

New agriculture varsity not needed, says sultan

FOOD SECURITY:

Selangor ruler suggests allocation be channelled instead to UPM to develop high-tech agriculture

SERDANG

SULTAN of Selangor Sultan Sharafuddin Idris Shah yesterday said the proposed new agriculture university was unnecessary.

Instead, he suggested that the allocation for the proposed project be channelled to Universiti Putra Malaysia (UPM) to develop high-technology agriculture.

"I want UPM to be a source of reference, to be a model for society and the industry in terms of knowledge and research for the people's wellbeing and prosperity," he said in his speech at the university's 37th convocation here.

The sultan, who is also UPM chancellor, hoped the university would intensify efforts to channel



Universiti Putra Malaysia Chancellor **Sultan Sharafuddin Idris Shah** (left) presenting a scroll to a graduate at the university's **convocation** in Serdang yesterday. Pic by Saifullizan Tamadi

knowledge and expertise.

UPM, he said, played a direct role in enhancing food security through human resources development and supply and transfer of

technology.

As such, he hoped the proposal to set up a Food Security Centre at the university would be considered by the government as it was in tandem

with UPM's plan.

Later, Sultan Sharafuddin presented scrolls to 795 graduates, led by the recipient of the Honorary Doctor of Science to Kyushu In-

stitute of Technology president, Prof Dr Morio Matsunaga.

A total of 7,149 graduates will receive their scrolls over the four-day convocation period. **Bernamea**