

ASM To Announce Mahathir Science Award Winner 2011
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KUALA LUMPUR, Sept 19 (Bernama) -- Two scientists have been shortlisted for the Mahathir Science Award 2011 and the winner will be announced next Tuesday.

Academy of Sciences Malaysia (ASM) secretary-general Datuk Dr Samsudin Tugiman in a statement said the duo were among 19 nominations (scientists and institutions) received from around the world.

"The winner will be chosen by the votes of about 200 ASM fellows based on evaluations made by expert panel members, who included Nobel Prize winners," he said.

Launched in 2004, the award, which was previously known as the ASM Scientific Achievement Award, carries a cash prize of RM100,000, a gold medal and a certificate.

The award is Malaysia's most prestigious science award for tropical research launched in honour of former prime minister Tun Dr Mahathir Mohamad who promoted and pursued with determination his convictions in science and scientific research in advancing the progress of mankind and nations.

Samsudin said every year world's leading scientists and institutions, who were nominated for the award would be shortlisted by a selection committee and their contributions would be evaluated by experts from abroad.

The award will be given to researchers who have made internationally recognised breakthroughs in pioneering tropical research in the fields of tropical medicine, tropical agriculture, tropical architecture and engineering, and tropical natural resources.

Forest Research Institute Malaysia won the award in 2009 for its research on the production of rubber wood furniture.

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