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Ministry committed to supporting STEM: Yakub

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Yakub said RoboNeo is a robotics platform that aims to stimulate students to solve problems through creative and logical thinking.

KOTA KINABALU: The State Ministry of Science, Technology and Innovation is committed to and consistent in supporting the national agenda via programmes like RoboNeo 2022.

RoboNeo 2022 is an integrated Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) talent development plan which acts as a platform to instil the culture and application of science, technology and innovation at the grassroots level. Its Minister Datuk Yakub Khan said the effort empowers STEM components, adding that through the Malaysia Education Development Plan, the National STEM Action Plan is included into the Ministry strategic plan.

“RoboNeo is an annual programme organised by the Ministry since 2014 and during the pandemic we continued the programme with a different approach.

“This year, we are able to conduct the programme physically and give the opportunity once again to students and robotics enthusiasts to experience and learn hands-on,” he said.

His speech was delivered by the Ministry’s Planning and Science Cultivation Division Chief Assistant Senior Secretary Musleha Khairunisa Muluk.

Also present were Chief Assistant Senior Secretary, Innovation and Digital Technology Division Chief Assistant Senior Secretary Lakinah Tangkoko and Development and Research Division Chief Assistant Senior Secretary Marshal Anthony.

Yakub said RoboNeo is a robotics platform that aims to stimulate students to solve problems through creative and logical thinking.

He said it increases expertise in using technological equipment such as computer programming, building and creating robots, mastering the fields of mathematics, science, computers, arts and languages.

“This programme can also indirectly instil team spirit, improve communication skills and hone leadership skills as well as foster the ability to solve problems,” he said.

Meanwhile, the President of Sabah ICT Programmers and Builders Association, (Kinabalu Coders), Edham Arief Dawillah said, the programme can unearth new talent in the field of technology and innovation, especially robotics and computer programming.

“It needs funds and continuous resource support. Therefore, we hope more parties will come forward to help advance this technology,” he said.