

**KERATAN AKHBAR-AKHBAR TEMPATAN
TARIKH: 20 DISEMBER 2013 (JUMAAT)**

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Couple turn their passion for fruits into book

They do FRIM proud by bagging National Book Award

FOREST Research Institute Malaysia (FRIM) driver Othaman Hasin and his wife Zawiah Ngah, who works as a FRIM research assistant, have done themselves and the institute proud by producing a pictorial book which won the National Book Award 2013 recently.

The couple took up the challenge posed by FRIM director-general Datuk Dr Abd Latif Mohmod, who knew of their passion for fruits, and encouraged them to use their knowledge, information and pictures to produce the book *99 Spesies Buah di FRIM*.

They took over a year to produce their first draft, which was edited by

the FRIM DG and several other officers including two botanists.

Othaman, 58, and Zawiah, 43, who met in FRIM, were known to share a love for fruits and fruit trees. It was this interest that brought them together.

They enjoy taking pictures of various fruit trees and accumulating knowledge about the different types of fruit.

Winning the award has strengthened their resolve to work harder on the second volume. Both were proud of their effort and grateful to Dr Abd Latif and others who helped in the editing process.

"Never in my wildest dreams did I think I would be able to write a book,



Well done: Othaman (left) and Zawiah celebrating the award with Dr Abd Latif (centre) with their award.

let alone win an award for it. My wife and I could not have done it without the encouragement of the DG and also the assistance of others," said Othaman.

Othaman and Zawiah, who were accompanied by Dr Abd Latif and FRIM officers involved in the production and promotion of the book, received the trophy and certificate from Deputy Science, Technology and Innovation Minister Datuk Dr Abu Bakar Mohamad Diah, at the awards ceremony recently.

This is the third consecutive year FRIM has won the National Book Award and this time around, the

institute took home two awards — the Best General Book under the Book Industry Award (Science category) for *99 Spesies Buah di FRIM* and the Premier Award (Research) for *FRIM Warisan Kebangsaan*.

Dr Abd Latif accepted the Premier Award from Home Minister Datuk Seri Dr Ahmad Zahid Hamidi for *FRIM Warisan Kebangsaan* at the award ceremony.

The award presentation ceremonies were held in conjunction with the 1Malaysia Book Expo 2013 and International Book Conference 2013, organised by the National Book Development Foundation at PWTC,

Kuala Lumpur from Dec 11 to 15.

"I am very proud of our achievements. However, there is still a lot to be done because FRIM has so much knowledge and information to share. We hope to continue producing books for future generations," said Dr Abd Latif.

Last year, FRIM was awarded the Best Technical Book Award for *Wild Orchids of Peninsular Malaysia*, co-authored by Ong Poh Teck, Peter O'Byrne, Wendy Yong and Dr Saw Leng Guan.

In 2010, FRIM received the award in the same category for *FRIM Tapak Warisan Semulajadi Negara*.

Nasi lemak tahan setahun

■ Peniaga
ganti santan
dengan susu
cair guna
kaedah
sejuk beku

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Putrajaya

Mungkin kedengaran agak mustahil, nasi lemak mampu bertahan sehingga setahun, namun hasil inovasi yang dilakukan seorang pemilik restoran di Johor berjaya menghasilkan nasi lemak yang tidak basi dan tahan lama.

Hidangan nasi lemak sejuk beku diberi nama Pipasak itu diilhamkan Ahmad Arshad, 52, dari Taman Industri Felda Pasak, Kota Tinggi, Johor,



AHMAD

dan idea itu diperoleh hasil pengalamannya yang terpaksa memasak nasi lemak berulang kali gara-gara cepat habis.

Istimewanya nasi lemak ini tidak menggunakan santan, sebaliknya digantikan dengan susu cair bagi memanjangkan tarikh luput dan mengekalkan kelazatan nasi lemak berkenaan.

Menurutnya, dia turut memastikan beras yang digunakan dibasuh lebih tiga kali untuk menghilangkan kanji pada beras itu, sekali gus memastikan nasi yang dimasak lebih tahan lama.

