

KERATAN AKHBAR-AKHBAR TEMPATAN
TARIKH: 25 MEI 2016 (RABU)

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KERATAN AKHBAR
BERITA HARIAN (DASAR & PENTADBIRAN) : MUKA SURAT 22
TARIKH: 25 MEI 2016 (RABU)



[FOTO MOHAMAD SHAHRIL BADRI SAALI/BH]

Madius (dua dari kiri) mencuba produk My Fon keluaran Taman Teknologi Malaysia, sambil diperhatikan Noorul Ainur, Mohd Azman Shahidin (dua dari kanan) serta Timbalan Ketua Setiausaha (Sains), Kementerian Sains, Teknologi dan Inovasi, Ramzah Dambul pada Majlis Prapelancongan MCY 2016 di Kuala Lumpur, semalam.

Kerajaan sasar komersial 145 produk R&D tahun ini

➔ Kerajaan
letak sasaran
sempena Tahun
Pengkomersialan
Malaysia

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■ Kuala Lumpur

Kerajaan menyasarkan untuk mengkomersialkan sekurang-kurangnya 145 produk penyelidikan dan pembangunan (R&D) sepanjang tahun ini sempena Tahun Pengkomersialan Malaysia (MCY) 2016.

Menteri Sains, Teknologi dan Inovasi (MOSTI), Datuk Seri Madius Tangau, berkata jumlah itu ditetapkan sebagai indeks pe-

tunjuk prestasi (KPI) khas bagi 25 organisasi, agensi dan institusi pengajian di bawah sembilan kementerian yang menyatakan komitmen untuk mengkomersialkan produk masing-masing.

Katanya, setiap organisasi disasarkan untuk menghasilkan sekurang-kurangnya lima produk sedia dipasarkan dan bukan pada peringkat uji kaji atau projek perintis semata-mata.

"MCY perlu menjadi permulaan bagi penyelidik mengubah paradigma pemikiran untuk menghasilkan produk berasaskan permintaan pasaran dan bukan sekadar mengejar paten harta intelek semata-mata."

Selesai masalah seharian

"Saya mengharapkan produk dihasil dan dikomersialkan sepanjang tahun ini adalah tertumpu untuk menyelesaikan masalah seharian manusia," katanya pada sidang media Majlis Prapelancongan MCY 2016, di sini, semalam.



MCY perlu menjadi permulaan bagi penyelidik mengubah paradigma pemikiran untuk menghasilkan produk berasaskan permintaan pasaran dan bukan sekadar mengejar paten harta intelek semata-mata"

Madius Tangau,
Menteri Sains, Teknologi
dan Inovasi

Yang turut hadir, Ketua Setiausaha MOSTI, Datuk Seri Dr Noorul Ainur Mohd Nur, Presiden dan Ketua Pegawai Eksekutif (CEO) Taman Teknologi Malaysia (TPM), Datuk Mohd Azman Shahidin serta Presiden dan Ketua Eksekutif Institut Piawaian dan Penyelidikan Perindustrian Malaysia (SIRIM) Berhad, Datuk Dr Zainal Abidin Mohd Yusof.

Pada majlis itu, Madius turut melancarkan dua daripada 145 produk R&D yang disasarkan pada tahun ini iaitu Quantum Brakepads, getah brek kenderaan yang mesra alam dan MyFon, alat komunikasi menggantikan telefon awam.

Madius berkata, semua produk yang berjaya dikomersialkan pada tahun ini akan dipamerkan kepada umum dalam acara yang dijangka diadakan November depan.

Katanya, MCY adalah lanjutan daripada Program Pengkomersialan MOSTI yang berjaya mengkomersialkan 132 produk sejak dua tahun lalu.



MOSTI To Commercialise 145 R&D Products By Year-End

KUALA LUMPUR, May 24 (Bernama) -- **The Ministry of Science, Technology and Innovation (MOSTI)** is on track to commercialise 145 new research and development (R&D) products by year-end.

The products, which will become the special key performance indicators (KPIs) in conjunction with Malaysia Commercialisation Year 2016 (MCY 2016), are developed by 26 research institutes nationwide comprising 13 research agencies, five research universities and eight technology development agencies.

