

TEKS UCAPAN

**¹YB DATUK SERI PANGLIMA MADIUS TANGAU
MENTERI SAINS, TEKNOLOGI DAN INOVASI**

SEMPENA

**THE 22ND PRIZE PRESENTATION CEREMONY OF
MALAYSIA TORAY SCIENCE FOUNDATION (MTSF)**

**HOTEL BERJAYA TIMES SQUARE
KUALA LUMPUR**

SELASA, 24 NOVEMBER 2015

Salutation to be updated by the Secretariat

TUAN YANG TERUTAMA DR. MAKIO MIYAGAWA

Duta Besar Jepun ke Malaysia

**YANG BERBAHAGIA ACADEMICIAN PROFESSOR EMERITUS TAN
SRI DR. OMAR ABDUL RAHMAN**

Pengerusi Malaysia Toray Science Foundation (MTSF)

MR. HIROSHI MURAKAMI

Naib Presiden Kanan Toray Industries, Inc., Japan

mewakili Pengerusi Kehormat MTSF dan Toray Industries, Inc., Japan

**Pengarah Urusan, Ahli-ahli Lembaga dan Jawatankuasa Pemilihan
dan Penilaian**

Wakil-wakil Institusi, Universiti dan Sekolah

Tetamu Kehormat

Wakil Media

Tuan-tuan dan puan-puan hadirin sekalian

¹ Disampaikan oleh YBr. Dr. Zulkifli Mohamed Hashim, Timbalan Ketua Setiausaha (Sains), MOSTI

Yang Berhormat Minister of Science, Technology and Innovation Datuk Seri Panglima Madius Tangau regrets that he is unable to join us this morning as he is now at the Parliament House, and I have the pleasure of delivering the following message on his behalf.

2. On behalf of the Malaysian government, I would like to thank **Toray Industries, Inc., Japan and its subsidiaries, the Toray Group (Malaysia) of Companies** for their unwavering efforts and commitment towards the **advancement of basic science and technology** in Malaysia, starting with their **initial endowment in 1993** and the subsequent financial support each year. The Ministry of Science, Technology and Innovation or MOSTI is heartened to note that **over the last twenty-two years, around six-hundred and fifty (650) Malaysian scientists, researchers and secondary science teachers have benefited** from the MTSF awards and grants.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

3. The **ability to generate new knowledge and intellectual property through research and development (R&D) and to exploit them through commercialization** will be increasingly crucial for Malaysia as we progress towards developed nation status. With rapid technology advances and globalization, competition has intensified and unless we are able to respond timely with competitive technologies or ideas, we would be left behind.

4. As we move into the next stage of our economic development, **we would have to increasingly rely on innovation and enterprise to drive our economic growth.** It is not viable to depend entirely on imported technologies to power our economy. There is a need for more

local creators of new knowledge and capabilities. **Human and intellectual capital will be the key drivers for the development of a knowledge-based economy.** As outlined under the second strategic thrust of the the National Science, Technology and Innovation Policy, MOSTI seeks to increase the critical mass of researchers in the country to achieve **a ratio of 70 researchers per 10,000 labour force of priority areas by 2020.**

5. Time and again, history has shown that **basic research plays a critical role in the development of science and technology.** There are many examples to show that successful basic research have made possible most of our technological progress and contributed indirectly to the improvement of our quality of life. Over the years, we have been building up a creditable R&D base. Investment in R&D led by the private sector has been growing.

6. Today, I am pleased that MTSF is bestowing the deserved recognition to our eminent scientists who have demonstrated exceptional quality in their projects. Receiving the award not only increases visibility in the wider academic community, but also offers reassurance that it was worth going through the long years of research. It also will deepens their commitment to continue their research.

7. On science education, **the dwindling number of students entering the science stream has been a cause for concern for quite some time.** We all know too well that to produce a strong and reliable workforce in science-related fields, we must first educate more students in Science. For children to master it at the highest possible level, the subject must attract genuine interest and passion.

8. Therefore, it is indeed heartening to note that **MTSF has a special programme to reward our science educators for their creativity in using scientific knowledge and the application of technology** to attract and hopefully retain our students' fascination with science and technology.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

9. In closing, I wish to thank again MTSF for its commitment and support in promoting science and technology in Malaysia. There are still many discoveries waiting to be made and unlimited potential waiting to be tapped. All we have to do is encourage and support it together with civic minded organizations like the Toray Group. Once again, I would like to **congratulate the prize winners** of the Malaysia Toray Science Foundation for your remarkable achievements and wish all of you more successes as you travel along your journey of discovery.

Thank you very much.