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LIPUTAN MEDIA 30 SEPTEMBER 2026 (RABU)	
MEDIA	The Star
TAJUK	Kelantan Sultan's tahfiz proposals to be refined with stakeholders, says Zahid
PAUTAN	https://tinyurl.com/bdd2787u

NATION

Kelantan Sultan's tahfiz proposals to be refined with stakeholders, says Zahid

Tuesday, 29 Sep 2026 | 6:14 PM MYT

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KUALA LUMPUR: Proposals by the Sultan of Kelantan, Sultan Muhammad V, to empower tahfiz education, including through a balance between religious, mainstream and technical and vocational education and training (TVET), will be scrutinised and refined with the relevant parties.

Deputy Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Ahmad Zahid Hamidi said the views and proposals expressed by His Royal Highness provided meaningful guidance in determining the direction of the nation's tahfiz education.

Ahmad Zahid, who is also chairman of the National Tahfiz Council, said the effort was crucial to producing a generation of huffaz (Quran memorisers) who were not only strong in their memorisation and possessed a high level of religious understanding, but also had knowledge and skills in professional fields.

"The Quran serves as the foundation, knowledge broadens their thinking and skills open up their future.

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LIPUTAN MEDIA 30 SEPTEMBER 2026 (RABU)	
MEDIA	Utusan Borneo
TAJUK	Kerajaan Sarawak akan terus memperkukuh agenda pembangunan Bumiputera
PAUTAN	https://tinyurl.com/2ps7r6mk

Kerajaan Sarawak akan terus memperkukuh agenda pembangunan Bumiputera

September 29, 2026, Selasa - 2:42pm



Awang Tengah menghadiri Mesyuarat Jawatankuasa Pemandu Majlis Ekonomi Bumiputera dipengerusikan Ahmad Zahid di Putrajaya, semalam.

PUTRAJAYA: Kerajaan Sarawak akan terus memperkukuh agenda pembangunan Bumiputera melalui pendekatan lebih bersepadu dengan memberi tumpuan kepada pengembangan perusahaan, pembangunan bakat, pembiayaan, akses pasaran dan penyertaan dalam sektor berimpak tinggi.

Timbalan Premier Sarawak Datuk Amar Awang Tengah Ali Hasan berkata, antara inisiatif utama ialah kerangka strategik 3-7-20 yang memberi tumpuan kepada penyenaraian syarikat Bumiputera di Bursa Malaysia.

Lagi inisiatif termasuk pembangunan Regional Business Champions serta penskalaan perusahaan mikro kepada syarikat Sendirian Berhad.

"Antara inisiatif utama ialah kerangka strategik 3-7-20, yang memberi tumpuan kepada penyenaraian syarikat Bumiputera di Bursa Malaysia, pembangunan Regional Business Champions serta penskalaan perusahaan mikro kepada syarikat Sendirian Berhad.

"Kerangka ini telah mencatat pencapaian penting apabila United Asiapac Energy Berhad berjaya disenaraikan di Pasaran ACE Bursa Malaysia pada 14 September 2026, dengan permodalan pasaran RM192.50 juta dan dana RM48.74 juta berjaya diperoleh," katanya dalam laporan Unit Komunikasi Awam Sarawak (UKAS).

Beliau berkata demikian dalam satu kenyataan Kementerian Perdagangan Antarabangsa, Industri dan Pelaburan Sarawak (MINTRED) mengenai Mesyuarat Jawatankuasa Pemandu Majlis Ekonomi Bumiputera Bil. 2/2026 yang dipengerusikan Timbalan Perdana Menteri Datuk Seri Dr Ahmad Zahid Hamidi di sini, semalam.

Tambahnya, sembilan lagi syarikat Bumiputera Sarawak telah dikenal pasti ke arah penyenaraian, termasuk dua yang disasarkan pada 2027.

Selain itu, Menteri MINTRED itu memberitahu, Kerajaan Sarawak juga akan memperluas penyertaan Bumiputera dalam sektor pertumbuhan tinggi seperti hidrogen, petrokimia, pembuatan termaju, aeroangkasa dan semikonduktor, selaras dengan PCDS 2030.

Pada masa yang sama ujarnya, Kerajaan Sarawak menggalakkan kolaboratif antara syarikat Bumiputera dan bukan Bumiputera melalui usaha sama, perkongsian teknologi, pembangunan vendor dan akses pasaran.

Menurutnya, pendekatan itu penting untuk membentuk ekosistem perniagaan Sarawak yang lebih holistik, inklusif dan saling melengkapi serta membolehkan syarikat tempatan berkembang bersama dalam rantaian bekalan serantau dan global.

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LIPUTAN MEDIA 30 SEPTEMBER 2026 (RABU)	
MEDIA	NST
TAJUK	Ahmad Zahid congratulates sepak takraw squad on Asian Games silver
PAUTAN	https://tinyurl.com/bdesn45n

Ahmad Zahid congratulates sepak takraw squad on Asian Games silver

By Bernama September 29, 2026 @ 7:23pm



The national men's regu team won the silver Asian Games medal on Tuesday. –BERNAMA PIC

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KUALA LUMPUR: Deputy Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Ahmad Zahid Hamidi congratulated the national men's sepak takraw squad for securing silver in the men's regu event at the 2026 Aichi-Nagoya Asian Games today.

In a post on X, Zahid praised the team's fighting spirit in the final at Mizuho Park Gymnasium in Nagoya.

"Today's result does not erase all the hard work, discipline, and fighting spirit you have shown throughout this tournament.

"Keep moving forward with full confidence because every drop of sweat shed continues to bring glory to the country. Well done to our national heroes!" he said in the post.

Malaysia's hopes of double gold ended with a 0-2 defeat to defending champions Thailand in the regu final.

Last Friday, the national squad ended a 36-year wait by winning gold in the team regu event, a title they had last claimed at the 1990 Beijing Games. --BERNAMA

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LIPUTAN MEDIA 30 SEPTEMBER 2026 (RABU)	
MEDIA	BERNAMA
TAJUK	KEDA salur RM20.11 juta geran bantuan kepada 1,172 usahawan di Kedah
PAUTAN	https://tinyurl.com/23p6xtcb

KEDA Salur RM20.11 Juta Geran Bantuan Kepada 1,172 Usahawan Di Kedah

29/09/2026 10:13 AM



Pengerusi Lembaga Kemajuan Wilayah Kedah (KEDA), Datuk Seri Mahdzir Khalid (enam, kiri) bergambar bersama pemenang pada Majlis Apresiasi Usahawan KEDA Tahun 2026 malam tadi.

