

KERATAN AKHBAR-AKHBAR TEMPATAN
TARIKH: 15 DISEMBER 2016 (KHAMIS)

Bil	Tajuk	Akhbar
1.	Conferment of fellowship of the Academy Sciences Malaysia	The Star
2.	An inspiring icon in science	The Star
3.	Garis panduan kawal selia gajet diwartakan tahun depan	Berita Harian
4.	MTDC sedia RM15 juta dana syarikat baharu	BERNAMA
5.	MTDC sedia RM15 juta biaya syarikat baharu	Berita Harian
6.	MTDC to allocate RM15m to business startup fund	BERNAMA
7.	RM15 mil for start-up fund	The Star
8.	MTDC to allocate RM15m to startup fund next year	New Straits Times
9.	MTDC luluskan RM18 juta bantu empat <i>startup</i>	Utusan Malaysia
10.	MTDC approves RM18m to fund 4 startups	Malay Mail

KERATAN AKHBAR
THE STAR (VIEWS) : MUKA SURAT 31
TARIKH : 15 DISEMBER 2016 (KHAMIS)



Thank You

YB Datuk Seri Panglima Madius Tangau
Minister of Science, Technology and Innovation (MOSTI)
for gracing the

Congratulations

CONFERMENT OF FELLOWSHIP OF THE ACADEMY OF SCIENCES MALAYSIA

2016 SENIOR FELLOW

Academician Emerita Professor Datuk Dr Mazlan Othman FASc

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MEDICAL AND HEALTH SCIENCES DISCIPLINE

Professor Dato' Dr Balwant Singh Gendeh FASc, Professor Dr Lee Way Seah FASc, Professor Dr Mary Anne Tan Jin Ai FASc & Professor Dr Wan Ariffin Abdullah FASc

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Professor Dr Mohamed Ibrahim Abdul Mutalib FASc, Professor Dr -Ing Ir Renuganth Varatharajoo FASc & Professor Dr Zainab Abu Bakar FASc

BIOLOGICAL, AGRICULTURAL AND ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES

Professor Dr Ahmad Ismail FASc, Dr Ahmad Parveez Ghulam Kadir FASc, Dr Chow Keng See FASc,
Professor Dr Mohd Ali Hassan FASc & Dr Rajinder Singh Harminder Singh FASc

MATHEMATICS, PHYSICS AND EARTH SCIENCES

Professor Dr Ramesh T Subramaniam FASc & Professor Dr Zainuriah Hassan FASc

CHEMICAL SCIENCES

Professor Dr Md Pauzi Abdullah FASc, Professor Dr Mohd Kamal Harun FASc, Professor Dr Wan Ahmad Kamil Che Mahmood FASc & Professor Dr Zanariah Abdullah FASc

SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY DEVELOPMENT AND INDUSTRY

Dr Ahmad Hezri Adnan FASc, Professor Dato' Dr Aishah Bidin FASc & Dato' Dr Sharifah Maimunah Syed Zin FASc



An inspiring icon in science

FOR some time now, science and technology in our country has been at the crossroads. The issues have remained the same and there has not been much progress.

The many roadblocks remain unresolved. Declining interest in science among students, for example, has not changed much.

In fact, it may have become worse as parents and students do not see much future in science careers.

R&D spending in general has not changed much, hovering around one percent of GDP for many years now. All have been government funded. The business sector has not spent much on R&D except perhaps the palm oil companies. This explains why the market for contract research in Malaysia is almost non-existent. This also contributes to the low level of R&D commercialisation here.

Over the years, the Academy of Sciences Malaysia has churned out many position papers proposing the necessary actions to dismantle the obstacles to science and technology.

In science education, for example, the Academy has been pushing to implement the inquiry-based science education (IBSE) model to schools but the uptake has been slow.

On science governance, the Academy has recommended some policy adjustments to invigorate science. Again, it has been strongly resisted. Why? Because implementing the changes would encroach into the power of some authorities.

A recent Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) report may persuade a rethink. That report which was critical of Malaysia's innovation system has ruffled some feathers. Essentially, the report has been saying what the Academy has been raising all along. It is sad but we listen more to others than to ourselves.

Amid all the chaos, we can take comfort in the fact that there are individuals who have not



totally given up on science. They continue to air their concerns whenever they have the opportunity to do so.