"Currently, we are introducing the products to the industry players and companies," said **Minister Datuk Seri Madius Tangau**.

He was speaking to reporters after officiating the pre-launch of MCY 2016 here, Tuesday.

Madius also launched the MCY 2016 logo, slogan and theme song, as well as two products, namely "My Fon" and "Quantum Brakepads" at the ceremony.

Meanwhile, Madius expressed confidence that the ministry could achieve the target of commercialising 150 new products by year-end.

"With 145 products already in hand, it should be no problem for us to achieve the 150 KPIs this year," he said.

Earlier, MOSTI has identified 150 KPIs for the 25 research institutes to fast-track new innovations and inventions, and to-date four new products have been introduced this year.

The four products -- Malaysian Integrity Test, Smart Lock-up System, My Fon and Quantum Brakepads, have been commercialised while the others will be introduced in stages.

-- BERNAMA

Cashless public phones to replace coin-operated ones

KUALA LUMPUR: A Malaysian company has created a cashless public telephone to replace the current coin-operated technology.

The GSM and SIM-based public phone, known as MyFon, is developed by Pure Spectrum Technologies, an information and communications technology company incubated by **Technology Park Malaysia**.

MyFon, which is the first public telephone of its kind in Asia, also enables users to send and receive text messages as well.

MyFon founder and chief executive officer Shafiee Saleh said the

I hope MCY is the beginning of a new paradigm for Malaysia.

Datuk Seri Madius Tangau

phone service, which utilises the Celcom network, would charge users 20 sen per minute for calls and 10 sen per text message sent.

He said the company's targeted market were the National Service

training camps and schools, especially boarding schools which banned students from carrying cell-phones.

So far, 500 units of the phone had been installed at 126 schools nationwide, he added.

Another Malaysian company has created an asbestos-free brake pad branded as **Quantum Brakepads**, which is an environmentally-friendly innovation of **Standards and Industrial Research Institute of Malaysia (Sirim)** in collaboration with Kejuruteraan Emas.

It is specially formulated with low metal content to reduce noise,

rotor wear and dust accumulation.

Both products will be commercialised under the **Malaysia Commercialisation Year (MCY) 2016** initiative, aimed to advance entrepreneurship, innovation and commercialisation activities in the country.

The two products were introduced to industry players at an event which was attended by **Science, Technology and Innovation Minister Datuk Seri Madius Tangau** here yesterday.

Madius said a total of 145 products were expected to be commer-

cialised under the MCY initiative this year.

He added that a ceremony to recognise the best products and technologies would be held in November.

Madius said 65 products were commercialised in 2014 and 67 the following year under the programme.

"I hope MCY is the beginning of a new paradigm for Malaysia," he added.

At the event, he also launched the logo and theme song for MCY 2016, themed "STI for wealth creation".

KERATAN AKHBAR
UTUSAN MALAYSIA (DALAM NEGERI) : MUKA SURAT 8
TARIKH: 25 MEI 2016 (RABU)

MOSTI peruntuk RM8.7 juta perkasa penyelidikan

KOTA SAMARAHAN 24 Mei - Kementerian Sains, Teknologi dan Inovasi telah membelanjakan sebanyak RM8.7 juta di bawah Rancangan Malaysia Ke-11 (RM Ke-11) untuk memperkasakan bidang penyelidikan serta inovasi di negara ini sejak Januari hingga Mac lalu.

Timbalan Menteri, Datuk Dr. Abu Bakar Mohamad Diah berkata, menerusi Rancangan

Malaysia Ke-10 (RMK-10) yang berakhir tahun lalu, RM1billion telah diperuntukkan untuk tujuan sama.

Beliau berkata, kementerian-nya sentiasa berusaha menjalin kerjasama dengan pihak universiti bagi menyerlahkan produk penyelidikan dan inovasi bagi menembusi pasaran luar negara membabitkan kira-kira 260 produk pada 2030.

“Sebagai pusat yang mengeluarkan cendekiawan adalah menjadi peranan universiti untuk menggerakkan lagi bidang penyelidikan dan inovasi melalui geran yang telah disediakan oleh kerajaan,” katanya ketika berucap menutup Ekspo Pameran Inovasi dan Teknologi (InTEX) Universiti Malaysia Sarawak (Unimas) di DeTAR Putra Unimas, di sini hari ini.

