

# RM5m boost for UMS Smart ICT project

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KOTA KINABALU: The Communications and Multimedia Ministry (KKMM) will be allocating RM5 million to assist Universiti Malaysia Sabah (UMS) implement its Information and Communication Technology Smart Infrastructure project.

Its Minister Datuk Seri Dr Salleh Said Keruak said the funds would be channelled through the Malaysian Communications and Multimedia Commission (MCMC)

He said the project involved improvement of ICT infrastructure for UMS such as the installation of fibre optic networks connecting buildings and premises as well as installation of closed circuit television (CCTV) at strategic locations in the campus.

"The fibre network and security components to be developed by UMS would enable the university to implement the Smart Eco UMS 4.0 in ensuring a secure environment for its population and serve as a platform in processing and analysing in-

cident data.

"This endeavour by UMS would make the university a model and reference in the development of digital technology, enhance its information delivery effectiveness and promote it as a higher education preference in the country," he said when launching the project, here.

Salleh said the project was in line with the National Transformation 2050 (TN50) aspired by the Government.

Meanwhile, he hoped the university and its students would constantly update and enhance their knowledge in current developments, particularly in relation to the Fourth Industrial Revolution (IR 4.0), for their future advancement.

"Malaysia cannot ignore the momentum of ICT for us to compete with other developed countries. If we don't keep up, we won't be capable of passing the knowledge to our children and contribute anything to the present and future of the country," he said.

Salleh said the UMS initiative also

showed the university's continuous support for the Government in meeting the needs of learning and research sustainability at public higher education institutes (IPTAs).

Also present at the launching were MCMC Chief Operating Officer Datuk Dr Mazlan Ismail and UMS Vice Chancellor Professor Datuk Dr D Kamarudin D Mudin.

Earlier in his speech, Kamarudin said the ICT Smart Infrastructure project would be able to link any digital spaces among UMS students and equip and prepare them to be capable in the digital era.

"It is in line with the 2016-2035 Sabah Long Term Strategic Plan, dubbed Sabah Leap, where the ICT and education developments are enshrined in Sabah's social development policy.

"UMS, as the pioneer of education excellence and socio-economic development in Sabah, takes the initiative to create a smart community-university by starting the Smart Eco-UMS 4.0 project," he added.



Salleh (centre) with Kamarudin (left) watching the video presentation during the launching of the UMS Smart Infrastructure ICT project.