

schemes. Efforts have also been done to promote their arts through the promotion and commercialisation of artifacts which provided additional income to their artists. Today, the aborigines have members of their community working as doctors, accountants, engineers and teachers. The Malaysian government is confident that with the progress made by them so far, the aborigines as a community will be able to achieve social progress and enjoy the benefits people oriented developments programmes.

8. In the states of Sabah and Sarawak, there are over 26 indigenous groups but no single ethnic group dominates another because none makes up more than 30 per cent of the total 1.7 million people in the state. Their rights, like those of other indigenous Malaysians, are protected by the Constitution. Their participation in government means they are able to articulate their interests and concerns more effectively and ensure that their rights are protected by various state legislation and customary laws .

9. The government has concentrated development efforts by providing schools, developing air and river communications, clinics and flying doctor services to serve people in the outlying areas. Efforts are also undertaken to encourage those in the jungle to settle down at locations where they can be provided with services and engage in modern farming methods. In 1991, about 21,000 tribal children are in school and 840 of them came from the most isolated and nomadic tribe - the Penan.

10. In promoting the quality of life of the Penan, the government per capita expenditure on them in fact exceeded the average per capita expenditure on other citizens and they keep on increasing each year. Today, of 10,000 Penans only about 400 are