

**KERATAN AKHBAR-AKHBAR TEMPATAN
TARIKH: 9 JULAI 2014 (RABU)**

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Career switch a noticeable trend



Not enough: A photo of Dr Punithan with Deputy Education Minister P. Kamalanathan. Punithan now operates a business in partnership with MOSTI, which caters to higher learning institutions in the country.

BECOMING a doctor is the childhood dream for many people, and in many families, it is the pinnacle that their children can aim for.

The profession is commonly in the top three career choices of students who do well academically in the country.

While the medical profession is still highly respected, it does have its fair share of struggles and there has been a trend for young doctors in the city to hang up their white coats and set aside their stethoscopes to pursue other passions.

StarMetro spoke to several of these doctors who say they do not regret leaving the profession for their own reasons.

Financial drive

Dr Punithan Shunmugam, 33, said his ambition was to be in a financially lucrative, people-oriented profession.

He spent close to RM300,000 for his medical degree at the Udyana University in Bali, Indonesia in 2008.

The rude awakening came when he completed his studies and began serving as a houseman with the government.

"I had education loans to pay and my salary of RM3,000 was just not enough. In addition to the long hours in the hospital, I had to do locum work in private clinics.

"I was forced to look for additional income by shifting to e-commerce," he said.

Punithan kick-started an e-learning franchise business in 2011 and his business is now a partnership with the **Science, Technology and Innovation Ministry (MOSTI)**.

"We conduct techno-preneurship training for higher learning institutions from both the government and private sector," he said.

He has also branched out to Indonesia and India.

According to Punithan, his parents were unhappy in the initial stages but today, he has their blessings. His brother, who is also a qualified doc-

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tor, also left the profession to join his business.

He said the business had provided financial stability and he could spend more quality time with his family.

"I would advise young students not to go into the medical profession for the money as it is not an easy job," he said.

Typhoon cause of dry spell

Dept: Neoguri dragging moisture from surrounding areas

PETALING JAYA: Typhoon Neoguri which has barrelled across the southern Japanese islands of Okinawa is causing the hot and dry spell in Malaysia.

Malaysian Meteorological Department (MMD) spokesman Dr Hisham Mohd Anip said the typhoon dragged in moisture from surrounding areas, including Malaysia, which had led to the dry weather over the past few days.

"Sometimes, however, the moisture can turn into dense clouds and produce rain, which is why we expect Sabah and Sarawak to experience some rainfall," said Dr Hisham.

On whether the typhoon would strike Malaysia, he said: "There is no way it will hit us as it is in the far north."

It was reported that the strong Typhoon

Neoguri hit the southern islands of Okinawa yesterday, with sustained winds at a speed of 175kph and gusts as fast as 250kph.

The typhoon was also reported to have generated waves of up to 14m high.

The Japan Meteorological Agency, which issued its highest alert over the typhoon, said the storm could be one of the worst to strike the country in decades.

MMD's atmospheric science and cloud-seeding division director Azhar Ishak said the department is continuing its cloud-seeding exercise.

He, however, said it is subjected to the atmospheric conditions.

Meanwhile, a check with the Selangor Water Management Authority showed that there was

minimal rainfall of 1.98mm registered yesterday at the Sungai Selangor dam, which supplies water to at least 60% of the households in the Klang Valley. At press time, the level at the dam stood at 41.29%, still above the critical level of 30%. Other dams such as the Klang Gates and Langat recorded water levels of 76% and 67.22% respectively.

On the El Nino phenomenon, MMD said whether Malaysia had experienced its effects would be confirmed only by the end of this year or between November and December.



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Neoguri lashes
Japan islands

KERATAN AKHBAR
HARIAN METRO (BISNES) : MUKA SURAT 54
TARIKH : 9 JULAI 2014 (RABU)

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Kerajaan masih mengkaji cadangan untuk memansuhkan permit import (AP) memandang ia secara tidak langsung memberi kesan kepada pendapatan negara.

Menteri Perdagangan Antarabangsa dan Industri (MITI) Datuk Seri Mustapa Mohamed berkata, selain memberi kesan kepada pendapatan negara, pemansuhan AP juga akan menyebabkan kakitangan 180 syarikat pemegang AP terjejas.

"Perkara ini sesuatu yang rumit untuk diputuskan kerana ia bukan saja memberi kesan kepada hasil kerajaan, malah kepada syarikat pemegang AP," katanya selepas menyaksikan majlis pertukaran dokumen perjanjian kerjasama antara Pertubuhan Usahawan Generasi Muda Berjaya Malaysia (GMB Malaysia) dan Malaysian Biotechnology Corporation Sdn Bhd (Biotech Corp) di sini, semalam.

Menurutnya, sejak tiga tahun lalu, kerajaan menjana hasil kira-kira RMI bilion daripada caj yang dikenakan bagi pengeluaran setiap AP.

"Setiap AP yang dikeluarkan akan menjana hasil sehingga RM10,000 dan dalam tempoh tiga tahun kerajaan berjaya meraih lebih RMI bilion daripada inisiatif berkenaan.

