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Treatment for HIV and AIDS given fairly — Elopura rep

SANDAKAN: The Government is committed to address the issues related to HIV and AIDS by ensuring the Most-At-Risk-Population (MARPS) would obtain proper facilities, treatment, care and support.

Elopura assemblyman, Au Kam Wah said, efforts to address HIV and AIDS will continuously be implemented especially to ensure that vertical transmission, which is infection from mother to child can be completely avoided by year 2015.

“The facilities to obtain treatment, care and support are given fairly to all besides protecting each individual’s rights,” he said when officiating

the pre-launch of the national-level World AIDS Day here yesterday.

Malaysia celebrates the World AIDS Day on Dec 1 each year and Sandakan has been chosen to host the national celebrations this year to be held on Dec 10.

The pre-launching ceremony was held with the view to strengthen the commitment to educate the public on HIV and AIDS and spearheaded by the chairperson of Sandakan AIDS Support Group Association (SAGA), Dr Zaiton Yahya and attended by teachers and students from several primary and secondary schools in the district.

According to Zaiton, SAGA was created in line with the National Strategic Plan on HIV/AIDS 2006-2010 (NSP) and is a partner organisation of the Malaysian AIDS Council which serves as an umbrella organisation to support and coordinate the efforts of organisations working on HIV/AIDS issues in Malaysia.

“SAGA plays the role of disseminating information to the public on HIV and AIDS by promoting safer sex education, healthy lifestyle and to fight against the stigma and discrimination against sufferers of HIV and AIDS,” she said.