"Bagi lauk pula, saya akan memastikan kualiti dan kebersihan daging serta ramuan yang digunakan untuk masakan rendang berada di tahap yang memuaskan sebelum dimasak selama dua jam.

"Selepas rendang disiapkan, ia akan disejukkan sebelum dibekukan serta perlu melalui proses 'vakum' untuk menyahkan udara bagi menjamin kualitinya," katanya.

Ahmad berkata, dia berdepan dengan masalah menyediakan nasi lemak dalam kuantiti banyak kerana dikhawatiri akan basi walaupun mendapat permintaan yang tinggi.

"Masa yang diperlukan untuk memasak nasi lemak



NASI lemak sejuk beku keluaran Ahmad mendapat sambutan menggalakkan.

adalah dua jam, dari situlah saya terfikir adalah lebih baik jika saya dapat mencipta nasi lemak sejuk beku yang mudah disediakan di samping dapat mengekalkan aroma dan kelazatannya.

"Walaupun kedengaran agak mustahil, selain belum ada usahawan sejuk beku yang menghasilkan hidangan ini, saya bertekad untuk meneruskan idea ini dan selepas membuat percubaan selama enam kali, nasi le-

mak sejuk beku berjaya dihasilkan, malah pengguna hanya mengambil masa kurang daripada 10 minit untuk menyediakannya," katanya.

Katanya, dia dibantu empat anaknya sejak dua tahun lalu bagi menghasilkan nasi lemak beku itu yang ia dijual dengan harga RM5 untuk satu pek.

Menurutnya, setakat ini, dia menjual kira-kira 50 bungkus nasi lemak sejuk beku dalam tempoh sehari

dan bercadang untuk memperluaskan perniagaan berkenaan pada masa akan datang dengan bantuan daripada Yayasan Inovasi Malaysia (YIM).

"Setakat ini, sudah ada gedung beli belah yang bersejua untuk memasarkan Pipasak menyebabkan saya sekeluarga perlu menghasilkan pek pembungkusan yang lebih menarik untuk tujuan pemasaran," katanya.



Kemalangan: Keluarga Simon John Hall Tiba Ahad Ini

KUALA LUMPUR, 19 Dis (Bernama) -- Mayat Simon John Hall, antara enam orang yang rentung dalam kemalangan ngeri di Bulatan Kampung Pandan di sini Rabu akan dituntut anggota keluarganya Ahad ini.

Pegawai Penyiasat Polis Trafik Kuala Lumpur Inspektor Azizah Nur Muhamat berkata pihaknya telah memaklumkan kepada Suruhanjaya Tinggi Britain di sini mengenai kemalangan itu untuk disampaikan kepada keluarga Hall.

"Mereka dijangka tiba dari Britain Ahad ini untuk menuntut mayat," katanya ketika dihubungi Bernama di sini Khamis.

Hall, 40, pengurus syarikat Leighton Offshore di sini dan warga negara Filipina Siso Aileen, 30, Maileen Tentative Montejo, 26, dan Mary Grace Macaraig, 24, serta dua warga Myanmar yang memiliki pas United Nation High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) dikenali sebagai Pi Pi, 20 dan Ester Sui, 26, maut apabila terperangkap dalam kereta Nissan Skyline yang terbakar dalam kejadian 12.45 pagi.

Siasatan awal polis mendapati Hall memandu laju kenderaan itu.

Azizah berkata hanya mayat Hall yang dapat dikenal pasti identitinya berikutan penemuan dompetnya di tempat kejadian selain separuh tubuhnya terbakar.

"Hasil bedah siasat sudah selesai dijalankan semalam dan sampel darah semua mangsa dihantar ke Unit Forensik polis untuk mengetahui keadaan mangsa sebelum kemalangan," katanya.

Beliau berkata kenderaan Nissan Skyline pula dihantar ke [Jabatan Kimia](#) untuk pemeriksaan lanjut.

Menurutnya pihak Suruhanjaya Tinggi Britain, Kedutaan Myanmar dan Kedutaan Filipina di sini memberi kerjasama baik dalam proses pengesahan identiti serta proses tuntutan mayat mangsa.

