

**KERATAN AKHBAR-AKHBAR TEMPATAN
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UKM wins energy award again

KUALA LUMPUR: For the fourth time, Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia won the Asean Energy Award for its success in inventing a water heating system using solar power.

The system has a lifespan of 15 years and the capital to set up the system could be recouped in just less than three years.

UKM's Solar Power Research Institute (SERI) director, Prof Dr Kamaruzzaman Sopian and Prof Dr Syed Zulkifli Syed Zakaria received the award from the United States Department of

Energy deputy secretary Daniel B. Poneman at the 31st conference of Asean Energy Ministers in Bali on Sept 25.

Kamaruzzaman said the water solar heating system was installed at the UKM Medical centre by SERI and Zamatel Sdn Bhd through a RM2mil fund under the Ministry of Science, Technology and Innovation's techno scheme.

"The invention has been registered for copyright under the name i-PANAZ," he said. — Bernama



UKM Raih Anugerah Tenaga Asean Kali Keempat

KUALA LUMPUR, 3 Okt (Bernama) -- Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia (UKM) memenangi Anugerah Tenaga Asean buat kali keempat atas kejayaan mencipta sistem pemanasan air menggunakan tenaga suria yang boleh menjimatkan belanjawan tahunan untuk hospital dan hotel besar.

Pengarah Institut Penyelidikan Tenaga Suria (SERI) UKM, Prof Dr Kamaruzzaman Sopian dan Prof Dr Syed Zulkifli Syed Zakaria menerima anugerah itu dari Timbalan Setiausaha Tenaga Jabatan Tenaga Amerika Syarikat Daniel B Poneman di Persidangan Menteri-Menter Tenaga Asean ke-31 di Bali, Indonesia pada 25 September lepas.

Kamaruzzaman dalam satu kenyataan media di sini hari ini berkata sistem pemanasan air menggunakan tenaga suria terbesar di negara ini telah dipasang di Pusat Perubatan UKM (PPUKM) oleh SERI dan sebuah syarikat Zamatel Sdn Bhd, dengan pembiayaan RM2 juta di bawah **skim Dana Tekno Kementerian Sains, Teknologi dan Inovasi**.

"Satu pasukan dari SERI, PPUKM dan Zamatel telah mereka dan memasang sistem itu. Rekaan itu kini telah pun didaftar untuk hakcipta dengan nama i-PANAZ," katanya.

Menurut beliau sistem itu mempunyai jangka hayat 15 tahun dengan jangka pengembalian modal hanya selama 2.9 tahun sahaja.

Kamaruzzaman berkata penggunaan sistem tenaga suria untuk semua 200 buah hospital dan hotel besar dalam negara dapat menjimatkan pengeluaran gas hijau sehingga 42 juta kg karbon dioksida dan 3,300kg nitrogen oksid.

"Pengurangan ketara gas hijau demikian akan menolong Malaysia mencapai hasrat untuk mengurangkan sehingga 40 peratus daripada pengeluaran karbon menjelang 2020," katanya.

Sementara itu, Kamaruzzaman berkata UKM adalah universiti pertama pernah memenangi anugerah itu sebanyak empat kali sejak dimulakan pada 2001.

Anugerah Tenaga Asean adalah anugerah untuk mengiktiraf usaha terbaik dalam penggunaan tenaga perbaharui seperti tenaga hidro, angin, bahan buangan, tenaga panas bumi dan suria serta usaha terbaik untuk menyediakan tenaga efisien di rantau ini.

UKM telah memenangi anugerah itu buat pertama kali untuk sistem menyimpan tenaga bagi sistem hawa dingin UKM, kali kedua untuk Rumah Eko Hidrojen Suria dan kali ketiga untuk sistem tenaga bahan bakar mudah alih.



Wallace 2013 Hargai Sumbangan Besar Ahli Alamiah Tersohor



Alfred Russel Wallace KUCHING, (Bernama) -- Persidangan Antarabangsa mengenai Alfred Russel Wallace (Wallace 2013) di sini pada 7 dan 8 Nov ini merupakan suatu penghargaan terhadap sumbangan besar Alfred Russel Wallace dalam bidang sains, pemuliharaan biodiversiti dan kemanusiaan.

