

Malaysian Halal cert is recognised globally

DE 17.8.2017 2

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KOTA KINABALU: Malaysia's Halal certificate is well recognised all over the world and any products bearing the Malaysian Halal logo are well accepted by people without any doubts.

Universiti Malaysia Sabah (UMS) Faculty of Food Science and Nutrition dean, Prof. Dr Sharifudin Md Shaarani, said the Malaysian Halal certificate is unique due to its recognition by the world community.

He said any manufacturers and producers that have applied for the Halal certificate would face no difficulties selling their products, including in the Middle East.

"We have sealed a joint venture (JV) agreement with a research centre in China, the Heilongjiang Academy of Science, for two of its products – Black Garlic and Black Fungus.

"They want to do the JV with us (UMS) so that the processing and production of the two products can obtain our Halal certificate.

"Hence, UMS was responsible for assisting the centre in applying for the Halal certificate and logo for the two products to be marketed in Malaysia which we had done so in October last year, officiated by



Dr Sharifudin

Chief Minister Datuk Seri Musa Aman in Sandakan," he said.

Dr Sharifudin said this to reporters after opening an advocacy programme "Empowering Integrity Halal Industry" at UMS, Wednesday, representing UMS Vice-Chancellor Prof. Dr D Kamarudin D Mudin.

The programme was the first held in Sabah, jointly organised by UMS, Malaysia Islamic Development Department (Jakim), Sabah Islamic Religious Affairs Department (Jheains) and Sabah Islamic Religious Council (Muis).

It was aimed to provide the latest information pertaining to Halal certification and to explain Halal issues to industry players in the State.

A total of 70 participants from various industries in the State attended the one-



Mat Radzi

day programme.

Sharifudin said the JV deal was historical as UMS was the first university in Malaysia, through its subsidiary UMS Investment Holdings Sdn Bhd (UiNVEST), to enter into an JV agreement with the Heilongjiang Academy of Science to procure the Malaysian Halal certificate for its products.

He said they received the two products early this year and UiNVEST is responsible for marketing the products in Sabah and later throughout the country.

He expressed optimism that the two products with the Malaysian Halal certificate would be able to penetrate the Middle East market.

Meanwhile, Jakim Sabah Director Mat Radzi Mat Ali said many industry players and business people in Sabah are still unsure of how and where to apply for the Halal certificate.

He said they actually could apply for the certificate and logo for their products through Jakim here.

"They do not have to go to the Jakim headquarters in Putrajaya to submit their applications as Jakim here has the facility, while Jheains will issue the Halal certificate and logo to the successful applicants," he said.