

**KERATAN AKHBAR-AKHBAR TEMPATAN**  
**TARIKH: 03 MAC 2014 (ISNIN)**

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**KERATAN AKHBAR**  
**UTUSAN MALAYSIA (MEGA) : MUKA SURAT 9**  
**TARIKH : 03 MAC 2014 (ISNIN)**

## **Dr. Noordin KP** **baharu Angkasa**

**TIMBALAN** Ketua Pengarah Agensi Angkasa Malaysia (Angkasa) Dr Noordin Ahmad, telah dilantik sebagai ketua pengarah agensi terbabit berkuat kuasa 12 Februari lalu.

Beliau menggantikan Dr Mustafa Din Subari yang telah tamat perkhidmatan pada 13 September tahun lalu.

Selaras dengan pelantikan tersebut, beliau berazam meletakkan bidang sains angkasa dalam arus perdana negara menjelang 2020.

"Saya juga berazam meningkatkan kefahaman rakyat mengenai kepentingan bidang angkasa dalam usaha menjadi negara maju," katanya.

Noordin, 52, yang berkelulusan ijazah bidang Geomatik (Ukur tanah) dari Universiti Melbourne, Australia pada 1984 ijazah kedoktoran bidang satelit sistem penentu kedudukan global (GPS) dari Universiti Newcastle, United Kingdom juga merupakan Profesor Ajung Fakulti Kejuruteraan Universiti Putra Malaysia (UPM) dan ahli Persatuan Remote Sensing Malaysia.

Beliau menerima beberapa anugerah penyelidikan dan mempunyai pengalaman selama 26 tahun dalam bidang pemetaan Sistem Maklumat Geografi (GIS), pemetaan dan Sistem Satelit Navigasi Global (GNSS).



**NOORDIN AHMAD**

Noordin juga terlibat dalam kira-kira 70 projek berkaitan ketiga-tiga bidang terbabit dan dilantik sebagai perunding dengan beberapa agensi kerajaan berkaitan.

Beliau merupakan ketua pengarah yang ketiga menerajui Angkasa sejak ditubuhkan pada 2004 yang sebelum itu disandang oleh Datuk Dr Mazlan Othman dan Dr Mustafa.

Dr. Noordin menerima anugerah Ahli Mangku Negara pada 2004.

Dalam perkembangan lain, Angkasa mengumumkan tiga cadangan penyelidikan telah terpilih untuk dijalankan di Stesen Angkasa Antarabangsa (ISS) oleh Angkasaan Agensi Angkasa Jepun (JAXA), Koichi Wakata pada bulan ini.

Menurut Angkasa, dua cadangan tersebut adalah dari Malaysia iaitu *Growing Bubble in a Glass of Water* oleh Favien Bouhier dan *Bernoulli's Principle* daripada Sabrina Mohammad Salam dan Zakiar Mohammad Salim.

"Sebuah lagi idea dan cadangan yang akan turut dilaksanakan adalah *Capillarity Under Zero-Gravity* daripada penyertaan Australia," kata agensi tersebut.

Angkasa yang merupakan agensi Kementerian Sains, Teknologi dan Inovasi (MOSTI) telah menganjurkan Pertandingan Program *Asian Version of Try Zero G in Space* (Try Zero G) buat kali ke-tiga pada tahun lepas.

Pertandingan tersebut merupakan suatu inisiatif oleh Forum Agensi Angkasa Rantau Asia-Pasifik (APRSAP) dalam bidang pendidikan yang dijalankan di ISS.

Pertandingan tersebut dianjurkan bagi menggalakkan orang ramai untuk menceburi bidang sains dan teknologi angkasa secara tidak langsung dengan menyumbangkan idea atau cadangan aktiviti yang dilaksanakan dalam keadaan graviti sifar.

Pada tahun 2013, sebanyak 45 idea atau cadangan uji kaji dalam pelbagai fenomena sains mikrograviti telah dikemukakan kepada JAXA dari lima buah negara termasuk Malaysia.

Idea dan cadangan uji kaji ini telah dinilai kebolehlaksanaannya terlebih dahulu dari aspek teknikal oleh pakar-pakar JAXA diikuti oleh penilaian pendidikan oleh jawatankuasa pemilihan yang terdiri daripada ahli-ahli sains serta wakil-wakil ahli agensi anggota Kibo-ABC.

Bagi menggalakkan lebih banyak penyertaan program ini, Angkasa telah menganugerahkan Sijil Penghargaan dan sebuah teleskop 76mm Altazimuth Reflector kepada setiap idea atau cadangan dari Malaysia yang terpilih oleh pihak JAXA.