One person who has persisted is Tan Sri Dr Ahmad Tajuddin Ali (*pic*), president of the Academy of Sciences Malaysia. Looking at his career path, he would easily qualify as the nation's icon for science and technology.

He will soon finish his two terms at the Academy but this will not stop him from continuing to champion the cause of the country's science. This is because he is among a few in sci-

ence who wears many hats.

A product of the Malay College Kuala Kangsar (MCKK), Tajuddin is an example of an all-round personality. In school, he not only excelled in sports but also demonstrated academic excellence in class. He played rugby for MCKK at a time when no other school in the country could match its strength. Many would shiver at the mention of MCKK and none could beat them, not even Sekolah Tuanku Abdul Rahman (STAR), which overwhelmed most other schools except MCKK.

In MCKK, we had a unique cheering lyric which more or less hypnotised our team to score against the other team. That unique learning and playing environment in MCKK must have been the potent recipe that pushed Tajuddin to excel also in his graduate engineering education in Britain.

He not only obtained a first class honours in his engineering degree but also earned in quick time a PhD in nuclear engineering. He was, on record, the first Malaysian to have earned such academic achievement in nuclear engineering.

It's no wonder that he rose very fast to become the second man in the then Puspati, now known as Nuclear Malaysia.

His extraordinary talent in managing scientific research was easily spotted by the Government. He was soon appointed controller of Sirim, which he later transformed into a corporate entity. But once the corporatisation exercise was done, he was moved to helm Tenaga Nasional. His service did not end after his retirement, and he now wears many hats, including chairman of UEM, CIDB, UTEM and a string of other companies. Not many scientifically-trained Malaysians can match his exemplary record!

DR AHMAD IBRAHIM
Fellow, Academy of Sciences Malaysia

Garis panduan kawal selia bateri gajet diwartakan tahun depan

➔ Pengeluar, pengedar perlu dapatkan kelulusan pensijilan SIRIM sebelum produk dipasarkan

Oleh Rashidah Ilimi
Abd Rahim
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■ Kuala Lumpur

Garis panduan mengawal selia bateri yang digunakan dalam power bank, telefon bimbit dan rokok elektronik, akan diwartakan oleh Kementerian Perdagangan Dalam Negeri, Koperasi dan Kepenggunaan (KPDNKK) tahun depan.

Susulan pewartaan garis panduan kawal selia terbabit, semua pengeluar dan pengedar berkaitan perlu mendapatkan kelulusan pensijilan SIRIM terhadap produk masing-masing, sebelum dipasarkan kepada pengguna.

Langkah itu diambil kerana KPDNKK memandang serius aspek keselamatan gajet terbabit yang setakat ini belum mempunyai sebarang piawaian khusus, demi melindungi hak dan keselamatan pengguna di negara ini.

Ketua Setiausaha KPDNKK, Datuk Seri Jamil Salleh, berkata garis panduan yang sedang disiapkan itu



Ketika ini, pengguna masih keliru dan menganggap bateri pada power bank, telefon bimbit dan rokok elektrik dalam pasaran selamat digunakan, sedangkan ia tidak mempunyai sebarang piawaian yang menjamin hak serta keselamatan pengguna

Jamil Salleh,
Ketua Setiausaha KPDNKK

merangkumi aspek penjualan dan keselamatan bateri, keperluan pembangunan perundangan dan spesifikasi pengujian barangan terbabit.

Hak, keselamatan pengguna

"Semua pihak berkaitan wajib mendapatkan pensijilan SIRIM terhadap produk mereka, bagi menjamin hak serta keselamatan pengguna, yang turut dinasihatkan hanya membeli barangan dengan pengesahan rasmi bagi mengelak kejadian tidak diingini.

"Ketika ini, pengguna masih keliru dan menganggap bateri pada power bank, telefon bimbit dan rokok elektrik dalam pasaran selamat digunakan, sedangkan ia tidak mempunyai sebarang piawaian yang menjamin hak serta keselamatan pengguna," katanya dalam kenyataan kepada BH, semalam.

Beliau mengulas laporan bersiri oleh BH sejak Ahad lalu, yang mendedahkan penjualan barangan elektrik dan elektronik tanpa kelulusan SIRIM di negara ini, mendedahkan pengguna kepada bahaya kerana boleh mencetuskan kejadian tidak diingini.

