

Muhyiddin Confident IIUM Will Attain Research University Status By Next Year.
Bernama
17 Sept, 2013

KUALA LUMPUR, Sept 17 (Bernama) -- Deputy Prime Minister Tan Sri Muhyiddin Yassin on Tuesday expressed his confidence that the International Islamic University (IIUM) will attain research university status by next year.

Muhyiddin, who is also the Education Minister, said that to be a research university, the IIUM must fulfil two important criteria such as do more on research and try to raise funds for its research programme.

"The IIUM has submitted its application for the fourth time, and I am glad to say that IIUM actually is near to fulfilling the criteria needed," he said when speaking at the dialogue session with IIUM students, at Gombak campus near here, today.

Also present were IIUM president Tan Sri Dr Rais Yatim and IIUM Rector Prof Datuk Seri Dr Zaleha Kamaruddin.

Muhyiddin said the IIUM needed to work on how to raise funds to do their research before getting a RM100 million fund from the government for three years once its obtained the research university status.

To be a research university, the applicant must fulfil other criteria such as infrastructure, critical mass of researchers, environment and finance.

So far, University Putra Malaysia (UPM), Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia (UKM), University Malaya (UM), University Teknologi Malaysia (UTM) and University Sains Malaysia (USM) have been awarded research university status.

At the function, Muhyiddin also launched a high-speed wifi project for the convenience of students and provided by Aruba Networks.

The launch of the project, which made UIAM as the pioneer in the use of the wireless technology system among public universities, enabled the univeristy's students at its campuses in Kuantan, Jalan Duta and Petaling Jaya to enjoy the benefits.

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Source: <http://www.bernama.com/bernama/v7/newsindex.php?id=978341>