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### UniSZA Teaching Hospital To Be Ready By End-2017, Says Vice-chancellor

KUALA TERENGGANU, May 5 (Bernama) -- Universiti Sultan Zainal Abidin (UniSZA) is optimistic of completing its RM600-million teaching hospital by the end of 2017 after work on it begins in the fourth quarter of this year.

Its vice-chancellor, Prof Dr Yahaya Ibrahim, said the UniSZA Teaching Hospital, to be built on 20.2 hectares in the Gong Badak campus, would have 400 beds and cater for the people in the city.

"This project is an initiative of the Sultan of Terengganu, Sultan Mizan Zainal Abidin, as a university social responsibility for our stakeholders.

"In addition, the teaching hospital will also provide our medical students a better place to practise their knowledge and sharpen their skills," he told Bernama.

Yahaya said the hospital would have facilities and technology comparable to those at other specialist hospitals in Malaysia.

He also said that the hospital would be able to start operations once the first phase of the construction was completed in the second quarter of 2016.

"The project will have two phases and, once the first phase is completed, it is expected to start operating as a medical learning centre for students and a hospital for the people, providing 200 beds," he said, adding that the hospital would also provide more than 1,000 job opportunities for its medical students.

Yahaya said the hospital would be the third Islamic university hospital in Malaysia after the International Islamic University Malaysia and Universiti Sains Islam Malaysia hospitals, which employ Islamic methods of medical treatment on their patients.

Yahaya said the ground-breaking for the hospital project would be held in September, and would be officiated by Prime Minister Datuk Seri Najib Tun Razak.

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