BH juga melaporkan pendedahan SIRIM yang mengesahkan, semua power bank yang dijual secara meluas dalam pasaran kerana menjadi sebahagian daripada keperluan pengguna telefon pintar negara ini, tidak mempunyai se-

Fakta
nombor

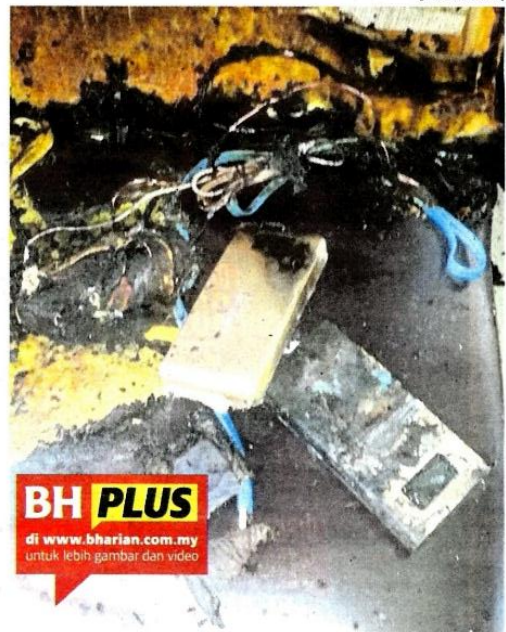
40
PERATUS

anggaran produk elektrik tiada kelulusan SIRIM

5
KEJADIAN

letupan power bank dan pengeras telefon tahun ini

(FOTO HIASAN)



Kesan kebakaran di sebuah kediaman di Seremban, April lalu selepas alat pengcas power bank meletup.

barang pensijilan keselamatan agensi itu.

Sebelum ini, tiga produk terbabit tidak termasuk dalam senarai 34 barangan elektrik yang diawasi Suruhanjaya Tenaga (ST) dan wajib mempunyai pensijilan SIRIM.

Semakan BH mendapati, sejak awal tahun ini sekurang-kurangnya lima kes membabitkan letupan bateri power bank dan pengeras bateri telefon bimbit berlaku. Selain kerosakan harta benda seperti rumah dan kenderaan terbakar, seorang suri rumah maut terkena renjatan elektrik.

Dikuatkuasa selepas 24 bulan diwartakan

Jamil berkata, semua ketetapan yang disenaraikan dalam garis panduan berkenaan akan dikuatkuasakan dengan tindakan undang-undang selepas 24 bulan diwartakan.

"Meskipun ketika ini, tiada peruntukan khusus mewajibkan kelulusan SIRIM terhadap produk masing-masing, peserta industri dinasihati mendapatkan pensijilan SIRIM sebelum penguatkuasaan undang-undang dilaksanakan sepenuhnya.

"Mereka tidak boleh mengambil ringan isu ini kerana kita ada peruntukan undang-undang yang bo-

leh melindungi hak pengguna," katanya.

Jamil turut memberi jaminan, kementerian akan bertindak tegas jika mengesan sebarang penggunaan label SIRIM palsu dan penjualan barangan tidak selamat kepada pengguna.

"Orang ramai juga boleh membantu dengan melaporkan peniaga yang tidak beretika ini kepada kementerian supaya kegiatan mereka dapat dibanteras sepenuhnya," katanya.

Katanya, sebarang penggunaan label SIRIM palsu boleh dikenakan tindakan mengikut Seksyen (8) Akta Perihal Dagangan 2011 iaitu denda sebanyak RM15,000 terhadap syarikat dan RM10,000 bagi setiap barangan yang dijual menggunakan label itu.

Beliau berkata, jika barangan yang dijual didapati tidak selamat kepada pengguna, kementerian boleh mengambil tindakan kepada pengilang, pemborong dan peruncit, mengikut Seksyen 21, Akta Perlindungan Pengguna 1999.

Katanya, jika disabit kesalahan, syarikat boleh dikenakan denda maksimum RM250,000 atau RM500,000 bagi kesalahan kedua, manakala RM100,000 kepada individu atau tiga tahun penjara atau kedua-duanya sekali.



Keratan muka depan
akhbar BH Ahad minggu lalu.



