

Headline **Household use of Internet in Sabah still low at 5pc**  
Date **13 Nov 2009**  
MediaTitle **Daily Express**  
Section **Nation**  
Journalist **Larry Ralon**  
Frequency **Daily (EM)**  
Circ / Read **29,826 / 97,836**

Language **English**  
Page No **5**  
Article Size **152 cm<sup>2</sup>**  
Color **Black/white**  
ADValue **313**  
PRValue **940**



# Household use of Internet in Sabah still low at 5pc

**Larry Ralon**

**KOTA KINABALU:** Household use of the Internet and the broadband penetration rate in Sabah are still low at 5 per cent and 11.9 per cent respectively, according to the Resource Development and Information Technology Ministry.

Its Permanent Secretary, Matius Sator, said the household use of the Internet in the State has only improved by 0.2 per cent from 2007 while it was more than double for the broadband penetration rate, that is from 5.4 per cent in the second quarter (Q2) of last year.

"Much more needs to be done if we are to reach our national broadband implementation (NBI) target of 30 per cent for households by end of next year (2010) and ultimately developed-State status by 2015," he said at the Technology Sharing @ Sabah 2009 co-hosted by Mimos and Sabah State IT Advancement Unit held at Wisma Bandaraya here, Thursday, in conjunction with the Sabah ICT Month.

It was officiated by Science, Technology and Innovation Minister Datuk Dr Maximus Ongkili.

Matius said the State Government through the Ministry aims to drastically increase the broadband penetration rate in Sabah according to the national targeted 30 per cent by the end of next year. He said the Ministry had also set up a special steering committee to achieve the objective.

"This special committee will plan and monitor the infrastructure development in the State besides to become a platform for coordinating the implementation of the ICT infrastructure projects by all parties particularly the public sector," he said.

The State Government has also allocated RM188.14 million for the State's ICT skills human capital development, he said, adding from this RM10 million is meant for increasing the level of ICT expertise under the human resource programmes of all the ministries and government departments.

He said apart from that, RM20.84 million was allocated for developing skills at the workplace and another RM34.43 million is for supporting and implementing ICT-based human resource in line with the Government's electronic policy.

Also present were Assistant Minister to the Chief Minister's Department, Datuk Radin Malleh, and Mimos CEO, Datuk Abdul Wahab Abdullah.