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Musa-Studies

1.05 MILLION PLACES FOR HIGHER STUDIES BY 2005

ALOR GAJAH, Jan 25 (Bernama) -- The government needs to provide 1.05 million places for higher studies by 2005 to increase opportunities for students from all streams, says Education Minister Tan Sri Musa Mohamad.

The ministry would be responsible for providing these opportunities for secondary school leavers from all streams especially with 60 per cent of them coming from science and technology streams by the year 2005, he said in his speech at the ground-breaking ceremony for the Kolej Universiti Teknikal Kebangsaan Malaysia (KUTKM) campus in Durian Daun today. The event was officiated by Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad.

Musa said by 2010 the demand for places for higher studies would reach 1.6 million.

The minister said KUTKM was set up in line with meeting the needs of the industry for technical professionals equipped with both academic knowledge and technical skills.

Musa said KUTKM was the only institution of its kind to offer "hands-on" technical studies at degree-level with priority given to students from the technical stream.

The KUTKM campus stands on a 290 hectare site and will be built in two phases. The first phase is expected to be completed in 2005 and the second in 2010. The total cost of the complex is RM950 million.

By 2010 the campus would have 10 faculties offering 30 courses a 12,000 student population.

KUTKM is currently operating at a temporary campus in Taman Tasik Utama in Air Keroh. Its first student intake was in June last year with five faculties offering mainly engineering courses.

Also present at the event were the Prime Minister's wife Datin Seri Dr Siti Hasmah Mohd Ali, Melaka Chief Minister Datuk Seri Mohd Ali Rustam and KUTKM Chairman Tan Sri Mohd Salleh Sulong.

--BERNAMA

APG SBS ANA