-- BERNAMA

KERATAN AKHBAR
BERITA HARIAN (BISNES): MUKA SURAT B1
TARIKH: 20 DISEMBER 2013 (JUMAAT)

Kerajaan jangka inflasi naik tiga peratus pertengahan 2014

Kerajaan menjangkakan inflasi akan meningkat sehingga melebihi tiga peratus pertengahan tahun depan, susulan langkah penyusunan semula subsidi sebelum kembali stabil menjelang akhir tahun.

Menteri Kewangan Kedua, Datuk Seri Ahmad Husni Hanadzlah, berkata langkah penyusunan semula subsidi dijangka menyebabkan inflasi meningkat kepada tiga peratus pada awal 2014 dan mencapai kemuncaknya pada pertengahan tahun.

"Ia (inflasi) bagaimanapun akan menurun menjelang penghujung 2014 apabila semua perkara kembali stabil," katanya kepada pemberita selepas melancarkan Skim Pembiayaan Harta Intelek (IFPS) oleh Malaysian Debt Ventures Bhd (MDV) di Kuala Lumpur, semalam.

Ahmad Husni berkata, kerajaan mengambil perhatian serius perkembangan berkenaan dan akan memastikan langkah yang diambil akan memberikan kesejahteraan kepada rakyat dalam jangka panjang.

"Sebelum memperkenalkan beberapa inisiatif rasionalisasi subsidi, kerajaan sudah mengambil kira kesannya ke atas inflasi.

Beri bantuan kepada rakyat

"Namun, sekarang adalah tempoh penyesuaian kerana apa saja yang sedang dilaksanakan kerajaan ketika ini bukan hanya untuk mengukuhkan kedudukan fiskal, tetapi juga adalah cara bagaimana kami boleh memberikan lebih banyak (bantuan) kepada rakyat," katanya.

Ahmad Husni menjelaskan, langkah penyusunan semula subsidi yang dilaksanakan kerajaan adalah antara usaha untuk menambah dana bagi disalurkan semula kepada rakyat.

"Seperti yang saya tegaskan sebelum ini, sekarang ialah tempoh peralihan kerana dalam tempoh jangka panjang, rakyat akan mendapat semula manfaat daripada langkah sedemikian," katanya.

“
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**Ahmad Husni
Hanadzlah,
Menteri Kewangan
Kedua**

Waterspouts not twister

A MONTH after Typhoon Haiyan hit the Philippines, Johoreans were shocked to see a waterspout forming at Tebrau Strait off Lido Beach yesterday.

Misunderstanding it for a twister that could turn into a supercell, some felt scared but the 4pm incident did not stop them from recording video clips and pictures with their handphones.

The videos and pictures went viral on YouTube and Facebook.

An officer from the Malaysia Meteorological Department confirmed that the occurrence

was in fact a waterspout.

"Waterspouts are a normal occurrence especially during thunderstorms. It is a non-supercell tornado that usually takes place above the water," he said.

The officer confirmed that the department received several calls regarding the incident but its satellite did not register any significant details of it.

"We have analysed the pictures and videos and confirmed that it was not a twister but a waterspout," he said urging people to remain calm. — Bernama



EYE-CATCHING: A screen capture of the waterspouts taken from YouTube

MDV sasar agih peruntukan IFPS RM200j akhir 2014

» 22 permohonan pembiayaan skim disasar syarikat teknologi kecil, baru

Oleh Shahrizan Salian
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Malaysian Debt Ventures Bhd (MDV) menyasar mengagihkan peruntukan bernilai RM200 juta di bawah Skim Pembiayaan Harta Intelek (IFPS) dalam tempoh 12 bulan akan datang.

Skim yang diumumkan Perdana Menteri, Datuk Seri Najib Razak dalam Bajet 2013 itu dibuka kepada syarikat yang mempunyai hak harta intelek sebagai cagarang untuk mendapatkan pembiayaan. Ia bermatlamat memupuk daya inovasi serta meningkatkan produktiviti dalam kalangan syarikat tempatan.

Ketua Eksekutifnya, Datuk Md Zubir Ansori Yahaya, berkata buat masa ini pihaknya sudah menerima permohonan daripada 22 syarikat bagi mendapatkan pembiayaan daripada skim yang disasarkan kepada syarikat teknologi kecil dan baru itu.

