



**KEMENTERIAN SAINS,
TEKNOLOGI DAN INOVASI**
MINISTRY OF SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY AND INNOVATION

PRESS RELEASE

MINISTRY OF SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY AND INNOVATION

STRENGTHENING MALAYSIA'S R&D INFRASTRUCTURE WILL EMPOWER THE POSITION AS LEADER IN GLOBAL RESEARCH

KUALA LUMPUR, 19 August 2024 – Strengthening Malaysia's research and development (R&D) infrastructure, especially in personalised medicine and digital healthcare, will empower Malaysia's position as a leader in global research and position Malaysia as a hub for cutting-edge medical research. Essentially, investing in R&D drives economic growth by fostering innovation, creating high-tech jobs, and enhancing global competitiveness.

“With over 1,200 sponsored clinical trials hosted in 2023, Malaysia is establishing itself as a significant hub for clinical research in Southeast Asia. The outstanding work of RBS Research Grant recipients is pivotal to our national goals of advancing vaccine development, cancer research, and public health. We are committed to building on this momentum to further strengthen our position in the global medical research community,” remarked Minister of MOSTI, YB Tuan Chang Lih Kang, during his speech at the 2024 Dr Ranjeet Bhagwan Singh Research Grant Recipient Announcement.

The achievements align with the objectives and focus areas of the 10-10 MySTIE Framework launched in 2020 by the Academy of Sciences Malaysia (ASM) alongside the National Policy on Science, Technology and Innovation 2021-2030.

YB Tuan Chang Lih Kang added, “Our goal to increase Malaysia's gross expenditure on research and development (GERD) to 3.5% of GDP by 2030 is a testament to our commitment to innovation and economic growth. The Malaysia Science Endowment (MSE) is a critical initiative in achieving this target, enabling us to harness philanthropic contributions and strategic partnerships to support impactful research that meets the nation's needs.”

In the event, YB Tuan Chang Lih Kang delivered the 2024 Dr Ranjeet Bhagwan Singh Research Grant, which amounted to RM50,000, to Dr Muhammad Farid Nazer Muhammad Faruqu, Senior Lecturer at Universiti Malaya. He will pursue his research titled 'Investigating EVbodies – Bioengineered Extracellular Vesicles (EVs) as Nano-Neutralising Agents Against EGF in Attenuating EGFR-driven Lung Cancer.'

Earlier, Professor Kehkooi Kee, a Malaysian lecturer at Tsinghua University, China, gave a Memorial Lecture titled 'Revolutionising Health: The Impact of Stem Cells on Basic Research and Medicine.' The lecture discussed the unique properties of stem cells and their role in disease mechanisms and understanding development.

The Dr Ranjeet Bhagwan Singh Medical Trust Fund was an initiative by the late Dr Ranjeet Bhagwan Singh, an extraordinary visionary and philanthropist in the medical and health sciences field. Until today, The Dr Ranjeet Bhagwan Singh Medical Trust Fund has funded 28 research projects and 11 technical workshops since its inception in 1997.

#END#

Issued by:

MINISTRY OF SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY AND INNOVATION
19 August 2024



Media Kit: https://bit.ly/2024_RBS

Media Enquiry:

Academy of Sciences Malaysia Corporate Communications Unit

Syakirah Nurizzati Mohamad Hood

syakirah.nurizzati@akademisains.gov.my

(+6017 6780 925)