'Use Internet ethically to prevent negative effects'

'Berita Harian' executive editor Datuk Ahmad Zaini Kamaruzzaman (second from right), Universiti Putra Malaysia's Infocomm Development Centre director associate professor Dr Fatimah Sidi (third from right), UPM Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Academic and International) Professor Dr M. Iqbal Saripan (right) and Computer Science and Information Technology Faculty dean Professor Dr Abu Bakar Md Sultan (third from left) at the launch of Kelab Rakan IDEC during 'Jom Gegaria ICT' in Serdang yesterday. **PIC BY MOHD KHAIRUL HELMY MOHD DIN**

KUALA LUMPUR: More emphasis has to be given to the conscientious use of information and communications technology as society becomes increasingly borderless.

Universiti Putra Malaysia's Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Academic and International) Professor Dr M. Iqbal Saripan said users needed to use the Internet ethically to prevent negative effects.

"ICT ethics has to be stressed. Now we see that users are so daring in making rude and uncivilised criticisms.

"Their behaviour or posts online also give different connotations than what is sometimes intended.

"So, the Internet has to be used conscientiously," he said at the launch of Kelab Rakan IDEC during "Jom Gegaria ICT" in Universiti Putra Malaysia here yesterday.

The New Straits Times Press is a partner to the event.

Present was *Berita Harian* executive editor Datuk Ahmad Zaini Kamaruzzaman and UPM's Infocomm Development Centre's director associate professor Dr Fatimah Sidi.

Ahmad Zaini said the speed of information had to be in line with the changing times.

However, users must be wise when seeking information.

"Users have to be wise in sourcing for information online. They should rely mainly on official media such as newspapers published by NSTP.

"We are now entering the fourth Industrial Revolution and the media is ready to work together to assist in the dissemination of information through various means."

He was representing NSTP chief executive officer Datuk Seri Abdul Jalil Hamid who was unable to attend.

The event, which ended yesterday, was also in conjunction with the university's 42nd convocation.

It, among others, hosts 80 exhibition booths on ICT materials besides stalls selling various goods.