

Nation's first floating fire station ready for duty

SEMPORNA: Malaysia's first floating fire and rescue station has officially commenced operations here.

Sabah Fire and Rescue Department director Kamarulzaman Malik Abdullah said the floating fire station would speed up response time in the event of a fire and other emergencies in the district.

"In Sabah, the risk of fire at water villages is high," he told reporters here.

He said the floating fire and rescue station, which cost RM200,000, was equipped with three boats for different tasks, namely, for firefighting, search and rescue operations and Emergency Medical Rescue Service.

The fire station is headed by a chief, three supervisors and 20 volunteer firefighters, said Kamarulzaman.

He added that the volunteers at the station were local people and they had been training for five months.

"These volunteer firefighters have a vast knowledge of the surrounding area," Kamarulzaman added.

Earlier in the speech, he said the station would serve as a benchmark for other states and they plan to increase the number of such station especially in high-risk areas across the state. — Bernama