

08 JUL 2001  
UUM-Satellite  
UUM TO BE FIRST VARSITY TO USE SATELLITE-BASED ICT

ALOR SETAR, July 8 (Bernama) -- The Universiti Utara Malaysia (UUM) in Sintok near here will be the first local university to use satellite technology for Internet and Intranet facilities when the system becomes operational this August.

Its Vice-Chancellor Datuk Dr Ahmad Fawzi Basri said today that with the implementation of the satellite-based facilities, UUM would become a fully wireless outfit in the operations of Information and Communications Technology (ICT).

"UUM is moving towards ICT adoption based on the borderless open sky concept in disseminating and acquiring knowledge from all information centres throughout the world," he said at the handing over of computers to educational institutions and non-governmental organisations here.

However, he could not provide details on the system and the cost involved.

Dr Ahmad Fawzi said UUM would be transformed from a wired university to an intelligent university when all its residential colleges and buildings were linked up with a communications network using satellite technology.

UUM is now close to achieving its ambition of becoming an e-university with the implementation of an electronic administration.

He also said UUM would set up three centres for assembling the "SerindIT" computers under a vendor programme to be managed by its subsidiary, Uniutama Management Sdn Bhd.

The centres identified are the Keda Small and Medium Industry Centre in Napoh, Kubang Pasu Parliamentary Constituency Community Education Centre in Jitra and Kampung Kok Klang Rural Information Centre in Perlis.

Apart from providing training opportunities to youths, these centres will also create jobs in the computer industry.

The UUM-assembled "SerindIT" computers were launched by Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad in April last year.

-- BERNAMA  
MNH YBY