

Malaysia Ranks 44th In Higher Education Sector

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IPOH, Aug 3 (Bernama) -- The Malaysian higher education system has attained 44th position in the Universitas 21 (U21) ranking among 50 countries evaluated last year in terms of output, said Deputy Higher Education Minister Datuk Mary Yap Kain Ching.

She said reports from employers on Malaysian graduates revealed that apart from their weak command of the English language, the graduates were found to be lacking in critical thinking and did not effectively communicate.

"U21 ranked the Malaysia's higher education sector 28th ranking out of 50 countries.

"Although, Malaysia ranked 12th in terms of resources, which includes spending, investment and research and development (R&D) yet Malaysia was ranked 44th in terms of the graduates output, which is indicated by, among others, graduates' marketability," she said.

Mary Yap said this when officiating the 44th convocation of the Ungku Omar Polytechnic (PUO) here Monday.

Present were Polytechnic Education Department Deputy Director-General (Strategic) Shabudin Man and PUO director Major (H) Datuk Md Nor Yusof.

Led by the University of Melbourne, Australia, she said U21 is a network of 25 primary research universities that ranked countries based on the overall performance of the higher education sector and not only focus on universities' achievement separately.

"It is not just focused on the research universities, but also to the economic social and culture development of a country, it differs from the QS World University Rankings, Times Higher Education World University Rankings and the Shanghai Academic Rankings of World Universities that compare higher education institutions," she said.

A total of 2,399 graduands will receive their diplomas and certificates during the three-day ceremony beginning today.

Meanwhile, Siti Mutiaah Ali, 23, who graduated with a certificate in Civil Construction Skill received the special skills excellence award for her academic excellence, with a cumulative grade point average (CGPA) score of 3.92.

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