KERATAN AKHBAR-AKHBAR TEMPATAN
TARIKH: 30 OGOS 2016 (SELASA)

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KERATAN AKHBAR
HARIAN METRO (KELAB WARTAWAN) : MUKA SURAT 7
TARIKH : 30 OGOS 2016 (SELASA)


Program Q-STEM mampu memberi inspirasi kepada pelajar.


Tekun ikuti program.

Program Q-STEM


Jelajah Q-STEM memberi pengetahuan berkaitan al-Quran, sains dan teknologi.


Belajar melukis reka bentuk pada kertas.


Belajar mengira.


Meningkatkan kemahiran mengira.

Kementerian Sains, Teknologi dan Inovasi (Mosti) telah merangka pelbagai usaha untuk membudayakan bidang sains, teknologi, kejuruteraan dan matematik (STEM) dalam kalangan rakyat di negara ini. Inisiatif ini adalah selaras dengan Dasar Sains, Teknologi dan Inovasi Negara (DSTIN) yang telah diluluskan oleh kerajaan pada tahun 2013.

Untuk menjadi negara maju, kita memerlukan 60 peratus pelajar dalam bidang STEM kerana bidang-bidang tersebut yang akan melonjakkan ekonomi negara seperti menerusi inovasi dalam bidang kejuruteraan dan sains termasuk alam sekitar.

Atas matlamat ini, Pensyarah Kanan, Fakulti Kejuruteraan, Universiti Selangor (Unisel), Muhammad Nazir Mohammed Khalid turut terpanggil untuk menjayakan usaha murni ini.

Beliau bersama beberapa rakan mula turun padang ke sekolah, masjid serta surau untuk memberi pengetahuan berkaitan bidang ini. Jelajah Q-STEM dilancarkan adalah bertujuan memberi pengetahuan kepada orang ramai serta pelajar berkaitan al-Quran, sains dan teknologi.

Terkini satu program telah dijalankan di Sekolah Menengah Kebangsaan Sungai Tong, Setiu, Terengganu. Seramai 60 pelajar terlibat iaitu pelajar tingkatan 3 hingga 6. Program ini merupakan anjuran Syarikat Usahawan Point bersama SMK Sg Tong dengan menjemput wakil Q-STEM untuk melaksanakan aktiviti bersama pelajar.

Antara penerangan dan aktiviti yang dijalankan ialah:

- Al-Quran Mendahului Sains
- Al-Quran Memacu Teknologi
- Arkitek Muda: memfokuskan kepada kemahiran imaginasi dan reka bentuk
- Bijak Mengira: memfokuskan kepada kemahiran pengiraan
- Uji Minda

Ketika ini nisbah pelajar yang mengikut pengajian dalam bidang ini sangat minimum sedangkan negara memerlukan ramai tenaga kerja mahir dalam bidang tersebut untuk melonjakkan pembangunan negara. Bagi meningkatkan minat pelajar untuk memilih bidang sains, teknologi, kejuruteraan dan matematik sebagai karier masa depan.

"Harapan saya program ini akan menjadi sumber inspirasi kepada pelajar untuk berjaya dalam jurusan tersebut serta melahirkan pakar dalam jurusan STEM kerana pelajar kita kurang mempelopori bidang ini.

"Tidak kira apa pilihan kerjaya mereka, kami percaya bahawa anak-anak muda perlukan pemahaman jelas mengenai al-Quran dan STEM untuk maju dengan teknologi yang sentiasa berubah, sama ada di tempat kerja tempatan atau antarabangsa," kata Muhammad Nazir.

Objektif bagi Program Q-STEM ini adalah:

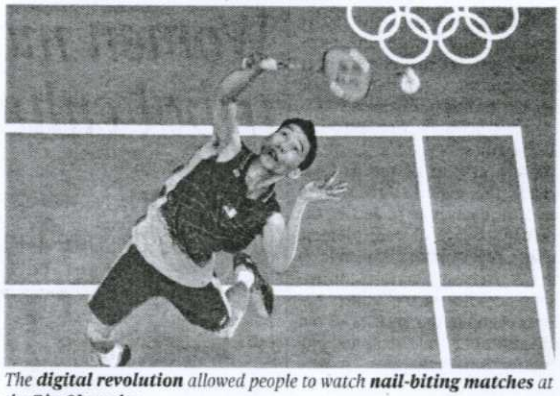
1. Mencetus dan menimbulkan minat pelajar generasi baharu untuk mempelajari al-Quran dan STEM melalui pendekatan pembelajaran berpusatkan pelajar, pembelajaran berasaskan projek, aktiviti yang multi-disiplin dan pembelajaran melalui inkuiri.
2. Menyediakan suasana pembelajaran STEM yang menyeronokkan.
3. Meningkatkan kemahiran proses STEM, kemahiran abad ke-21, kemahiran saintifik, kemahiran berfikir aras tinggi (KBAT) dan kemahiran penyelidikan pelajar-pelajar.
4. Meluaskan pandangan pelajar tentang aplikasi sains dalam kehidupan dan kerjaya dalam bidang sains dan teknologi.
5. Meningkatkan keterlibatan (engagement) ibu bapa pelajar sekolah melalui beberapa aktiviti bagi tujuan meningkatkan peranan ibu bapa.
6. Mencungkil bakat generasi baharu yang terpendam dalam diri pelajar.

Kepada mana-mana pihak seperti masjid/surau, sekolah dan pusat-pusat pengajian yang berminat, bolehlah menjemput kami ke tempat anda untuk dilaksanakan program ini. Pada yang ingin mengikuti perkembangan Program Q-STEM ini boleh melawati FB page Q STEM.

KERATAN AKHBAR
NEW STRAITS TIMES (COMMENT) : MUKA SURAT 16
TARIKH : 30 OGOS 2016 (SELASA)

Science, sealed and delivered

ADVANTAGES: Many improvements in our lives owe a lot to scientific research



*The **digital revolution** allowed people to watch **nail-biting matches** at the **Rio Olympics.***

SCIENCE has transformed the world. It has made impressive contributions to humanity.

Decades ago, we did not have what we enjoy today. Some even take them for granted. Many of the improvements owe a lot to science.

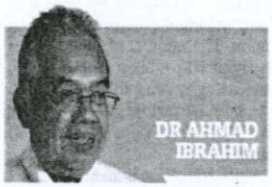
Thanks to the progress made in scientific research and discovery, the world has neutralised many threats to our wellbeing. Look at the countless diseases that we have tamed through advancements in medical science.

The science of vaccination, for example, has virtually wiped out most contagious diseases of the past. But we must be warned that any relaxation in the implementation of vaccination can lead to a resurgence of those diseases.

This explains why many are worried about people's apprehensions about vaccination. I hope this will be resolved soon.

The other advancement in science is in telecommunication. The world is now like a small village thanks to advances in digital revolution. Without it, we would not have witnessed the nail-biting matches at the Rio Olympics.

> The other advancement in science is in **telecommunication.** The world is now like a small village thanks to **advances in digital revolution.**



DR AHMAD IBRAHIM

It would not have been possible to see how our badminton players fought to earn the country's first Olympic gold. All this has happened through research in science. It began with the fundamentals of science. The applied side would shape up years letter.

The commercial applications of breakthroughs in fundamental science can take decades. The Internet took two decades before it became a commercial reality.

In Malaysia, there is this absurd expectation that research must be commercialised in two or three years. This needs to change.

Over the years, the West had led the way in telecommunications science. The same is true in medical research. It is difficult for us to match the advances made by them.

They had an early start. Scientists from the West dominate many of the breakthroughs in such sciences, but this is not to say we are left out.

Occasionally, we do have local scientists coming out with meaningful contributions. But these have been rare, and therefore the impact of local research on such fields is minimal.

This is not to suggest that we have no way of stamping our mark on scientific advancements.

In fact, looking back at history, we have made our mark. Unfortunately, this has been neglected and we are losing a hold on that global mark.

I am referring to the mark we once made in natural rubber, tropical medicine and forest researches.

Not long ago, we virtually led the world in such sciences. I know for a fact that our *Natural Rubber Journal* was the reference publication on any new breakthrough in natural rubber science.

This was because natural rubber scientists the world over would consider it a privilege if their research articles were accepted by the journal. This is no longer the case.

The once prestigious journal may soon disappear due to a lack of articles.

We also once ruled world science for tropical forests. Many findings from the world over would find their way into our *Forest Research Institute Journal on Forestry*. Not any more.

The same thing is happening for palm oil. We should reverse this trend and can do it because we do enjoy a niche advantage in these areas.

There is a way to do it. Instead of making the key performance indicators for our scientists to give higher priority to publish in international-refereed journals, we should give them incentives to support local journals.

