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UPM-history

UPM FIRST ESTABLISHED BY ENGLISH ADMINISTRATOR

KUALA LUMPUR, April 3 (Bernama) -- Universiti Pertanian Malaysia, renamed Universiti Putra Malaysia (UPM) today, was first established as an Agriculture School by an English administrator on May 21, 1931.

Located on a 0.8-hectare site at Serdang, near here, it was set up by the then Straits Settlement Government Administrator John Scott.

The courses offered then were a three-year diploma course and a two-year certificate course.

The school was later renamed Agriculture College on June 23, 1942 and a plan to upgrade the college to a university in 1948 had to be postponed following the declaration of Emergency Rule in middle of that year.

On Oct 4, 1971, Universiti Pertanian Malaysia was established following an incorporation order for the twinning of the "Agriculture College" and the Agriculture Faculty of Universiti Malaya.

Dr Mohd Rashdan Baba (now Tan Sri) was appointed the university's first Vice Chancellor.

Universiti Pertanian Malaysia started its academic programme in July 1973 with three basic faculties -- Agriculture, Forestry, and Veterinary and Breeding Science, and a Basic Science unit.

The university comprised three campuses, with the main campus in Serdang and the other two in Kuala Terengganu and Bintulu, Sarawak.

Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad who announced the new name today said that it was chosen because of UPM's location next to Putrajaya, the new administrative capital within the Multimedia Super Corridor (MSC).

"Putra also relates to the country's youthful population," he said. --
BERNAMA

RAZ RN