Try out innovations before marketing them, varsities told



Dr Abu Bakar examines a product at one of the exhibition booths. — Photo by Jeffery Mostapa

KOTA SAMARAHAN: Universities are urged to expose their product innovations beyond university level before they commercialise them.

Deputy Minister of Science, Technology and Innovation Datuk Dr Abu Bakar Mohamad Diah suggested that universities use their own innovations first before promoting them.

The country's innovation culture is expanding but it was worrying that most of creations could not go to the next level to penetrate the international markets.

"We have no problem inventing products at the levels of primary and secondary schools and universities but most of them cannot go to the next level, which is not the work of universities as it is for private companies to commercialise them.

"So I urge universities to expose their products outside to commercialise them," he told reporters after closing the 'Universiti Malaysia Sarawak (Unimas) Innovation and Technology Exposition (InTEX16)' yesterday.

Mosti funded a total of 6,483 projects which included 4,566 projects under the Ninth Malaysia Plan (9MP), 1,872 projects under the 10MP and 45 projects under 11MP (January to March this year).

Out of the total, 4,661 projects had been completed while the rest were still in progress.

“In research, Mosti spent RM2,896 billion in the 9MP, RM998 million in the 10MP and RM8.7 million in the 11MP from January to March this year,” he added.

He said at his ministry level, they were ever ready to give funding such as through Science Fund, Inno Fund, Tetechno Fund, and Research and Development Fund.

To ensure research and development products are able to compete and penetrate international markets, the prime minister declared this year ‘Malaysia Commercialisation Year’ in the hope that 360 products giving the highest impact could be commercialised and marketed internationally by year 2020.

The Malaysia Commercialisation Year 2016 is jointly organised by Mosti and the Finance Ministry.

A total of 240 researchers of private and public higher learning institutions took part in the expo.

Thirty-four gold awards were given to participants taking part in the categories of Technology and Engineering, Pure and Applied Science, Social Science and Humanities, and Information and Communication Technology.

Deputy vice-chancellor (research and innovation) Professor Dr Kopli Bujang said Unimas saw 80 per cent increase in participation in this year’s expo compared to last year.

“This is positive and encouraging to our effort to cultivate the research and innovation culture among our lecturers and students.

“The products that have won awards in InTEX 2016 will have the potential to represent Unimas in similar expos, nationally and internationally,” he said.



Waspada Guna Produk Teknologi Nano

SEPANG, 24 Mei (Bernama) -- Pengguna perlu berwaspada dengan produk yang menggunakan teknologi nano terutamanya produk kosmetik dan kesihatan memandangkan Malaysia masih tidak mempunyai sistem verifikasi yang boleh mengesahkan ketulenan dan keselamatan produk terbabit.

Pengarah kanan Institut Metrologi Kebangsaan Malaysia (NMIM) Dr Osman Zakaria berkata ketika ini terdapat pelbagai produk kesihatan dan kosmetik dengan teknologi nano yang dipasarkan di negara ini tanpa melalui proses verifikasi untuk mengukur kandungan nano dalam produk tersebut.

"Mana-mana pengeluar produk di negara ini boleh mendakwa mereka mengeluarkan produk dengan teknologi nano kecuali jika mereka ada sijil daripada negara lain bahawa produk mereka ada unsur nano.

"Jika ada sesuatu produk yang dikatakan menggunakan nano gold, adakah ia akan memberi kesan sampingan sekiranya ada unsur lain seperti raksa? Jadi ini yang perlu dipastikan," katanya kepada pemberita selepas majlis sambutan Hari Metrologi Sedunia 2016 di Institut NMIM, di sini hari ini.

Majlis turut dihadiri **Menteri Sains, Teknologi dan Inovasi Datuk Seri Madius Tangau dan Ketua Setiausaha kementerian Datuk Seri Dr Noorul Ainur Mohd Nur.**

Untuk itu, Dr Osman berkata NNIM sedang bekerjasama dengan Universiti Malaya bagi membangunkan bahan rujukan untuk proses verifikasi terhadap pelbagai produk yang menggunakan teknologi nano. "Sekiranya tiada bahan rujukan ini, kita tiada proses yang sah untuk menentukan sama ada sesuatu produk ada unsur nano terutama sekali apabila melibatkan penguatkuasaan undang-undang.