ALOR SETAR, 29 Sept (Bernama) -- Sebanyak 1,172 usahawan di Kedah menerima manfaat geran bantuan berjumlah RM20.11 juta daripada Lembaga Kemajuan Wilayah Kedah (KEDA) dari 2023 hingga tahun lepas.

Pengerusi KEDA Datuk Seri Mahdzir Khalid berkata bantuan berkenaan antara usaha agensi itu untuk memperkukuh keupayaan usahawan, khususnya yang menjalankan perniagaan di kawasan luar bandar.

"Berdasarkan rekod bagi tempoh ini, KEDA telah membelanjakan RM20,111,356 menerusi pelbagai bentuk geran bantuan kepada golongan usahawan.

"Bantuan ini disediakan bagi membantu meningkatkan keupayaan perniagaan usahawan serta memperkukuh asas perniagaan mereka," katanya ketika berucap pada Majlis Apresiasi Usahawan KEDA Tahun 2026, di sini malam tadi.

Beliau berkata KEDA turut memperuntukkan lebih RM6.87 juta atau RM6,872,319 pada tahun ini bagi meneruskan pelbagai program pembangunan keusahawanan di Kedah.

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LIPUTAN MEDIA 30 SEPTEMBER 2026 (RABU)	
MEDIA	BERNAMA
TAJUK	KEDA channels RM20.11 mln in grants to 1,172 entrepreneurs
PAUTAN	https://tinyurl.com/37x56uf4

KEDA Channels RM20.11 Mln In Grants To 1,172 Entrepreneurs

29/09/2026 11:09 AM



ALOR SETAR, Sept 29 (Bernama) -- A total of 1,172 entrepreneurs in Kedah benefited from RM20.11 million in grant assistance channelled by the Kedah Regional Development Authority (KEDA) from 2023 to last year.

KEDA chairman Datuk Seri Mahdzir Khalid said the assistance was part of the agency's efforts to strengthen the capabilities of entrepreneurs, particularly those operating businesses in rural areas.

"This assistance is aimed at enhancing entrepreneurs' capabilities and strengthening the foundations of their businesses," he said at the KEDA Entrepreneur Appreciation Ceremony here last night.

Mahdzir said KEDA had also allocated RM6.87 million this year for the continuation of various entrepreneurship development programmes in Kedah.

According to him, the allocation covers various initiatives, including training and mentoring programmes, product labelling and promotion, business equipment assistance, and participation in expos and exhibitions.

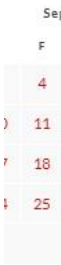
"All these initiatives are designed to help entrepreneurs enhance their knowledge, strengthen their skills and branding, and expand the market reach of their products," he said.

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LIPUTAN MEDIA 30 SEPTEMBER 2026 (RABU)	
MEDIA	New Malaysia Times
TAJUK	KEDA Channels RM20.11 Million in Grants to 1,172 Rural Entrepreneurs
PAUTAN	https://tinyurl.com/mr3xyd52

KEDA Channels RM20.11 Million in Grants to 1,172 Rural Entrepreneurs



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of Etomidate in Shoes

r Killed, Four Others
n Collision

ofit Rises to RM1.05
truction Earnings

rply Lower On Rising

a Record Unhealthy
a Highest at 176

Nik Mohamad Tamim · September 29, 2026



ALOR SETAR, Sept 29 – A total of 1,172 entrepreneurs in Kedah received RM20.11 million in grant assistance distributed by the Kedah Regional Development Authority (KEDA) between 2023 and 2025.

KEDA Chairman Datuk Seri Mahdzir Khalid stated that the financial support was designed to empower local business owners, particularly those operating within rural areas, to scale their operations and strengthen their core business foundations.

"This assistance is aimed at enhancing entrepreneurs' capabilities and strengthening the foundations of their businesses," Mahdzir said during his address at the KEDA Entrepreneur Appreciation Ceremony on Monday night.

To sustain this growth trajectory, KEDA allocated an additional RM6.87 million for 2026 to fund comprehensive entrepreneurship development initiatives. The program covers skills training, business mentoring, product labeling, promotional campaigns, machinery and equipment assistance, and participation in trade expos.

Mahdzir highlighted KEDA's ongoing efforts to build a supportive business ecosystem by providing physical infrastructure. The agency has made 528 commercial premises available for rent across Kedah, with 466 units currently occupied.

The available premises include:

- **Shops and Stalls:** 223 units
- **SME Workshops:** 148 units
- **Commercial Premises & Industrial Lots:** 1 commercial premise and 7 industrial land lots
- **Subsidiary-Managed Premises:** 149 SME premises and shops overseen by KEDA subsidiaries

In his concluding remarks, Mahdzir urged rural entrepreneurs to adopt modern business strategies and expand beyond local brick-and-mortar operations by leveraging e-commerce and digital marketing.

"Entrepreneurs need to leverage digital marketing techniques to expand their market reach at a lower cost," he said, encouraging small business owners to actively utilize social media platforms like TikTok, Instagram, and Facebook, alongside e-commerce channels such as Shopee and Lazada.

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LIPUTAN MEDIA 30 SEPTEMBER 2026 (RABU)	
MEDIA	Berita RTM
TAJUK	KEDA salur RM20.11 juta bantu 1,172 usahawan Kedah bagi tempoh 2023–2025
PAUTAN	https://tinyurl.com/3bt9rtes

KEDA salur RM20.11 juta bantu 1,172 usahawan Kedah bagi tempoh 2023–2025

29/09/2026 | 7:34 PM - NASIONAL



Foto Facebook KEDA

ALOR SETAR, 29 September – Sebanyak RM20.11 juta dibelanjakan oleh Lembaga Kemajuan Wilayah Kedah (KEDA) melalui geran bantuan kepada 1,172 usahawan di Kedah bagi tempoh 2023 hingga 2025 dalam usaha meningkatkan keupayaan serta daya saing usahawan di negeri itu.

RINGKASAN BERITA AI +

Peruntukan berkenaan merupakan antara komitmen KEDA dalam memastikan usahawan khususnya di kawasan luar bandar mendapat sokongan yang sewajarnya untuk mengembangkan perniagaan.

Pengerusi KEDA, Datuk Seri Mahdzir Khalid berkata tahun ini, KEDA memperuntukkan sebanyak RM6.87 juta bagi meneruskan agenda pembangunan keusahawanan di Kedah.

"Peruntukan itu meliputi pelaksanaan pelbagai inisiatif termasuk latihan dan bimbingan, pelabelan serta promosi produk, bantuan peralatan perniagaan selain penyertaan usahawan dalam ekspo dan pameran," jelasnya.

