

**KERATAN AKHBAR-AKHBAR TEMPATAN
TARIKH: 6 NOVEMBER 2013 (RABU)**

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KERATAN AKHBAR
BERITA HARIAN (RENCANA) : MUKA SURAT 29
TARIKH : 06 NOVEMBER 2013 (RABU)

Forum inovasi tingkat daya saing negara

Tahun 2020 semakin hampir dan Malaysia hanya mempunyai tujuh tahun lagi untuk mencapai wawasan menjadi negara maju berpendapatan tinggi. Untuk mencapai impian itu, kerajaan perlu memastikan pertumbuhan pembangunan enam peratus setahun menerusi pelbagai projek pembaharuan serta pemikiran inovatif.

Bagi meningkatkan inovasi negara dan menyediakan landasan kepada semua pihak terbabit, Forum Inovasi Dunia Kuala Lumpur 2013 (WIF-KL 2013) yang menghimpunkan pakar strategi pembangunan, ahli akademik serta pemikir dari beberapa negara akan diadakan pada 12 hingga 14 November ini di Pusat Konvensyen Kuala Lumpur.

Timbalan Menteri Sains Teknologi dan Inovasi (MOSTI), Datuk Dr Abu Bakar Mohammad Diah, berkata forum dengan kerjasama Yayasan Inovasi Malaysia (YIM) itu juga bertujuan membangkitkan daya kreativiti di samping menggabungkan pembuat dasar dari pelbagai negara.

Kemajuan negara

Beliau berkata, kemajuan negara bergantung kepada ekosistem yang memberangsangkan selain persediaan dari segi sikap dan pemikiran serta persekitaran bagi membolehkan setiap rakyat negara ini berusaha gigit mencapai matlamat itu.

"Keupayaan dalam melepasi sempadan segenap lapisan masyarakat juga penting bagi mempengaruhi pembangunan sosioekonomi dengan lebih cepat," katanya.

"Forum ini pastinya menambah idea, mengadakan perbincangan bersama bagi menyelesaikan sebarang masalah serta menghadapi cabarannya," katanya.

Sementara itu, Ketua Eksekutif Operasi YIM, Dr Mazalan Khamis, berkata usaha meningkatkan daya saing serta kesedaran pembangunan sains, teknologi dan inovasi amat penting bagi memastikan masyarakat memahami dan mengetahui mereka berada di landasan yang betul.

Katanya, antara perkara yang diketengahkan ialah 'iLabs' (Innovation Labs) yang merangkumi enam kunci utama iaitu sektor perumahan, infrastruktur, pengangkutan, alam sekitar dan pendidikan.

"iLabs ini menjadi kumpulan pemikir untuk membincangkan cabaran masa kini yang dihadapi dalam membangunkan bandaraya. Kumpulan pemikir ini turut memberi idea dalam menyelesaikan masalah dihadapi dalam usaha membangunkan bandar raya masa depan," katanya.

Antara ahli panel yang dijangka hadir ialah bekas Perdana Menteri Sweden, Goran Persson; pakar akademik global, Sugata Mitra; pakar runding inovasi dan strategi persaingan; Morinosuki Kawaguchi, pemilik pasukan Formula 1, Mark Gallagher; bekas Menteri Perdagangan Antarabangsa dan Industri, Tan Sri Rafidah Aziz; dan Ketua Pegawai Eksekutif Kumpulan Tune Hotel, Mark Lankester.



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Kemajuan negara bergantung kepada ekosistem yang memberangsangkan selain persediaan dari segi sikap dan pemikiran serta persekitaran bagi membolehkan setiap rakyat negara ini berusaha gigit mencapai matlamat itu"

Abu Bakar Mohammad Diah
Timbalan Menteri Sains Teknologi dan Inovasi (MOSTI)



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Mazalan Khamis
Ketua Eksekutif Operasi YIM

Lapan anugerah

Sempena forum tiga hari itu, lapan anugerah akan diberikan sebagai menghargai jasa dan usaha menggalakkan serta insentif kepada tokoh yang memberi sumbangan kepada negara.

Bengkel Jejak Perdana 2013 dan mesyuarat Jawatankuasa Asia dan Pasifik Bagi Pemindahan Teknologi (APCTI) akan turut diadakan.

Seramai 1,500 wakil dari 25 negara dijangka hadir. Orang ramai yang ingin hadir dikenakan yuran RM1,400 setiap peserta dengan pengurangan bayaran RM200 bagi mereka yang mendaftar awal, manakala pelajar hanya perlu membayar RM500.

Awarding excellence in science

FOR A BETTER WORLD:

Merdeka and Mahathir Awards spur scientific research

EVERY Aug 31 for the past 56 years, Malaysians celebrate Merdeka. The occasion showcases the achievements of the nation since independence in 1957.

The nation is on track to be a developed nation by 2020. This is a significant achievement but many of our contemporaries are still struggling.

We have to thank our leaders, who have demonstrated wisdom and resilience in steering the country forward amid all kinds of challenges. At the same time, we should not forget the contributions made by other Malaysians who have served the nation well in various capacities.