"Masih terlalu awal untuk membuat sebarang keputusan sama ada meneruskan



MUSTAPA (tengah) bersama Timbalan Menteri Perdagangan Antarabangsa dan Industri Datuk Dr. Hamim Samuri (dua dari kiri) menyaksikan penukaran dokumen antara Ketua Pegawai Eksekutif Biotech Corp Datuk Dr. Mohd. Nazlee Kamal (dua kanan) dan Presiden GMB Malaysia Agil Faisal Ahmad Fadzil (kiri) di Majlis Penukaran Dokumen antara Pertubuhan Usahawan Generasi Muda Berjaya Malaysia dan Biotech Corp di Kuala Lumpur, semalam.

Impak mansuh AP

■ Masih dalam kajian kerana beri kesan kepada pendapatan negara

atau menghentikan pengeluaran AP dan Kementerian masih dalam peringkat kajian untuk menanganis isu berkenaan," katanya.

Dalam pada itu, menurutnya kerajaan belum memutuskan tarikh menukar penggunaan diesel Euro 4 di Malaysia memandangkan ia membabitkan

kos tinggi.

"Kerajaan sudah berbilang dengan pelbagai syarikat sejak dua hingga tiga tahun lalu dan membuat keputusan, tetapi tidak dapat melaksanakannya memandangkan kos yang perlu ditanggung syarikat minyak terlalu tinggi membabitkan kerja menaik taraf sistem, loji dan kilang.

"Mereka meminta penangguhan pelaksanaan ini dan Kementerian yang diketuai Unit Pengurusan Prestasi dan Pelaksanaan (PEMANDU) masih meneruskan perbincangan," katanya.

Menurutnya, sektor automotif menunjukkan minat bagi kerajaan mengikut standard Euro 4 memandangkan banyak negara sudah mula beralih kepada penggunaan Euro 4 dan ada

yang sudah merancang menggunakan Euro 5.

"Dalam hal ini, kita berada di belakang dan jika saya dalam sektor automotif, saya akan bimbang kerana tidak ada kepastian mengenai bila Euro 4 akan digunakan dalam negara.

"Apa yang dilakukan oleh kerajaan sekarang ialah untuk mengimbangi kepentingan industri automotif dan syarikat pengeluar minyak," katanya.

FAKTA
Setiap AP yang dikeluarkan akan jana hasil sehingga RM10,000

KERATAN AKHBAR
UTUSAN MALAYSIA (BISNES) : MUKA SURAT 15
TARIKH: 9 JULAI 2014 (RABU)

40 USAHAWAN BIONEXUS BUMIPUTERA

Oleh **AZMAN IBRAHIM**
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KUALA LUMPUR 8 Julai - Sebanyak 40 usahawan baharu BioNexus bumiputera bakal dihasilkan pada tahun ini, menjadikan 110 kesemuanya setakat ini yang menyerlahkan lagi pertumbuhan industri bioteknologi negara dan menembusi pasaran dunia dianggarkan bernilai AS\$300 bilion (RM960 bilion).

Ketua Pegawai Eksekutif Malaysian Biotechnology Corporation Sdn. Bhd. (BiotechCorp), Datuk Dr. Mohd. Nazlee Kamal berkata, pihaknya sedang bekerjasama dengan universiti-universiti tempatan bagi merealisasikan impian itu.

Katanya, BiotechCorp menyasarkan mahasiswa yang baru menamatkan pengajian bagi meneroka industri berkenaan terutama dalam menghasilkan produk kesihatan.

Malah, jelasnya, BiotechCorp juga akan bekerjasama dengan Generasi Muda Berjaya Malaysia (GMB) bagi menjayakan misi tersebut.

"Malaysia masih kaya dengan

 Malaysia masih kaya dengan sumber semula jadi dan pertanian yang turut membuka peluang kepada pemain-pemain industri bioteknologi untuk mengkomersialkan produk-produk sehingga ke peringkat global

DR. MOHD. NAZLEE KAMAL

Ketua Pegawai Eksekutif Malaysian Biotechnology Corporation Sdn. Bhd. (BiotechCorp)

sumber semula jadi dan pertanian yang turut membuka peluang kepada pemain-pemain industri bioteknologi untuk mengkomersialkan produk-produk sehingga ke peringkat global.

"Kami mahu mengubah sains kepada bentuk perniagaan. Penggunaan teknologi tinggi mampu meningkatkan pendapatan dan keuntungan usahawan-usahawan bumiputera," katanya.

Beliau berkata demikian kepada pemberita selepas menghadiri mesyuarat tertutup dan perjanjian kerjasama di antara GMB dengan BiotechCorp di sini hari ini.

Majlis itu disaksikan oleh Menteri Perdagangan Antarabangsa dan Industri, Datuk Seri Mustapa Mohamed. Yang turut hadir pada mesyuarat itu ialah Presiden GMB, Agil Faisal Ahmad Fadzil.

Tambah Mohd. Nazlee, Malaysia boleh memilih untuk membangunkan produk berkaitan dengan sektor kesihatan dan farmasi berikutan mempunyai sumber alam yang baik.

Malah, katanya, usahawan-usahawan BioNexus boleh mempelajari kaedah bioteknologi yang digunakan di luar negara untuk dipraktikkan secara komersial di negara ini.