STUDENTS ADVISED TO TAKE UP SKILLS TRAINING

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SIBU: Students have been advised to take up skills training to fulfil the demand for skilled and semi-skilled workers in Sarawak.

Second Finance Minister Dato Sri Wong Soon Koh said this is necessary because of the state's growth in industrial development.

"The state has received various foreign investments where various industries would be set up, particularly in the area of the Sarawak Corridor Of Renewable Energy (SCORE) and in Tanjung Manis.

"All industries would need many workers including the semi-skilled workers and skilled workers," he said in a speech read by Assistant Minister of Public Health Datuk Dr Jerip Susil at the SMK Batang Igan awards ceremony on Thursday.

Wong said after completing Form 5, students could choose to further their studies at Kolej Laila Taib (KLT), Universiti Teknologi Mara (UiTM), University College of Technology Sarawak (UCTS) or Universiti Malaysia Sarawak (Unimas).

The United People's Party (UPP) president said the party launched the UPP Education Fund on Aug 22 to help outstanding students, especially those from lower income groups, to further their education to tertiary level.

"I really encourage all of you to study hard, be active in co-curricular activities," he said, adding that anyone could apply for the UPP scholarships.

Meanwhile, he said the state government has allocated RM90,000 for the upgrading of the jetty, pontoon and a hut near SMK Batang Igan.

The Matu District Office is expected to start the project in three months' time