Ia bertujuan menghimpunkan ahli sejarah, ahli sains alamiah, ahli ekologi, ahli zoologi, ahli botani, ahli paleontologi, ahli antropologi, ahli geologi, pengurus taman dan sarjana sains alamiah untuk berkongsi pengalaman tentang ekologi, evolusi dan pengurusan sumber di rantau ini seperti yang dilakukan Wallace sehinggalah beliau meninggal dunia pada 7 Nov 1913.

Persidangan pertama diadakan pada 2005 bersempena sambutan ulang tahun ke-150 penerokaan ahli alamiah tersohor itu di Sarawak.

Setakat ini, 53 orang mendaftar diri untuk menyertai persidangan itu, yang dianjurkan bersama Institut Biodiversiti dan Pemuliharaan Alam Sekitar, Universiti Malaysia Sarawak (Unimas), Jabatan Muzium Sarawak dan Perbadanan Perhutanan Sarawak, dengan sokongan Sarawak Convention Bureau, menurut Unimas.

Mereka mewakili Australia, Brunei, Jerman, Amerika, United Kingdom, Switzerland, Singapura, Jepun, Filipina, Indonesia, Thailand dan Pakistan.

Lima sarjana antarabangsa yang dijangka menyampaikan ceramah pada persidangan itu termasuk Earl of Cranbrook dari United Kingdom dengan ceramah bertajuk 'Alfred Russel Wallace and his South-east Asian Heritage' dan **Prof Emeritus Yong Hoi Sen dari Akademi Sains Malaysia** (Phylogenetics and Systematics of Animal Life).

Manakala Prof Charles H. Smith dari Western Kentucky University, Amerika akan mengadakan persembahan video bertajuk "Wallace and Incipient Structures: A World of 'More Recondite' Influences."

Penceramah lain ialah Paul Spencer Sochaczewski dari Switzerland (The Hero's Journey of Alfred Russel Wallace in South-east Asia) dan Darren J. Mann dari Muzium Sejarah Semula Jadi, Oxford University (Wallace Insects in Oxford - Their History and Value.)

Pakar burung enggang Asia Tenggara, Prof Madya Dr. Vijak Chimchome dari Kasesart University of Bangkok, Thailand pula akan menyampaikan ucap tama pada sesi khas mengenai burung itu.

Menurut Unimas lagi lawatan ke Gunung Serambu, tempat yang mengabadikan koleksi Wallace, akan diadakan pada 9 Nov, di samping ekspedisi ke Gunung Santubong, tempat Wallace mengumpul dan menulis kertas kerjanya yang penuh bersejarah dikenali sebagai 'Undang-undang Sarawak'.

Maklumat lanjut tentang persidangan ini serta borang penyertaan boleh didapati melalui <http://www.unimas.my/Wallace2013/>

-- BERNAMA

Meter accuracy matters

Energy Commission tests 170 digital meters in Klang Valley

By JADE CHAN

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Photos by ROHAIZAT MD DARUS

THE Energy Commission (ST) has stepped up inspections following complaints of excessive electricity charges after Tenaga Nasional Bhd (TNB) switched to digital meters.

"The commission has been carrying out random inspections and testing of the new meters," said ST Enforcement and Regional Coordinator Department director Othman Omar.

"Priority is given to those who have lodged complaints," he added.

During site inspections, Othman said the Portable Test Set for Electricity Meter was used.

"The allowable accuracy range is $\pm 3\%$. At least three readings will be recorded for each meter; the final result will be derived by averaging the readings. The electricity supply must also be in regular use to get an accurate reading."

Othman said single-phase meters were typically used in residences, while a three-phase meter was usually used for commercial premises.

