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Mara-Institute

MARA'S "MALAYSIAN INSTITUTE OF AVIATION TECHNOLOGY" READY

DENGKIL, Selangor, March 14 (Bernama) -- The new campus of the Malaysian Institute of Aviation Technology, another Mara-sponsored institution of higher learning, has been completed here on schedule.

Mara Director-General Datuk Mohd Mydin Mohd Sheriff said the project mooted by Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad to develop the aviation field in the country would accept students from July this year.

The new campus would house the 200 students now at temporary campuses in Jasin and Bangi as well as the new batch of 200 students for the academic session beginning in July, he said.

"Costing RM143.7 million, the campus covering 20 hectares can accommodate some 1,000 students at any one time," he told reporters after accepting the building on behalf of Mara from the Public Works Department (JKR) at Kampung Jenderam Hulu near here.

Mohd Mydin said the Malaysian Institute of Aviation Technology would be run in collaboration with Northrop Rice Institute of the United States and this was initiated by Dr Mahathir during the Langkawi International Maritime and Aerospace (LIMA) Show in 1997.

He said for the present the institute would offer courses at certificate and diploma level in aircraft repairs, avionics, composite and parts manufacture.

It would offer degree level courses in two years from now, he said.

Mohd Mydin signed the handing over papers together with JKR Director-General Datuk Zaini Omar and Director of Techart Sdn Bhd Datuk Onn Hamzah. Techart is the main contractor of the project.

He said all the courses offered at the institute were recognised by the Department of Civil Aviation (DCA).

Mohd Mydin said efforts were underway to get recognition from the United States Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) and several air authorities in European nations.

He said three other Mara institutions of higher learning, the Malaysian Institute of Chemical Engineering was in the final stages of construction while work on the Malaysian Institute of Marine Engineering Technology would begin in June and the Malaysian-Spanish Institute was scheduled for completion in August.

Three more Mara institutions, the Malaysian-German Institute, Malaysia-France Institute and the British Malaysian Institute were already operating.

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