Thousands of IPB new students were enthusiastically attending MPKMB 51 (Campus Introduction Period to New Student of IPB) of IPB. The campus introduction with the theme “Civilization Creators Dare to Take Actions, Reach Civilized Agriculture, and Promote Nation’s Civilization” was held at Graha Widya Wisuda or Graduation Building, Dramaga Campus of IPB (22/8). New students in white uniforms were listening attentively to the motivation delivered directly by IPB Rector, Prof. Dr. Herry Suhardiyanto, MSc.

Rector said the results of the research by Mc. Kirsey Global Institute, which predicts that by 2030, Indonesia would be the 7th largest country in the world beyond the developed countries such as Germany and the UK.

Added Rector, Indonesia in 2035 is projected to have a population of around 305 million people with a relatively healthy demographic pyramid structure of 67.9 percent. This can be compared with the current developed countries, like the United States, which is dominated by old age population. “But the bug number of Indonesian population, if not accompanied by education, productivity, as well as the creation of sufficient jobs, then this is all a challenge,” said Rector.

He also cited the life expectancy of the Indonesian nation from the UNDP Human Development Report 2013. "For Indonesian the life expectancy of 121 HDI is still far behind compared to other nations, such as Singapore and Malaysia with the figures of 18 and 64 respectively. Another challenge is related to the ASEAN Economic Community that will begin in late 2015. ASEAN will become a single production-based market. In addition, the free flow of skilled labor from abroad will continue to arrive," explained Rector.

For this reason, IPB Rector hopes that new students could become creators of civilization who dare to take actions in reaching civilized agriculture to advance the nation’s civilization. Not to forget, Rector advised, students should prepare to strengthen capacity, including English language skills. Rector emphasized that four years as a student would be very meaningful, that is, to keep exploring the science, develop skills to meet the challenges that have been predicted by Mc. Kirsey.

IPB MPKMB will last until August 28, 2014 by presenting speakers who can provide knowledge and inspiration for the new students. (Mtd)