

14/04/1999

Abdullah opens Kolej Ikram on behalf of Prime Minister

Tina Melan

KOLEJ Ikram, located within the Multimedia Super Corridor - 26 kilometres south of Kuala Lumpur, was officially launched recently by Deputy Prime Minister Datuk Seri Abdullah Ahmad Badawi.

Abdullah represented Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad.

The Prime Minister, in his speech read out by his deputy, commended Kolej Ikram for its developmental efforts since it was privatised from the Public Works Department.

Ikram was originally PWD's training and research organisation, and was privatised to Kumpulan Ikram on Jan 1, 1997.

The college was set up a year later and has inherited the legacy of its predecessor including extensive research facilities for Engineering studies.

Kumpulan Ikram chairman Datuk Mohd Haris Abas said Kumpulan Ikram will spend RM500 million on Kolej Ikram to expand the campus.

He said Ikram had submitted a masterplan for the development of its campus last October.

He said upon approval, development work on the campus will be carried out in several stages, in line with the increase in the intake of students.

Also present at the ceremony were Works Minister Datuk Seri S. Samy Vellu, Education Minister Datuk Seri Najib Tun Razak and Deputy Minister of Science, Technology and Environment Datuk Abu Bakar Daud.

He said since Ikram was privatised two years ago, special focus was given to developing facilities for information technology at the Ikram campus.

"Some RM5 million is being spent to provide sophisticated IT and multimedia facilities and for installing an intranet and Internet network for the whole campus."

Kolej Ikram has 151 students studying in various disciplines.

The college offers a variety of technical and business courses at the certificate, diploma, and degree levels and even up to the masters and Ph.D level in disciplines such as civil, electrical, electronic and automotive engineering, and information technology.

Those who obtained a grade three in their Sijil Pelajaran Malaysia or equivalent with a minimum five passes may start at the certificate level.

Those with better SPM grades may start at diploma level while those with excellent results may proceed to the pre-university or foundation.

Sijil Tinggi Persekolahan Malaysia holders may enrol direct in the degree courses.

Those who failed the SPM may enrol in the college's eight-month skills/vocational programmes.

At every level of graduation, students may exit and get working experience before continuing their studies at a higher level. If they wish to further their studies, they may come back within five years.

The college conducts programmes in collaboration with renowned local and foreign universities - Universiti Putra Malaysia, Universiti Utara Malaysia, University of Strathclyde, University of Birmingham and University of Surrey (United Kingdom), and University of Canberra, University of Newcastle and University of Technology (Australia).

Situated within a lush green 40-hectare campus, the college offers students a conducive study environment.