

KERATAN AKHBAR-AKHBAR TEMPATAN
TARIKH: 11 APRIL 2017 (SELASA)

Bil	Tajuk	Akhbar
1.	MTDC sasar lulus dana RM170 juta	Berita Harian
2.	MTDC rancang luluskan RM170 juta dana tahun ini	Utusan Malaysia
3.	Tambahan dana	Harian Metro
4.	MTDC rancang luluskan RM170 juta dana tahun ini	BERNAMA
5.	MTDC plans to approve RM170 million in loans this year	BERNAMA
6.	MTDC aims to approve RM170m loans for tech firms	The Star
7.	PME sasar jualan produk halia meningkat susulan kejayaan tembusi pasaran China	BERNAMA
8.	On the alert for cyberbullying	The Star
9.	Heroes of the palm oil industry	The Star

MTDC sasar lulus dana RM170 juta

➔ Peruntukan diagih untuk enam program dikendalikan perbadanan

Oleh Nasuha Badrul Huzaini
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Malaysian Technology Development Corporation (MTDC) menyasar untuk meluluskan dana berjumlah RM170 juta yang diperuntukkan tahun ini.

Ketua Eksekutifnya, Datuk Norhalim Yunus, berkata keseluruhan jumlah dana itu akan diagihkan kepada enam program dana yang dikendalikan

perbadanan itu.

Katanya, sebanyak RM40 juta diperuntukkan untuk Dana Pengkomersilan Kajian dan Penyelidikan (CRDF); Dana Pemerolehan Teknologi (TAF) (RM10 juta); Dana Permulaan Perniagaan (RM15 juta); Dana Pertumbuhan Perniagaan (RM15 juta); Dana Pengembangan Perniagaan (RM75 juta) dan Dana Pembangunan Teknologi Halal sebanyak RM15 juta.

50 syarikat dapat manfaat

"Kami menyasar sekitar 40 hingga 50 syarikat akan memperoleh manfaat daripada jumlah dana yang diperuntukkan itu, dengan jumlah minimum dana yang diberikan adalah RM500,000.

"Bagaimanapun, ia hanya terhad kepada syarikat yang berkonsepkan teknologi sahaja seperti syarikat bioteknologi, elektrik dan elektronik," katanya

pada sidang media selepas merasmikan program Road2 Funding di Bangi, Selangor, semalam.

Program Road2 Funding itu yang diadakan buat kali kedua tahun ini menyediakan peluang kepada pengusaha syarikat berkaitan teknologi untuk lebih memahami peranan yang dijalankan oleh MTDC.

Ia disertai lebih 100 peserta daripada beberapa negeri seperti Selangor, Negeri Sembilan dan Melaka.

Norhalim berkata, program berkenaan juga menyediakan platform rangkaian dan pemarkahan perniagaan antara peserta industri, kerajaan dan bidang akademik.

Katanya, Road2 Funding terbuka kepada semua usahawan, penyelidik, pelabur serta sekutu perniagaan. Siri jelajah program itu adalah sebahagian daripada aktiviti MTDC pada tahun ini.



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Norhalim Yunus,
Ketua Eksekutif MTDC

KERATAN AKHBAR
UTUSAN MALAYSIA (UTUSANBIZ) : MUKA SURAT 17
TARIKH: 11 APRIL 2017 (SELASA)

MTDC
rancang
luluskan
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dana tahun ini

KUALA LUMPUR 10

April - Anak syarikat Khazanah Nasional Bhd., Malaysian Technology Development Corporation (MTDC), menyasarkan untuk meluluskan dana sebanyak RM170 juta kepada syarikat berasaskan teknologi tahun ini.

Ketua Pegawai Eksekutif MTDC, Datuk Norhalim Yunus berkata, pembiayaan itu akan disalurkan menerusi enam dananya.

Dana terbabit ialah Dana Pengkomersialan Penyelidikan dan Pembangunan (CRDF) sebanyak RM40 juta, Dana Pengambilalihan Teknologi (TAF) (RM10 juta), Dana Permulaan Perniagaan (BSF) (RM15 juta), Dana Pertumbuhan Perniagaan (BGF) (RM15 juta), Dana Pengembangan Perniagaan Bumiputera (BEF) (RM75 juta) dan Dana Pembangunan Teknologi Halal (RM15 juta).

"Jumlah dana yang diperuntukkan bagi setiap syarikat bergantung mengikut saiz projek, bermula dengan minimum RM500,000 hingga nilai maksimum RM15 juta, dengan nilai maksimum berbeza bagi setiap jenis dana," katanya kepada media selepas menyampaikan ucapan pada MTDC Road2 Funding di Bangi dekat sini hari ini.

