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UPM venue for MBA programme

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THE Malaysian Graduate School of Management will build a RM25 million building in the Universiti Putra Malaysia campus for the Master of Business Administration technology management programmes for senior executives of corporations in Asia.

The building, which will be equipped with the most advanced Information Technology facilities, is expected to be ready by March next year.

The programmes will be collaborated by the Massachusetts Institute of Technology in the United States. The degree offered by MGSOM will be one of the most prestigious in Asia.

The degree, which will be known as "Joint MIT-MGSOM Pan-Asian Technology Management Program" is a 15-month full-time course.

Programme chairman Prof Dr George Chacko said at a recent UPM MBA dinner at the Bukit Jalil Golf and Country Club that the idea of the institution was mooted by MAS chairman Tan Sri Tajuddin Ramli.

He said MGSOM is a non-profit organisation chaired by Education Minister Datuk Seri Najib Tun Abdul Razak.

Chacko said MGSOM will pay RM10 million to MIT for the collaboration programmes for a period of five years.

During this period, MIT will also help MGSOM to establish the technology programme to make it the most prestigious technology management programme in Asia.

Tajuddin had signed a Memorandum of Understanding with MIT last April in UPM witnessed by Prime Minister Datuk Sri Dr Mahathir Mohamad.

Chacko said the programme was expected to begin next July, with the first intake of 40 students from Malaysia and another 40 from other Asian countries.

He said candidates for the programme must be experienced senior executives in technology management and sponsored by their company.

Tuition fees for the tri-semester course will be in the region of RM80,000.

"The degree will be equivalent to the MBA offered by MIT but with the added advantage of its Asian experience.

"This will help students to solve problems arising from the Asian economy and social environment.

"I will tour Asian countries to explain the programmes to corporate figures," Chacko added.

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