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HARNESSING LOCAL TALENT

TVET CRUCIAL TO FUTURE

It is the answer to labour shortage and skills mismatch among fresh graduates, say employer groups.

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THERE is an increasing need to improve the relevance of skills development and further promote Technical and Vocational Education Training (TVET) among school leavers, said employer groups.

This, they added, would help address the shortage of local talent and workforce, thus reducing the reliance on foreign workers.

Malaysian Employers Federation (MEF) president Datuk Dr Syed Hussain Syed Husman said skills mismatch remained a problem in Malaysia, where the skills of fresh graduates did not meet industry standards.

“There is a shortage of local talents with digital and innovation skills.

“The next government needs to focus and improve on the relevance of skills development and TVET systems through industry-led



EMBRACE THE ‘NEW NORMAL’

At the same time, he said, MSMEs must move away from labour-intensive industries and adapt to the “new normal”.

The new administration, he added, should also ensure a more efficient and transparent application process for foreign workers.

Syed Hussain described the shortage of foreign workers as a major

Malaysia under the zero-fee recruitment policy.

“The government should move to a G-to-G (government-to-government) mechanism to avoid issues of forced labour.”

He also urged the government to allow foreign workers to be employed for a longer period to retain skilled foreign workers.

“Currently, foreign workers are employed for a short duration and Malaysia has become a train-