

MIC chides parents for drop in Indian Labuan UMS intake

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LABUAN: MIC Chairman Ramasamy Rengasamy regretted that the new intake of Indian students at the University Malaysia Sabah (UMS) Labuan International Campus had "shrunk" to 32 students compared to 60 last year.

Ramasamy said "the drop was partly due to the attitude of some parents who are sentimental and reluctant to part with their children. Parents feel that Labuan is far, accessible only by air and in some cases they had the misconception that Labuan was not a well developed place."

Ramasamy said that he found this old-fashioned thinking of some Indian parents when he asked them why they did not send their children here when offered a place.

He hoped these parents would shed

their sentimentality.

"They should realise that such emotion could block the career advancement of the children."

"Parents should appreciate and grab the offer of continuing their studies and should not be choosy over the place of study, MIC is here to help all students including Indians and we have helped many to settle into the local environment," added Ramasamy.

He said those offered places in Labuan should consider themselves lucky as before there were scores of others unable to get a seat. He said that UMS-Labuan International Campus was well-recognised in the region and had students from China and other countries pursuing studies at the campus.

He said over-roll there were about 2,000 students in the campus.

Ramasamy hoped that with this clarification parents would feel assured of Labuan.

Labuan International Campus offered two schools with degree courses and these included Islamic Banking and Finance, International Economics, while the other school offered Information Technology and Multi-Media. Ramasamy said both these courses were very useful for present use.

On Matriculation College here Ramasamy also regretted the only 7 Indian students were enrolled in the new intake. He said this was despite the fact that the government had assured Indian 1,500 places in the 14 matriculation colleges in the country. He said the drop be due to lack of Indians students application or many not achieving the marks in the core subjects of Five Five examination.