Aktiviti-aktiviti ujikaji ini akan dirakam oleh Koichi Wakata dan seterusnya akan diedar kepada semua negara-negara anggota APRSAF.



# Komersial 23 teknologi

## ■ SIRIM susun strategi tiga tahun pasar produk inovatif

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Sirim Berhad (SIRIM) merancang untuk mengkomersialkan 23 teknologi yang dibangunkan dibantu oleh pembentukan empat syarikat baru sama ada melalui usaha sama atau anak syarikat baru dalam tempoh tiga tahun akan datang.

Naib Presiden Bahagian Penyelidikan dan Inovasi Teknologinya Ir Dr Mohamad Jamil Sulaiman (*gambar*) berkata, hasrat terbabit selari dengan tahun pengkomersialan Kementerian Sains, Teknologi dan Inovasi (MOSTI) 2014 bertujuan memastikan lebih banyak pengkomersialan produk inovatif dan berkualiti dihasilkan.

"Sebelum ini, model pengkomersialan SIRIM adalah lebih kepada pelesenan teknologi kepada industri, namun begitu kami turut merancang beberapa model lain seperti pembentukan usaha sama dengan pihak industri dan pembentukan syarikat baru di bawah pengurusan SIRIM sendiri," katanya pada Bisnes Metro di sini, baru-baru



ini. Beliau berkata, syarikat mengenal pasti usaha sama adalah langkah terbaik dalam memastikan pengkomersialan produk dapat ditingkatkan dengan lebih baik kerana ia membolehkan SIRIM terus berpeluang menjalankan proses peningkatan dan teknologi di samping usahawan tidak perlu membayar royalti teknologi kepada SIRIM.

"Oleh sebab itu kami lebih terbuka dalam mengaplikasikan pelbagai jenis model pengkomersialan dan tidak terhad kepada pelesenan atau jualan terus semata-mata kerana ia mampu menawarkan manfaat jangka panjang buat usahawan dan industri," katanya.

Dalam tempoh 10 tahun

lalu, SIRIM sudah berjaya mengkomersialkan beberapa teknologi seperti Granumas iaitu produk tulang tiruan untuk industri perubatan yang dilesenkan kepada Granulab Sdn Bhd, Xanzwhite (produk kosmetik daripada tumbuhan herba lempoyang) kepada Sireh Emas Sdn Bhd dan Asbestos Free Brakepad (produk pad brek bebas asbestos) kepada Kejuruteraan Emas Sdn Bhd.

Di samping itu, SIRIM turut berjaya mengkomersialkan produk biometrik tempatan pertama yang menggunakan teknologi Embedded Micro-Controller dan dijual terus kepada Neural Services Sdn Bhd.

"Pada masa ini, lebih daripada 10 syarikat menerima teknologi daripada SIRIM melalui pelesenan teknologi dengan membabitkan kos pasaran sebanyak RM47 juta di samping lebih daripada 50 syarikat yang turut menerima bantuan penyelidikan kontrak dan konsultasi," katanya.

Ketika ditanya mengenai perancangan SIRIM bersempena Tahun Pengko-

mersialan MOSTI 2014, Jamil berkata, SIRIM turut merancang beberapa aktiviti bagi menyokong usaha terbabit seperti melancarkan perkhidmatan Eco Design, Pameran dan Pemandaran Perniagaan bagi Sirim Technologies, pelancaran program kenderaan gas asli mampat (CNG) dan Persekitaran SIRIM serta lain-lain.

"Kami akan terus melaksanakan penyelidikan yang memenuhi kehendak pasaran melalui dana seperti Science Fund dan Techno Fund di bawah Mosti bagi memastikan SIRIM sentiasa mengeluarkan teknologi berinovasi tinggi dan berkualiti," katanya.

Pada masa sama, SIRIM dijangka terus meluaskan lagi perkhidmatan yang diberikan kepada usahawan Perusahaan Kecil Sederhana (PKS) melalui program pengkomersialan dan perkhidmatan teknikal bagi memastikan usahawan tempatan mempunyai produk yang berdaya saing dan mampu menembusi pasaran antarabangsa.

**FAKTA**  
SIRIM berjaya mengkomersialkan produk biometrik tempatan pertama

"Sebagai contoh, kami sudah melaksanakan program transformasi seperti menggabungkan beberapa jabatan untuk mendapatkan lebih sinergi dalam memberikan perkhidmatan terbaik kepada golongan terbabit. Oleh itu, saya menyeru supaya usahawan tempatan mendapatkan nasihat dan kepakaran SIRIM kerana masih terdapat segelintir daripada golongan itu kurang mengetahui mengenai perkhidmatan yang ditawarkan pihak kami," katanya.

