PUTRAJAYA: The Quacquarelli Symonds (QS) World University Rankings 2018/2019 report listed Malaysia as being among the countries posting the best increase in its rankings this time, said Education Minister Dr Maszlee Malik.

He said this showed that the national education system had been accepted as a highly reputable system among the academic and employment circles at the international level.

"The success indicates that the higher educational institutions in Malaysia have succeeded in providing quality and positive higher education towards meeting the Industrial Revolution 4.0 target," he said when announcing the success of Malaysian public universities listed among the best 200 in the world.

Maszlee said the success also gave an advantage to Malaysia as a higher education hub compared to neighbouring countries, and subsequently becoming the destination of choice for international students to continue their education.

In the QS World University Rankings 2018/2019 which was released on Wednesday (June 6), University of Malaya was ranked 87th in the list of top universities in the world compared with the 114th ranking in the previous year.

Meanwhile, four Malaysian public universities which were also research universities namely Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia (UKM), Universiti Putra Malaysia (UPM), Universiti Sains Malaysia (USM) and Universiti Teknologi Malaysia (UTM) recorded an encouraging improvement in the report.

In the report, UKM was in the 184th spot, UPM (202), USM (207) and UTM (228).

Seven local public and private institutions of higher learning were listed among the top 500 QS World University Rankings namely Universiti Teknologi Petronas, Universiti Institut Teknologi Mara, Universiti Utara Malaysia, Universiti Islam Antarabangsa Malaysia, Sunway University, Taylor’s University and UCSI University.

- Bernama