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Innovation cycle needs to be sped up to ensure competitiveness



Datuk Seri Dr Adham Baba



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KUALA LUMPUR, Aug 25 (Bernama) – The innovation lifecycle needs to be sped up in today's world, where ideas can be the catalyst for a new economy and change the playing field.

Minister of Science, Technology and Innovation Datuk Seri Adham Baba said the ability to utilise existing cloud libraries and other innovative services accelerated the innovation cycle and enhanced the stability of a prototype and the eventual final product.

"In addition, cloud infrastructure's flexibility provides dynamic infrastructure configuration if there is any increase in usage demand once the system is deployed to the public. This feature provides high availability for an improved user experience," he said at the AliBaba Cloud Day 2022 and the launch of Digital Heroes Programme here today.

Adham said by engaging cloud providers such as Alibaba Cloud, the innovation cycle could start instantaneously due to readily available cloud infrastructure.

He said depending on the innovation cycle, the project could be started by allocating a lower budget for small-scale prototypes which then could be increased as the need arose.

"In the past years, Alibaba Cloud has assisted many local start-ups and entrepreneurs by setting up a launchpad that connects them with international venture capitalists.

"Alibaba Cloud also supported them with cloud computing resources so that these companies can focus on innovation and breakthroughs," he said.

He said with the increasing number of cloud infrastructure providers, the government would have the ability to choose the most cost-effective and technically compatible innovation solutions.

Meanwhile, Adham said the Digital Heroes Programme is an evolution of the Alibaba Cloud Academic Empowerment Programme (AAEP), an initiative that strengthened budding digital talents via participating accredited educational institutions.

He said built upon the current internship and AAEP initiative programme, the Digital Heroes Programme encompassed three new key areas which are MY Digital Talent in U Competition, Nationwide University Tour and Student Ambassador.

"MOSTI (Ministry of Science, Technology and Innovation), as the ministry entrusted with dignifying the science, technology and innovation is committed to create sustainable prosperity and wealth to the nation, pledged full support for the initiatives from Alibaba," he added.

Alibaba Cloud Intelligence general manager for Malaysia Kun Huang said the epicentre of the programme is not just to provide local students with innovative digital experience but also for Alibaba to create a sustainable pool of digital talents which would contribute to the local business ecosystem.

"As global cloud leader, we are proud to be part of the collective effort and would like to leverage our best-in-class technologies and proven experience to support local talents development whilst further empowering Malaysia's digital transformation journey," he said.

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