



International students **taking an oath** at Universiti Perguruan Sultan Idris in **Tanjung Malim**. Foreign students make up **10 per cent** of the student population at national higher educational institutions in the country. File pic

## ‘Malaysian higher education on par with developed nations’

**BESUT:** Malaysia’s higher education is now on par with those of developed nations including the United Kingdom, Germany and Australia, said Second Education Minister Datuk Seri Idris Jusoh.

He said this was proven by the fact that 135,000 foreign students made up for 10 per cent of student population at national higher educational institutions in the country.

“Now, foreign students are confident to study in Malaysia.

“More so with the strong economic development and the stable and well-administered government in the country,” he said in Jerneh here yesterday.

He said Malaysia was now the ninth most popular destination for foreign students in various fields, including engineering, agriculture, and information and communications technology.

Idris said Universiti Malaya was now in 151st position, up from 167th, in the list of 400 top institutions in the world in the 2014

QS World Ranking of prestigious universities.

London-based QS Quacquarelli Symonds evaluates the universities of the world via academic reputation measurement, employer’s reputation, student-faculty ratio, research paper of every faculty, citations per paper, internationalisation and student exchange programme.

Four other Malaysian institutions whose positions have improved compared to last year were Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia in 259th place (compared with 269 in 2013), Universiti Teknologi Malaysia in 294th spot, from 355, a sharp rise of 61 steps compared with last year.

Universiti Sains Malaysia is in 309th position and Universiti Putra Malaysia in 376th spot.

According to Idris, the countries that had started to send their students to study in Malaysia included Australia and China.

**Bernama**