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Mahathir-University

NO PLANS FOR UNIVERSITI PUTRA MALAYSIA TO REVERT TO OLD NAME

SERDANG, Jan 16 (Bernama) -- The Prime Minister today confirmed that Universiti Putra Malaysia's (UPM) name will not be changed back to Universiti Pertanian Malaysia.

"I hereby confirm that there are no plans to revert to the old name of Universiti Pertanian," Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad said in a speech at a gathering of UPM students and staff at its campus here.

Dr Mahathir was responding to the call by UPM vice-chancellor Prof Datuk Dr Mohd Zohadie Bardaie in his speech earlier for the Prime Minister to put to rest speculations that UPM's name would be changed back to Universiti Pertanian.

"We the citizens of UPM are very proud and comfortable with the name Universiti Putra. This is an appropriate name and reflects the various fields and disciplines offered by UPM at present," Zohadie said.

Universiti Pertanian was renamed Universiti Putra by Dr Mahathir when he visited the campus in 1997.

The university started as an agriculture school in 1931. It has since grown rapidly and now has 13 faculties and three research institutes in various fields.

Zohadie said UPM's 10-year strategy (2001-2010) was for the university to emerge as among the top 20 in Asia.

More than 5,000 students and staff attended the gathering.

-- BERNAMA

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