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Job Fair to fill 4,000 vacancies

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KOTA KINABALU, Sat. - The Human Resources Ministry will hold a Job Fair in Shah Alam on Tuesday to fill up almost 4,000 vacancies, mainly in the manufacturing sector.

Minister Datuk Dr Fong Chan Onn said 46 companies would participate in the fair at the PKNS Complex which will begin at 10am.

"Job-seekers and those who have been retrenched should attend the fair. Human resource managers of the companies will be present at the fair.

"Agencies and departments under the Human Resources Ministry will also set up counters to provide information on job opportunities and training skills."

He said about 15,000 workers in the electrical and electronics sector were retrenched between October last year and March this year.

"Although many have found employment, those who are still jobless should attend the fair," he said after launching the State-level Information Communication Technology Literacy Gathering.

Asked about the proposed amendment of the Sabah Labour Ordinance to bring it in line with the Employment Act 1955, Fong said discussions were ongoing.

"We have received comments from the Sabah Government and we will take them into account when amending the Labour Ordinance, as soon as possible," he said.

On whether the amendments would be tabled at the next Parliament sitting, Fong said: "Hopefully soon. There are a lot of discussions that we have to go through."

On another issue, Fong said he would meet representatives of the Malaysian Trades Union Congress on Monday to find out why it wanted to go ahead with the picket on May 12.

Expressing hope that the picket would be called off "because there is no 'picketable' issue", he said he wanted to get a clearer picture from the MTUC.

"I will also meet representatives of the Employees' Provident Fund on Monday. We will explain to them the need to hold further discussions to look for a solution."

He was asked about MTUC president Senator Zainal Rampak's statement that the picket would continue because EPF had failed to give a satisfactory response on whether its demands would be met.

MTUC had demanded, among other demands, that workers' 11 per cent contribution to the EPF be maintained instead of being lowered to nine per cent as announced by Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad recently in a move to stimulate consumption to jump-start the economy.

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