Katanya, kesemua inisiatif berkenaan dirangka bagi membantu usahawan meningkatkan pengetahuan, kemahiran, penjenamaan serta capaian pasaran produk masing-masing.

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LIPUTAN MEDIA 30 SEPTEMBER 2026 (RABU)	
MEDIA	Malaysia Tribune
TAJUK	MARA lantik bekas tentera sebagai warden sepenuh masa di semua MRSM mulai 2027
PAUTAN	https://tinyurl.com/bdert7bh



Pengerusi MARA, Datuk Dr Asyraf Wajdi Dusuki.

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BERITA SEMASA

MARA lantik bekas tentera sebagai warden sepenuh masa di semua MRSM mulai 2027

Khadijah Mohamad Nor · 20 hours ago · 92 · 1 minute read

KUALA LUMPUR – Majlis Amanah Rakyat (MARA) akan melantik warden sepenuh masa dalam kalangan bekas anggota tentera di semua Maktab Rendah Sains MARA (MRSM) di seluruh negara bermula 1 Januari 2027.

Pengerusinya, Datuk Dr Asyraf Wajdi Dusuki berkata, keputusan itu dibuat susulan dapatan Kajian Keberkesanan Projek Rintis Pelantikan Warden Luar Sepenuh Masa Dalam Kalangan Bekas Tentera yang dilaksanakan di MRSM Besut dan MRSM Balik Pulau.

Menurutnya, kajian diketuai Prof Madya Dr Haliza Abdul Rahman dari Institut Pengajian Sosial Universiti Putra Malaysia (UPM) itu mendapati, pelantikan bekas tentera sebagai warden memberi kesan positif terhadap aspek disiplin dan keselamatan pelajar. Liputan Berita Malaysia

> "Antara dapatan utama kajian ialah warden bekas tentera berkesan mengawal disiplin dan keselamatan fizikal asrama selain mendapat penerimaan positif daripada pelajar, ibu bapa serta pentadbir.

"Kehadiran warden secara kerap dan sistematik juga meminimumkan ruang berlakunya buli dan vandalisme," katanya menerusi hantaran di Facebook.

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LIPUTAN MEDIA 30 SEPTEMBER 2026 (RABU)	
MEDIA	NST
TAJUK	All 58 MRSM to get former military personnel as full-time wardens
PAUTAN	https://tinyurl.com/sf4b8rn9

All 58 MRSM to get former military personnel as full-time wardens

By Nor 'asyikin Mat Hayin September 29, 2026 @ 2:52pm



Datuk Dr Asyraf Wajdi Dusuki. - NSTP FILEPIC

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KUALA LUMPUR: The recruitment of former military personnel as full-time wardens will be expanded to all 58 Mara Junior Science Colleges (MRSM) starting Jan 1, 2027, to curb bullying and discipline issues in hostels.

Majlis Amanah Rakyat (Mara) chairman Datuk Dr Asyraf Wajdi Dusuki said the decision follows the success of a pilot project at MRSM Besut and MRSM Balik Pulau, which saw bullying cases reduced to nearly zero due to the presence and strict supervision of former security personnel.

He said a study by Universiti Putra Malaysia (UPM) at both campuses revealed that frequent and systematic warden presence helped reduce opportunities for bullying and vandalism while improving discipline and a sense of safety among students.

"The findings also show a drastic decline in issues related to student discipline problems, with bullying cases almost zero throughout the presence of these wardens," he said in a statement today.

Asyraf Wajdi said the initiative also relieves the burden on teachers, allowing them to focus on academic excellence and student character building.

"I have also requested UPM to collaborate in preparing training modules for these new wardens and extend the study to address mental bullying.

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LIPUTAN MEDIA 30 SEPTEMBER 2026 (RABU)	
MEDIA	Harian Metro
TAJUK	Kes buli turun hampir sifar, MARA lantik bekas tentera jadi warden semua 58 MRSM
PAUTAN	https://tinyurl.com/ms4kc5ex

Kes buli turun hampir sifar, MARA lantik bekas tentera jadi warden semua 58 MRSM

Nor 'Asyikin Mat Hayin
asyikin.mat@hmetro.com.my



ASYRAF Wajdi Dusuki. FOTO arkib NSTP

Dapatkan berita ringkas di sini
Ringkaskan untuk saya

Kuala Lumpur: Pengambilan bekas anggota tentera sebagai warden sepenuh masa akan diperluaskan ke semua 58 Maktab Rendah Sains MARA (MRSM) bermula 1 Januari 2027, dalam usaha drastik mengekang gejala buli dan masalah disiplin di asrama.

Pengerusi Majlis Amanah Rakyat (MARA), Datuk Dr Asyraf Wajdi Dusuki berkata, keputusan itu dibuat susulan kejayaan projek rintis di MRSM Besut dan Balik Pulau yang menyaksikan kes buli berkurangan sehingga hampir sifar hasil kehadiran serta kawalan ketat bekas anggota keselamatan berkenaan.

Katanya, kajian keberkesanan projek rintis yang dilaksanakan Universiti Putra Malaysia (UPM) di MRSM Besut dan MRSM Balik Pulau mendapati kehadiran warden secara kerap dan sistematik membantu mengurangkan ruang berlakunya buli dan vandalisme, selain meningkatkan disiplin serta rasa selamat dalam kalangan pelajar.

"Hasil dapatan juga menunjukkan penurunan drastik isu-isu yang terkait dengan masalah disiplin pelajar, malah masalah buli sepanjang keberadaan warden ini hampir sifar," katanya dalam kenyataan hari ini.

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LIPUTAN MEDIA 30 SEPTEMBER 2026 (RABU)	
MEDIA	My News Hub
TAJUK	MARA lantik bekas tentera sebagai warden sepenuh masa di semua MRSM mulai 2027
PAUTAN	https://tinyurl.com/mf89ufve

MARA Lantik Bekas Tentera Sebagai Warden Sepenuh Masa Di Semua MRSM Mulai 2027

oleh **Mynewshub** dalam **Utama & Sensasi** 0



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KUALA LUMPUR – Majlis Amanah Rakyat (MARA) akan melantik warden sepenuh masa dalam kalangan bekas anggota tentera di semua Maktab Rendah Sains MARA (MRSM) di seluruh negara bermula 1 Januari 2027.

Pengerusi MARA, Datuk Dr Asyraf Wajdi Dusuki berkata, keputusan itu dibuat Majlis MARA selepas meneliti hasil Kajian Keberkesanan Projek Rintis Pelantikan Warden Luar Sepenuh Masa Dalam Kalangan Bekas Tentera yang dilaksanakan di MRSM Besut dan MRSM Balik Pulau.

