

05 APR 1999

Ikram-Campus

IKRAM SPENDS RM500 MILLION FOR CAMPUS DEVELOPMENT

KAJANG, April 4 (Bernama) -- Kumpulan Ikram Sdn Bhd will spend RM500 million to build the campus for Kolej Ikram, said its chairman Dauk Mohd Haris Abas.

He said for this purpose, Ikram (Public Works Institute, Malaysia) had submitted a master plan for the development of its campus for approval by the authorities in October last year.

"Upon approval, development work on the campus will be carried out in several stages, in line with the increase in the intake of students at Kolej Ikram," he said at the launching of the college, here today.

The ceremony was officiated by Deputy Prime Minister Datuk Seri Abdullah Ahmad Badawi representing Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad.

Mohd Haris said the college would strive to enhance its expertise through the development of efficient human resources and providing modern infrastructural facilities.

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

"Some RM5 million are being spent to provide sophisticated IT and multimedia facilities and installing intranet and internet network for the whole campus," he said.

He said Ikram also planned to respond to the government's call for more activities on research and development (R&D) and so far several new products in construction works and road maintenance had been produced.

"In geotechnical and geo-environmental fields, a prototype GIS application had been developed. When the system is fully completed, it will be equipped with data which will make it possible for information on the soil characteristics in a particular area to be easily obtained through the internet.

"This is most useful to those involved in the planning and designing of building or infrastructural projects," he said.

Kolej Ikram currently offers training at the certificate, diploma, and degree level and even up to the masters and PhD level in disciplines such as civil, electrical, electronic and automotive engineering, and information technology among others, but for the time being, all courses at the diploma and degree level are being carried out through twinning programmes with local and foreign universities.

Kolej Ikram has 151 students currently studying in various disciplines.

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.

-- BERNAMA

APG AHH AO