Beliau berkata, dana tersebut akan disalurkan dalam kombinasi geran dan Tukar Nota Janji Hutang (CPN).

Norhalim berkata, peruntukan dana RM170 juta tersebut akan diagihkan dalam tempoh dua tahun, bergantung kepada jenis projek yang dijalankan setiap syarikat.

TAMBAHAN DANA

■ MTDC sasar lulus RM170 juta kepada syarikat berasaskan teknologi tahun ini

Bangi

Malaysian Technology Development Corporation

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Beliau berkata demikian kepada media selepas menyampaikan ucapan pada 'MTDC Road2 Funding' di sini, semalam.

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"Setiap dana berkenaan akan diagihkan secara berperingkat kepada syarikat berdasarkan pen-

capaian mereka dalam sesuatu projek dan ia tidak akan disalurkan selagi sasaran berkenaan belum dicapai," katanya.

Beliau berkata, pada masa ini, kebanyakan syarikat yang memohon terbabit dalam perniagaan teknologi hijau seperti sisa komersial kepada tenaga, kitar semula, teknologi solar dan sistem penjimatan tenaga selain bioteknologi serta elektrik dan elektronik.

Menurutnya, Dana Pembangunan Teknologi Halal yang baru diperkenalkan tahun ini juga bakal memperlihatkan pembabitan aktif syarikat pengeluar produk halal yang di-

eksport ke luar negara.

"Sijil halal Jabatan Kemajuan Islam Malaysia (Jakim) diiktiraf lebih 50 agensi halal di seluruh dunia dan melalui dana seperti ini, sudah pasti banyak syarikat yang ingin mengembangkan perniagaan mereka di luar negara," katanya.

Katanya, tahun lalu, RM145 juta dana diperuntukkan kerajaan kepada MTDC yang memberi manfaat kepada 71 syarikat daripada pelbagai bidang berasaskan teknologi.

- BERNAMA

"Setiap dana berkenaan akan diagihkan secara berperingkat Norhalim Yunus"





MTDC Rancang Luluskan RM170 Juta Dana Tahun Ini

KUALA LUMPUR, 10 April (Bernama) -- Anak syarikat Khazanah Nasional Bhd, **Malaysian Technology Development Corporation (MTDC)**, menyasarkan untuk meluluskan dana sebanyak RM170 juta kepada syarikat berasaskan teknologi tahun ini.

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"Setiap dana berkenaan akan diagihkan secara berperingkat kepada syarikat berdasarkan pencapaian mereka dalam sesuatu projek, dan ia tidak akan disalurkan selagi sasaran tersebut belum dicapai," katanya.

Pada masa ini, katanya kebanyakan syarikat yang memohon terlibat dalam perniagaan teknologi hijau seperti sisa komersial kepada tenaga, kitar semula, teknologi solar dan sistem penjimatan tenaga selain bidang bioteknologi serta elektrik dan elektronik.

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--BERNAMA



MTDC Plans To Approve RM170 Million In Loans This Year

BANGI, April 10 (Bernama) -- Khazanah Nasional Bhd subsidiary, Malaysian Technology Development Corporation (MTDC), is targeting to approve RM170 million in loans to technology-based companies this year.

MTDC Chief Executive Officer Datuk Norhalim Yunus said the financing would be given out through its six funds.

These are Commercialisation of Research and Development Fund (RM40 million), Technology Acquisition Fund (RM10 million), Business Start-up Fund (RM15 million), Business Growth Fund (RM15 million), Bumiputera Expansion Fund (RM75 million) and Halal Technology Development Fund (RM15 million).

"The funds would be allocated according to the size of the projects, starting from a minimum of RM500,000 to a maximum of RM15 million," he told the media after speaking at the MTDC Road 2 Funding programme here today.

He said the loans would be disbursed through a combination of grants and convertible promissory notes.

Norhalim said MTDC planned to disburse the RM170 million funds within two years, according to the type of projects carried out by the companies.

"The funds would be disbursed in stages based on the progress of the projects, and would not be given out if they did not achieve the target that had been set," he said.

He added that most of the applicants for the loans were companies involved in the green technology industry, such as solar technology, energy efficiency systems, biotechnology and electronics and electrical, among others.

Norhalim said the recently introduced Halal Technology Development Fund would also see more active involvement by halal product manufacturers that export their products.

"The Department of Islamic Development Malaysia's halal certification is recognised by 50 halal agencies all over the world, and this fund would encourage more companies to expand their business overseas," he said.

He added that last year, MTDC had disbursed RM145 million in loans to 71 technology-based companies.

-- BERNAMA

MTDC aims to approve RM170m loans for tech firms

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"The fund will be allocated according to the size of the projects, starting from a minimum of RM500,000 to a maximum of RM15mil," he said at the MTDC Road 2 Funding programme.

