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## Lack of self-initiative, soft skills leave fresh graduates jobless

KUALA LUMPUR: Lack of self-initiative and soft skills are among the main factors leading to unemployment among fresh graduates in the country.

TalentCorp Malaysia chief executive officer Johan Mahmood Merican said some of the fresh graduates tended to take the job application process lightly, without taking the initiative to

market themselves to the future employer.

"Rather than just dropping off the curriculum vitae (CV), they need to enhance their soft skills and stand out from among other competitors for recognition.

"Besides, average recruiters only spend six seconds on a CV and mostly will find reasons to reject it. Thus, students and fresh graduates

must learn not to take matters like this (CV) lightly," he told reporters after launching the Sector Focused Career Fair (SFCF) Big Bang 2016 here yesterday.

"More than 50 top companies from various sectors, including financial services, are joining the fair. It is the best platform for them to apply for jobs, attend interviews and engage with employers to gain a better un-

derstanding of the type of jobs they are seeking," said Johan Mahmood.

He said despite moderate economic growth, job demand in Malaysia is still strong, especially among electrical, and information and communication technology companies, which recruit a lot of manpower.

"TalentCorp and the education ministry are currently trying

to achieve better matching [in jobs] to link graduates to the employers and vice-versa," he added.

Johan Mahmood said this year, there are four upcoming SFCFs in universities, namely Universiti Tenaga Nasional (Pahang), Universiti Pendidikan Sultan Idris (Perak), Universiti Malaysia Sarawak and Universiti Malaysia Perlis. — *Bernama*