



Datuk Amar Dr Wong operating the V-pile system to initiate the earth-breaking ceremony.

Wong: Swimming pool concrete way of govt's investment on human resources.



SIBU, Fri.— The building of a new swimming pool is a concrete way of the government's investment on human resources, said the Minister for Infrastructure Development, Datuk Amar Dr Wong Soon Kai when officiating the earth-breaking ceremony of the Delta Estate Swimming Pool this morning.

"To march towards Vision 2020 we need a healthy population who can achieve high productivity. In a way, promotion of swimming and other sports will go a long way in making our young generation physically healthy, mentally alert and more productive," said the minister.

"The Olympic-sized swimming pool, costing \$4.86 million, will take 15 months to build and provide an additional recreational facility for the local people. The government is trying its best to give the people a higher

By Thomas Tiang

standard of living and more comfortable life," he said.

In spite of having only one public swimming pool here, we have produced a large number of swimmers who have excelled not only in the State, but also in the national and international scene, he added.

"Many State and national swimming records are set by the swimmers from Sibu. While we are proud of the past achievement of our swimmers, we hoped that we have set the high standard for others to follow, and we should try our best to maintain this high standard and supremacy in swimming.

"We should attempt to discover swimming talents and train them," he said.

"The fact that this will be a proper and rather costly pool shows that it is

the intention of the government to encourage swimming as a major sport.

"We want to cultivate a competitive generation who are able to tackle the toughest of challenges," he added.

"Literally, we must be both physically and mentally fit," he said.

"A healthy and competitive population is what our country wants. We should be in a position to contribute more effectively towards 'Vision 2020' of our Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir, if we have the necessary manpower and more importantly, the quality manpower which is made up of all healthy and effective people," he added.

The new swimming pool again illustrated the consistent development policy of the present BN3 Government, he said.

"We endeavour to develop Sibu town into a place we all feel proud of.

SMC should be congratulated for their initiative and effort in making this project a reality," he added.

"To ensure that the various development programmes and plans can come to fruition, and to ensure that there will be continuous development in future, the people must exercise their voting rights wisely to ensure peace and stability, liberal and balanced policy and a development-oriented government. BN3 is the best choice and in Sibu, SUPP in BN3 is the best choice," he concluded.