



Science, Technology and Innovation Minister **Datuk Wilfred Madius Tangau** (right) taking a look at the Unmanned Aerial Vehicle-Remote Sensing system in **Kuala Lumpur** yesterday with deputy secretary-general (policy) **Datuk Dr Mohd Azhar Yahaya**. Pic by Abdullah Yusof

## Malaysia launches home-made drone

**KUALA LUMPUR:** Malaysia has its own locally-made Unmanned Aerial Vehicle-Remote Sensing (UAV-RS) system to obtain information for monitoring natural disasters, resources management and land clearance.

Science, Technology and Innovation Minister Datuk Wilfred Madius Tangau said the UAV-RS would improve efficiency in obtaining information of the earth's surface.

"This RM3 million project was first researched in 2008 and developed in 2013. It was fully operational last year. The system has clocked 180

hours and 4 minutes of flight time.

"Developed by the Malaysian Remote Sensing Agency (MRSA), Multimedia University and Unmanned Systems Technology Sdn Bhd, the system is equipped with radar sensors, an optical sensor system and a ground control station."

Tangau said the drone, which weighs 185kg, could transfer data in real-time and had a service ceiling of 3km within a 100km radius for up to four hours.

"This system can be used to improve the efficiency of agricultural

production, natural resources and environment, disasters, national security and land development.

"It is in line with the high-tech infrastructure that has been developed by the government, and the benefits of remote sensing technology can be optimised to deliver high impact on the well-being of the people," he said after the launch of the system in MRSA here yesterday.

Tangau said this was an important achievement for the nation as a country capable of developing its own technology, such as the UAV-RS.