MTDC Sedia RM15 Juta Untuk Dana Syarikat Baharu

KUALA LUMPUR, 14 Dis (Bernama) -- Malaysian Technology Development Corporation Sdn Bhd (MTDC) akan memperuntukkan RM15 juta bagi Dana Syarikat Perniagaan Baharu (BSF) tahun depan yang dijangka dapat dimanfaatkan oleh kira-kira lima syarikat.

Ketua Pegawai Eksekutifnya, Datuk Norhalim Yunus berkata MTDC kini dalam proses mendapatkan lebih banyak penyertaan syarikat baharu dalam bidang robotik dan automosi untuk menerima pembiayaan BSF berkenaan.

"Dalam usaha kita mencapai status sebuah negara maju pada 2020, sektor industri pembuatan, khususnya perusahaan kecil dan sederhana sewajarnya menimbang untuk memperluaskan penggunaan kaedah mengautomasikan bagi meningkatkan produktiviti, mengurangkan kos serta mengelak bergantung kepada pekerja asing.

"Sehubungan itu, kita perlukan lebih banyak syarikat baharu yang memiliki teknologi untuk dipertingkatkan. Ia membolehkan mereka menjadi penyedia kepada industri pada kos lebih murah serta berkecekapan tinggi," katanya kepada pemberita pada satu program syarikat baharu MTDC di sini, Rabu.

Pada majlis itu, empat syarikat baharu menerima sejumlah RM18 juta pembiayaan BSF iaitu Techcapital Resources Sdn Bhd (RM4.44 juta), Gremax Holdings Sdn Bhd (RM4.48 juta), Ginger and Coconut Development Sdn Bhd (RM4.47 juta) dan Cell Tissue Technology Sdn Bhd (RM5 juta).

Bagi 2016, kata Norhalim, MTDC sudah meluluskan kira-kira RM39 juta kepada sembilan syarikat, termasuk peruntukan RM15 juta tahun ini serta lebihan dana tahun-tahun sebelumnya.

Menurutnya, sejajar peranan BSF menyokong serta menggalakkan aspek keusahawanan menerusi pembentukan syarikat berteraskan teknologi baharu yang berpotensi, program 'Start Up Scale Up' hari ini bertepatan bagi mempromosi produk serta perkhidmatan syarikat berkaitan ke peringkat lebih tinggi.

Katanya, salah satu syarikat penerima kemudahan itu, Techcapital Resources adalah antara perintis syarikat tempatan dalam pembangunan aplikasi robotik dan teknologi.

Malah, teknologi syarikat itu membuka peluang kepada perusahaan kecil dan sederhana menaikkan kapasiti pengeluaran menggunakan sistem robotik yang direka khusus serta berpatutan.

Selain itu, produk Cell Tissue Technology pula mengurangkan keperluan doktor mengeluarkan cebisan besar kulit pesakit bagi rawatan kes kecemasan atau ulser kulit yang turut ditawarkan kepada industri kosmetik.

-- BERNAMA

KERATAN AKHBAR
BERITA HARIAN (BISNES) : MUKA SURAT B5
TARIKH : 15 DISEMBER 2016 (KHAMIS)

MTDC sedia RM15 juta biaya syarikat baharu

Malaysian Technology Development Corporation Sdn Bhd (MTDC) akan menyalurkan RM15 juta menerusi Dana Syarikat Perniagaan Baharu (BSF) pada tahun hadapan, yang dijangka dapat dimanfaatkan oleh kira-kira lima syarikat.

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Pembiayaan fleksibel

Sejak penubuhannya pada 2011, sejumlah RM126 juta telah diluluskan bagi dana BSF yang menjadi pembiayaan fleksibel berasaskan Nota Janji Hutang Boleh Tukar kepada 30 syarikat.

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BERNAMA



**Kita perlukan
banyak
syarikat
baharu
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Norhalim Yunus,
Ketua Pegawai Eksekutif MTDC

MTDC to allocate RM15m to business startup fund

KUALA LUMPUR: Malaysian Technology Development Corp (MTDC) will allocate RM15 million to its Business Start-Up Fund (BSF) next year for disbursement to five companies.

Its chief executive officer Datuk Norhalim Yunus said MTDC was looking for more start-up companies involved in robotics and automation to receive BSF funding next year.