## INFO

### ANTARA TEKNOLOGI DIKOMERSIALKAN

Granumas (produk tulang tiruan) kepada Granulab Sdn Bhd

Xanzwhite (produk kosmetik daripada tumbuhan herba lempoyang) kepada Sireh Emas Sdn Bhd

Asbestos Free Brakepad (produk pad brek bebas asbestos) kepada Kejuruteraan Emas Sdn Bhd.

Embedded Micro-Controller (biometrik) kepada Neural Services Sdn Bhd



# Hujan lebat redakan kebimbangan



**Hujan lebat** melanda Kuala Lumpur, semalam.

**Kuala Lumpur:** Hujan lebat dan ribut petir yang melanda lima negeri petang semalam, meredakan kebimbangan orang ramai selepas hampir dua bulan berdepan cuaca panas dan kering.

Hujan mulai jam 4.50 petang pada beberapa lokasi sekitar ibu negara, Negeri Sembilan, Selangor, Perak dan Kedah, dijangka menambah kandungan wap air di udara, sekali gus membolehkan pembenihan awan dilakukan.

Pengarah Sains Atmosfera dan Pembenihan Awan **Jabatan Meteorologi (JMM)**, Azhar Ishak, berkata taburan hujan tidak sekata berlaku di bahagian tengah dan selatan Selangor hingga daerah bersempadan Negeri Sembilan.

## Hujan 90 minit

Selain itu, berdasarkan imej

radar interaktif JMM, sekitar Kuala Lumpur, pedalaman Perak dan selatan Kedah, berdekatan Butterworth juga mengalami hujan serta ribut petir.

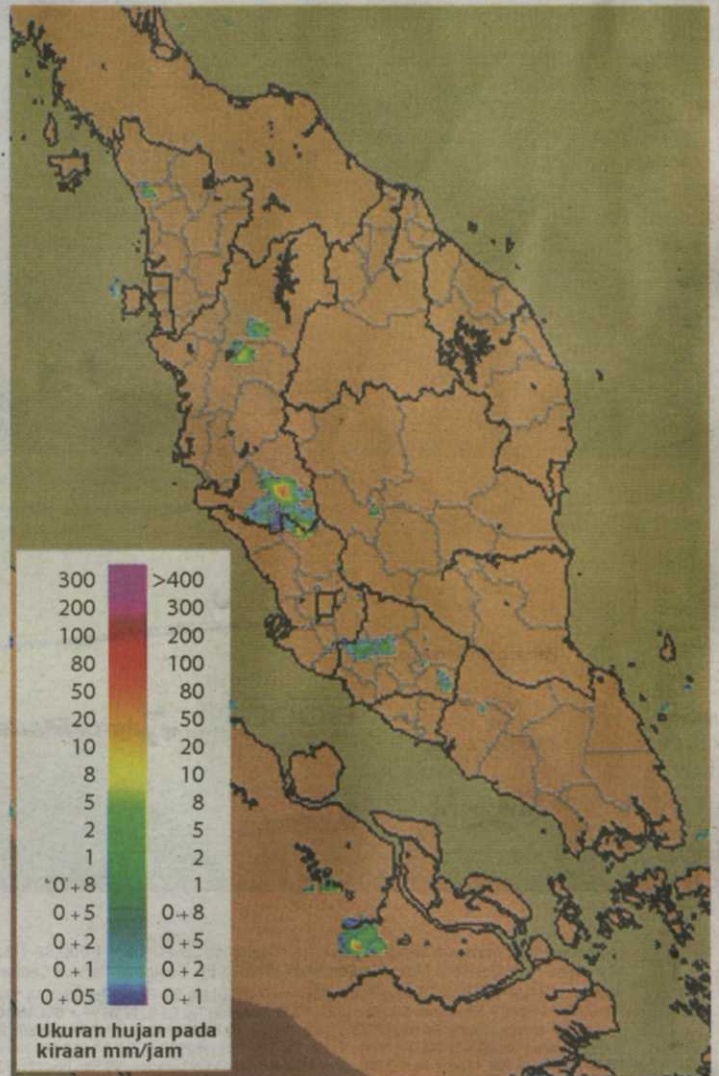
"Hujan hampir 90 minit di kawasan pantai barat memang dijangka, namun ramalan hujan untuk tiga hingga empat hari akan datang sukar ditentukan.

