

'DISAPPOINTED'

PM: Salaries offered not good enough

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P RIME Minister Datuk Seri Ismail Sabri Yaakob has expressed his disappointment about the lack of effort by employers to offer Malaysians salaries that commensurate with their qualifications.

He said that based on statistical findings on MYFutureJobs, the average wage for most job openings was between RM1,200 and RM2,000 a month.

"The government is trying to develop a talent pool that is skilled and productive.

"However, I am disappointed that the salaries offered by employers are not enough and do not match the qualifications and work done by people.

"So I am asking employers to

take this matter seriously. Employees are the backbone of organisations and can make or break a business."

He was speaking at the launch of the Jamin Kerja Keluarga Malaysia Career Expo at the World Trade Centre KL here yesterday.

Present were Human Resources Minister Datuk Seri M. Saravanan and Higher Education Minister Datuk Seri Dr Noraini Ahmad.

Ismail Sabri reminded employers that from May 1, the minimum wage had been set at RM1,500.

He said to address the income disparity, the Human Resources Ministry was asked to hold a discussion with employers and employee representatives to identify the shortfalls and best solution.

"The National Labour Advisory Council can be used to facilitate



Prime Minister Datuk Seri Ismail Sabri Yaakob launching the Jamin Kerja Keluarga Malaysia Career Expo in Kuala Lumpur yesterday. With him is Human Resources Minister Datuk Seri M. Saravanan (third from left).

PIC BY ASYRAF HAMZAH

the three-way consultation to reach a consensus for the benefit of the people."

He added that to reduce the supply and demand gap between employers and employees, a national profiling system had to be established by boosting outreach programmes to profile workers.

"I am urging Keluarga Malaysia to seize initiatives and incentives, not just to improve their lives but also to share the load and strengthen the economy."

On the Jamin Kerja-Insentif Penggajian (JKIP) initiative, he

said the government would spearhead job creation and hiring for this year.

He said up to July 18, JKIP and MYFutureJobs had helped create jobs for 113,672 people.

"However, due to the global economic uncertainty, the government has extended the duration of JKIP, which was to end on June 30, to Dec 31.

"The extension will focus on hiring workers in vulnerable categories, such as the disabled, women, those who lost their jobs, those in the tourism sector, as well as former prison inmates."

He said that apart from youth, the government was also concerned about disabled people.

He said the OKU 2016-2022 Action Plan stressed creating better jobs for them.

"A total of 36,281 disabled people have gained job placements through programmes and initiatives undertaken by the Social Security Organisation.

"I hope that the economic empowerment programme, meant to get more disabled people into business, will be improved in line with the aspirations of Keluarga Malaysia."