“As we are moving towards becoming a developed nation in 2020, our manufacturing industries especially the small and medium enterprises should be looking into adopting more automation to improve their productivity as well as reduce cost and

dependency on foreign labour.

“Hence, we need more start-up companies, which have the technology to be groomed, to enable them to provide to our industries, hopefully at lower cost and higher efficiency,” he told reporters at MTDC’s start-up scale-up event, here, yesterday.

At the event, four start-up companies received a total of RM18 million in BSF funding — Techcapital Resources Sdn Bhd (RM4.44 million), Gremax Holdings Sdn Bhd (RM4.48 million), Ginger and Coconut Development Sdn Bhd (RM4.47 million) and Cell Tissue Technology Sdn Bhd (RM5 million). **Bernama**

RM15mil for start-up fund

KUALA LUMPUR: Malaysian Technology Development Corp Sdn Bhd (MTDC) will allocate RM15mil in 2017 to its Business Start-Up Fund (BSF) to be approved to about five companies.

Chief executive officer Datuk Norhalim Yunus said MTDC is looking for more start-up companies involved in robotics and automation to receive BSF funding next year.

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MTDC Iuluskan RM18 juta bantu empat *startup*

KUALA LUMPUR 14 Dis. - Malaysian Technology Development Corporation Sdn. Bhd. (MTDC) meluluskan RM18 juta lagi dana pembiayaan kepada empat syarikat permulaan (*startup*) tempatan, sebagai memenuhi petunjuk prestasi utamanya (KPI) dalam membantu perkembangan industri *startup* di negara ini.

Empat syarikat tersebut ialah Techcapital Resources Sdn. Bhd. (TRSB), Gremax Holdings Sdn. Bhd., Ginger & Coconut Development Sdn. Bhd. (GCD) dan Cell Tissue Technology Sdn. Bhd. (CTT) dengan setiap syarikat menerima peruntukan antara RM4.4 juta hingga RM5 juta.

Ketua Pegawai Eksekutif MTDC, Datuk Norhalim Yunus berkata, empat syarikat baharu tersebut terlibat di dalam perniagaan berteknologi tinggi sekali gus memenuhi kriteria MTDC dalam membantu *startup* tempatan.

“Menjadi hasrat negara untuk melahirkan lebih banyak perusahaan kecil dan sederhana (PKS) yang mengaplikasikan penggunaan teknologi agar dapat menyumbang kepada pertumbuhan ekonomi.

“Peruntukkan yang diberikan

oleh MTDC adalah secara berperingkat iaitu setiap kali syarikat yang dibantu mencapai ketetapan ditetapkan, barulah agihan pinjaman dilakukan,” katanya kepada pemberita selepas mengumumkan bantuan perniagaan kepada empat syarikat itu di sini hari ini.

Bantuan itu diberikan menerusi Dana Permulaan Perniagaan (BSF). Sejak dana itu diperkenalkan pada tahun 2011, sehingga kini sebanyak 149 permohonan telah diterima oleh MTDC untuk mendapatkan bantuan di bawah dana dan sebanyak RM126 juta telah diluluskan kepada 30 buah syarikat.

Jelas Norhalim, bantuan yang diberikan menerusi BSF bukan berbentuk geran, tetapi pinjaman secara nota perjanjian boleh tukar (CPN) yang berpotensi diubah kepada pegangan ekuiti.

Mengikut MTDC, TRSB akan menjalankan projek aplikasi robotik dan teknologi di dalam industri perabot tempatan, sementara Gremax mengeluarkan sistem lampu amaran keselamatan, GCD dalam sektor pertanian sementara CTT bioteknologi.

MTDC approves RM18m to fund 4 startups

By Hakim Hassan
hakim@mmail.com.my

KUALA LUMPUR — Malaysia Technology Development Corporation (MTDC) has approved RM18 million in funding for four companies via the institution's business start-up fund (BSF) to provide start-up companies with capital support for their businesses.

Chief executive officer Datuk Norhalim Yunus said MTDC has approved around RM39 million for this year, having funded nine companies thus far.

"The amount is carried forward from the previous year as we give out the funds in phases. We want to provide our start-up companies with the platform for them to grow further," he said during the MTDC Start-Up, Scale-Up event here yesterday.

