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FRIM scientists honoured by academy



Prestigious recognition: Dr Saw receiving his fellowship certificate to the Academy of Sciences Malaysia from Najib.

FOREST Research Institute Malaysia (FRIM) director-general Datuk Dr Abd Latif Mohmod, has received the Top Research Scientists Malaysia (TRSM) Award from the Academy of Sciences Malaysia (ASM) recently, while FRIM Forest Biodiversity director, Dr Saw Leng Guan, was elected a fellow to the prestigious academy.

They received the respective awards at the 2013 Conferment of Fellowships to Scientists by ASM and the announcement of the 2013 Top Research Scientists Malaysia (TRSM), held in Kuala Lumpur last month and officiated by Prime Minister Datuk Seri Najib Tun Razak.

Abd Latif, who was accompanied by his wife Datin Halidah Kasmin to the ceremony held in conjunction with the ASM Annual Dinner, received the plaque and certificate from ASM president, Tan Sri Dr Ahmad Tajuddin Ali.

The Prime Minister presented the ASM fellowship certificates to Saw and 18 other scientists, who were elected this year.

Saw was appointed for his work in "Plant Taxonomy and Ecology" under the Biological Agriculture and Environmental Sciences discipline.

He is the fourth FRIM scientist to be appointed as a fellow to the prestigious academy, following the footsteps of the first FRIM director-general Tan Sri Dr Salleh Mohd Nor, second director-general Datuk Dr Abd Razak Mohd Ali and former FRIM deputy director-general Dr Francis Ng.

Abd Latif, on the other hand, is the first FRIM scientist to receive the TRSM Awards, in recognition of his many years of consistent efforts and contribution in undertaking and mobilising research in the field of forestry.

The TRSM project, launched in 2012, was developed as part of ASM's efforts to foster a culture of excellence in science, technology and innovation (STI).

It aims to accord recognition and showcase the accomplishments of Malaysian research scientists that contribute significantly to the economic growth of the nation via generation and dissemination of knowledge, wealth creation and productive pursuit of scientific excellence for the benefit of humanity; as role models of excellence, mentor to the next generation and leaders to forge ahead with STI agenda of the nation.