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EXPLORING OPPORTUNITIES: Khairuddin (left) at the KTS Group of Companies' booth at the Unimas Career Expo 2007.

Graduates aiming for public sector jobs not helping govt to reduce nation's poverty rate

SAMARAHAN: University graduates are not helping the government to further reduce the poverty rate in the country if they continue to aim for jobs in the public sector.

Universiti Malaysia Sarawak (Unimas) deputy vice chancellor Prof Dr Khairuddin Abdul Hamid encouraged graduates to become entrepreneurs instead. "The government has through the Entrepreneur and Cooperative Development Ministry allocated a huge sum of money as well as other incentives to help graduates start their businesses.

"In spite of this, only a few come forward and generally, graduates still have the mentality that working in the public sector is better than the private sector or in business," he said when opening the Unimas Career Expo 2007 yesterday. Khairuddin pointed out that there were some 80,000 jobless graduates in the country. The two-day expo was participated by some 40 private and public organisations. Khairuddin said Unimas held the career expo every year to provide a platform for students to meet potential employers. He hoped that companies that took part in the expo would also encourage graduates to join the private sector.