The four are robotics application and technology development company Techcapital Resources Sdn Bhd (RM4.4 million), safety warning lights manufacturer Gremax Holdings Sdn Bhd (RM4.4

million), crab integrated farming systems commercialiser Ginger & Coconut Development Sdn Bhd (RM4.4 million), and autologous bilayer tissue engineering company Cell Tissue Technology Sdn Bhd (RM5 million).

BSF is aimed at viable and scalable Malaysian technology-based startup companies with a maximum funding of RM5 million and a funding period of eight years, three of which will be payment-free.

Norhalim said the funding would be via convertible promissory notes and to date, out of 149 applications received, a total of RM126 million was approved to 30 companies and disbursed to 23 companies.

For next year, he said MTDC aims to approve around five companies as he said the corporation would receive around RM15 million from the government to be allocated for the BSF.

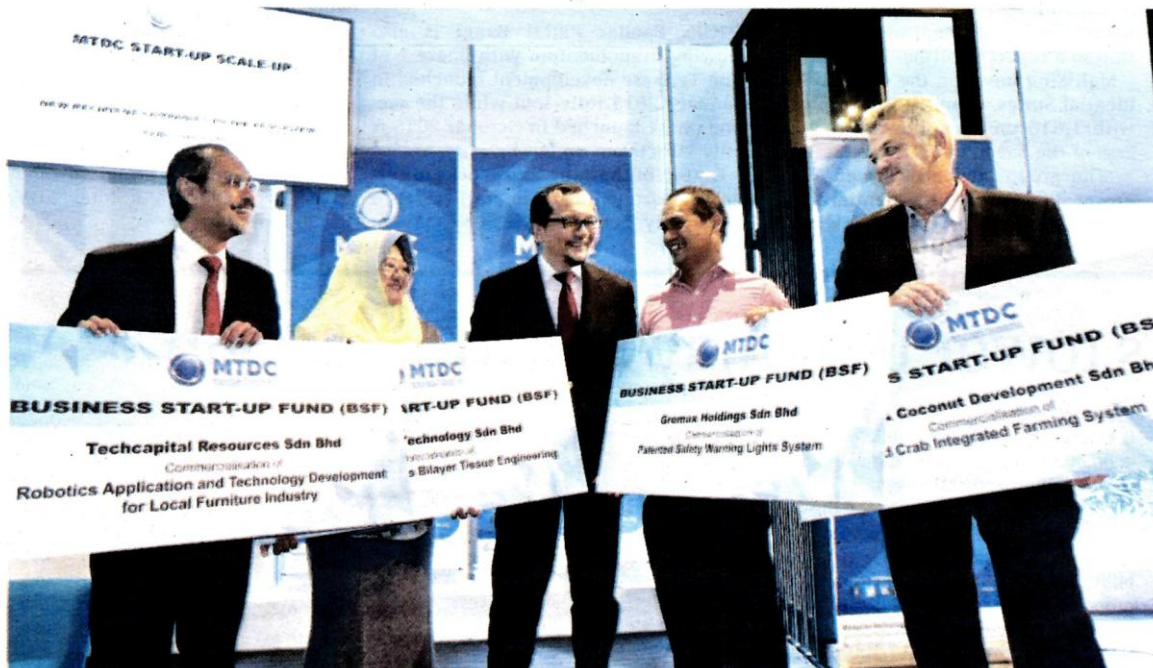
However, the amount could increase throughout the year depending on the number of companies which applied for the fund.

"Usually at the beginning of the year, we would be given a certain amount allocated by the government. It would then depend on the number of applications and if the situation permits, we will revise the budget accordingly," he said.

For next year, MTDC will be focusing on the robotics and automation industry, in line with the government's plan to push for the industry and MTDC being one of the agencies to spur the agenda.

Currently MTDC manages six funds amounting to RM1.8 billion — the commercialisation of research and development fund, technology acquisition fund, halal technology development fund, BSF, business growth fund and business expansion fund.

Techcapital Resources managing director Ishkandhar Baharin, Cell Tissue Technology medical director Aniza Heidi Mat Saat, Gremax managing director Mohamad Faizal Ali, and Ginger & Coconut Development chief executive officer Colin Shelly were also present at the event.



Ishkandhar, Aniza, Norhalim, Mohamad Faizal, and Shelly with the mock cheques yesterday. — Picture by Azneal Ishak