

SYED AHMAD IS KUTKM'S FIRST CHANCELLOR

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MELAKA, Aug 28 (Bernama) -- Melaka Yang Dipertua Negeri Tun Syed Ahmad Shahabudin was installed as Kolej Universiti Teknikal Kebangsaan Malaysia's (KUTKM) first chancellor today.

The installation was held in conjunction with the university college's commemorative convocation at Dewan Seri Negeri.

Chief Minister Datuk Seri Mohamed Ali Rustam and two others were conferred honorary degrees.

Mohamed Ali was conferred an honory degree in management (youth development) while science advisor to the prime minister Tan Sri Ahmad Zaharudin Idrus received an honorary degree in science.

Prof Dr Ashraf Jawaid, 51, of Rawalpindi, Pakistan, who is now Dean of the Engineering Faculty, Universiti of Coventry, United Kingdom, received an honorary degree in engineering.

In his speech, Syed Ahmad expressed the hope that the knowledge and skills acquired by KUTKM graduates would lead to inventions and the discovery of the latest technology to reduce the country's dependence on foreign workers.

He urged the education ministry to drop the word college from KUTKM's name to give a more positive perception of KUTKM and other university colleges.

It would also enable KUTKM to advance further in future by developing the disciplines it offered, he said.

KUTKM was set up on Dec 1 2000. It now has 2,900 students pursuing five diploma and 17 degree programmes at its temporary campus in Taman Tasik Utama, Ayer Keroh.

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