Menurutnya, kajian berkenaan diketuai Prof Madya Dr Haliza Abdul Rahman dari Institut Pengajian Sosial, Universiti Putra Malaysia (UPM), dengan hasil penyelidikan dibentangkan menerusi laporan setebal 191 muka surat.

Antara dapatan utama kajian adalah warden bekas tentera didapati berkesan dalam mengawal disiplin dan keselamatan fizikal asrama, selain menerima maklum balas positif daripada pelajar, ibu bapa serta pentadbir.

Asyraf Wajdi berkata, kehadiran warden secara kerap dan sistematik turut meminimumkan ruang berlakunya kejadian buli dan vandalisme, selain membantu pelajar berasa lebih selamat serta berdisiplin dalam aspek pematuhan waktu, kekemasan diri dan pengurusan asrama.

Katanya, pendekatan itu juga membantu mencanai nilai hormat dan adab serta memperkukuh aspek kerohanian pelajar menerusi penglibatan langsung warden dalam aktiviti keagamaan.

Pada masa sama, pelantikan warden sepenuh masa berkenaan mampu mengurangkan beban guru sekali gus membolehkan mereka memberikan tumpuan kepada kecemerlangan akademik dan bimbingan sahsiah pelajar.

"Hasil dapatan juga menunjukkan penurunan drastik isu-isu yang terkait dengan masalah disiplin pelajar, malah masalah buli sepanjang keberadaan warden ini hampir sifar," katanya dalam kenyataan. – MYNEWSHUB

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LIPUTAN MEDIA 30 SEPTEMBER 2026 (RABU)	
MEDIA	Malaysia Gazette
TAJUK	Warden bekas tentera di semua MRSM mulai tahun depan
PAUTAN	https://tinyurl.com/5n6n5etk

Warden bekas tentera di semua MRSM mulai tahun depan – Asyraf Wajdi

Oleh **Shawaliah Hadir** - 29 September 2026



Pesara tentera, Azrol Lizan Mohamad Rosli yang kini bertugas sebagai warden sepenuh masa melakukan rondaan rutin di asrama lelaki ketika tinjauan lensa Malaysia Gazette di Maktab Rendah Sains MARA (MRSM) Balik Pulau, Pulau Pinang. Foto ANIQ NABILAFIQ ANUAR, 19 OGOS 2025. (Gambar fail)

KUALA LUMPUR – Majlis Amanah Rakyat (MARA) akan melantik warden sepenuh masa dalam kalangan bekas tentera di semua Maktab Rendah Sains MARA (MRSM) seluruh negara mulai 1 Januari 2027 bagi memperkukuh aspek disiplin dan keselamatan pelajar.

Pengerusi MARA, Datuk Dr Asyraf Wajdi Dusuki berkata, keputusan itu dibuat selepas meneliti hasil kajian keberkesanan projek rintis pelantikan warden luar sepenuh masa dalam kalangan bekas tentera yang dilaksanakan di MRSM Besut dan MRSM Balik Pulau.

"Antaranya, warden bekas tentera berkesan mengawal disiplin dan keselamatan fizikal asrama, selain menerima penerimaan positif daripada pelajar, ibu bapa dan pentadbir.

"Kehadiran warden yang kerap dan sistematik turut meminimumkan ruang berlakunya buli dan vandalisme," katanya dalam kenyataan.

Terdahulu beliau berkata, kajian tersebut diketuai Ketua Penyelidik Institut Pengajian Sosial Universiti Putra Malaysia (UPM), Prof Madya Dr Haliza Abdul Rahman itu menghasilkan sembilan dapatan utama yang direkodkan dalam laporan setebal 191 muka surat.

Mengulas lanjut, Asyraf Wajdi berkata, kajian itu turut mendapati kehadiran warden membantu mewujudkan persekitaran asrama yang lebih selamat serta meningkatkan pematuhan pelajar terhadap jadual selain kekemasan diri dan asrama, selain membentuk nilai hormat dan adab.





Artikel Popular



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Tak perlu turun demo, minta sahaja menteri kamu buat kerja –...

29 September 2026 0

"Ni demo nak cakap menteri dan kerajaan kamu tidak buat kerja ke? Ke kamu masih nak berlakon jadi pembangkang?" soalnya.



Dipaksa hisap 'vape' sebelum tidak sedarkan diri, remaja dakwa dirogol

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LIPUTAN MEDIA 30 SEPTEMBER 2026 (RABU)	
MEDIA	Oh My Media
TAJUK	Semua MRSM ada warden bekas tentera mulai tahun depan
PAUTAN	https://tinyurl.com/5n6ur9vj

Semua MRSM ada warden bekas tentera mulai tahun depan – Asyraf Wajdi

Diterbitkan 13 saat lepas pada 29 September 2026
Oleh **Dayah Muse**



Majlis Amanah Rakyat (MARA) akan melantik warden sepenuh masa daripada kalangan bekas tentera di semua Maktab Rendah Sains MARA (MRSM) di seluruh negara bermula 1 Januari 2027.

Pengerusinya Datuk Dr Asyraf Wajdi Dusuki berkata, keputusan itu dibuat selepas mengambil kira dapatan Kajian Keberkesanan Projek Rintis Perlantikan Warden Luar Sepenuh Masa Dalam Kalangan Bekas Tentera yang dilaksanakan di MRSM Besut dan MRSM Balik Pulau.

"Keputusan yang dibuat oleh Majlis MARA ini setelah meneliti hasil dapatan kajian yang dijalankan oleh Prof Madya Dr Haliza Abdul Rahman, Ketua Penyelidik Institut Pengajian Sosial Universiti Putra Malaysia (UPM).

"Kajian tersebut merangkumi sembilan faktor atau dapatan utama yang direkodkan dalam buku laporan setebal 191 muka surat, antaranya warden bekas tentera berkesan dalam mengawal disiplin serta keselamatan fizikal asrama," **katanya dalam kenyataan di Facebook.**

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LIPUTAN MEDIA 30 SEPTEMBER 2026 (RABU)	
MEDIA	The Star
TAJUK	Bekas tentera masuk MRSM seluruh negara mulai tahun depan, jadi warden sepenuh masa
PAUTAN	https://tinyurl.com/zn4s5bsa

MSTAR | SEMASA

Bekas tentera masuk MRSM seluruh negara mulai tahun depan, jadi warden sepenuh masa

Selasa, 29 September 2026 11:55 AM
Oleh: MSTAR



Asyraf berkata bekas tentera akan dilantik sebagai warden MRSM di seluruh negara mulai 2027.