"Produk yang menggunakan teknologi nano ini secara umumnya mahal dan kita tidak mahu pengguna tertipu," jelasnya.

Katanya dengan adanya bahan rujukan dan proses verifikasi tersebut, produk keluaran Malaysia yang menggunakan teknologi nano lebih mudah dipasarkan ke luar negara kerana terbukti ketulenannya.

Bagaimanapun, menurutnya proses membangunkan bahan rujukan itu mengambil masa yang lama dan dijangka hanya dapat disiapkan dalam tempoh satu hingga dua tahun.



Madius Cadang Penubuhan Majlis Baharu Mengenai Infrastruktur Kualiti Negara

SEPANG, 24 Mei (Bernama) -- **Menteri Sains, Teknologi dan Inovasi Datuk Seri Madius Tangau** mencadangkan satu majlis baharu peringkat lebih tinggi ditubuhkan bagi menggubal dan menetapkan dasar dan hala tuju negara dalam bidang standard, akreditasi, penilaian pematuhan dan metrologi.

Katanya majlis itu akan dipengerusikan oleh beliau sendiri dan akan menggantikan Majlis Pengukuran Negara dan Majlis Standard dan Akreditasi Malaysia.

"Adalah menjadi harapan saya agar penubuhan majlis baharu ini, penyelarasan yang lebih baik dapat dicapai memandangkan standard dan kualiti menjadi perkara saling berkait di semua kementerian dan agensi.

"Cadangan ini akan diangkat ke Kabinet bersekali dengan Pelan Tindakan Strategik untuk pelaksanaan berkesan," katanya dalam ucapan ketika majlis sambutan Hari Metrologi Sedunia 2016, di Institut Metrologi Kebangsaan Malaysia (NMIM), di sini hari ini.

Sambutan tahun ini yang bertemakan "Measurement in a Dynamic World" secara langsung menekankan kepentingan ilmu pengukuran dalam memastikan kebajikan masyarakat adalah terjamin dengan menyokong kelestarian perdagangan, industri, penguatkuasaan dan perlindungan pengguna.

Madius berkata kementerian juga sedang mengkaji tadbir urus keseluruhan infrastruktur kualiti negara melibatkan standard, akreditasi, penilaian pematuhan dan metrologi.

Katanya ketika ini terdapat keperluan mendesak untuk memastikan infrastruktur kualiti negara adalah selaras dengan amalan terbaik di peringkat antarabangsa dan responsif kepada perubahan dalam landskap ekonomi global.

Beliau berkata dalam membangunkan Infrastruktur Kualiti Kebangsaan (NQI) yang efisien, tiga aspek utama iaitu standard, akreditasi dan metrologi perlu membangun secara seiring bagi menghalang pasaran domestik dijadikan tempat lambakan produk-produk yang tidak berkualiti dan sub-standard.

"Jika ini berlaku, ia boleh menjejaskan pembangunan perindustrian negara di samping kesan negatif kepada keselamatan dan kesejahteraan pengguna," katanya.

Menurutnya infrastruktur metrologi atau sains pengukuran juga penting bagi meningkatkan daya saing negara terutamanya dalam konteks perjanjian perdagangan seperti Perjanjian Perkongsian Trans-Pasifik (TPPA) yang memerlukan Malaysia membuat komitmen untuk menghapuskan atau mengurangkan Halangan Teknikal kepada Perdagangan (TBT).

"Salah satu halangan khusus berkaitan dengan pengukuran adalah di mana terdapat nilai ukuran yang berbeza antara negara, ia akan merencat aliran import dan eksport yang efisien," jelasnya.

-- BERNAMA



Metrology: Madius Proposes New Council To Formulate, Fix National Policies

SEPANG, May 24 (Bernama) -- **Science, Technology and Innovation Minister Datuk Seri Wilfred Madius Tangau** has proposed that a new higher level council be set up to formulate and fix national policies and direction in standard, accreditation, compliance evaluation and metrology.

