OTHER THOTS: PAKATAN TAKING BABY STEPS

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Datuk Zukri Samat
Managing Director
BANK ISLAM MALAYSIA BHD

TURNING AROUND
BANK ISLAM
the private and public universities as well,'
says Vikneswaran.

Starting in 2007, the college has an
enrolment of 60 students, where 70% of
them are international students from Iraq,
China, Bangladesh and Pakistan.

The modular structure of this programme
allows students to sit for examinations upon
completion of each module, which takes
about two to three weeks to complete.

Vikneswaran or Vic Nair, as he is better
known, is also the secretary of the Tourism
Educators Association of Malaysia (Team)
and president of the Asia Pacific Council for
Hotel, Restaurant and Institutional
Education.

He laments that there are not enough
good tourism educators in the country. In
this respect, he says Team has decided to
set up quality control to maintain the
standards of tourism educators.

There is definitely a need for a structured
mechanism to be put into place to support
the linkages between universities and the
industries in Malaysia if we are looking for
a win-win solution for both parties. This can
only begin to come about when the
academicians and universities are more
aware of the needs of the industries.

Some universities are viewing
Limkokwing's arrival as an
opportunity for them to get a share of
the action. Both Anglia Ruskin
University and the University of
Bedfordshire have gone or are going
into partnership with Limkokwing.
The result is that students will end up
with two degrees – an Asian degree
from Limkokwing and a British degree
from one of the two UK universities.

Currently, hundreds of Malaysian
and other students are at any one time
studying courses in design, business,
IT, multimedia, and communications,
media and broadcasting at the
Limkokwing.

Dr Vikneswaran
Nair: There are not
eight good tourism
educators in the country

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Khaled to stress implementation of strategic plans

Newly-appointed Higher Education
Minister Datuk Seri Mohamed Khaled
Nordin recently said the policies and
plans formulated for the ministry by its
previous minister are sound and only
need efficient implementation to succeed.

As such, he did not propose to change
any policies, especially those relating to
the National Higher Education Strategic
Plan to produce quality human resources.

At the handing over of duties ceremony,
he paid tribute to his predecessor Datuk
Mustapa Mohamed for laying a solid
foundation in the two years he headed the
ministry.

"My main focus now will be translating
and implementing," Khaled said, noting
he would also look into the
implementation of the strategic plan
among private institutions of higher
learning.

This was in line with the ministry's aim
to consolidate the higher education sector
as one industry.