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PME Sasar Jualan Produk Hiliran Halia Meningkatkan Susulan Kejayaan Tembusi Pasaran China

Oleh Rohana Nasrah

KOTA KINABALU, 10 April (Bernama) -- Pemborong Mangkab Enterprise (PME), syarikat perusahaan kecil dan sederhana (PKS), menyasarkan produk serbuk dan minuman berasaskan halianya mencatat nilai jualan RM200,000 tahun ini, selepas berjaya menembusi pasaran China pada tahun lepas.

Pengurus Besar PME, Hendry Charles berkata sasaran itu merupakan peningkatan lebih 50 peratus berbanding nilai jualan sebanyak RM120,000 pada 2016.

Beliau yakin sasaran tersebut mampu dicapai memandangkan produk hiliran halia di bawah jenama PME telah menembusi pasaran China mulai tahun lepas di samping perluasan pasaran tempatan.

"Pada tahun lalu, produk kami menembusi pasaran China dan kami mempunyai satu ejen di Guangzhou. Sambutan terhadap produk kami di sana juga amat menggalakkan dan sasaran pada tahun ini bergantung kepada permintaan pasaran China dan tempatan," katanya ketika ditemui Bernama semasa pameran produk tempatan di lobi Bangunan Dewan Undangan Negeri (DUN) Sabah di sini, hari ini.

Beliau berkata, kejayaan menembusi pasaran negara itu dicapai selepas penyertaan PME dalam satu ekspo di China pada tahun lepas, dengan dorongan Jabatan Pembangunan, Perindustrian dan Penyelidikan Sabah (DIDR).

Hendry berkata, segala usaha memperkasakan pemasaran produk tempatan oleh kerajaan banyak memberi manfaat kepada usahawan PKS dalam mengembangkan potensi perniagaan tidak hanya dalam pasaran tempatan malah ke luar negara.

Beliau berkata, syarikat PME mula beroperasi pada 2008 di Tambunan, kira-kira 80 kilometer dari sini, mendapatkan bekalan halia daripada penanam halia di sekitar Tambunan, sekali gus membantu meningkatkan pendapatan mereka.

Sementara itu, seorang usahawan serunding Tuhau dari Ranau, Wasinah Kuntagil berkata, produk itu mula terkenal di pasaran selepas dikenal pasti oleh **Yayasan Inovasi Malaysia** pada 2011.

Susulan itu, jualan produk serunding berasaskan umbut pokok Tuhau atau Tepus keluaran syarikat Cahaya Kasih Sdn Bhd tersebut melonjak daripada hanya RM1,000 sebulan kepada lebih RM10,000 sebulan, katanya.

Pelbagai agensi kerajaan membantu mengembangkan perniagaan Wasinah selain Yayasan Inovasi, antaranya Jabatan Pertanian, Unit Peneraju Agenda Bumiputera (Teraju) dan **Kementerian Sains, Teknologi dan Inovasi (Mosti).**

"Sekarang, kami masih dalam perbincangan untuk mengeksport produk ini ke pasaran luar negara," katanya.

Terdahulu, Ketua Menteri Sabah, Datuk Seri Musa Aman meluangkan masa melawat gerai pameran tersebut yang turut mempamerkan pelbagai produk kraftangan berasaskan tempurung kelapa dari Pitas dan kuih cincin dari Papar.

Musa berkata kerajaan negeri amat mengalu-alukan program pameran seumpama itu memandangkan berupaya menjadi platform dalam memperkenalkan dan memasarkan produk tempatan Sabah yang disifatkannya baik, sesuai dan boleh dipasarkan.

"Kerajaan negeri bersama-sama kerajaan pusat akan terus berusaha memastikan para usahawan PKS terus maju dan berjaya dalam perniagaan mereka," katanya.

Pameran produk tempatan Sabah itu dianjurkan oleh DIDR dengan kerjasama Kementerian Pembangunan Perindustrian Sabah mulai hari ini hingga Khamis.

-- BERNAMA

Heroes of the palm oil industry

THIS year marks palm oil's 100 years in Malaysia. It was 100 years ago when the then almost unknown oil palm was first planted here. The British was largely responsible for bringing in the first batch of seeds of this crop, a native of West Africa, into this country. However, many Europeans had a hand in pioneering the cultivation of a crop that would change the global equation for trade in oils and fats decades later.

A French entrepreneur, Henri Fauconnier, was recorded in history to be among the earliest who dabbled in the planting of oil palm.

We in the palm oil industry are, of course, very aware of the involvement of planters from Denmark. Under the strong leadership of the late Tan Sri B. Bek-Nielsen, the United Plantations group based in Teluk Intan has emerged as an exemplary force in the impressive development of the industry in Malaysia.