BEKAS tentera akan dilantik sebagai warden sepenuh masa di semua Maktab Rendah Sains MARA (MRSM) di seluruh negara mulai 1 Januari 2027 dalam usaha mengurangkan kes buli dan bebanan tugas guru.

Pengerusi MARA, **Datuk Dr Asyraf Wajdi Dusuki** berkata, keputusan itu dibuat selepas meneliti hasil kajian keberkesanan projek rintis pelantikan warden luar sepenuh masa dalam kalangan bekas tentera di MRSM Besut dan MRSM Balik Pulau.

Menurut Asyraf, kajian itu diketuai Ketua Penyelidik Institut Pengajian Sosial Universiti Putra Malaysia (UPM), Prof Madya Dr Haliza Abdul Rahman, membabitkan sembilan dapatan utama dalam laporan 191 muka surat.

Berdasarkan dapatan utama kajian itu, Asyraf berkata kehadiran warden bekas tentera berkesan mengawal disiplin dan keselamatan fizikal asrama, selain mendapat penerimaan positif pelajar, ibu bapa dan pentadbir.

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LIPUTAN MEDIA 30 SEPTEMBER 2026 (RABU)	
MEDIA	Newswav
TAJUK	Ex-soldiers to serve as full-time wardens at all MRSM from Jan 1
PAUTAN	https://tinyurl.com/bpymm6nu

Ex-soldiers to serve as full-time wardens at all MRSM from Jan 1

Local | Politics 29 Sep 2026 • 12:14 PM MYT

Sinar Daily
Comprehensive coverage on breaking news, lifestyle & insightful opinions.



Mara chairman Datuk Dr Asyraf Wajdi Dusuki - BERNAMA FILE PIX

PETALING JAYA - Former soldiers will be appointed as full-time wardens at all Mara Junior Science Colleges (MRSM) nationwide from Jan 1 next year, in a move aimed at curbing bullying and easing teachers' workload.

Mara chairman Datuk Dr Asyraf Wajdi Dusuki said the initiative was prompted by complaints from MRSM teachers who felt the RM300 warden allowance did not justify taking on the additional responsibility on top of their teaching duties.

He said it was also unrealistic to expect teachers to continuously patrol hostels, particularly late at night and in the early hours of the morning, when bullying and abuse could occur.

"By creating full-time warden positions for former soldiers who retire while still at a productive age, such as in their 40s, we are also providing them with career opportunities while helping to instil discipline among students," he said in a Facebook post on Tuesday.

The nationwide rollout follows a pilot programme involving former military personnel as full-time external wardens at MRSM Besut and MRSM Balik Pulau.

Asyraf said the Mara Council decided to expand the initiative after reviewing a 191-page study led by Assoc Prof Dr Haliza Abdul Rahman of Universiti Putra Malaysia's Institute for Social Science Studies.

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LIPUTAN MEDIA 30 SEPTEMBER 2026 (RABU)	
MEDIA	Sinar Daily
TAJUK	Ex-soldiers to serve as full-time wardens at all MRSM from Jan 1
PAUTAN	https://tinyurl.com/y34v78zm

Ex-soldiers to serve as full-time wardens at all MRSM from Jan 1

The initiative was prompted by complaints from MRSM teachers who felt the RM300 warden allowance did not justify taking on the additional responsibility on top of their teaching duties.

By AGENCY
29 Sep 2026 12:14pm



Mara chairman Datuk Dr Asyraf Wajdi Dusuki - BERNAMA FILE PIX

A- A A+

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LIPUTAN MEDIA 30 SEPTEMBER 2026 (RABU)	
MEDIA	HOT fm
TAJUK	KKDW tekankan peranan ibu bapa dan masyarakat tangani isu buli di MRSM
PAUTAN	https://tinyurl.com/58s36cm9

LIPUTAN MEDIA 30 SEPTEMBER 2026 (RABU)	
MEDIA	TRAXX fm
TAJUK	KEDA salur RM20.11 juta geran bantuan kepada 1,172 usahawan di Kedah
PAUTAN	https://tinyurl.com/4mhsfb25

LIPUTAN MEDIA 30 SEPTEMBER 2026 (RABU)	
MEDIA	BFM
TAJUK	MARA will expand its programme of hiring ex-military personnel as wardens at mrsm campuses nationwide in 2027 to address psychological as well as physical bullying
PAUTAN	https://tinyurl.com/5c75myue

LIPUTAN MEDIA 30 SEPTEMBER 2026 (RABU)	
MEDIA	ERA fm
TAJUK	Pengambilan bekas anggota tentera sebagai warden sepenuh masa akan diperluaskan ke semua 58 mrsm mulai 1 Januari 2027
PAUTAN	https://tinyurl.com/4r3k292z

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LIPUTAN MEDIA 30 SEPTEMBER 2026 (RABU)	
MEDIA	ERA fm
TAJUK	MARA akan memperluas pengambilan bekas anggota tentera sebagai warden sepenuh masa
PAUTAN	https://tinyurl.com/d3kwte5y

LIPUTAN MEDIA 30 SEPTEMBER 2026 (RABU)	
MEDIA	Astro Awani
TAJUK	Sebanyak 1,172 usahawan di Kedah menerima manfaat geran bantuan berjumlah RM20.11 juta daripada Lembaga Kemajuan Wilayah Kedah-KEDAH
PAUTAN	https://tinyurl.com/35xdm3ms

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LIPUTAN MEDIA 30 SEPTEMBER 2026 (RABU)	
MEDIA	NST
TAJUK	Full-time wardens for all 58 MRSM, scheme to be expanded after pilot project shows sharp drop in bullying cases, says Asyraf
PAUTAN	https://tinyurl.com/mycd4xza

JAN 1, 2027 START

FULL-TIME WARDENS FOR ALL 58 MRSM

Scheme to be expanded after pilot project shows sharp drop in bullying cases, says Asyraf

[illegible] HAYIN
KUALA LUMPUR
news@nst.com.my

THE recruitment of former military personnel as full-time wardens will be expanded to all 58 Mara Junior Science Colleges (MRSM) starting Jan 1, 2027, to curb bullying and discipline issues in hostels.

Majlis Amanah Rakyat (Mara) chairman Datuk Dr Asyraf Wajdi Dusuki said yesterday the decision followed the success of a pilot project at MRSM Besut and MRSM Balik Pulau, where bullying cases were reduced to nearly zero under the strict supervision of former military personnel.

