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Government identifies 46 solutions to food security issues

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PUTRAJAYA: The government has identified 46 technological solutions to help address food security issues.

Science, Technology and Innovation Minister Datuk Seri Dr Aham Baba said the ministry provides a list of technologies that can be used immediately, and the expertise of more than 800 scientists at the Malaysian Academy of Sciences can also be used to identify and match technology-based Best solution.

"To increase crop yields, technologies that could be employed include gamma radiation facilities for the creation of new crop varieties, including improved crops."

Aham Baba said in a statement today that fertilizers using nanotechnology (nano-fertilizers) can release nutrients in a controlled manner, thereby reducing fertilizer use and increasing productivity and crops, especially food supply.

He said that the Ministry of Science and Technology and its affiliated institutions are actively carrying out research and development, and assisting in solving food security problems through technology.

He pointed out that the Malaysian Nuclear Energy Agency is developing grass-variety breeding methods, such as the production of a new variety of Napier grass with higher protein content, which is used as the main feed for livestock such as cattle and sheep.

In addition to R&D activities, the Ministry of Science and Art has recently established a technical solution action room as a proactive measure to address national food security issues.

"Through the Action Room, the ecosystem's supply chain will connect key players such as entrepreneurs, industry and academics to help quickly solve the country's current problems."

Datuk Zainer Abidin, secretary-general of the Ministry of Science and Arts, said the operation room has identified the use of artificial intelligence, Internet of Things, biotechnology and nanotechnology to solve food security issues in the short, medium and medium term.

He said the ministry will consult livestock associations, farmers and technology companies and collect opinions to help resolve food security issues.