We need to build the global reputation of our journals to be on a par with foreign journals.

In this way, we can also attract the best articles on the subject from scientists outside the country.

It is not impossible. We did it before. We need to embark on a programme to revive and stamp our mark on world science.

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KERATAN AKHBAR
NEW STRAITS TIMES (PRIME NEWS) : MUKA SURAT 5
TARIKH : 30 OGOS 2016 (SELASA)

Haze makes a comeback

POOR VISIBILITY: The Klang Valley, Perak and Negri Sembilan record increase in API readings

ZAFIRA ANWAR AND TEOH PEI YING
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THE haze has returned in several areas in the Klang Valley, Perak and Negri Sembilan.

As of 6pm yesterday, Tanjung Malim, Perak, was the only area that recorded an unhealthy Air Pollutant Index (API) reading of 121. Other areas that showed an increased API level compared with Sunday were Cheras (94), Nilai in Negri Sembilan (91), Batu Muda (86), Banting (81), Petaling Jaya (78), Putrajaya (78) and Bukit Rambai (72).

An API of between 0 and 50 is "good", 51 to 100 "moderate", 101 to 200 "unhealthy", 201 to 300 "very unhealthy" and above 300 "dangerous".

All the affected areas save for Tanjung Malim, however, were still within the moderate level, according to the Department of Environment (DoE).

By noon yesterday, the Petronas Twin Towers and other high-rise buildings in the city centre here could barely be seen due to the haze.

In **Petaling Jaya** and **Subang**, visibility dropped to 2km and 1km, respectively, according to the Meteorological Department's website.

The *New Straits Times* met residents in Subang Jaya, who complained that the low visibility was affecting their daily activities.

Mechanic George Goh, 57, who travels from Klang to SS15 in Subang Jaya daily, said he noticed the haze had worsened compared with Sunday.

"I'm afraid if the situation prolongs, it will turn out just like last year. It will affect people's health, especially children's, and those who suffer from asthma."

Goh said he installed exhaust fans in his house last year to reduce the heat.

Student Ghaurva Awathy, 21, said she was baffled by the API readings as she felt that they did not reflect the real situation.

"I think it is a bit odd to find the reading in Petaling Jaya moderate, but it feels very hot and the surrounding is very hazy," said Ghaurva, adding that she kept herself hydrated to avoid falling sick.

Mass Rapid Transit station operation officer Raja Atiqah Raja Shahrial, 22, said she had to be more alert while on the road.

"I work in the evening. When I drive to my office, I cannot see the buildings along the road clearly.

"I woke up earlier than usual today as I could feel the heat even from inside my house."

In **Seremban**, DoE director Norhazni Mat Sari said the low visibility was due to the accumulation of haze particles in the air.

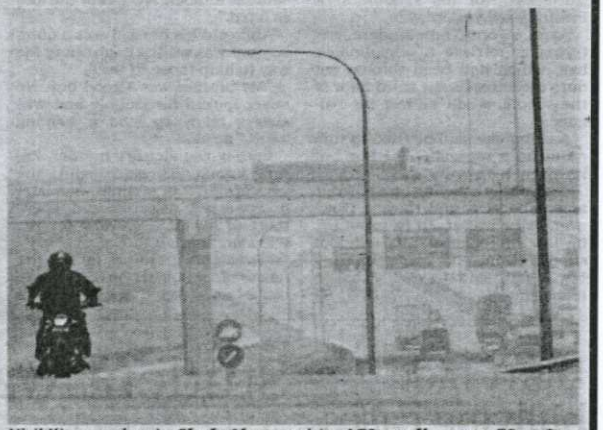
"The API reading is in the moderate range because it reflects the air quality status for the past 24 hours.

"The haze is blowing from the southwest, from Sumatra, Indonesia.

"It is predicted to last until early October when the northeast monsoon sets in."

In **Singapore**, Environment and Water Resources Minister Masagos Zulkifli had asked for more efforts to be taken to eliminate the haze problem despite fewer fire hotspots recorded in Indonesia this year. **Additional reporting by Naim Zulkifli**

*The **Kuala Lumpur Tower is shrouded with haze** at 2pm yesterday.* **Pic by Sairien Nafis**



*Visibility was low in **Shah Alam** and its **API reading was 70** at 2pm yesterday.* **Pic by Intan Nur Elliana Zakaria**

***Putrajaya** experienced poor visibility with an **API reading of 78** at 6pm yesterday.* **Bernama pic**

KERATAN AKHBAR
NEW STRAITS TIMES (PRIME NEWS) : MUKA SURAT 5
TARIKH : 30 OGOS 2016 (SELASA)

Real-time API readings in Sept

PUTRAJAYA: Malaysians will soon be able to receive real-time haze readings.

