

# Anti-graft programme set up at UTM

**JOHOR BARU:** Universiti Teknologi Malaysia (UTM) has become the first higher education institution in Johor to establish the Anti-Corruption Secretariat.

The programme, jointly organised by the Anti-Corruption Agency (ACA) and the Higher Education Ministry, was to instil anti-corruption values in the graduates who were the future leaders of the country.

Johor ACA director Simi Abdul Ghani said the programme also aimed to mould the graduates when they were still young.

"We hope the secretariat will increase their sense of integrity when they enter the work force," he told reporters after launching the secretariat at UTM yesterday.

UTM is one of 20 higher education institutions selected for the programme.

He said the programme would be launched at Universiti Tun Hussein Onn Malaysia in Batu Pahat after Hari Raya.

He also hoped the secretariat could serve as

a place for graduates to obtain information about corruption and the abuse of power.

"All kinds of programmes will be conducted by the secretariat to spread the message on anti-corruption," he said, citing the intra-university Anti-Corruption Debate Championship that was being held at the university as one of the activities.

UTM deputy vice chancellor (student affairs and alumni) Datuk Prof Dr Alias Mohd Noor, who is co-adviser with Simi, welcomed the establishment of the organisation saying the university fully supported the programme.

With Hari Raya just around the corner, Simi said the practice of giving and receiving gifts should be viewed seriously as it could be in the form of graft especially if it involved official businesses.

He said those who are unsure about such gifts could contact its Johor hotline at 1800-88-6000.