next. I met a lot of good people in the 5 days I spent at Sao Paulo. The organisers were happy that Malaysia had sent a representative,

one of only three from Asia. Many of them were aware that

our club is interested in hosting this conference in the future.

The conference is regarded as a good marketing tool for the region from the standpoint of investment and trade.

Many expressed great interest in visiting Malaysia

Note to members: Your EXCO is once again making a bid to host the next conference. Our previous bid was unsuccessful.

#### SEPTEMBER IN SINGAPORE

### 1995 REGIONAL MEETING OF HARVARD CLUBS OF ASIA

29th SEPTEMBER to 2nd OCTOBER



#### LETTER FROM OUR FRIENDS DOWN SOUTH

Dear Friends.

The Harvard Club of Singapore is delighted to invite you and your family, as well as your guests, to this year's weekend meeting in Singapore. We have planned a program for the whole family with activities which both adults and children would

The theme for this Meeting is "Asia Pacific: region of tomorrow". We have invited eminent speakers with very international outlooks to share their views on this exciting region, where many countries are now at a watershed in their social and economic developments. We are honoured to have Mr. Yeo Cheow Tong, Singapore's Minister for Trade and Industry as our keynote speaker. We will also have the privilege of hearing from Professor Tommy Koh, Singapore's

Ambassador at large and Director of the Institute of Policy Studies amongst other distinguished speakers.

We will ensure that your children are well looked after during these sessions, but the rest of our programme is designed for lots of interaction and fun with friends of all ages.

Singapore is a surprising mix of cultures in a modern setting and is renowned for its lush green parks, the Open zoo and Nigh safari. There are also several leisure parks which will keep the whole family entertained. On our itinerary are city tours, harbour cruises, visits to the Bird Park, the Clarke Quay Festival Village and to

Singapore's playground - Sentosa Island. There is also an optional day trip across the causeway to the historic town of Malacca where old forts, temples and handicrafts await you.

We know you will enjoy this weekend, especially the opportunity to spend it with friends of the Harvard alumni. We are looking forward with great anticipation to hosting you and your family. Do send in your reply soon to let us know whether you can make it to the 1995 regional Meeting,

Yours sincerely, Koh Boon Hwee, President, Harvard Club of Singapore



Members who wish to put their names down for the Singapore regional meeting kindly contact the Club secretariat. SEPTEMBER IN MALAYSIA

### CHARITY PERFORMANCE by NEW NAMES

The Club will be hosting two charity performances by the NEW NAMES in Kuala Lumpur on 22nd and 23rd September 1995.



The entire proceeds will be donated to Amanah Ikhtiar Malaysia a Foundation set up to help the poorest of the rural poor - to improve their economic livelihood and enhance their entrepreneurial skills.

#### **NEW NAMES**

is a musical group comprising young and gifted artistes from Russia and the CIS states some of whom have won prizes in international competitions. The group has performed in New York, Paris, Brussels, the Vatican, the Kennedy Centre in Washington, and the National Opera in Reykjavik. In September 1994, they performed before President Soeharto of Indonesia in Jakarta. The Club is looking forward to hosting the

NEW NAMES in Malaysia.

Members, their family and friends will
be invited to the performances.

WATCH OUT FOR THE FLYER IN AUGUST 1995



### To Christopher Shun

on the occasion of his beautiful wedding to Ms Choy Sook Leng, at the Calvary Church in Damansara Heights on 6th may 1995. A grand wedding dinner was held the next evening at the Crown Princess Hotel Ballroom. Chris is the son of Eddy Shun - well known corporate personality and CEO of Menang Corporation. Chris is also an associate member of our club, and is a graduate of our 8th SMDP held last year in Awana Hill Resort.

### WARM WELCOME

#### To AHMAD ROSDI MOHD RAZLI

who is Manager of Information Resources at Malaysian Airlines System. Rosdi has just joined the HBSACM as a life member. In 1993 he attended the Program for Management Development (PMD 65) at the Harvard Business School in Boston. Encik Rosdi is married and has three children - Nadia, Faiz and Najwa. Welcome to the club, Rosdi and we look forward to meeting you at some of our club's forthcoming events.

### CALLING ALL NEW MEMBERS

IF YOU HAVE JUST JOINED HBSACM DO MAKE IT A POINT TO ATTEND OUR GET -TOGETHERS

Do look out for circular letters & flyers WE ARE LOOKING FORWARD TO MEETING YOU



### MANAGER'S BOOKSHELF

BOOKS FOR TAKING CHARGE, FOR SHAPING STRATEGY, FOR COMPETING IN GLOBAL MARKETS, FOR MANAGING TECHNOLOGY AND MORE

#### The Articulate Executive

Orchestrating Effective Communication With a Preface by Fernando Bartolomé

Running meetings, conducting job interviews, handling the media, using the office grapevine to advantage, writing business plans, communicating electronically—here is a comprehensive framework for understanding and improving communication skills, including

what's hidden between the lines.