Natural Resources and Environment Minister Datuk Seri Wan Junaidi Tuanku Jaafar said the government was working towards enabling real-time haze readings for the public, compared with the current 24-hour average Air Pollutant Index (API).

Datuk Seri Wan Junaidi Tuanku Jaafar

He said a committee would bring up the proposal for API and the density of the floating particle readings at the next cabinet session.

"If approved, the initiative will be implemented as early as Sept 8.

"The committee has agreed that it is best to inform the public of the readings and publish them on the Meteorological Department's website," Wan Junaidi said after chairing the National Haze and Dry Weather Committee yesterday.

He said Malaysia would adopt the PM2.5 measurement used by Singapore by next year.

"We are planning to implement the new measurement simultaneously in some 65 stations throughout the country by the middle of next year."

Wan Junaidi assured Malaysians that the trans-boundary haze this year would not be as severe as previous years.

"The probability and severity of the haze hitting our country will be lesser this time around due to the commitment by Indonesia to control its land-clearing activities."

KERATAN AKHBAR
THE SUN (NEWS WITHOUT BORDERS) : MUKA SURAT 06
TARIKH: 30 OGOS 2016 (SELASA)

Real time API readings soon

BY *AMAR SHAH MOHSEN*
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PUTRAJAYA: Malaysians will soon be able to see real time readings of the haze as compared to the current 24-hour average Air Pollutant Index (API).

Natural Resources and Environment Minister Datuk Seri Wan Junaidi Tuanku Jaafar said the proposal to introduce the PM10 (floating particles smaller than 10 microns) reading would be brought up at the next Cabinet session.

"The National Haze and Dry Weather Committee has agreed that the real time and API readings be put on the Meteorological Department's website," he said.

"If Cabinet approves, it will start from Sept 8," he told reporters after chairing the committee's 2nd meeting.

The current API reading posted on the department's website is that of a 24-hour average cycle consisting of five air pollutant particles.

Wan Junaidi said the ministry predicts this year's haze situation to be relatively better as compared to last year due to the nation having experienced a dry El Nino period earlier this year and the Indonesian government taking steps to curb it.

"I met with their minister and he has given the assurance that some 3,000 security personnel have been deployed in the event of an open fire. Even Indonesian president Joko Widodo has ordered that land concessions not be given to companies involved in causing haze."

In JAKARTA, Indonesia's Disaster Agency said it is confident the country's forest fires and haze of toxic smoke they send over Southeast Asia are unlikely to reach levels seen in 2015 because of favourable weather conditions and a quicker emergency response, reports Reuters.

KERATAN AKHBAR
MALAY MAIL (TOP NEWS) : MUKA SURAT 05
TARIKH: 30 OGOS 2016 (SELASA)

Moderate API in Klang Valley

PETALING JAYA — A thick shroud of haze settled over the Klang Valley yesterday, causing air quality to plummet.

Despite the poor visibility and smell of thick smoke, Cheras recorded a moderate Air Pollutant Index (API) reading of 90 at 3pm yesterday, the highest in the country.

Petaling Jaya recorded an API of 51 at noon before deteriorating to 89 at 3pm, while the API reached 88 in Batu Muda at 3pm.

An API reading of zero to 50 is healthy, 51 to 100 is moderate, 101 to 200 unhealthy, 201 to 300 very unhealthy and more than 300 is hazardous.

Port Klang appears to have escaped with a reading of 59 at 3pm, only a minor increase from 56 recorded at 12pm.

Malaysian Meteorological Department reported Petaling Jaya's visibility at 3pm had fallen to 2km from 7km at 8am.

Subang's visibility was the worst yesterday at 1.5km at 3pm.

According to Indonesia's National Institute of Aeronautics and Space, 263 hotspots were detected yesterday.

Health Minister Datuk Seri Dr. S. Subramaniam said outdoor activities should only be allowed on a "need-to" basis. "Also use suitable masks so you don't inhale microparticles," he told a press conference yesterday.