

Former RTM Journalist Thanks Najib For Her Appointment Suhakam Member

KOTA KINABALU, June 8 (Bernama) -- Former RTM Sabah journalist Jannie Lasimbang, who was appointed as a member of the Malaysian Human Rights Commission (Suhakam) on Monday, has expressed her gratitude to Prime Minister Datuk Seri Najib Tun Razak for the appointment.

Jannie, 47, who hails from Kampung Nampasan, Penampang, said the appointment was a recognition for women and indigenous people in the country.

"I hope all quarters including the government, private sector, NGO and the society at large would cooperate to promote and protect human rights. Human rights should be protected and this process can only happen through our close cooperation," she said here Tuesday.

Jannie was asked to comment on her appointment as a member of Suhakam.

In announcing the appointment Monday, Najib named the Executive Chairman of the Institute of Diplomacy and Foreign Relations (IDFR), Tan Sri Hasmy Agam as the new chairman of Suhakam.

Aside from Jannie, the other members of the commission are Muhammad Sha'ani Abdullah, Professor Datuk Dr Khaw Lake Tee, James Deva Nayagam, Professor Datuk Dr Mahmood Zuhdi A.Majid and Detta anak Samen.

Jannie graduated with a Bachelor of Biochemistry from University of Kent Canterbury, United Kingdom in 1984 and had worked as a reporter with RTM Sabah for a short while before joining Inland Revenue Department, here for two years.

In 1987, she helped set up Partners of Community Organisation (PACOS TRUST) and worked for this voluntary organisation until 2000.

The PACOS trust, a community-based organisation based in Sabah, among others, aimed at improving the quality of life of the indigenous communities in the region through strengthening community organisations, strengthening indigenous knowledge systems and natural resource management, and improving early childhood care and development.

Jannie had also held the post Asian Indigenous Peoples' Pact secretary general and was former chairman of the UN Voluntary Fund for Indigenous Peoples.

-- BERNAMA