

# Life-long learning will see better workers

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**PETALING JAYA:** Life-long learning programmes will be the way to produce a qualified workforce.

Efforts were being made to expand such programmes to provide opportunities for individuals to improve themselves through continuous acquisition of knowledge and skills, said Deputy Prime Minister Datuk Seri Najib Razak.

He said the establishment of the National Advisory Council on Education and Training would guide

policies and strategies related to education and industrial training.

"This will improve the employability of our graduates in the near future."

Najib said there should be greater collaboration between industry and institutions of higher learning.

"This can be done by giving research grants to the universities in the hope of improving the quality of industrial products, as is being done in many developed coun-

tries."

Najib was addressing some 500 people at the launch of Taylor's College's Lakeside Campus near here yesterday.

He said the government was providing opportunities for students to gain early exposure to the workplace environment through a four-month internship or via structured attachment programmes.

He said it would be "our grandchildren and great grandchildren

who would be taking Malaysia into the next century".

"No one knows what the future will bring. We have to equip our young with the right skills, knowledge and wisdom."

Also present at the launch of the RM450 million campus was Selangor Menteri Besar Datuk Seri Dr Mohd Khir Toyo.

The campus, expected to be completed by 2009 and which can accommodate 4,000 students, is located on a 10.8ha site.