

# Tan briefs UMS students

Jason Santos DE 18.5.2015 7

KOTA KINABALU: Deputy Chief Minister Datuk Raymond Tan took time out on Saturday to brief final year Universiti Malaysia Sabah (UMS) students of the opportunities available for them in the State's industrial sector.

Tan, who is also Industrial Development Minister, has given special emphasis to the development of local talents with the creation of new jobs brought by foreign direct investments into the sector.

He stressed the State has to be equipped with a pool of talent to cater to the industries, including the upcoming ones, while in return Sabahans could enjoy "quality job and pay."

"Over the last three years over RM10 billion worth of foreign investments have been generated. There is a massive interest from investors on Sabah.

"We should no longer settle for a RM800 or RM900 wage.

"It's hard to foot the bills and the parents may need to continue to subsidise the graduates' livelihood," he told a crowd of students during the Job and You Forum, here.

He noted that with a good source of manpower factories can run and the confidence of investors will be further reassured, but warned that graduates should not settle for raw deals from employers.

However, Tan noted that "not everything is sweet" in the job market and warned of the realities in the present volatile economy, saying companies are also scaling down.

The same in the civil service, Tan said, noting that new employments are also frozen and the government today had to foot over RM60 billion a year to maintain its 1.3 million manpower.

"For Sabah there are 30,000 staff and the government is spending RM600 million to RM700 million a year on salaries," he said.