He said he would chair the council which would replace the National Measurement Council and Standards and Accreditation Council Malaysia.

"It is my hope that the setting up of the new council will allow a better coordination as standard and quality are cross-cutting matters at all ministries and agencies.

"The proposal will be forwarded to the Cabinet, together with the Strategic Action Plan for effective implementation," he said in his speech at the 2016 World Metrology Day celebration at the Malaysia National Metrology Institute (NMIM) here Tuesday.

This year's celebration, themed 'Measurement in a Dynamic World' directly stresses on the importance of measurement know-how in ensuring the welfare of society was assured by supporting the sustainability of trade, industry, enforcement and consumer protection.

Madius said his ministry was also studying the national quality infrastructure comprehensive governance involving standard, accreditation, evaluation compliance and metrology.

He said currently, there was a pressing need to ensure the national quality infrastructure was in line with best practices at the international level and responsive to changes in the global economic landscape.

He said three main aspects, namely, standard, accreditation and metrology must be developed in tandem with the setting up of an efficient National Quality Infrastructure (NQI) to prevent the domestic market from being a dumping ground for sub-standard and low quality products.

"The development of national industries can be adversely affected while the safety and wellbeing of consumers are negatively impacted," he said.

He said the metrology infrastructure or the science of measurement was also crucial

for boosting national competitiveness, especially in the context of trade agreement such as the Trans-Pacific Partnership Agreement which required Malaysia to make a commitment to eradicate or reduce Technical Barrier to Trade.

"One of the specific barriers related to measurement is when there are different measurement values between nations, it may stunt efficient import and export flow," he said.

-- BERNAMA

KERATAN AKHBAR
UTUSAN MALAYSIA (DALAM NEGERI) : MUKA SURAT 3
TARIKH: 25 MEI 2016 (RABU)

Kesan El Nino semakin lemah

PUTRAJAYA 24 Mei -

Cuaca panas dan kering yang melanda negara sebelum ini telah reda susulan berlakunya hujan di kebanyakan kawasan semasa tempoh peralihan monsun dari awal April hingga minggu ketiga Mei.

Menteri Sains, Teknologi dan Inovasi, Datuk Seri Madius Tangau berkata, cuaca dijangka kembali neutral mulai Jun dan pada masa sama kesan El Nino semakin berkurangan dan beransur lemah.

“Suhu yang dipantau oleh Jabatan Meteorologi Malaysia semalam merekodkan kebanyakan kawasan mencatatkan suhu maksimum antara 33 - 34 darjah selsius,” katanya dalam satu kenyataan di sini hari ini.

Dalam keadaan cuaca sebegini katanya, gelombang haba dijangka tidak berlaku di negara ini.

Heatwave over, says ministry

PETALING JAYA — The hot and dry weather due to the El Nino weather phenomenon is over, said the Science, Technology and Innovation Ministry yesterday.

The heatwave, which started end of last year, saw temperatures rise to as much as 40 degrees Celsius, claiming two lives and hospitalising more than 10 people from heatstroke.

Science, Technology and Innovation Minister Datuk Wilfred Madius Tangau said the country now had more rain due to the inter-monsoon period with maximum temperatures at between 33 and 34 degrees.

"The El Nino phenomenon is also tapering out and is expected to be neutral by June," he said.

The Australian Bureau of Meteorology yesterday also declared the end to the strongest El Nino in nearly 20 years.

Climate indicators associated with El Nino, which emerged in 2015, have now returned to neutral levels, the bureau said, reported Reuters.

El Nino sees in a warming of sea-surface temperatures in the Pacific which can lead to scorching weather across Asia and east Africa, but heavy rains and floods in South America.

The latest El Nino resulted in sea temperatures rising to the highest levels in 19 years, causing drier than average weather which resulted in a fall in production of wheat, palm oil and rice in Asia.

Farmers will now be looking forward to La Nina, which typically brings wetter weather across Asia.



Cuaca Panas, Kering Reda Di Malaysia - Madius Tangau

KUALA LUMPUR, 24 Mei (Bergambar) -- Keadaan cuaca panas dan kering yang melanda negara sebelum ini, semakin reda susulan hujan di kebanyakan kawasan semasa tempoh peralihan monsun dari awal April hingga minggu ketiga Mei.

