

UMS committed to realising country's strategic education devt plan – VC

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KOTA KINABALU: Universiti Malaysia Sabah (UMS) is committed to realising the country's strategic education development plan mapped out by the Higher Education Ministry.

Its vice chancellor, Prof Dr Mohd Harun Abdullah said UMS was on the right track in helping to achieve Malaysia's vision to transform its education sector, having recorded numerous commendable achievements in various fields since its inception.

"UMS as an innovative university will continue to intensify efforts to achieve academic excellence in various disciplines, and we are taking one step forward at a time towards a greater recognition.

"Our achievement shows significant improvement, with various recognitions in a number of local and international innovation and research competitions," he said when speaking at the UMS postgraduate students oath taking yesterday.

Mohd Harun noted that the government had set a target of having 60,000 doctorate (PhD) students by 2023, for which MyBrain 15 programme had



UMS new postgraduate students during the oath taking ceremony yesterday.

been introduced.

Three other programmes were also developed under the Tenth Malaysia Plan to provide deserving postgraduate students, namely MyMaster, MyPhD and MyPhD Industry with financial facilities.

"I hope UMS' centre for postgraduate studies could further diversify the programmes being offered to cater for the need and demand in the country.

"In a wider context, the university is also thinking about a strategy to attract existing and new students to continue their

studies to postgraduate and not stop at the first degree level.

"For this, a benchmarking process is also required for all the programmes we have to ensure they are of a high quality and competitive enough to produce experts that are highly knowledgeable," he added.

The university received a total of 599 new postgraduate students for its new 2012/2013 session, including from Brunei, China, Indonesia, India, Iraq, New Zealand and Sudan, apart from the majority of Malaysian students.