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Dr Adham: 17 tech roadmaps in the pipeline

The Malaysian Reserve, Malaysia



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This includes AI, blockchain, E&E, advanced materials, robotics and vaccines

by HARIZAH KAMEL

THE Ministry of Science, Technology and Innovation (Mosti) is developing 17 technology roadmaps in line with the 10 science and technology drivers, and the 10 socio-economic drivers in the 10-10 Malaysian Science, Technology, Innovation and Economy (MySTIE) Framework.

This includes artificial intelligence (AI), blockchain, electrical and electronics (E&E), advanced materials, robotics and vaccines.

Mosti Minister Datuk Seri Dr Adham Baba said among his ministry's targets is to become a vaccine producer, generate RM600 billion in potential trade returns for the E&E sector by 2025, make a significant contribution to the GDP through identified areas, create jobs in various fields of science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM), as well as the creation of 5,000 start-ups by 2025.

"To strengthen STIE, Mosti provided research and development (R&D) funding allocation of RM500 million during the 12th Malaysia Plan (12MP) through the Malaysia Grand Challenge (MGC)," he said in a statement yesterday.

MGC is an effort to encourage the country's R&D, commercialisation and innovation activities that demand high-impact solutions centred on the people and in turn benefit the socio-economy



Dr Adham says his ministry is also actively pursuing innovation entrepreneur development initiatives through the creation of STIE Design Spaces nationwide to produce more creative and innovative individuals

TMPpic

of Keluarga Malaysia.

Through the 12MP, Mosti targets 500 products or solutions to be commercialised through the National Technology and Innovation Sandbox and the Malaysian Commercialisation Year to increase national income.

Between 2016 and 2020, a total of RM402 million in sales revenue was recorded from 386 R&D products that were successfully commercialised. The government-funded Intellectual Property and Invention Commercialisation

Policy 2021-2025 will intensify the commercialisation of intellectual property and inventions.

The whole of nation approach has also been adapted by Mosti in talent development and job creation in core areas such as AI, Internet of Things (IoT) and blockchain technology to ensure the availability of talent and experts to achieve the target of 130 researchers per 10,000 workforce by 2025.

In addition, Mosti welcomed the announcement by Prime Minister (PM) Datuk Seri Ismail Sabri Yaakob

at the opening of Invest Malaysia 2021 recently to make Malaysia a high-tech country by 2030.

According to the PM, the government aims to create an ecosystem in the economy led by science, technology and innovation that will facilitate the development of local technology by creating economic opportunities and producing talent or manpower in the field of AI, IoT and blockchain technology.

The target is in line with the National Science, Technology and Innovation Policy (DSTIN) 2021-2030.

Dr Adham said Malaysia has shown a rapid growth in GDP from RM204 billion in 1991 to RM1.34 trillion in 2020 as a result of the effective implementation of various national policies.

Strengthening the science, technology and innovation ecosystem including R&D is one of DSTIN's main focuses to achieve the target of 2.5% R&D gross expenditure ratio to GDP in 2025 and 3.5% in 2030.

Mosti is also actively pursuing innovation entrepreneur development initiatives through the creation of community STIE Design Spaces throughout the country to produce more creative and innovative individuals. The smart collaboration programme with academia and industry is believed to benefit more than 15,000 participants.

Dr Adham also said through the Malaysia Start-up Ecosystem Roadmap (SUPER) 2021-2030, Mosti is committed to supporting the start-up ecosystem holistically and sustainably.

"Through SUPER, Cradle Fund Sdn Bhd is mandated as the focal point that manages the start-up development ecosystem from start-up phase to growth to increase the competitiveness of local start-ups internationally, and provides support to business start-ups with a target of five unicorn status companies by 2025," he said.

Mosti is optimistic in implementing and succeeding in the policies and initiatives outlined to position Malaysia as a high-tech nation by 2030.



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SUMMARIES

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