"Kesedaran syarikat baru terhadap harta intelek adalah sangat tinggi, namun rata-ratanya tidak mengetahui bagaimana untuk menjana keuntungan daripadanya.

"Skim pembiayaan ini adalah cara membantu mereka memanfaatkan harta intelek yang dimiliki, dan kami menjangkakan peruntukan berjumlah RM200 juta yang disediakan akan diagihkan semuanya menjelang akhir 2014," katanya pada sidang media



Ahmad Husni (tengah) bersama (dari kiri) Ketua Pegawai Eksekutif Kumpulan KRU, Norman Abdul Halim, Md Zubir, Zarinah, Pengarah Urusan Datamicon, Jimmy Ting (dua dari kanan) dan Ketua Operasi Info Connect Sdn Bhd, Cheah Swee Chong (kanan) pada majlis pelancaran IFPS di Kuala Lumpur, semalam.

(FOTO HALIM SALLEH/BH)

selepas majlis pelancaran IPFS di Kuala Lumpur, semalam.

Pelancarannya disempurnakan Menteri Kewangan Kedua, Datuk Seri Ahmad Husni Hanadzlah. Yang hadir sama ialah Pengerusi MDV, Tan Sri Zarinah Anwar dan Pengarah MDV, Tan Sri Mohd Hussin Abd Hamid.

Kerajaan mengenal pasti inovasi teknologi serta kreativiti sebagai bidang pertumbuhan baru Malaysia dan IFPS akan menjadi komponen penting bagi membangunkan negara sebagai hab harta intelek yang disokong oleh kemandapan industri.

IFPS bertujuan membantu menghapuskan kesukaran dihadapi oleh syarikat berfokus teknologi ketika cuba mendapatkan pembiayaan daripada institusi kewangan dengan membolehkan mereka menggunakan aset tidak tampak yang dimiliki sebagai cagarang.

Sementara itu, Zarinah berka-

ta IPFS adalah satu bentuk bantuan khusus kepada syarikat berfokus teknologi yang berskala lebih kecil dan lebih baru, terutama perusahaan kecil dan sederhana (PKS) yang menjadikan harta intelek sebagai aset mereka yang paling berharga.

Syarikat jana keuntungan

"Syarikat berkenaan kini boleh menjana keuntungan daripada harta intelek mereka dengan menjadikannya sebagai cagarang untuk mendapatkan pembiayaan daripada MDV," katanya.

Antara ciri-ciri utama IPFS ialah syarikat boleh mendapatkan pembiayaan sehingga RM10 juta atau 80 peratus nilai harta intelek yang paling rendah.

Tempoh pembayaran balik pembiayaan ialah lima tahun dengan rebat kadar keuntungan atau faedah dua peratus setahun dengan jaminan prinsipal 50 peratus daripada kerajaan.

Bagi 20 pemohon pertama skim itu, kerajaan akan membayar kos untuk menilai hak harta intelek mereka.

Tiga bidang teknologi utama bagi IPFS ialah teknologi maklumat dan komunikasi (ICT), bioteknologi serta teknologi hijau.

IPFS dibuka kepada semua produk pembiayaan MDV, tertakluk kepada pemohon memiliki harta intelek yang sudah didaftarkan dan dinilai serta memenuhi semua kriteria produk yang ditetapkan oleh MDV.

Pada majlis semalam, MDV turut memberikan surat tawaran pembiayaan kepada tiga pemohon pertama IPFS yang berjaya.

Di bawah pusingan pertama pembiayaan IPFS, sebanyak RM18.7 juta telah diluluskan kepada KRU Malaysia Sdn Bhd, Datamicon Sdn Bhd dan Info Connect Sdn Bhd dengan nilai harta intelek berjumlah kira-kira RM70 juta.

MDV starts IP finance scheme

RM200m fund to be disbursed by end of 2014

IN the wake of the strong response to its Intellectual Property Financing Scheme, Malaysia Debt Ventures Bhd (MDV) expects all of the RM200 million fund to be disbursed by end-2014.

Vice-president of Corporate Planning and Communication Division, Amiruddin Kemat said over 20 companies in the biotechnology, creative, as well as information, communications and technology industries had applied to the scheme before its official launch yesterday, with three of

them having been approved.