It is in recognition of such individuals that on Aug 27, 2007, the Merdeka Award was established. According to the founders of the award — Petronas, ExxonMobil and Shell — it is named the Merdeka Award "to commemorate the true spirit of independence, which transcends the conventional definition of national sovereignty".

"It explores the liberation of the mind and spirit — factors which foster the realisation of human potential and the pursuit of excellence.

The Merdeka Award aims at the encouragement of going beyond the ordinary and of stretching beyond comfort zones, aspiring to create a new mind set among Malaysians."

The award recognises and rewards individuals and organisations whose work and achievements have not only contributed towards the nation's growth but have also inspired greatness among the people of Malaysia.

After all, Merdeka is about honour, passion, determination and sacrifice.

The Merdeka Award "celebrates and rewards the independence of the mind and spirit, the strength of character and integrity that underpins meaningful achievement and the creativity and vision that enables greatness".

Since its establishment, 23 Malaysians have won the award. Interestingly, 11 of the recipients are fellows of the Academy of Sciences Malaysia. This is seen as a big endorsement for science in the country.

Coming at a time when student interest in science is waning, the award, which carries substantial reward money, will hopefully provide the impetus to mobilise interest in science.

The academy's Mahathir Science Award is also making its presence felt as another instrument to motivate research in science for the tropics.

Established slightly earlier than the Merdeka Award, the Mahathir Science Award, however, does not limit winners only to Malaysians.

Countries in the tropics have always been attractive destinations for tourists.

Many from the temperate countries flock to the tropics for the all year sun and heat.

Notwithstanding that, the tropics have also of late attracted a lot of world attention to its rainforests. The world views tropical rainforests as the last bastion against the onslaught of global warming and climate change.

Any decline in forest cover, through logging and other deforestation activities, sets off alarm bells among environmental non-governmental organisations.

This is because they look to forests as the biggest natural sponge to absorb greenhouse gases.

This is even more critical since the rest of the world outside the tropics does not have much forest cover to speak of.

But countries in the tropics need

to clear some of the forests for development. Will those outside the tropics pay for keeping the forests intact?

The Mahathir Science Award is ready to reward scientists who can develop scientific solutions for such a dilemma.

Disease is another big challenge for the tropics. Dengue, for example, is rampant in many parts. Even malaria, which many thought is no longer prevalent, still haunts the tropics.

Scientists who can offer new ways of overcoming such diseases are also eligible for the Mahathir Science Award.

Over the years the award, which is modelled after the Nobel Prize, was given to scientists whose research had led to more efficient rice production, as well as research that add value to resources of the tropics, like rubber wood.

Last year, the award went to an engineer who developed a natural rubber-based bearing to isolate buildings from earthquakes.

We should have more similar awards that salute science.



Dr Ahmad Ibrahim
Fellow, Academy of Sciences Malaysia

KERATAN AKHBAR
HARIAN METRO (IT@METRO) : MUKA SURAT U7
TARIKH: 06 NOVEMBER 2013 (RABU)

Terima anugerah MIMOS

Kejayaan agensi penyelidikan dan pembangunan (R&D) nasional, **MIMOS Berhad** menduduki tangga keenam senarai Triti Kerjasama Paten (PCT), menunjukkan tahap inovasi negara ini yang semakin maju.

Timbalan Perdana Menteri, Tan Sri Muhyiddin Yassin berkata, ia satu pencapaian membanggakan kerana penyelidikan tahun lalu itu dikeluarkan oleh Pertubuhan Harta Intelek Sedunia (WHO).

"Ia sekali gus membuktikan peranan MIMOS dalam melahirkan inovasi lebih mantap pada masa depan," katanya ketika majlis

Anugerah Berprestij MIMOS 2013 - Mengiktiraf Kece-merlangan Inovasi Universiti dan Industri Pengkomersialan di Kuala Lumpur, baru-baru ini.

Antara penerima anugerah berprestij itu termasuk Dr Zahidah Zulkifli daripada Fakulti Sains Komputer dan Teknologi Maklumat, Universiti Malaya; Dr Afnizanafaizal Abdullah (Kecerdasan Buatan dan Bioinformatik Kumpulan (AIBIG), Fakulti Perkomputeran Universiti Teknologi Malaysia); dan Dr Muhammad Zaini Ahmad (Fakulti Teknologi dan Sains Maklumat, Universiti Kebangsaan

Malaysia).

Dr Teoh Wei Lin (Pusat Pengajian Sains dan Matematik, Universiti Sains Malaysia) serta Dr Salfarina Abdullah daripada Jabatan Kejuruteraan Perisian dan Sistem Maklumat Fakulti Sains Komputer dan Teknologi Maklumat, Universiti Putra Malaysia.

Dua lagi penerima ialah Penyelidikan Pembangunan MIMOS iSDP 3.0 untuk kategori harta intelek dan Dagang Net Technologies Sdn Bhd bagi kategori pengkomersialan yang diwakili Ketua Pegawai Eksekutifnya, Zulina Mohammed Salleh.



Muhyiddin (tengah) bergambar bersama penerima anugerah.

