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YIM sets one state one STIE target for next year



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BERA, Oct 15 (Bernama) -- The Malaysian Innovation Foundation (YIM), an agency under the Ministry of Science, Technology & Innovation (MOSTI), is hoping to set up at least one Science, Technology, Innovation and Economy (STIE) Design Space in every state, next year.

YIM Chief Executive Officer Dr Sharmila Mohamed Salleh said the foundation has developed seven STIE Design Spaces in Tumpat, Kelantan, Kuala Terengganu, Terengganu including one in Bera, Pahang which was launched today.

She said among the new locations to be established are in urban-rural or rural areas in Sabah, Sarawak and Perak.

"Most of the Design Spaces that we have is not accessible, especially in locations where there are many students who enjoy technology and innovation but don't have the opportunity to go to such a place, so we bring it to them to ensure they are not left out.

"When all the students have studied robotics and so on at the Design Space, it will become a clearer direction for them to take in their career. It is also a platform for us to identify talent in a leisurely manner," she told Bernama.

She said this after the launch of the Malaysian Family STIE Design Space at the Felda Bukit Puchong Community Hall here today by caretaker Prime Minister Datuk Seri Ismail Sabri Yaakob.

Sharmila also said STIE Design Space does not only focus on youths or students but also individuals and those interested can get in touch with the programme manager at their respective locations.

"We will appoint managers to coordinate activities at the Design Space so that the locals will know. Like here in Bera, we work together with the Felda managers as well as related universities," she said.

Meanwhile, MOSTI Secretary-General Datuk Dr Aminuddin Hassim said in his speech that the STIE Design Space is actually a Design, Technology and Innovation Hub, offering experiential learning, training and technical assistance that will be aided with tools and technology applications like 3D Printers and robotics.

He said the ministry was confident that locals stand to gain and learn new findings through the programme.

“This effort will also help to develop skills and innovations that will help not only the community but may be an important innovation for the country and even at the global stage,” he said.

Aminuddin also said the programme aims to cultivate STIE to produce a knowledgeable, skilled, creative and innovative society through the *Quintuple Helix Method* (Government, Industry, Academia, Society and the Environment).

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