

# Cash aid for flood victims

Sarawak government will work with charity bodies to raise and distribute funds to rural folk affected by floods early this year. >3

## Hoping to raise RM1 from golf

Sarawak government teams up with MyKasih Foundation to assist flood victims

By SHARON LING

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**KUCHING:** The state government will work with MyKasih Foundation to raise and distribute funds to rural communities affected by floods earlier this year.

Deputy Chief Minister Datuk Douglas Uggah said the foundation, together with a group of entrepreneurs, donors and philanthropists, was organising a charity golf event here on April 13 to raise funds for the purpose.

He said the recent floods had caused disruption and inconvenience to many rural communities, affecting 112 schools with a total of 10,000 students.

"These students really suffered. I visited a number of schools in the interior and their classrooms and some of their personal belongings were affected by the floods.

"The government finds it a heavy responsibility in restoring and re-establishing the schools and communities affected. That is why we need support from Malaysians from all walks of life," he told a press conference at his office here.

Uggah said the funds raised from the charity golf event would be channeled to the affected communities through MyKasih

Foundation's smart card solution.

"They have the mechanism of reaching out to the interior which has been found to be effective.

"I hope this is not the first and last time we work with this foundation because there are a lot of areas that we wish to reach beyond the communities affected by the floods," he said.

The charity golf will be held at Samarahan Country Club, which is co-sponsoring the event.

So far it has already raised RM700,000 from various donors, exceeding the initial target of RM500,000.

"We will work hard to try to achieve RM1mil," organising chairman Datuk Richard Lee said.

Established in 2009, MyKasih Foundation aims to help poor and needy Malaysians through food aid, education and training programmes.

It uses the chip technology of the MyKad to disburse welfare aid to recipients.

To date, it has distributed RM180mil to over 230,000 underprivileged families throughout Malaysia, including RM15mil for 6,600 families in Sarawak.

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Uggah (centre) receiving a mock cheque from MyKasih Foundation chairman Tan Sri Dr Ngau Boon Keat while Lee looks on.