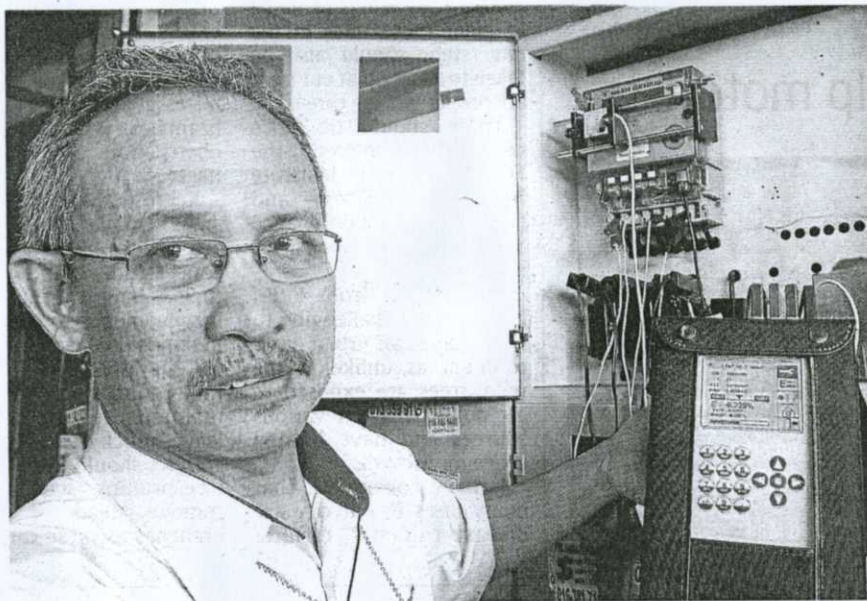
"To improve the transparency and effectiveness of the meter accuracy monitoring programme, the Energy Commission had appointed Sirim to undertake testing of the digital meters," said ST chief executive officer Datuk Ahmad Fauzi Hasan.

"Some 170 samples from digital meters at various consumers' premises throughout the Klang Valley were checked for their accuracy by Sirim QAS International and ST.

"The results revealed that all the meters were within the allowable accuracy range of $\pm 3\%$," he added.

According to the Commission, a total of 7.8mil TNB meters have been installed, of which 4mil are digital meters.

TNB commenced the installation of digital meters in 2003, and initiated the replacement exercise in 2011.



Checking its accuracy: Othman showing how the Portable Test Set for Electricity Meter is used to test the accuracy of consumers' electrical meters during a site inspection of electricity meters at a commercial premises in Taman Kajang Sentral, Kajang.

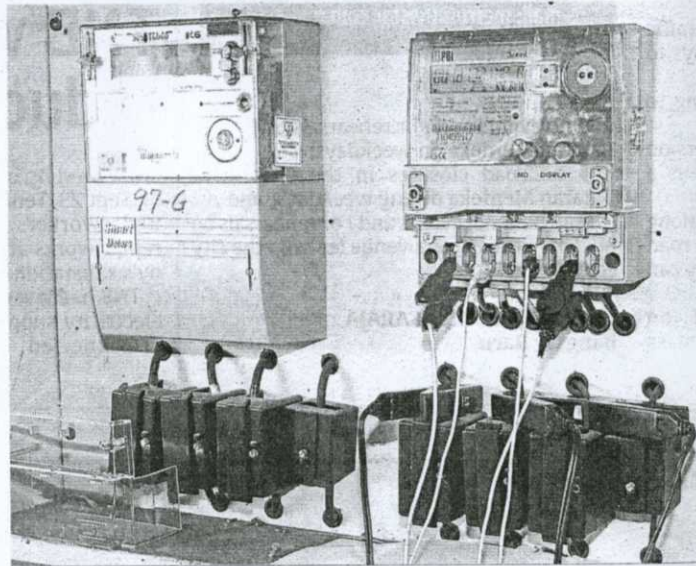
"Following disputes by consumers on the accuracy of meter readings, the Commission took several measures to strengthen the testing and verification process of electricity meters since early last year," said Fauzi.

The Guideline for Electricity Meter: Testing and Initial Verification Requirements was drawn up to improve the regulatory mechanism for electricity meter accuracy.

The guideline requires each electricity meter model and manufacturer's laboratory to get the necessary accreditation and certification from organisations such as the National Metrology Laboratory, Standards Malaysia, ST and Sirim QAS International.

"Meters that have fulfilled all the required testing and verification processes will be given approval by ST to have the ST-Sirim label on each unit," he said.

Fauzi added the Guideline for Electricity Meter: Testing and Initial Verification Requirements was enforced in Jan 1 this year while all approved new electricity meters had to have the ST-Sirim label from June onwards.



Commercial vs residential: A three-phase electricity meter is commonly used for commercial premises.

"ST will ensure that existing digital meters that are found to have its accuracy outside the allowable range are immediately replaced.

"The Guideline on Periodic

Testing and Verification of Old Meters is in the process of being drafted and is expected to be completed by end of this year," he added.