

UMP, LKPP Corp venture into palm frond-based biotechnology

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On July 9 last year, University Malaysia Pahang's (UMP) Faculty of Chemical Engineering & Natural Resources sealed a joint-venture with LKPP Corporation Sdn Bhd to cooperate on palm frond-based biotechnological undertakings.

Signing the Memorandum of Understanding for UMP was the university's Vice-Chancellor, Professor Dato' Dr Daing Nasir Ibrahim, whilst LKPP Corp was represented by its Managing Director, Dato' Md Adnan Sulaiman.

The MOU was expected to open up doors of opportunity in technological advancement, human capital development, sharing and transfer of knowledge and expertise, as well as product commercialization.

The MOU spelled out various important aspects relevant to UMP's expertise



in biotechnology, including a research and development (R&D) project on a pilot plan to produce crystallized micro-cellulose, as well as agricultural and dairy R&D.

Potential discoveries and innovations arising out of this joint-venture will subsequently be patented and later commercialized.

As a higher learning institution located and operating in Pahang, UMP is ever-ready to lend

a helping hand to the State Government and its agencies, including LKPP Corp. Reciprocating likewise, LKPP Corp will open its doors to UMP's researchers and students to conduct R&D at its palm tree plantations and industrial sites.

The cooperation with LKPP Corp, among others, will further entail the sharing of resources to facilitate the university's teaching and learning activities, R&D, as well as staff's and students'

development. There will also be programmes on student's exchange and placement for internship and research, as well as on academic and expertise development.

This cooperation is significant to UMP as LKPP is known to be a modern, dynamic and progressive agro-based and industrious agency, with productive and competitive activities in the agricultural and several other economic sectors.