He said a study by Universiti Putra Malaysia (UPM) at both campuses revealed that frequent and systematic warden presence helped reduce opportunities for bullying and vandalism while boosting discipline and a sense of safety among students.

"The findings showed a drastic decline in disciplinary issues with almost zero bullying cases while the wardens were present."

Asyraf Wajdi said the initiative relieved the burden on teachers, allowing them to focus on academic excellence and student character building.

"I have also requested for UPM to collaborate in preparing training modules for these new wardens. Having former soldiers as wardens is effective in managing discipline at hostels."

It was reported that the pilot project for the appointment of wardens involving former military personnel was conducted by UPM's Institute for Social Science Studies at MRSM Besut and MRSM Balik Pulau.

The 191-page report from the UPM study recorded positive feedback from students, parents and administrators, as well as zero bullying cases and improved student discipline.



Malaysian Armed Forces veterans Azman Zahari (right) and Kamarul Azron Che Kamaruddin, who were recruited as wardens, conducting a patrol around the compound of MRSM Besut. NSTP FILE PIC

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LIPUTAN MEDIA 30 SEPTEMBER 2026 (RABU)	
MEDIA	NST
TAJUK	Govt mulls ruler's tahfiz education proposal
PAUTAN	https://tinyurl.com/yytdpa9c

ROYAL ADDRESS

Govt mulls ruler's tahfiz education proposals

KUALA LUMPUR: Sultan of Kelantan Sultan Muhammad V's proposals to empower tahfiz education, including through a balance between religious, mainstream and technical and vocational education and training, will be scrutinised.

Deputy Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Ahmad Zahid Hamidi said the ruler's views provided guidance in determining the direction of tahfiz education.

Zahid, who is also chairman of the National Tahfiz Council, said the effort was crucial to producing a generation of *huffaz* who were not only strong in memorisation and religious understanding, but also had professional knowledge and skills.

"The Quran serves as the foundation, knowledge broadens their thinking and skills open up their future.

"The sultan's proposals will be scrutinised and refined to strengthen the tahfiz ecosystem and produce a generation that can contribute to the ummah and the country," he said in a Facebook post.

In his royal address for his 57th birthday celebration at Istana Balai Besar in Kota Baru, Sultan Muhammad V expressed gratitude for the latest developments involving the National Tahfiz Council.

He said the planning was in line with the state government's vision to establish two tahfiz in Gua Musang and Kuala Krai, thus completing the religious and tahfiz education ecosystem in Kelantan. **Bernama**

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LIPUTAN MEDIA 30 SEPTEMBER 2026 (RABU)	
MEDIA	Harian Metro
TAJUK	Bekas tentera warden MRSM mulai 2027
PAUTAN	https://tinyurl.com/5fctcbzj

Bekas tentera warden MRSM mulai 2027

Kuala Lumpur: Pengambilan bekas anggota tentera sebagai warden sepenuh masa akan diperluaskan ke semua 58 Maktab Rendah Sains MARA (MRSM) bermula 1 Januari 2027 dalam usaha drastik mengekang gejala buli dan masalah disiplin di asrama.

Pengerusi Majlis Amanah Rakyat (MARA), Datuk Dr Asyraf Wajdi Dusuki, berkata, keputusan itu dibuat susulan kejayaan projek rintis di MRSM Besut dan Balik Pulau yang menyaksikan kes buli berkurangan sehingga hampir sifar hasil kehadiran serta kawalan ketat bekas anggota keselamatan berkenaan.

Katanya, kajian keberkesanan projek rintis yang dilaksanakan Universiti Putra Malaysia (UPM) di MRSM Besut dan MRSM Balik Pulau mendapati kehadiran warden secara kerap dan sistematik membantu mengurangkan ruang berlakunya buli dan vandalisme, selain meningkatkan disiplin serta rasa selamat dalam kalangan pelajar.

"Hasil dapatan juga menunjukkan penurunan drastik isu-isu yang terkait dengan masalah disiplin pelajar, malah masalah buli sepanjang keberadaan warden ini hampir sifar," katanya dalam satu kenyataan semalam.

Asyraf Wajdi berkata, inisiatif berkenaan turut membantu mengurangkan beban guru supaya mereka dapat memberi tumpuan kepada kecemerlangan akademik dan bimbingan sahsiah pelajar.

"Saya juga meminta supaya pihak UPM bekerjasama menyediakan modul latihan kepada warden baharu ini dan melanjutkan kajian untuk menangani isu buli mental secara holistik.

"Kehadiran warden dalam kalangan bekas tentera berkesan mengawal disiplin asrama dan berjaya mendapat penerimaan positif oleh pelajar, ibu bapa serta pentadbir," katanya.

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LIPUTAN MEDIA 30 SEPTEMBER 2026 (RABU)	
MEDIA	Berita Harian
TAJUK	Semua MRSM ambil bekas anggota tentera jadi warden
PAUTAN	https://tinyurl.com/2z6mxm57

Semua MRSM ambil bekas anggota tentera jadi warden

Kuala Lumpur: Pengambilan bekas anggota tentera sebagai warden sepenuh masa akan diperluaskan ke semua 58 Maktab Rendah Sains MARA (MRSM) bermula 1 Januari depan, dalam usaha drastik mengekang gejala buli dan masalah disiplin di asrama.

Pengerusi Majlis Amanah Rakyat (MARA), Datuk Dr Asyraf Wajdi Dusuki, berkata keputusan itu dibuat susulan kejayaan projek rintis di MRSM Besut dan Balik Pulau menyaksikan kes buli berkurangan sehingga hampir sifar hasil kehadiran serta kawalan ketat bekas anggota keselamatan berkenaan.

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"Kehadiran warden dalam kalangan bekas tentera berkesan mengawal disiplin asrama dan berjaya mendapat penerimaan positif oleh pelajar, ibu bapa serta pentadbir," katanya.

Media sebelum ini melaporkan Projek Rintis Pelantikan Warden Luar Sepenuh Masa Dalam Kalangan Bekas Tentera yang dilaksanakan oleh Institut Pengajian Sains Sosial (IPSAS), UPM di MRSM Besut dan MRSM Balik Pulau.

Kejayaan projek rintis pelantikan warden luar sepenuh masa dalam kalangan bekas tentera di MRSM, menunjukkan impak positif terhadap disiplin dan keselamatan pelajar.

Kajian setebal 191 muka surat itu antara lainnya melaporkan penerimaan positif daripada pelajar, ibu bapa dan pentadbir.

Antara dapatan utama sepanjang tempoh pelaksanaan ialah sifar kes buli direkodkan, selain tahap disiplin pelajar meningkat.