A Harvard Business Review Book 1993/240 pp/Order #433-2/\$29.95



### Strategy

Seeking and Securing Competitive Advantage Edited by Cynthia A. Montgomery and Michael E. Porter

The foremost strategy thinkers-Porter, Ohmae, Wheelwright, Hamel, Prahalad, among others-offer insights and practical advice on how to make the critical decisions that make for business success

A Harvard Business Review Book 1991/512 pp/Order #243-7/\$29.95

### **Becoming a Manager**

Mastery of a New Identity Linda A. Hill

"One of the best business books of the year." -Library Journal Through ongoing personal interviews with 19 first-time managers, Hill reveals the trials of learning to lead others, winning trust and respect, and motivating and delegating.

"An exceptional book . . . a significant step in the direction of an understanding of managerial role acquisition . . . a fascinating pageturner." - Larry A. Pace, Personnel Psychology

1992/352 pp/Order #302-6/\$24.95



### **Process Innovation**

Reengineering Work through Information Technology Thomas H. Davenport

Over 70,000 copies in print!

"The first step-by-step guide on reengineering." -The Chicago Tribune

This book explains how organizations can fuse information technology with new ways of managing people to improve process cost and time as well as quality, flexibility, and service.

Harvard Business School Press Bestsellers

### THE PRESIDENTS COLUMN



continued from front cover page

SMDP program. However, unlike
the SMDP - with its emphasis on academic excellence
and total reliance on HBS Faculty, the
resource persons for the Convention will be drawn
from our own home grown very top business
leaders who will speak from experience
and provide useful and practical tips on
success factors that propelled them to
make the quantum leap.

In addition, workshops on various start up issues and on what help is available and how to seek positive assistance will also be organized by our very own private and government bodies.

We are confident that the Convention will have the support of the business community and be an inspiration to our young managers, who shall be the main targets of the Convention in the same tradition as the SMDP.

For the Club, it will be more than sufficient if we are able to discharge our social responsibility in an affirmative action program hat can contribute towards the painstaking nurturing of our national unity that has kept our multi ethnic country on its upward growth course.

# PAST PRESIDENTS HARVARD BUSINESS SCHOOL ALUMNI CLUB of MALAYSIA

1977 YB DATO SULEIMAN bin ABDULLAH

1978 YM RAJA TAN SRI MUHD ALIAS bin RAJA MUHD ALI

1979 YM RAJA TAN SRI MUHD ALIAS bin RAJA MUHD ALI

1980 YB TAN SRI HASHIM bin AMAN

1981 MR NG SING HWA

1082 MRS LILLIAN TOO

1983 YB TAN SRI DATO HJ ABDUL AZIZ bin ABDUL RAHMAN

1984 YB TAN SRI DATO DR MOHD RASHDAN BABA

1985 YB DATO MUSTAFA MD ALI

1986 MR DAVID LEONG

1987 YB DATO MOHD NOOR ISMAIL

1988 YB GEN (R) TAN SRI DATO ZAIN HASHIM

1989 YB DATO ALLADIN HASHIM

1990 MR ABDULLAH MAT ZAID

1991 YB TAN SRI SAW HUAT LYE

1992 YB DATO NG CHENG KUAI

1997 MR G. GNANALINGAM

1994 YB TAN SRI DATO ALWIN JANTAN

newsletter produced by KONSEP LAGENDA SDN BHD

# SARAWAK CHIEF MINISTER HAS CANDID DIALOGUE SESSION WITH CLUB MEMBERS



Picture shows HBSACM President, Dato Shahari receiving a souvenir publication on Sarawak from YAB Datuk Patinggi Tan Sri Taib Mahmud at the dialogue session.

Sarawak's Chief Minister engaged in a lively discussion session with club members at a Dialogue meeting with HBSACM members during the latter's May visit to Kuching. During the session, the CM informed members that in trying to achieve and enjoy development and progress, Sarawak had to undergo a transitional period towards the 21st century.

He admitted this would not be easy due to the State's small and scattered population. Transportation, he said, was slow and expensive; and the constructions of roads difficult. Thus development for the rural people is not easy. There is need for a structural change. Communities have to become bigger to attain sustainable critical mass in size. The Chief Minister also spoke of problems related to land acquisition which he said "posed the greatest challenge".

"Without land acquisition there will be no construction of towns, public amenities and roads", he stressed. "We can cope with it if the politicians are brave enough to defend the policies of the Government and if the private, sector are coming in more for projects.

The Chief MInister also revealed that the construction of a good network of coastal roads will be given high priority. The coastal roads will eventually connect Semantan to Kuala Baram, making more areas acessible to development as estates.

Members were earlier treated to a sumptuous dinner prior to the dialogue session which was held at the Riverside Majestic Hotel in Kuching.