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GENERAL

Increasing GERD to 2.5 pct of GDP among four key targets of MRANTI - Dr Adham









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KUALA LUMPUR, Jan 11 -- The Malaysian Research Accelerator for Technology and Innovation (MRANTI) will focus on achieving the four key targets under the 12th Malaysia Plan (12MP).

Science, Technology and Innovation Minister Datuk Seri Dr Adham Baba said the first target was increasing the gross expenditure on research and development (GERD) to 2.5 per cent of the gross domestic product (GDP) from the current 1.4 per cent.

He said the second target was commercialising 500 products and solutions through the National Innovation and Technology Sandbox (NTIS) and Malaysia Commercialisation Year (MCY).

"Thirdly, increasing the 70 per cent share of business enterprise expenditure on research and development (BERD) to GERD and fourthly, to be among the top 20 countries in the Global Innovation Index," he told reporters at the Huawei Customer Service and Experience Centre, here today.

Earlier, he witnessed the exchange of a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between Taman Teknologi Malaysia (TPM), Huawei Technologies Malaysia and Telekom Malaysia Berhad, which have forged a partnership in developing an MRANTI e-Service platform.

The MoU was signed by TPM chief executive officer, Dzuleira Abu Bakar; Huawei Malaysia vicepresident Lim Chee Siong; and TM ONE executive vice-president Shazurawati Abd Karim.

Dr Adham said an allocation of RM30 million had been set aside under Budget 2022 for TPM to be upgraded into an Industrial Revolution 4.0 International Innovation Hub.

Established through a merger between TPM and the Malaysian Global Innovation and Creativity Centre (MaGIC), MRANTI aims to drive higher return on ideas through technology-based creation, development and commercialisation.

On the MoU, Dr Adham said it would benefit the country through four approaches, including creating a dynamic digital infrastructure located at TPM which could stimulate research efforts and the development of technology-based solutions in line with industry needs.

Other approach is developing the MRANTI e-Service platform to facilitate the supply and demand of intellectual property as well as innovative and technological products and services while matching solutions with global demand.

He said the MoU will also encourage the adoption and use of Artificial Intelligence (AI) and Software innovations as locally made services to empower future technologies as well as produce more highly skilled and experienced talent through knowledge exchange in technology.

Through the MoU, TPM, Huawei Malaysia and TM through its enterprise and public sector business solutions arm, TM ONE, will help local startups to drive commercial marketing by highlighting their skills and products to meet any demand on the e-Service platform.

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