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Tajuk : Riot: Sarawak needs capable and holistic human capital devt

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SERIAN: Sarawak needs to develop capable and holistic human capital in order for it to achieve developed and high-income state status.

Human Resources Minister Datuk Seri Richard Riot Jaem, in stating this, said there must also be a harmonious balance between intellectual, skill and spiritual development of its workforce.

"We should learn from high income developed nations like Germany and Singapore where the percentage of skilled workers are 82 per cent and 52 per cent respectively. Malaysia has only 28 per cent skilled workforce," he said at the Skills and Career 2016 programme



Riot (fourth left) with other invited guests launching the programme in Kampung Pichin yesterday.

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Riot stressed that for Malaysia to be a high income developed country by 2020, there is a need to increase the

percentage of skilled workers. He said the ministry was targeting an increase to 35 per cent by 2020, and to 50 per cent by 2030.

"The effort will be done

through the creation of 1.5 million career opportunities in the 11th Malaysia Plan, in which 60 per cent of those jobs require highly skilled workers.

"If we are not prepared to

take on the challenge, we will never be able to fulfill our aim to be a high income developed country.

"In addition, there are competitions from university graduates in today's job market. As such, those who do not do so well academically should grab this opportunity to learn skills for self-development," he said, adding that various exhibitions organised by agencies under the ministry would surely benefit students.

Also present were Kedup assemblyman Martin Ben, Bukit Semuja assemblyman John Ihus and Unimas deputy vice-chancellor Profesor Dr Wan Ibrahim Wan Hashim.