"Some of the applicants being reviewed are in the process of registering their intellectual property rights (IPRs)."

The scheme was part of the government's Budget 2013 announcement that allowed the utilisation of IPR as the collateral for funding of technology companies.

MDV chairman, Tan Sri Zarinah Anwar (pic) said for younger and smaller tech-focused companies, their lack of track record and tangible assets often posed a constraint

in terms of financing options.

"This is because tangible assets are typically required as security for loans."

MDV said the scheme will allow companies to leverage on their IPRs to secure financing of up to RM10 million, or 80% of the value of their IPR, whichever is lower, for a five-year tenure.

The scheme will also provide an annual interest rate rebate of 2% and a 50% financing principal guarantee from the government, she said. — Bernama

KERATAN AKHBAR
THE STAR (STARBIZ) : MUKA SURAT 3
TARIKH : 20 DISEMBER 2013 (JUMAAT)

MDV to disburse RM200mil IPR fund by end-2014

KUALA LUMPUR: In the wake of the strong response to its intellectual property financing scheme, **Malaysia Debt Ventures Bhd (MDV)** expects all of the RM200mil fund to be disbursed by end-2014.

Amiruddin Kemat, vice-president of corporate planning and communication division, said over 20 companies in the biotechnology, creative, as well as information, commu-

nications and technology industries had applied to the scheme before its official launch yesterday with three of them having been approved.

"Some of the applicants being reviewed are in the process of registering their intellectual property rights (IPRs), or having their IPRs being valued by the relevant authority," he told reporters after the launch of the scheme here yester-

day. The scheme was part of the Government's Budget 2013 announcement that allowed the utilisation of IPR as the collateral for funding of technology companies.

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tenure. The scheme will also provide an annual interest rate rebate of 2% and a 50% financing principal guarantee from the Government.

The three successful applicants KRU Malaysia Sdn Bhd, Datamicron Sdn Bhd and Info Connect Sdn Bhd had been granted a total of RM18.7mil for their IPRs in songs, business intelligence solutions and insurance solutions respectively. - Bernama

NEW STRAITS TIMES: The game changer should appeal to more Malaysians generally

Science and technoglory

WEALTH creation is instrumental to national prosperity, especially to a nation looking to escape the middle-income trap. Thus far, this country has gone through the different stages of development, starting with the export of raw materials. From a agricultural economy, Malaysia ventured into manufacturing and its attendant policy of import substitution; and then, it modernised through technology transfer and bringing in the appropriately skilled foreign manpower. With money, Malaysia bought its way to modernity. In about half a century of self-determination, today, the economy is on the threshold of becoming fully developed without, however, the factor most contingent to sustainable development: the post-industrial human capital capable of original thought and hence innovation, if not invention. Malaysia is without the necessary collection of superior minds that would produce the looked for quantum leap.

An anxious prime minister, having laid down the transformative mechanisms needed to propel the country into the desired future destination, is looking askance at the dearth of home grown human agency to actualise the transformations envisaged.

Lamenting the current ratio of graduates at 70:30 favouring the humanities, he is looking to reverse this for, according to him, science is the game changer that would uplift the income level of the people. He offered the example of low-income small holders and how they are to be transformed into high-income earners when the supporting environment remains stubbornly antithetical to science and technology. According to him, science and technology "are powerful instruments of social change" that when enabled will change lives all along the value chain.

Science and technology are instruments of social change that when enabled will change lives all along the value chain

History has described, quite unequivocally, how such power was able to bring Japan the strength that long sustained it as the second largest economy globally. That China's appropriation of this label is less than convincing speaks of the sustained level of wealth creation intrinsic in the Japanese economic culture. But Japan has a long history of science, technology and innovation. How then can that culture, imbued with science and technology as a second nature, be cultivated on Malaysia's near barren soil? An obvious option is the media with its influence. More pull-out pages on science for students to help teachers create an interest in their charges is one possible avenue. The media can create more science and innovation awards for competition between schools for different age groups. More importantly, schools should have head teachers with at least a degree in science, if not a post-graduate degree in some scientific specialisation.