Universities move up in rankings

PETALING JAYA — Five Malaysian universities have taken giant steps up the QS University Rankings 2018: Asia released yesterday.

University of Malaya rose from 27th position to 24, and Universiti Putra Malaysia from 49 to 36.

Joining the ranks of Asia's top 50 universities are Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia (UKM) from 55 to 43, Universiti Sains Malaysia from 51 to 46, and Universiti Teknologi Malaysia from 63 to 49.

QS said this has been a "highy successful year" for Malaysian institutions with 18 of 27 institutions improving their rankings.

Twenty-two 22 Malaysian universities, both public and private, rank within Asia's top 300.

Universiti Teknologi Petronas, a private institution, is now ranked 101 from 127 previously, and is on the verge of a place in Asia's top 100.

Higher Education Minister Datuk Seri Idris Jusoh said in a press statement the ranking indicated the progress Malaysia has made in ensuring its institutions deliver quality education across the board.

He also believed the ranking served as a useful reference point for prospective students in choosing Malaysia as a preferred education destination.

"The ministry is always supportive of endeavours to make Malaysian higher education great and believes in the synergy that exists among higher education institutions which helps foster a dynamic and innovative ecosystem," he said.

"Stay focused, always strive to improve and may we keep soaring upwards."