



A souvenir for Datin Hajah Fatimah Abdullah (second left) from SFWI.

SFWI helps women progress

BY ONG WEI LING

KUCHING: Sarawak Federation of Women's Institutes (SFWI) has helped women play their role in national development, said Datin Hajah Fatimah Abdullah.

Speaking at the opening of the "Seminar Persekutuan Perkumpulan Wanita Sarawak (PPWS) 2011" at the Sarawak Foundation's Community Education Centre here yesterday, the Minister in the Chief Minister's Department said SFWI had also helped women to be independent financially by improving and upgrading their living standards.

Among the activities it conducted or organised were literacy classes for rural women, clean water supply and food intake programmes, handicraft, sewing and cooking programmes.

Fatimah pointed out that

the non-governmental organisation also mooted the setting of the Women's Bureau in the state in 1988 and the Sarawak Women Council in 1989.

The Minister stressed the importance of education for women. She said it was the key to a better future. With education, they can find better jobs, contribute to the financial support of their families and upgrade their social status. Through education, they are able to hold higher positions in organisations.

Fatimah also encouraged women to become entrepreneurs so that they could improve themselves in life and support not only themselves but others.

However, women who want to excel in business must be creative and innovative. Continuous Research and Development is vital to ensure new markets for their products.

