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Malaysia Techlympics builds future STI talent

Borneo Post (KK), Malaysia



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KOTA KINABALU: Malaysia Techlympics serves as a platform to provide early exposure and experience in building the confidence, skills and innovative capabilities of the younger generation.

Deputy Science, Technology and Innovation Minister Datuk Mohammad Yusof Apdal said Malaysia Techlympics was not merely aimed at producing a generation of technology users, but also at developing future Science, Technology and Innovation (STI) talent.

He said the initiative was important not only to produce a generation that uses technology, but its greater goal was to develop future STI talent capable of creating, adapting to and leading technology for the benefit of the country.

He said this when officiating the opening ceremony of the 2026 Malaysia Techlympics Sabah Zone Programme at Universiti Malaysia Sabah (UMS) here yesterday.

According to him, Malaysia Techlympics has entered its fifth year since it was first launched in 2022.

He said throughout that period, the programme had remained one of the main initiatives of the Ministry of Science, Technology and Innovation (MOSTI) in fostering an STI culture among the public, particularly school pupils, students and youths nationwide.

“Through Malaysia Techlympics, our goal is to foster an STI culture and nurture interest in STEM through practical (hands-on) and informal approaches.

“This approach is strengthened through experiential learning via a competition platform that brings together young talents, from school pupils to youths aged between seven and 30.

“Wherever our young people are, they must be given equal opportunities to learn about technology, develop creative ideas and demonstrate their true capabilities,” he said.

Yusof said the Malaysia Techlympics Sabah Zone, the sixth edition held in 2026, had successfully brought together more than 1,043 participants from 65 schools and institutions of higher learning (IPTs) throughout Sabah and Labuan.

According to him, the large number of participants was also an achievement and a manifestation of participation that was a source of great pride.

He said the participants were pupils, students and youths who had successfully passed rigorous screening at their respective schools.

At the same time, he said, in line with the inclusiveness principle that was a core focus of the ministry, Malaysia Techlympics also implemented the Inclusive

Outreach Programme.

“This step was taken to ensure access to STI education could be expanded, particularly for our children in rural areas,” he said.

He said the outreach programme was specifically designed to bridge the gap and improve access to STEM Teaching and Learning (T&L), involving not only rural students but also teachers and local communities.

He said to date, about 4,725 students and 336 teachers from Sabah and Labuan had been directly involved through various forms of training provided.

He said overall, MOSTI remained firmly committed to the principle that fostering an STI culture should not be limited or confined to the classroom.

As such, he said practical and interactive programmes such as Malaysia Techlympics needed to be further strengthened so that STI knowledge could be delivered in a more engaging, relaxed and practical manner.

“This out-of-classroom approach has proven not only capable of enhancing students’ in-depth understanding, but also opening their eyes to how STI can be applied in daily life, subsequently shaping creative and innovative minds,” he said.

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Datuk Mohammad Yusof Apdal



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Yusof (third left) presents a special award to a recipient during the opening ceremony of the 2026 Malaysia Techlympics Sabah Zone programme.



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SUMMARIES

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