Menteri Sains, Teknologi dan Inovasi Datuk Seri Madius Tangau berkata pada masa sama, kesan El Nino juga berkurangan berikutan fenomena itu telah beransur lemah.

"Keadaan dijangka kembali neutral mulai Jun," katanya dalam kenyataan hari ini.

Beliau seterusnya berkata kebanyakan kawasan mencatat suhu maksimum antara 33 dan 34 darjah Celsius semalam.

"Dalam keadaan cuaca sebegini, gelombang haba dijangka tidak akan berlaku di negara ini," katanya.



Catuan Bekalan Air Di Utara Perlis Dihentikan

KANGAR, 24 Mei (Bernama) -- Peningkatan paras air di Empangan Timah Tasoh sejak beberapa hari lepas melegakan penduduk Perlis terutama di bahagian utara.

Timbalan Pengarah Jabatan Pengairan dan Saliran (JPS) Mohamad Nor Hafiz Noor Azmi berkata paras air hari ini mencatatkan 26.24 meter, meningkat 0.01 meter. Paras kritikal ialah 26.50 meter.

Katanya, walaupun kawasan empangan tidak menerima hujan semalam tetapi air dari Sungai Pelarit dan Sungai Jarum mengalir masuk ke kawasan tadahan.

"Air ke kawasan sawah di utara Perlis bagaimanapun tidak dapat dilepaskan kerana kuantiti air yang ada belum cukup," kata Mohamad Nor Hafiz kepada Bernama hari ini.

Beliau berkata Empangan Timah Tasoh mencatatkan paras terendah 26.00 meter tiga hari berturut-turut pada 8,9 dan 10 Mei lepas.

Kira-kira 7,200 orang petani di luar kawasan Lembaga Kemajuan Pertanian Muda (MADA) khususnya di utara Perlis yang mengusahakan lebih 11,765 hektar sawah bergantung kepada air dari Empangan Timah Tasoh selain air hujan.

Ketua Pegawai Eksekutif Syarikat Air Perlis (SAP) Abdul Hamid Sahid yang dihubungi berkata penghantaran bekalan air kepada penduduk yang terlibat dengan catuan di utara Perlis dihentikan sepenuhnya mulai semalam.

Katanya penghantaran bekalan air berjadual kepada 13,000 pengguna domestik di kawasan terjejas seperti Padang Besar, Wang Kelian, Kaki Bukit, Titi Tinggi, Beseri dan Abi diberhentikan berperingkat-peringkat sejak 16 Mei lepas.

Pengarah Jabatan Meteorologi Perlis, Muhammad Khalil Ab Aziz pula berkata suhu maksimum di Perlis pada tengah hari ini ialah 32.9 darjah Celsius.

-- BERNAMA

KERATAN AKHBAR
KOSMO (NEGARA) : MUKA SURAT 20
TARIKH: 25 MEI 2016 (RABU)

20 NEGARA

KOSMO! RABU 25 MEI 2016



KEADAAN sebuah van jenis Perodua Rusa yang rosak akibat dihempap pokok tumbang di hadapan sebuah hotel di Jejawi, Arau.



AZLINA meninjau keadaan rumahnya selepas ribut di Kuala Nerang, Alor Setar semalam.



SESAK. Pokok tumbang di Jalan Kangar-Alor Setar menyebabkan lalu-lintas menjadi sesak.

Puluhan kedai, pokok tumbang selepas angin kencang selama sejam

Kedah, Perlis dilanda ribut

Oleh MEGAT LUTFI MEGAT RAHIM dan
NORLIDA AKMAR IDROS

KANGAR - Puluhan kedai, gerai dan papan tanda Hospital Tuanku Fauziah (HTF) di sini rosak akibat hujan lebat dan angin kencang selama satu jam yang melanda daerah Kangar, Padang Besar dan Arau semalam.

Selain kerosakan, puluhan pokok lama jenis Jati dan Beringin dilaporkan tumbang di beberapa kawasan.

