



Tan (second left), accompanied by Dr D Kamarudin (left) and Dr Shahril (right), presenting the UMS Analysis, Instrument and Negotiation Services Catalog to a representative during its launching ceremony at the UMS Chancellery Building in Kota Kinabalu yesterday.

## UMS can help in quality product devt for SMEs — Raymond

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**KOTA KINABALU:** Universiti Malaysia Sabah (UMS) could potentially help propel businesses and industries using its technologies with the Sabah government, said Deputy Chief Minister Datuk Seri Panglima Raymond Tan Shu Kiah.

Tan, who is also Industrial Development Minister, reiterated that the federal and state government had various plans geared towards development of industries involving micro entrepreneurs and small medium enterprises (SMEs) to the state's rich commodities.

However, he said, Sabah needed technology to catapult its manufacturing sector, which currently contributed less than two per cent of the Gross Domestic Product (GDP).

"To generate this change, we require technology and I think that is why, as far as I am concerned, UMS will in some way fill that role," said Tan at the UMS Analysis, Instrument and Negotiation Services Catalog launch at the university's Chancellery Building here Thursday.

"Your job is to help analyse it so you would be able to put this product to export.

"I would like to emphasise this because it is a very important role. Right at the very bottom, you already have a role to play,

what more if we talk about SOGIP (Sipitang Oil & Gas Industrial Park) or about ammonia, urea and other derivatives from urea or ammonia," he added.

The Deputy Chief Minister said the ministry could help with the income generation whilst UMS could come up with the equation such as quality product development for micro entrepreneurs and small medium enterprises so it could be exportable.

He said UMS could also play a role in helping products reach certain standards such as ingredient and nutrition breakdown information, and even stimulate the development of other sectors such as the highly promising cosmetic industry.

"Let's work together. With your contribution, with all you have succeeded, with all the existing laboratories that you have and all the equipment and capacity to carry out all these analyses, I think you have already established yourself, being ready to go to business.

"I will even suggest that you probably even have to put some of these services that you are going to do online. We need to move forward with the government. Maybe now, you may have to even work much closer together,"

advised Tan.

According to UMS (Research & Innovation) deputy Professor Dr Shahril Yusof, UMS had the scientific equipment, and competent academic and technical workforce to do analysis, instrument and negotiation services for industries, research agencies, public sector and individuals.

"UMS had identified the services and facilities that will be offered to outsiders. For easy reference and information, it has been gathered in a catalog," said Dr Shahril.

"This catalog lists more than 35 analyses or tests, more than 100 scientific equipment for testing and rental, and more than 40 test equipment and food processing offered.

"The catalog is divided into three parts, which are analytical and negotiation services, measurement and testing instruments, and laboratory rental rates. Analytical and rational services include analytical services, biochemical analysis, geological services, physical fitness test and therapeutic exercise, haemostasis analysis, and water quality analysis," he explained.

UMS vice chancellor Prof Dr D Kamarudin D Mudin was also present at the ceremony.