## **CENTRALIZED LABORATORY A BOON TO RESEARCH & TESTING ACTIVITIES**



niversiti Malaysia Pahang (UMP) recently launched the Centralized Laboratory,



which is expected to be the one-stop referral point for industrial product research and testing in the country, especially in the East Coast of Peninsular Malaysia.

The official launching ceremony, which took place at UMP's Gambang Campus on June 17, 2011, was graced by the Pahang State Chief Executive's representative, State Executive Committee (Exco) member, Dato' Mohd Sharkar Shamsudin.

The Centralized Lab, strategically located at the Technology & Innovation Park in Gambang, is equipped with hightechnology peripherals, capable of testing chemical and biotechnological materials, as well as those materials concerning water quality, food safety and other products of halal, medicinal and cosmetic in nature.

According to Dato' Mohd Sharkar, the founding of such laboratory at such a strategic location near UMP will be a boon to the high-tech industries in the country focusing on halal food products, biotechnology, agro-technology and the information and communications technology.

At the launching ceremony, Dato' Mohd Sharkar – who is also the Pahang State Chairman of the Communications, Science, Technology & Innovation Exco – also bore witness to the double signings of a memorandum of agreement (MoA) between UMP and the Republic of Ireland's Institute of Technology Tallaght (ITT), and a memorandum of understanding (MoU) with The Malaysian Organization of Pharmaceutical Industries (MOPI), to jointly offer a dual degree programme in Pharmaceutical Technology Engineering at UMP.

"The collaborations with ITT and MOPI in the field pharmaceutical industry are hoped to lend a helping hand in producing skillful and competitive engineers and technologists for future's employment market and demands," said Dato Mohd Sharkar.

Commenting on the MOA, UMP Vice-Chancellor, Professor Dato' Dr Daing Nasir Daing Ibrahim, said the strategic collaboration with ITT – who is an expert in such a field, backed the fact that the Republic of Ireland was the pioneering country to embark on pharmaceutical industry – will further enhance the dual degree programme offered at UMP.

> "At the same time, our cooperation with MOPI – who has the support of 34 pharmaceutical-related industries in the country – will facilitate the acquisition of necessary work

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