Tinjauan *Kosmo!* di Santan, Padang Besar yang disifatkan kawasan paling teruk terjejas itu mendapati lalu lintas sesak apabila lebih 10 batang pokok Jati dan pokok Beringin tumbang di atas jalan raya.

Sementara di Jejawi, Arau dekat sini pula wartawan *Kosmo!* menemui sebuah van jenis Perodua Rusa remuk selepas dihempap pokok.

Pemandu van itu bagaimanapun hanya mengalami kecederaan ringan dan mendapat rawatan sebagai pesakit luar di HTF Kangar.

Pengarah Jabatan Pertahanan Awam Malaysia (JPAM) Perlis, Ishak Radzi berkata, sehingga pukul 4 petang semalam lebih 74 panggilan kecemasan susulan daripada kejadian hujan lebat dan angin kencang yang bermula kira-kira pukul 2 petang.

"Laporan kami terima susulan insiden itu termasuk pokok tum-



SALAH sebuah kereta yang rosak akibat dihempap serpihan kayu dan bumbung selepas ribut melanda Kuala Nerang semalam.



NALIN

ASMIDAR

bang, atap kediaman tercabut, kerosakan gerai dan premis perniagaan akibat ditiup angin kencang," katanya ketika dihubungi di sini semalam.

Difahamkan, kadar kelajuan angin semasa hujan lebat itu kira-kira 31 kilometer sejam.

Seorang pekerja hotel, Nalin

Kliang memberitahu, dia dan rakannya Suda Kria terpaksa menahan pintu utama hotel semasa angin kencang berlaku di Jejawi, Arau dekat sini.

"Tidak pernah angin sekuat ini sepanjang lima tahun saya bekerja di sini. Saya terpaksa menahan pintu utama hotel itu kerana angin kencang," katanya ketika ditemui di Jejawi, Arau semalam.

Dalam pada itu, Siti Asmidar Che Ros di Santan, Padang Besar dekat sini berkata, semasa kejadian hujan dan angin kencang itu, dia dan dua pelanggan berada di dalam premis kedai runcit.

"Situasi semalam benar-benar menakutkan saya. Panik juga

bila tengok banyak pokok tumbang di sepanjang jalan," katanya.

Sementara itu di, Kuala Nerang, Alor Setar, sebanyak 24 rumah di 11 buah kampung di sini rosak dalam kejadian ribut kira-kira pukul petang semalam.

Dalam kejadian itu, sebanyak enam buah rumah rosak teruk dengan dua daripadanya ditimpa pokok.

Antara kampung terlibat ialah Kampung Masjid Lama, Kampung Padang Nyior, Kampung Baru Padang Sanai, Kampung Labi dan Kampung Tengah.

Pengerusi Jawatankuasa Kerajaan Tempatan, Bekalan Air, Sumber Air Dan Tenaga serta Badan-badan Bukan Kerajaan negeri, Datuk Badrol Hish-

am Hashim memberitahu, tiada kecederaan dilaporkan dalam kejadian ribut tersebut.

"Ini merupakan kejadian ribut keempat berlaku di daerah Padang Terap ini," katanya ketika ditemui di Kampung Masjid Lama, Tualak di sini semalam.

Suri rumah, Azlina Abd. Talib, 36, berkata, kejadian ribut yang berlaku selama kira-kira setengah jam itu menerbangkan keseluruhan bumbung bilik tingkat atas rumahnya.

Sementara itu, mengikut ramalan cuaca dalam tempoh seminggu yang dikeluarkan **Jabatan Meteorologi Malaysia (MetMalaysia)** memberi amaran berlaku ribut petir di satu atau dua tempat di beberapa kawasan di Perlis dan Kedah semalam.

Preventing cyberattacks

TECHNOLOGY has taken the Internet to the next level. It has dramatically revolutionised many different areas and basically transformed our lives. In today's world, the reality is that all individuals and organisations connected to the Internet are vulnerable to cyberattack.

Cybercrime is regarded as the most significant frightening frontier posing a serious criminal threat to global politics, economy, financial health and security.

For example, Stuxnet, a malicious computer worm believed to be a jointly built American-Israeli cyber weapon (and considered the world's first digital weapon), was used to sabotage Iran's nuclear programme. The virus destroyed roughly a fifth of Iran's nuclear centrifuges, causing them to spin out of control.