The late Bek-Nielsen stood out among those who fought hard to put palm oil on the global stage. The early days of palm oil were not spared the rigours of global competition. As a new entrant in the world edible oils trade, palm oil was seen as a real threat by those that had long enjoyed their favourable position leading the pack. Palm oil was encroaching into their territory. All kinds of below-the-belt attacks were launched against palm oil. It was declared to be bad for health, unfit for human consumption and suitable for use only as grease. All forms of degrading advertisements were put up to attack palm oil especially in the US. If not for the untiring work of the palm oil captains in the country to defend it, palm oil may not be where it is today.

Many still appreciate the efforts of the seven individuals, whom we call the Magnificent Seven, who fought hard to defy the attacks on palm oil. Besides Bek-Nielsen, the others were

the late Tun Lim Keng Yaik, then Primary Industries Minister, the late Toh Pang Huat, then president of the Malaysian Edible Oil Manufacturers Association, Tan Sri Dr Augustine Ong, Tan Sri Yusof Basiron (currently Malaysian Palm Oil Council chief executive officer), Rahim Zain of PORLA (Palm Oil Registration and Licensing Authority), and Raja Alias, then chairman of the Malaysian Oil Palm Growers Council.

There is no denying the fact that Malaysia put palm oil in the enviable position it is today. From nowhere, palm oil now leads the other oils in the global edible oils business. It is because of this too that every year without fail, all the global palm oil players descend on Kuala Lumpur to discuss the latest trends in the market. Malaysia is still regarded as the epicentre of the world trade in palm oil.

In conjunction with the recent visit of Prime Minister Datuk Seri Najib Tun Razak to India, a number of announcements were made on palm oil collaboration with India. This is indeed very timely not just because India is among the largest market for palm oil but also because it is a strong believer and supporter of palm oil.

In fact, India has also been exploring the feasibility of expanding its own oil palm industry. Over the years, India has been growing some oil palm in Karnataka and the nearby states. But, more importantly, India sees palm oil as the world's solution not only in providing affordable edible oils for its population but also as an instrument of progress in the rural areas.

Let us make India a strong partner in our quest to sustain the global demand for this wonderful oil.

PROF DATUK DR AHMAD IBRAHIM
Fellow
Academy of Sciences Malaysia

On the alert for cyberbullying

ADVANCES in technology and better Internet access have enabled more Malaysians, including children, to explore the virtual world.

Unfortunately, the technology has also exposed our children to another problem – cyber harassment, which includes cyberbullying.

Cyber harassment also covers stalking, racial and religious insults and sexual exploitation in the virtual world.

Based on statistics compiled by CyberSecurity Malaysia, there were 300 cyber harassment cases in 2012, 512 in 2013, 550 in 2014, 442 in 2015 and 529 in 2016.

Cyberbullying among students is more serious, with 250 cases reported in 2012, 389 in 2013, 291 in 2014, 256 in 2015 and 338 in 2016.

In total, there were 1,524 cyberbullying cases recorded in the past five years.

Although the number is low compared with more than five million students nationwide, I would like to stress that the statistics are based on reported cases.

A survey by DIGI Telecommunications Sdn Bhd and Telenor Group last year revealed that one in four students admitted they had experienced cyberbullying.

Surprisingly, 37% of students in school have admitted that they had encountered or were previously involved with cyberbullying.

A global study published in the "2016 Norton Cyber Security Insights Report: Family Edition" also reveals that only 10% of Malaysian parents reported that their child was cyberbullied. However, 40% of them believed their children



are more likely to be bullied online than on a playground.

I am sure cyberbullying is more serious than what has been reported as many victims chose to suffer in silence for various reasons.

Among them is fear of being ridiculed or ostracised by friends in or out of school.

While bullying normally involves physical

abuse, cyberbullying has more damaging and long-term psychological effects on the victims.

For instance, students who are constantly being denigrated and humiliated on social media may suffer from low self-esteem and would not be keen to study or join activities at school. This would eventually lead to depression, which may also make them suicidal.

To overcome cyberbullying, I would like to advise students to install applications that could protect their computers and social media accounts, as they must never share their personal information with others.

At the same time, they should also not share their pictures or entertain those who try to bully them online.

Parents and teachers must always monitor the online activities of their children and students to ensure that they are not influenced by negative elements. They must also know how to identify the signs that indicate a child is being cyberbullied. These include nervousness when receiving messages or email, avoiding a device or using it excessively, refusing to go to school and becoming defensive or secretive about online activity.

I hope the authorities will address this problem through various ways including introducing legislation. We have to accept the fact that cyberbullying is a serious issue as it could slowly but surely affect our children and the whole community itself.

TAN SRI LEE LAM THYE
Senior Vice-Chairman

Malaysia Crime Prevention Foundation