



PRESS RELEASE

Friday, August 25, 2017

“NEGARAKU SEHATI SEJIWA”

PUTRAJAYA: Development of the national science, technology and innovation (STI) agenda should live up to the spirit of the National Day theme *Negaraku Sehati Sejiwa*.

Minister of Science, Technology and Innovation (Mosti) Datuk Seri Wilfred Madius Tangau said in the context of his ministry, *Negaraku Sehati Sejiwa* (My Country One Heart One Soul), means to reduce idea and knowledge gap between the ministry, STI agencies and other stakeholders.

"It can be achieved by reducing red tape to improve performance, creating more collaborations as well as sharing of resources in implementing Mosti's agenda.

"Equally important is inculcating the spirit of always wanting to provide only the best service to the people," he said when addressing Mosti monthly assembly here Friday.

Tangau said it was important for Mostians to really understand the theme so that the ministry could continue to lead and spur the national STI agenda to a higher pedestal.

He also underlined challenges to the national STI agenda that have to be addressed among them was for more products from the research and development (R&D) phase to be commercialised.

“The rate of commercialisation should be one of the benchmarks in ensuring investments injected by the Government into the STI produce returns not only in terms of knowledge generation but also tangible ones like increased contribution to the GDP as well as exports and expansion of market domestically and internationally,” he said.

The Minister also called upon the ministry personnel to be “*sehati sejiwa*” in optimising resources usage.

At the same time, Mosti and stakeholders in the national R&D ecosystem need to be more critical and forward looking in ensuring the STI agenda is implemented successfully, he said.

Nonetheless, Tangau said Mosti had also achieved successes ever since its inception in 1973 as the Ministry of Research, Technology and Local Government through several transformations until it became to its present entity in 2004.

In October last year, he said Mosti had undergone a major organisational restructuring that saw the setting up of a new division known as the Foresight Technology allowing Mosti to become a leader and not just a follower in STI in the future.

He added that Mosti had also expanded its role from merely formulating and implementing policies to become service provider in the STI sector.

As part of its initiatives to expose grassroots innovations to the national fore, he said Mosti would be organising the National Innovation and Creative Economy (NICE) Expo scheduled from Oct 12 to 16 at the Technology Park Malaysia.

NICE 2017 aimed to create better awareness among Malaysians on the importance of STI in the context of national development, he said.

In this respect, he called on the every Mostian to do their part in promoting the event, which had set a target of 500,000 visitors.

Later, accompanied by Deputy Minister Datuk Dr Abu Bakar Mohamad Diah, he presented the national flag to Secretary-General Datuk Seri Dr

Mohd Azhar Yahaya to symbolise the launch of the ministry's fly the national flag campaign in conjunction with the National Day celebration.



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