James Farwell, who served as consultant to the US Department of Defense, claimed that Stuxnet has infected over 60,000 computers throughout the world, more than half of them in Iran. Other countries affected include India,

Indonesia, China, Azerbaijan, South Korea, Malaysia, the United States, Britain, Australia, Finland and Germany.

This attack was beyond human imagination and far more dangerous than other conventional weapons. German expert Ralph Langer said this development was much more complicated and "changed global military strategy in the 21st century".

In fact, it was said that the Stuxnet computer worm was part of a bigger US-prepared cyberattack plan that targeted Iran's air defences, communications systems, and key parts of its power grid.

In retaliation against the American-led cyberattack on Iran's main nuclear enrichment plant, seven Iranian computer hackers in the US carried out cyberattacks on several American banks and the New York Stock Exchange. They even tried to take over the controls of a small dam in a suburb of New York to bring down the economic system. But they were caught and have been

brought to justice.

For Malaysia, the risks from global cyberattacks will be much greater in the coming years as criminals, and terrorists as well, gain access to new skills and technology.

CyberSecurity Malaysia, an agency under the Science, Technology and Innovation Ministry, has been planning to make Malaysia resilient to cyberattacks.

To achieve this, Malaysia has been organising national-level Critical National Information Infrastructure (CNII) cybercrisis exercises known as "X-Maya".

Through X-Maya drills, the level of cyber preparedness among CNII sectors will be raised as more organisations implement proper internal mechanisms and procedures to cope with cybersecurity incidents. This is timely and a very good move taken by the Government, which must act fast.

In contrast to conventional warfare, cybercriminals need not be physically present in the target nation or involved in open con-

frontation but they can send "cyber missiles" to attack, destroy the critical infrastructure's operations, financial institutions and even the government itself.

There is a possibility that cybercriminals in future will develop cyberbombs and viruses that have the potential to attack any nation with disastrous consequences and even loss of life.

They only need to use minimum effort and risk but the impact will be huge.

We must be prepared to defend our country against cybercriminals. We need to introduce more effective software and measures in our system and train more ethical hackers to make computer networks more secure. What is important is not that we should deploy cyberweapons but that we must be able to protect ourselves from cybercriminals. Are we ready?

DATUK AKHBAR SATAR
Director, Institute of Crime &
Criminology
HELP University

Tougher cyberlaws will boost online business

THE birth of the Internet is a double-edged sword. It promotes e-commerce but creates a new wasteland where enforcement of cyberlaws remains a cross-border peril.

With the rise in cybercrimes, from financial crimes to e-terrorism, governments are revising laws to combat cybercrimes.

In Malaysia, CyberSecurity Malaysia reported there were 2,123 incidents since last year.

A revision of ineffective criminal provisions will lead to a safe, fair and conducive online business environment.

However, I feel these laws require further fine-tuning:

COMPUTER Crime Act 1997;

COMMUNICATIONS and Multimedia Act 1998, Digital Signature Act 1997;

ELECTRONIC Commerce Act 2006; and,

ELECTRONIC Government Activities Act 2007 and Telemedicine Act 1997.

Further, the Communications and Multimedia Content Code is outdated.

Revisions should include provisions in the Penal Code framework.

The focus of the revision is on addressing laws on cross-border cybercrime and enforcement.

The other aspect is to review the Malaysia National Cyber Security Policy. It is understood that the Science, Technology and Innovation Ministry is working with CyberSecurity Malaysia to look into these loopholes.

In this regard, the views of cyber stakeholders are relevant, such as Bank Negara, Securities Commis-

sion and Malaysian Communications and Multimedia Commission.

This will facilitate the collection of e-commerce taxes by the Inland

Revenue Board once online consumerism protection is boosted in view of 13.5 million Internet users in the country.

A progressive e-commerce is vital in realising Vision 2020 and beyond.

On a wider platform, the proposal to establish an Asean Economic Community (AEC) e-commerce roadmap will galvanise domestic e-commerce strategies adopted within AEC.

JEONG CHUN PHUOC,
Shah Alam, Selangor

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