



Delegates interacting with the students

F taking the top spot, followed by Operation Branch 'A' and Operation Branch 'G' in second and third places respectively.

In the Women's category, Team Operations Unit bagged first place, followed by the Women's Team Headquarters (HQ) in second, and the Operations Centre Team in third.

Acting Minister of Home Affairs cum guest of honour, Pehin Datu Lailaraja Major General (Rtd) Dato Paduka Seri Haji Awang Halbi bin Haji Mohd Yussof was

explore approaches and more innovative methods to generate activities aligned with the goals and objectives of the strategic plan in which to create operational excellence.

Also present to give away the prizes was Village Consultative Council member and village head of Kg Belimbing Subok, YB Hj Gapor @ Hj Mohd Daud bin Karim and Permanent Secretary at the Ministry of Home Affairs, Dato Paduka Dr Haji Affendy bin Pehin Orang Kaya Saiful Mulok Dato Seri Paduka Hj Abidin.

Brunei invited to delve into rare sugar research with Japanese team

A REVOLUTIONARY step in the production of sugar has been pegged as a step forward in the fight against a number of life-style diseases across the world and Brunei Darussalam has been invited to take part in this movement with the prospect of improving the health of its people.

It was explained yesterday during an interview with

the head of the Rare Sugar Research Centre, Professor Masaaki Tokuda of Kagawa University, that the country's Ministry of Health has been presented with the opportunity to join hands with the Japanese research team in delving further into rare sugar research, and what it hopes to materialise is a core group of people who will work together in determining the effectiveness of rare sugar in the Bruneian population.

The professor, who presented the findings yesterday at the PAPRSB Institute of Health Sciences, further shared that the research has taken 30 years to develop, which included human testing among the Japanese people, and the positive discovery that has been made thus far has resulted in much healthier individuals.

This has led researchers to believe the product can combat cases of diabetes and obesity, which is currently climbing in numbers across the globe with Brunei, in 2008, pegged as having the highest obesity rate within the whole of Asean.

Another avenue that Kagawa University would like to explore with Brunei, he added, includes the production of healthy food, which noticeably, "is not easily available in the market," and this collaboration will become one of the many means that will supplement the current work taking shape under the government's health roof that includes the promotion of exercise and awareness on the benefits of healthy living.

Rare sugar, meanwhile, is described as being, "Sugars that are rare in nature and are difficult to obtain," but Kagawa University has found a way to mass produce this sugar and its benefits include low to no calories and is ideal for patients who need to lose excess fat.



LEFT TO RIGHT: Yhuko Ogata, CEO of MITLA Co, Professor Masaaki Tokuda and Dr Kazuhiro Okuma



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