

Headline **Skam HIV cases climbing**
Date **04 Apr 2011**
MediaTitle **Daily Express (KK)**
Section **Nation**
Journalist **N/A**
Frequency **Daily (EM)**
Circ / Read **30,557 / 97,836**

Language **English**
Page No **2**
Article Size **65 cm²**
Color **Black/white**
ADValue **134**
PRValue **402**



S'kan HIV cases climbing

SC TAM

SANDAKAN: The district recorded the highest HIV infection rate between 2005 and 2010 with 80 cases, including 25 in Kinabatangan and 15 in Beluran.

Sandakan AIDS Support Group Association (Saga) President Dr Zaiton Yahaya said the cases were from casual sex and drug abuse, besides infection from mother to baby during pregnancy.

According to her, the Bumiputera ethnic group dominated with 55 per cent followed by Chinese and foreigners with 30 and 15 per cent, respectively.

"The HIV infection in the district is worrying since the number is increasing from year

to year. Steps must be intensified to reduce this through awareness campaigns and health talks," she said at the AIDs Awareness and Women's Health Workshop at the Saga office in Bandar Indah, Saturday.

Meanwhile, wife of Deputy Minister in the Prime Minister's Department, Datin Lindai Lee in officiating the event, said the community especially women in the district need to view the matter seriously.

She said HIV is a virus that destroys a person's immune system and eventually death.

"HIV is always spreading. In the country we are recording about 40 per cent increase in women having HIV and AIDs last year," she said.