

Sabah in talks with UPM on dairy valley

KOTA KINABALU: The Sabah government will collaborate with Universiti Putra Malaysia (UPM) to study, plan and develop a dairy valley in Keningau.

In a discussion with the university on Thursday, Deputy Chief Minister Datuk Dr Jeffrey Kitingan proposed that the facility be built in Tambunan.

“Currently, Tambunan has a total of 22,500 acres (9,150ha) of grazing reserve land, not including Bingkor and Liawan within the Keningau municipality,” he said in a statement yesterday.

Jeffrey, who is also Sabah Agriculture and Food Industry minister, said the dairy valley would be supported by several satellite farms to be developed on grazing reserve land nearby.

He added that the objective of the project, one of five dairy valleys under the National Dairy Industry Development Programme, is to ensure self-sufficiency in fresh milk production by 2025.

He said UPM had the technical expertise in developing the dairy valley through its Dairy Centre of Excellence.

“The university also runs a successful dairy farm and has recently collaborated with Farm Fresh Sdn Bhd to strengthen the domestic dairy production capacity through the UPM-Farm Fresh Dairy Farming Industry Centre of Excellence,” he added. – Bernama