

Where education thrives

The private higher education scene in the areas under MPSJ has seen tremendous growth over the years, writes *Loveleena Enggat*.

The demand for private higher education is high in Subang Jaya which has a population of 240,000. There are more than 600 private institutions in the country and some 30 are located in Subang Jaya, offering various courses that cater to the needs of the middle- and upper-class residents.

It helps that most areas in Subang Jaya are self-contained and easily accessible. With the Federal Highway, the North Klang Valley Expressway (NKVE), the Lebuhraya Damansara-Puchong (LDP) and the Keras Highway, Subang Jaya is within reach of all in the Klang Valley.

It is thus easy to understand why investors are keen to set up educational institutions here. From a handful of institutions a decade ago, Subang Jaya now boasts big names such as Metropolitan College and Sunway College. Even Monash University is here – the pride of Subang Jaya, what with it being the first foreign campus of the university and the country's first off-shore university.

"We have a public university as well, Universiti Putra Malaysia," says deputy president of MPSJ, Arpah Abdul-Razak, who has lived in Subang Jaya for 10 years.

still is) Sri Kuala Lumpur, a private school. Even then, I could foresee positive growth for the education industry," she recalls. "The middle- and upper-class residents here go for quality education and they don't mind spending more money on their children's education."

Taylor's College was in fact, established in 1969. Its degree programmes are linked to some of the most reputable universities in the world - University of Sheffield (the UK), University of Technology (Australia), University of Toulouse (France) and University of Illinois (the US).

Another early institution of higher learning in Subang Jaya is the Metropolitan College, established in 1987. It moved to its own purpose-built campus in Subang Jaya in 1992. Today, Metropolitan's partner universities include the Queen's University of Belfast in Northern Ireland, Lexington in the US, Curtin University of Technology in Western Australia and RMIT University in Melbourne, Australia.

The college offers more than 45 disciplines to some 200 students. It offers a broad range of



Inl has produced some 10,000 graduates since opening its door some 14 years ago. One of the college's campuses is located in Subang Jaya.

Brickfields, Kuala Lumpur and it was only in April 1991, that the third campus was set up in Subang Jaya. More than 10,000 students have graduated from the college in the past 14 years.

Another leading college located in the Subang Jaya area is Sunway College which aims to be the premier private college in the Asean region.

Sunway College's appeal lies in the fact that it's self-contained. It's a stone's throw away from the ever vibrant Sunway Pyramid and Sunway Lagoon, and shops and other amenities are all there. Thanks to the new highways nearby (LDP and Keras), it is now also near to folks in Puchong.

In the vicinity of Bandar Sunway lies the RM120 million Monash University, one of seven campuses of Monash University.

Established on Feb 23, 1998, Monash University Malaysia brings to the Asia-Pacific region quality educational opportunities.

Undergraduate courses are designed to meet industry needs. They include Business and Commerce, Computer Science, Business and Information Technology, Engineering, Science (Biotechnology), Science (Environmental

The campus of course, strives to live up to expectations. It is well equipped with the required teaching/learning resources for the courses it offers.

The Multimedia Resource Centre provides students with Internet access and e-mail facilities. In addition, students have coded access to course materials and the library resources of Monash University, Australia, including restricted Monash materials via the Monash Internet.

Other smaller but no less important private higher education centres in the MPSJ area are Astin Collège, Sal College, Prime College, Symphonic Music, Art Centre and the Intercultural Language School. Also, the One Academy, Art Street Studio, Institut Optima, Institut Alam Cerdik Ria and Chara Art School.

Arapah says: "These colleges produce students who have good moral values and are computer-literate ... in line with MPSJ's vision to turn Subang Jaya into a knowledge-based interactive Smart Community by 2005.

"On behalf of MPSJ, I would welcome more investors to be in the private education industry