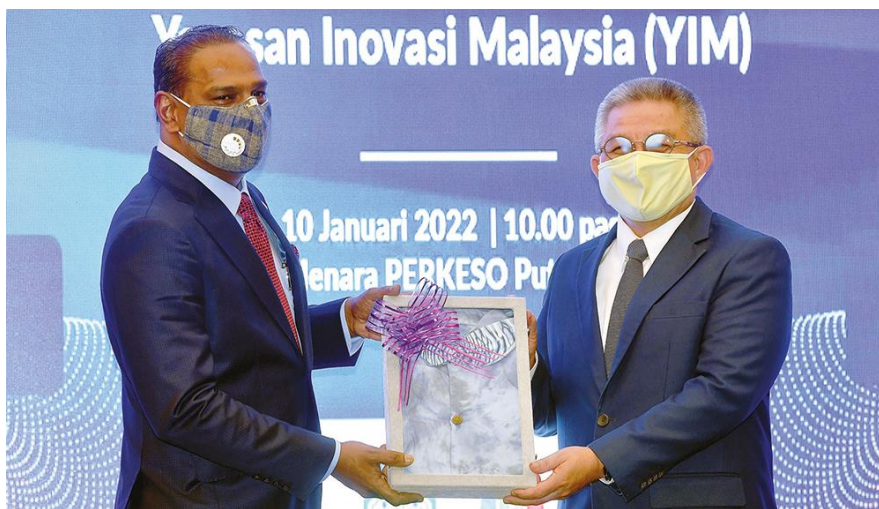


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The Malaysian Reserve

Socso's Return to Work programme will continue to be expanded



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It aims to ensure inclusivity among those groups involved in various sectors and industries in Malaysia

by NURUL SUHAIDI / pic by BERNAMA

THE Human Resources (HR) Ministry, through the Social Security Organisation (Socso), will continue to play its role in expanding innovation for Socso's Return to Work (RTW) programme to improve their economic condition and create more entrepreneurs.

"Currently, Socso is also intensifying its innovation efforts through introducing a development centre to approach skills and marketing among the entrepreneurs known as RTW Business Enhancement Centre," said Minister of HR Datuk Seri M Saravanan (*picture; left*).

"Socso had also previously published a specialised marketing innovation approach for RTW programme participants known as e-catalog (RTW-preneur) Socso to the public," he added.

This e-catalog brings together various products cultivated or traded, to expand each participant's potential skills and to enable products for being purchased.

The programme was earlier introduced to assist Socso contributors who faced constraints to work due to injury or disability to instead venture into business and remain productive.

It also aimed to ensure inclusivity among those groups involved in various sectors and industries in Malaysia.

Meanwhile, Socso and the Ministry of Science, Technology and Innovation (Mosti) agency — Yayasan Inovasi Malaysia (YIM) — signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) for a strategic partnership yesterday, aimed to accelerate innovations that will benefit RTW participants.

“The ministry is always open in shaping wider cooperation with other ministries or agencies for employment, innovation and entrepreneurship,” Saravanan said during the signing ceremony at Menara Perkeso in Putrajaya.

Saravanan added the MoU will realise more innovation outcomes as it will enable both parties to share expertise and support the product among the target group in an effort to increase their income through innovation.

Under the MoU, both parties will cooperate with YIM taking the lead in determining the target group's needs, introducing them to additional innovation and projects, as well as providing product development and financial assistance.

“This includes equipment in terms of a design project, modification employment aspects, as well as various other aspects in facilitating RTW participants and the target group to return to work easily and safely,” he said.

In addition, the partnership also will benefit the participant in terms of capacity building, collaboration opportunities with other relevant fields and parties for potential funds or grants which are agreed upon between them.

Earlier, Socso organised an Innovation Competition and Invention to bring the best innovative project to benefit the disabled group in Malaysia which YIM acted as the jury.

During the MoU signing, Mosti Minister Datuk Seri Dr Adham Baba (*right*), also announced the winners which saw six winners being awarded for their innovative projects and ideas.

“I am confident that all six innovative products raised as a winner today can help the target group to double the income especially for those with limited movement and mobility to find a way to create income by working from home,” Dr Adham said.

He added that Mosti, through YIM, will continue to support and commercialise their innovation and project to get a place among the public.