



The UMS postgraduate students taking their oath yesterday.

UMS vice chancellor urges postgraduate institute to diversify programmes

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KOTA KINABALU: Universiti Malaysia Sabah (UMS) vice chancellor Brigadier General Datuk Seri Panglima Kamaruzaman Haji Ampon urges the Postgraduate Studies Institute to diversify its programmes to meet the demand and needs of the country.

He pointed out that the nation's economy was heading towards one driven by the services sector.

Kamaruzaman said the success to generate human capital who are capable and innovative are the determinant factor in the progress and prosperity of the country under the New Economic Model (NEM).

Hence, the Malaysian education sector supports life-long learning, starting

from early childhood education to tertiary and subsequently post-graduate studies.

Kamaruzaman said this during the postgraduate student oath ceremony and Vice Chancellor address here yesterday.

He added that education was critical in transforming the country from medium income to high income due to its impact on human capital productivity and development.

"For your information, the education sector contributes around RM27 billion or four percent to the Gross National Income, and RM23 billion comprises government expenditure towards the education services."

Kamaruzaman added

that the Ministry of Higher Education (MoHE) was targeting at least six universities to be classified as research universities and ranked in the list of best universities worldwide.

"To assist MoHE in achieving the target, UMS as an innovative university is always heading towards knowledge excellence in various fields, and aspires to be one of the research universities by 2015."

He said UMS had been categorized as one of the best six to seven universities in Malaysia.

A total of 712 students took their oath yesterday, including 407 Master by Research students, 178 Master by Coursework students, six Master of Philosophy students, 96

Kamaruzaman (seated, second right) witnesses the oath-taking ceremony of the postgraduate students.

Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) students and 25 Master of Psychology in Drug Abuse students.

In addition, 37 out of the 712 students were international students - 14 from Indonesia, 11 from China, three from Pakistan, two from Bangladesh, two from Iran and one each from India, Afghanistan, Columbia, Libya and

Mexico.

Also present were deputy vice chancellor (academic and international) Professor Dr Amran Ahmed, deputy vice chancellor (research and innovation) Professor Dr Mohd Harun Abdullah and deputy vice chancellor (student affairs and alumni) associate professor Dr Kassim Hj Md Mansur.