Warden MRSM Besut dari kalangan bekas anggota tentera memberi taklimat kepada pelajar. (Foto fail NSTP)

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LIPUTAN MEDIA 30 SEPTEMBER 2026 (RABU)	
MEDIA	Kosmo
TAJUK	Bekas tentera di 58 MRSM, lantikan warden sepenuh masa mulai Januari 2027
PAUTAN	https://tinyurl.com/4rtta5zh



NAGARA »3

Bekas askar jadi warden di semua MRSM

Terdapat penurunan ketara isu disiplin pelajar dan kes buli dilaporkan hampir sifar menerusi projek rintis di MRSM Besut dan MRSM Balik Pulau.

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LIPUTAN MEDIA 30 SEPTEMBER 2026 (RABU)	
MEDIA	Berita Harian
TAJUK	KKDW melalui KEDA salur RM20.11 juta bantu 1,172 usahawan desa
PAUTAN	https://tinyurl.com/32kcxt9x

KKDW melalui KEDA salur RM20.11 juta bantu 1,172 usahawan desa



Mahdzir menyampaikan anugerah usahawan kepada pemenang pada Majlis Apresiasi Usahawan KEDA 2026, semalam. (Foto BERNAMA)

Alor Setar: Kementerian Kemajuan Desa dan Wilayah (KKDW) melalui Lembaga Kemajuan Wilayah Kedah (KEDA) membelanjakan RM20.11 juta menerusi geran bantuan kepada 1,172 usahawan desa sepanjang 2023 hingga 2025.

Pengerusi KEDA, Datuk Seri Mahdzir Khalid, berkata bantuan berkenaan bertujuan meningkatkan keupayaan perniagaan usahawan termasuk melalui penyediaan mesin dan peralatan, pembungkusan serta pelabelan produk dan latihan keusahawanan.

Katanya, seramai 435 usahawan menerima manfaat membabitkan peruntukan RM4.85 juta pada 2023, diikuti 391 usahawan dengan peruntukan RM6.66 juta pada 2024.

"Pada 2025 pula, seramai 346 usahawan menerima manfaat dengan peruntukan RM8.60 juta, menjadikan jumlah keseluruhan RM20.11 juta bagi tempoh tiga tahun.

"Geran bantuan ini antara usaha KEDA untuk membantu meningkatkan keupayaan perniagaan usahawan supaya mereka dapat mengembangkan perniagaan masing-masing," katanya ketika ditemui selepas Majlis Apresiasi Usahawan KEDA 2026 di sini, malam tadi.

Mahdzir berkata, KEDA turut memperuntukkan RM6.87 juta tahun ini bagi meneruskan agenda pembangunan keusahawanan membabitkan latihan dan bimbingan, pelabelan serta promosi produk, bantuan peralatan perniagaan dan penyertaan dalam ekspo serta pameran.

Menurutnya, antara program yang dilaksanakan termasuk Program Pemerkasaan Penjenamaan Usahawan di Wilayah KEDA (JENAMA), Program Keusahawanan Wanita di Wilayah KEDA (WOMEN BIZ) dan Program Insentif Peningkatan Usahawan Terampil (INPUT).

"Kita juga menyediakan 528 lot premis sebagai sokongan kepada usahawan untuk mengembangkan perniagaan dalam persekitaran yang lebih kondusif.

"Daripada jumlah itu, 466 lot sudah disewakan kepada usahawan manakala 62 lot atau 11 peratus masih kosong," katanya.

Beliau berkata, cabaran utama dalam usaha melahirkan usahawan luar bandar yang berjaya termasuk tahap komitmen peserta yang mudah berputus asa apabila berdepan kesukaran dalam perniagaan.

Katanya, sebahagian usahawan juga masih kurang menguasai teknologi digital termasuk pemasaran media sosial, e-dagang, sistem pembayaran digital dan teknologi dalam pengurusan perniagaan.

"Usahawan perlu meningkatkan kualiti produk, pembungkusan dan penjenamaan serta mendapatkan pensijilan berkaitan bagi meningkatkan keyakinan pengguna dan membuka peluang ke pasaran lebih besar.

"Mereka juga perlu mempunyai keupayaan mengurus kewangan, tenaga kerja dan perancangan perniagaan selain berinovasi serta menyesuaikan diri dengan perubahan kehendak pasaran," katanya.

Terdahulu, seramai 430 usahawan bimbingan KEDA menghadiri Majlis Apresiasi Usahawan KEDA 2026 yang diadakan sebagai penghargaan terhadap komitmen dan pencapaian mereka.

Sebanyak 10 anugerah dipertandingkan pada majlis itu termasuk Anugerah Usahawan PROSPEK, Usahawan Kecil Progresif, Usahawan Pelancongan Desa, Usahawan Tani Jaya, Premis Terbaik KEDA, Usahawan Dinamik dan Usahawan Inspirasi.

Setiap penerima anugerah menerima trofi, mock-up pemenang, sijil penghargaan serta bantuan geran RM5,000.

KEMENTERIAN
KEMAJUAN DESA DAN WILAYAH

KEMENTERIAN KEMAJUAN DESA DAN WILAYAH
UNIT KOMUNIKASI KORPORAT
ARAS 2, NO. 47, PERSIARAN PERDANA, PRESINT 4, 62100
PUTRAJAYA, WILAYAH PERSEKUTUAN PUTRAJAYA
No. Faks: 03-8888 2367 No. Tel: 03-8891 5945
Email: corpcomm@rurallink.gov.my

LIPUTAN MEDIA 30 SEPTEMBER 2026 (RABU)	
MEDIA	Utusan Malaysia
TAJUK	RM20.11 juta bantu 1,172 usahawan desa
PAUTAN	https://tinyurl.com/4jbs9nz2

RM20.11 juta bantu 1,172 usahawan desa

Oleh MUHAMAD AIMY AHMAD
Oleh MUHAMAD AIMY AHMAD
utusannews@mediamulia.com.my

ALOR SETAR: Sebanyak RM20.11 juta disalurkan Lembaga Kemajuan Wilayah Kedah (KEDA) menerusi geran bantuan kepada 1,172 usahawan desa sepanjang 2023 hingga tahun lalu bagi membantu mereka mengembangkan perniagaan.

Pengerusi KEDA, Datuk Seri Mahdzir Khalid berkata, seramai 435 usahawan menerima manfaat membabitkan peruntukan RM4.85 juta pada 2023, diikuti 391 usahawan dengan peruntukan RM6.66 juta pada 2024.