"Bagaimanapun, hujan mengakibatkan keadaan atmosfera tidak stabil, angin pelbagai hala dan meningkatkan kandungan wap air di udara. Justeru, pembenihan awan boleh dilaksanakan sama ada esok (hari ini) atau lusa (esok)," katanya kepada *BH* semalam.

Azhar berkata, hanya empangan di pedalaman Perak dikesan mengalami hujan tetapi tidak memadai untuk meningkatkan paras air.

## INFO

### Kadar hujan pada 2 Mac 2014



Sumber: Jabatan Meteorologi Malaysia



# Rains bring relief to folk in Klang Valley

## DAM LEVELS STILL

**FALLING:** However, they will not stop water rationing, say experts

**ALIZA SHAH  
AND THARANYA ARUMUGAM**  
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**D**OWNPOURS and, in some cases, thunderstorms occurred in several areas in Selangor, Negri Sembilan and here yesterday, raising hopes among those experiencing water shortage.

However, water and meteorological experts agreed this was a temporary reprieve from the dry spell which would not end water woes, especially the rationing exercise being carried out in several parts of Selangor and here.

For the rationing to be lifted, Drainage and Irrigation Department water resources and hydrology director Datuk Hanapi Mohamad Noor said water levels at the Batu 11 and Klang Gates dams, the two main sources of supply to the affected areas, must at least rise beyond their normal levels.

This means that the dams have to receive 947m of rain, combined, to reach this optimum level. The water level at the Batu 11 dam in fact dropped yesterday to 100.42m from 100.54m on Friday. Its normal level is 102m.

Klang Gates, which had 89.94m of water on the same day, dipped to 89.89m yesterday. It needs 94m to function at optimum level.

Klang Gates covers an area of 77.16 sq km while the Batu 11 Dam covers 50 sq km.

"The rain yesterday sadly did not fall anywhere near the water catchment areas as we had hoped for,"



Children playing in the rain at Kampung Dato' Abu Bakar Baginda in Bangi, Selangor, yesterday. Pic by Farizul Hafiz Awang

Hanapi told the *New Straits Times* last night.

A National Water Services Commission (SPAN) official said water rationing would continue.

However, she said, the end of water woes for those in the Klang Valley could come earlier than March 31.

This could happen by middle of this month when the inter-monsoon sets in and brings continuous heavy rain with it.



**DRY SPELL**

The official said prolonged downpour during the inter-monsoon season could spell an end to the water crisis in the country. However, it would be a gradual process.

"The situation will only end if the heavy rainfall occurs in the water catchment areas, especially in critical spots such as rivers in the Klang Valley, especially Sungai Selangor."

Selangor Water Management Authority director Md Khairi Selamat said for the water at the dams to increase significantly, heavy rain must fall upstream of the two dams

(Hulu Gombak upwards).

"Most dams in the Klang Valley are located upstream. Hence, rain in downstream areas will not make a difference to the dams' water levels."

**Meteorological Department** atmospheric science and cloud seeding division director Azhar Ishak said the rains which fell in the Klang Valley yesterday were isolated showers, and that they had minimal impact on water levels in the dams.

He said the department would most likely carry out cloud seeding to induce rainfall at water catchment areas in Selangor, Negri Sembilan, Malacca and Johor today, if there were suitable clouds (towering cumulus).

Azhar said the operation could be carried out between 1pm and 2pm or tomorrow, as the required atmospheric conditions of unstable, light and variable winds were readily present.

He told the NST that the clouds would induce "moderate rainfall" for no more than an hour, some 20 minutes after the seeding.

"The process will also increase the intensity of rainfall if carried

out on existing rain clouds."

In **Seremban**, residents welcomed the rain, even though it lasted less than two hours.

Apart from Seremban, parts of Senawang and Rembau also experienced downpours yesterday.

There, and in various parts of Selangor and Kuala Lumpur, many were seen playing in the rain.

Within an hour of the *New Straits Times*' Facebook page putting up two pictures of rain falling in the Klang Valley, some 130 comments were received.

Facebook user Johnny Yeow was one of those who commented, saying: "Hope heavy and non-stop rain around Klang Gates (dam) to fill up the dams so no need water rationing around Selangor."

Saw Goo Moo Kajang, meanwhile, said: "Rain come ahead. Heavy and darken the whole sky. Our prayer has been answered. More of rain! Oh more of rain, just fill the drying dam. Woohoo." **Additional reporting by Maizatul Ranai**

**Page 1 pic:** The one-month dry spell in **Seremban** was broken by a downpour yesterday, much to the delight of residents.



