

# Need for industries to work with institutes

**KUALA LUMPUR:** Industry players must not place the burden of producing skilled graduates solely on institutes of higher learning, but work in tandem with them to ensure a skilled workforce.

Delivering a presentation on Quality Assurance Mechanisms in Technical and Vocational Education Training (TVET), Professor Dr Wahid Razzaly of Universiti Tun Hussein Onn Malaysia said it was common for companies to point their fingers at learning institutes when they found themselves short of skilled people to hire.

"Industries must work together with TVET institutes to produce the graduates they want.



**Professor Dr Wahid Razzaly**

"At times, institutes and graduates are unaware of the quality of skills needed in the industry. This is why the involvement of the industry is crucial."

Wahid, who has over 30 years experience in TVET-related projects, also elaborated on how three components of the country must see eye to eye to ensure economic and industrial demands were met in future.

"In Malaysia, the government is the regulator, TVET institutes are the manpower producers and the industry is the job provider.

"I find that a 'glass wall' exists among these three components," Wahid said, adding that the country must aim to "break the glass".

"Fundamentally, all three parties play different roles, but they must move together and reach a meeting point.

"Only then will we see our industries achieve the success of international companies, like Bosch for example, which work closely with the government and TVET institutes to produce their desired employees."

Bosch Malaysia managing director Simon Song, who delivered a presentation on skills development, said TVET was able to bridge the differences between industrial demands and institute production.

"TVET is the solution for the mismatch between the workforce and the academic system," he said.