

KERATAN AKHBAR-AKHBAR TEMPATAN
TARIKH: 23 OGOS 2016 (SELASA)

Bil	Tajuk	Akhbar
1.	Simulasi Space Pod tarikan baharu pengunjung Planetarium Negara	Kosmo
2.	Chance to explore space	The Star
3.	Out-of-this-World Experience	The Sun
4.	Malaysia accedes to Madrid Protocol	The Sun
5.	Move to decrease light pollution around observatory	The Star
6.	MTDC targets to improve 10 companies	New Straits Times

Simulasi Space Pod tarikan baharu pengunjung Planetarium Negara

KUALA LUMPUR - Planetarium Negara kini memiliki tarikan baharu apabila pengunjung berpeluang menggunakan peralatan simulasi Space Pod (Planet Terapung) yang membolehkan mereka mengalami situasi seakan-akan berada di angkasa.



MADIUS

Menteri Sains, Teknologi dan Inovasi, Datuk Seri Madius Tangau

berkata, pengunjung terutama pelajar berpeluang mengalami dan memahami situasi luar biasa berkaitan angkasa secara lebih praktikal.

Katanya, pembaharuan yang bernilai RM5.75 juta itu adalah medium kementerian untuk menggalakkan lebih ramai pelajar meminati Sains, Teknologi dan Inovasi (STI) dan menyokong inisiatif Sains, Teknologi, Kejuruteraan dan Matematik (STEM) Kebangsaan.



PARA pengunjung sedang melihat Space Pod ketika berkunjung di Planetarium Negara semalam.

“Pengunjung juga berpeluang melihat dan memegang meteroid sebenar seberat 10 kilogram di samping menghayati fenomena langit bercahaya yang dikenali sebagai aurora di Kutub Utara dan

Selatan serta pameran planet terapung,” katanya pada sidang akhbar selepas merasmikan Pembukaan Pameran Baharu bertemakan Pencapaian Masa Depan Bidang Angkasa Lepas di sini, semalam.

Chance to explore space

National Planetarium's new exhibit ready to wow visitors

By NICHOLAS CHENG
nicholascheng@thestar.com.my

KUALA LUMPUR: Imagine stepping into a room that makes you feel as if you were in zero-gravity.

Or being rocketed through the solar system in four minutes inside a capsule that simulates a shuttle launch. Or touching an actual meteorite that came from the far reaches of space and landed in Argentina 5,000 years ago.

After an 18-month closure and a RM5.7mil renovation, the National Planetarium has opened its doors again with a flashy new exhibit that puts visitors in the final frontier of space.

Stepping into the new foyer of the planetarium is like walking into a spaceship with floating planetary orbs and simulation pods that could rival the special effects of a science fiction movie.

One of the new features here is a roller coaster-like Space Pod that flips visitors upside down and all over in an immersive 3D ride that takes them to all the planets in the solar system.

Science, Technology and Innovation Minister Datuk Seri Madius Tangau, who tried the ride for himself, believes the realism of the exhibits would be a key attraction for people who truly want to experience what it is like to be in space.

The exhibition also includes an anti-gravity room which simulates being in a room in space, a 10kg meteorite mined from the Chaco



Out of this world: Visitors trying out the Space Pod at the National Planetarium's new exhibit. — Bernama

Province in Argentina in 1576 and a display of the rovers on Mars.

For now, admission into the planetarium is free until October, said Madius.

After that, the ministry is considering charging entry fees.

"This exhibit is unique because it emphasises the real-life experience of being in space, which has always been the biggest challenge for science in teaching the phenomenons of space. We want people to be able to experience the extraordinary sit-

uations of space in a way that will educate them," he said during the launch of the re-opened planetarium yesterday.

He said the ministry hoped to attract 20% more visitors to the centre with the new exhibit, compared to the 150,000 visitors the planetarium usually receives annually.

The National Planetarium has publicly said it had always faced challenges in attracting their main visitor group of school students because science was seen as

"too complicated".

Angkasa director-general Dr Noordin Ahmad said the agency was looking to produce 360° cartoon films which would be played in the planetarium's theatre to attract more young students to learn about space exploration.

"We are trying to produce one by next year and we are opening it up to local producers to try and venture into this kind of content. We are trying to find a way to make science fun," he said.