"Pada 2025 pula, seramai 346 usahawan menerima manfaat dengan peruntukan RM8.60 juta, menjadikan jumlah keseluruhan RM20.11 juta bagi tempoh tiga tahun.

"Geran bantuan ini antara usaha KEDA untuk membantu meningkatkan keupayaan perniagaan usahawan supaya mereka dapat mengembangkan perniagaan masing-masing," katanya pada Majlis Apresiasi Usahawan KEDA 2026 di sini, semalam.

Menurut Mahdzir, bantuan berkenaan merangkumi penyediaan mesin dan peralatan, pembungkusan serta pelabelan produk selain latihan keusahawanan.

Katanya, KEDA turut memperuntukkan RM6.87 juta tahun ini untuk meneruskan agenda pembangunan keusahawanan menerusi latihan dan bimbingan, bantuan peralatan perniagaan serta penyertaan dalam ekspo dan pameran.

"Antara program yang dilaksanakan termasuk Program Pemerkasaan Penjenamaan Usahawan di Wilayah KEDA (JENAMA), Program Keusahawanan Wanita di Wilayah KEDA (WOMEN BIZ) dan Program Insentif Peningkatan Usahawan Terampil (INPUT)," katanya.

Dalam pada itu, KEDA menyediakan 528 lot premis bagi membantu usahawan mengembangkan perniagaan dalam persekitaran lebih kondusif.

Daripada jumlah itu, 466 lot sudah disewakan manakala 62 lot atau 11 peratus masih kosong.

Mahdzir berkata, antara cabaran utama usahawan luar bandar ialah kurang menguasai teknologi digital dan mudah berputus asa apabila berdepan kesukaran.

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> **"Geran bantuan ini antara usaha KEDA untuk membantu meningkatkan keupayaan perniagaan usahawan supaya mereka dapat mengembangkan perniagaan masing-masing."**
>
> **MAHDZIR KHALID**

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LIPUTAN MEDIA 30 SEPTEMBER 2026 (RABU)	
MEDIA	The Star
TAJUK	Helping micro-entrepreneurs build stable livelihoods
PAUTAN	https://tinyurl.com/5n8b7v2d

By MARK RYAN RAJ

HELPING MICRO-ENTREPRENEURS BUILD STABLE LIVELIHOODS

FOR many micro-entrepreneurs across the nation, running a business is less about expansion and more about earning a sustainable income to support daily household needs.

With earnings fluctuating day-to-day, income uncertainty remains a defining challenge.

This is why Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia (UKM) launched Project UMBI under its Institute of Malaysian and International Studies (Ikmas).

The three-year initiative, developed with support from The Coca-Cola Foundation and the Rural and Regional Development Ministry (KKDW), work with micro-entrepreneurs to strengthen business fundamentals and help reduce income volatility over time.

In its first year, 1,400 micro-entrepreneurs across seven zones nationwide participated in the programme, with over 78% achieving consistent profits and household income stability so far.

To commemorate this milestone, UKM organised a special carnival, Karnival UMBI, to showcase and celebrate the progress of participating entrepreneurs, on Sept 19, at Uptown Bangi Gateway in Selangor.

In practice, the programme supports participants with practical guidance and capacity building focused on everyday operations, basic financial awareness and routine planning, intended to help smooth out fluctuations and support more consistent day-to-day income.

For these business owners, even modest improvements in income continuity can play a meaningful role in managing everyday costs such as food, utilities and other family expenses.



(From left) Muhamad Azwan, UKM industry and community partnership deputy vice-chancellor Prof Dr Bariah Mohd Ali, Deputy Rural and Regional Development Minister Datuk Rubiah Wang, Chong and Project UMBI advisor Prof Emeritus Datuk Dr Abdul Rahman Embong at the Karnival UMBI launch at Uptown Bangi Gateway on Sept 19.

Bridging the digital and financial divide

Ikmas research fellow and project UMBI lead researcher Dr Muhamad Azwan Abd Rahman said the biggest obstacles micro-entrepreneurs face are digital and financial in nature.

"They have the skills – they know how to cook and make their products – but they don't have the digital side of it.

"Nowadays, vendors and businesses rely on digital connectivity for promotion and marketing, and these are the critical gaps facing micro-entrepreneurs," he said.

Beyond the 78% income stability figure, he said the programme has driven a broader shift in the participants' confidence.

"We've observed a paradigm shift in their mindset. Before, they were awkward and shy, but after learning how to market their products from experts, they've been able to grow their businesses steadily," he said.

He shared that the impact of that engagement was clear to see at Karnival UMBI, with a majority of participating event vendors coming from the programme.

Long-term capacity building

For The Coca-Cola Foundation, the programme reflects a broader regional commitment to socio-economic mobility.

"In every country and every market we operate in, we always look for long-term opportunities to elevate the quality of life of the local communities," said Coca-Cola Asean and South Pacific public affairs, communications and sustainability (PACS) vice president Leslie Chong, representing The Coca-Cola Foundation.

"In Malaysia, roughly 40% of the gross domestic product (GDP) comes from micro, small and medium enterprises (MSMEs), and 50% of employment comes from this sector as well, which comprises micro-entrepreneurs. They are very important because if they do well, Malaysia as a whole will do well."

Looking ahead, Chong said Year 1's results offer a promising foundation for the next two years of the programme.

"In the coming years, we hope to deepen capacity building for participants and help them apply the marketing, enterprise management and financial literacy skills they have gained.

"What Malaysia has provided is a good blueprint to share with other markets and shorten the learning curve for micro-entrepreneur capacity building."

Growing a family trade

Among the entrepreneurs whose business has been shaped by the programme is traditional Indian snack stall owner Thirunavukkarasan Krishnan, known simply as "Thiru".

Thiru, a second-generation entrepreneur who grew up helping his father run the business, producing traditional treats like murukku and vadai, was exposed to the business from a young age and eventually took it over. He now runs the business alongside his wife.

Project UMBI gave him structured exposure to business management, which he could apply to his day-to-day operations.

"Project UMBI is a really good cause. It was almost like a 'university' for me, as I was able to learn so much about running a business," said the father of four.

"Previously, I did not have any certifications and did not know how to acquire them. But during the programme, they encouraged me to attend courses to obtain these certifications, which allowed me to go forward and get a halal certification."

Since joining Project UMBI, Thiru reported an estimated 5% increase in sales, which has motivated him to further develop the business, with hopes of expanding it into his own cafe in the near future.

"Three of my children are in university and the youngest is in Form 5. This is my main source of income; my rice bowl. So, I want to expand my business to continue supporting my family."