**KERATAN AKHBAR  
KOSMO (PROGRAM SEMASA): MUKA SURAT 50  
TARIKH: 03 MAC 2014 (ISNIN)**



**Program  
SEMASA**

**MAJLIS Sambutan Hari Hasil dan Hasil 4U** di Dewan Bangsawan, Aras 2, Menara Lembaga Hasil Dalam Negeri, Cyber 8, Cyberjaya pada pukul 10 pagi ini.

**KEMPEN Derma Darah** di pusat beli-belah Sungei Wang Plaza, Kuala Lumpur bermula pukul 9.30 pagi hingga 5 petang ini.

**EKSPO Buku Islam Putrajaya sedang berlangsung sehingga 9 Mac ini** di Dewan Cempaka Sari Presint 3, Putrajaya dengan kerjasama Perbadanan Putrajaya bermula dari pukul 9 pagi hingga 9 malam.

**PAMERAN Science of Fear sedang berlangsung sehingga 30 April ini** di Pusat Sains Negara, Kuala Lumpur bermula pukul 9 pagi hingga 5 petang.

**PAMERAN Sejarah Pentadbiran Balai Seni** di Balai Seni Lukis, Kuala Lumpur pada pukul 10 pagi ini.

## Achieving global peace through science

**COLLABORATION:** Like sports, science can be a powerful instrument to bring conflicting parties together

**I**T is an accepted fact that men always fight. From small, there has always been a reason to pick a fight. During school days, we would fight even over the slightest of disagreement. This can be over name-calling or even petty quarrel. Of course, there will always be those who enjoy watching and constantly urging.

During my primary school days, I remember the popular brawling spot was near a roadside brick kiln. Always after school. When in secondary school, the usual venue was behind the basketball court. Often after Friday prayers.

However, school-day fights seldom end up in lasting vengeance. It would heal up rather quickly. As adults, fighting usually gets more

serious. Sometimes, even minor skirmishes would end up as serious conflicts. As far as I can remember, there has never been a time when there is no war going on somewhere in the world.

Those who read history must know that past wars were fought more on territorial expansion. Building and expanding empires was common drivers of conflicts in the past.

Then, there were also wars fought over ethnic and ideological differences. Not to mention conflicts that arose from discrimination and suppression.

Later, wars started over the control of key resources. Oil has been one resource that has attracted a lot of fighting, often times escalating into full-fledged wars. Now, many

believe water will be the next excuse to engage in warfare.

The signs are already there. In cases where the water source is shared among nations, tensions have started building up. Many expect this to worsen as the impact of climate change begins to bite even more.

Though wars bring misery to many, there are some who benefit from such conflicts. Understandably, those in the business of selling weapons, for example, stand to gain.

However, many agree, wars in the end are damaging for all. The humanitarian consequences of wars are many. They create refugees and many displaced people. All have to endure years of stressful living under deplorable conditions.

Over the years, weapons have become more sophisticated. They pose even bigger threats to the survival of the human race itself. Science has somehow helped develop the new so-called weapons of mass destruction. These include those based on nuclear, chemical and biological systems. All have become major global security concerns. There is fear that if such weapons end up in

the hands of some misguided groups, the consequence can be catastrophic.

Though knowledge in science has contributed to the proliferation of such dangerous weaponry, science has also proved to be a potent instrument of peace. Cases abound of successful initiatives where science has helped cushion the animosities between nation states.

One such example was the establishment of the International Institute for Applied Systems Analysis (IIASA). Over the years, IIASA has made important contributions towards the understanding of the various forces at work to influence the global energy development, world water scenarios, demographic dynamics and the intricacies surrounding looking for solutions to global poverty. And, IIASA was established during the Cold War.

It is a place where United States and Soviet scientists come together to research and develop scientific solutions to some of the pressing global problems, such as poverty alleviation, food production and access to basic amenities.

It has been reported that there are similar initiatives sprouting in the Middle East.

Like sports, science can be a powerful instrument to bring conflicting parties together and work towards a common good.

However, unlike sports, science does not promote violence. We are all familiar with the kind of violence that can start from sports. No such thing happens under scientific collaboration.

On the contrary, scientific cooperation seeking solutions to many of mankind's common enemies breeds more peaceful coexistence.

One common enemy is climate change. Through science, man has come together for years exploring the strategies that the world needs to combat climate change. Scientists collaborate to develop new low-carbon energy sources. They cooperate to demonstrate potent adaptation measures for sustainable agriculture and food production.

It is time the world looks at science not just for wealth creation. Instead, science should also be invested as a potent weapon for peace!



**Dr Ahmad Ibrahim**  
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