KERATAN AKHBAR
THE SUN (NEWS WITHOUT BORDERS) MUKA SURAT 6
TARIKH: 23 OGOS 2016 (SELASA)



ZULFADHLI ZAKI/THESUN

OUT-OF-THIS-WORLD EXPERIENCE

... A visitor to the National Planetarium trying out the 'Space Pod'. Science, Technology and Innovation Minister Datuk Seri Madius Tangau yesterday launched the latest attraction, that provides visitors with an audio-visual experience to better understand outer space. Admission to the centre is free until October.

KERATAN AKHBAR
THE SUN (NEWS WITHOUT BORDERS) MUKA SURAT 4
TARIKH: 23 OGOS 2016 (SELASA)

Malaysia accedes to Madrid Protocol

KUALA LUMPUR: To address climate change and protection of Antarctic resources, Malaysia deposited the Madrid Protocol accession instrument in Washington DC, the United States on Aug 15.

Science, Technology and Innovation Minister Datuk Seri Madius Tangau said the protocol would be binding on

Malaysia from Sept 15.

He said Malaysia's Antarctic Act, to be tabled in Parliament by next year, would be useful in governing Malaysians working in Antarctica, adding that Malaysia was among few countries from the tropics that ventured into polar research, with the Malaysian Antarctic Research Programme in 1998. - Bernama

KERATAN AKHBAR
THE STAR (NATION) : MUKA SURAT 18
TARIKH : 23 OGOS 2016 (SELASA)

Move to decrease light pollution around observatory

KUALA LUMPUR: There may be brighter, starry night skies soon in Port Dickson as the **National Space Agency (Angkasa)** said it has entered talks to gazette the lands around its observatory there as a "no light pollution zone".

The agency has been trying to propose a Light Pollution Act to control the spillover of light from urban development, which has been affecting astronomy studies.

Angkasa director-general Dr Noordin Ahmad said while collaboration with most state govern-

The skies have become so bright now, we can't see or photograph the dimmer stars.

Dr Noordin Ahmad

ments remained sluggish, the **Negri Sembilan** government had reportedly shown interest in decreasing light pollution in the

area surrounding the **Teluk Kemang** observatory.

"We are in early stages of discussion to try to gazette the lands around the observatory as a no light pollution zone.

"This thing is a land matter that has to come with initiatives from the states.

"We can only give the technical assistance in drawing up the policies but we are willing to work with any state," said Dr Noordin in an interview.

The **Teluk Kemang** observatory is the fifth of eight complexes built in

the country to study the sky. It officially opened in 2007.

The observatory faces the **Strait of Malacca**, some 40km away from **Seremban**, and is home to what one study called the "most sophisticated telescope in South-East Asia" at the time which cost **RM1.8mil**.

Despite that, Dr Noordin said the spillover of light was making the observatory and other complexes around the country ineffective for stargazing and astronomy.

"The skies have become so bright now, we can't see or photograph the

dimmer stars.

"Like here in **Planetarium Negara**, we can't see the stars because of light pollution. We have to go to **Langkawi** just to see stars," he said.

In April, **Angkasa** said that it was working with the **Ampang Jaya Municipal Council**, **Kuala Lumpur City Hall** and the **Public Works Department** to reduce light pollution in the city centre.

It also said it was considering proposing a **Light Pollution Act** so that its observatories can enjoy dimmer skies.

MTDC targets to improve 10 companies

AWAINA ARBEE

KUALA LUMPUR: In an effort to promote technology-based companies, Malaysian Technology Development Corporation (MTDC) has targeted to develop 10 companies to register a combined annual revenue of RM100 million by 2020.

Chief operating officer Datuk

Norhalim Yunus said this was part of MTDC's move to improve the portfolio of technology-based companies.

He said as of last month, 22 companies received approval to receive funds from MTDC.

Norhalim was speaking at the MTDC ReUnites 2016, an annual event that serves as a networking

platform for its grant recipients, investees and tenant companies.

MTDC manages five funds amounting to RM1.8 billion.

They are Commercialisation of Research and Design Fund, Technology Acquisition Fund, Halal Development Fund, Business Start-up Fund, Business Growth Fund and Business Expansion Fund.