

Besut padi farmers to use UPM innovations to boost yield

BESUT: Three hundred farmers here will begin planting padi next month using new technology introduced by Universiti Putra Malaysia (UPM).

Higher Education Minister Datuk Seri Idris Jusoh said he had requested the new technology be used in areas under the jurisdiction of Kemubu Agricultural Development Authority and Muda Agricultural Development Authority.

He said UPM had come up with nine padi technology innovations that increased the yield by 30 per cent in the North Terengganu Integrated Agricultural Development Area.

The technologies being tested in Kampung Lubuk Kawah here had proven to raise padi yield, he said

after presenting house keys to a community home to the family of Kamaruzaman Daud, 44, in Kampung Beris Lampu, here, yesterday.

The house was built by lecturers and students of Sultan Idris Shah Polytechnic in Sabak Bernam here.

Idris, who is Besut member of parliament, hoped UPM would continue to produce new innovations in padi planting.

The new house where Kamaruzaman and his wife Hazuani Mohamad, 38, and their four children, aged between 3 months and 11 years, live is the 74th home built with funds allocated to the Besut parliamentary constituency.

Idris said the target to build 100 community houses for the low-in-



Datuk Seri Idris Jusoh

come group by year's end had almost been reached, with 80 completed and handed over to the occupants. **Bernama**