

Preparation for Pangkor Dialogue Shifts to Higher Gear



Dr Zamry reiterates the focus of Pangkor Dialogue on sustainability and inclusive growth

7 AUGUST 2017
WEIL HOTEL, IPOH

THE fourth edition of the Pangkor Dialogue, to be held in September in Ipoh, will gather innovative ideas and solutions which will help the international community in its effort to implement effective sustainable development programmes.

Perak Menteri Besar Dato' Seri DiRaja Dr Zamry Abd Kadir said this year's theme Making the Future: Innovative Pathways to Sustainable Development would focus on the importance of innovation and how this can help in attaining United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals (SDG).

SDG is an international effort through the United Nations to transform the world through 17 major goals.

The aim of this global effort is to end poverty, protect the planet and ensure prosperity for all as part of a new sustainable development agenda. Each goal has specific targets to be achieved until the year 2030.

These goals include eradication of poverty, zero hunger, good health and well-being, gender equality, affordable and clean energy, sustainable cities and communities, climate action and quality education.

According to Dr Zamry since its inception the Pangkor Dialogue's focus has been to gather thinkers, subject-matter experts and researchers, industry leaders, community activists, academicians and global movers and shakers to share their knowledge and ideas; innovations and solutions; researches and studies; and perspectives on the various focus areas under the SDG.

"Sultan of Perak Sultan Nazrin Muizzuddin Shah will be delivering his royal address on September 11 which is the first day of the international dialogue. We expect about 2,000 delegates to take part in the dialogue," he said after the soft launch of the event at Weil Hotel in Ipoh.

The Pangkor Dialogue, which will be held from



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WHEN THE SKY IS LITERALLY WITHIN REACH

One often hears the saying “the sky is the limit”

In its literary sense, the saying is often used as a motivational proverb to encourage someone to aim for the best.

But, in its literal sense, it may mean something entirely different. What if you can travel to the skies, the outer space? We are talking about space tourism or private space travel.

Space travel is not an idea that is beyond the reach of one's wild imagination any longer.

There are companies like SpaceX, Blue Origin, Space Adventures and Virgin Galactic that are working aggressively to send groups of tourists to outer space as early.

As early as next year, these companies hope to send tourists to fly around the moon, orbit the Earth or stay at the International Space Station (ISS).

More than a decade ago, Dennis Tito an American multi-millionaire reportedly paid around USD 20 million to become the world's first space tourist.

Tito broke the precedent of sending humans to space who were trained as astronauts and cosmonauts. He made his way to the ISS aboard Russian Soyuz TM-32. His journey paved the way for the “creation” of space tourism.

So far, only seven people have travelled as space tourists. The downside is that they each paid millions of dollars for this unique experience.

Despite their journey to the outer space, the space tourism industry itself could not be said to have progressed significantly. This was because all seven of them had to board government-manned spacecraft which was carrying astronauts who were on their inter-government space mission to the ISS.

But, 2018 could chart a new era for space tourism industry. We may see, for the first time, space tourists being ferried to outer space in spacecraft owned by private companies.

And, this type of travel, which cost the earlier space tourists millions of dollars, is likely to cost not more than USD 250,000. The good news is that the economic potential of space travel industry has given rise to new ideas on the making of highly-efficient tour spacecraft.

The space travel industry is euphoric. There is a lot of excitement within the industry now.

The coming of age of this industry will take many more years to happen but the on-going development we see now indicates that space tourism industry has certainly a lot to offer.

We can expect a boom in the industry if the cost of travelling to outer space can be reduced further so that space travel becomes more affordable to more people.

Mohd Nadzri Kamsin
IDR News Editor

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IDR and the state government ready to hold the first celebration of ideas event in Malaysia

September 11-12 at Casuarina@Meru Hotel, Ipoh, sets to find breakthrough ideas, inputs and solutions through 10 focus groups.

These are economy, regional development, entrepreneurship and innovation, women, nation building, environment, sustainable development, aging and elderly, affordable housing, and youth.

Dr Zambrzy said one of the highlights of this year's Pangkor Dialogue would be the Perak Festival of Ideas – a week-long event celebrating creative ideas.

“This is something new and it is definitely the first of its kind to be held in Malaysia. It will bring together artistes, technologists, entrepreneurs, food lovers and investors who will share their intellectual, innovate and inspiring ideas.”

The Perak Festival of Ideas will be held from September 6-12. Meanwhile, Institut Darul Ridzuan's chief executive officer Dr Mazalan Kamis said more than 70 international and local speakers were expected to share their experiences and expertise throughout the two-day dialogue this year.

“We believe more countries will take part in this year's Pangkor Dialogue. Last year, we saw participation of delegates from 27 countries including the United States, the United Kingdom, East Asian countries and members of the ASEAN.”

Dr Mazalan expressed his confidence that this year's Pangkor Dialogue will provide delegates of participating countries as well as local experts and thinkers tangible solutions which can be implemented by them to achieve the 17 goals outlined under the SDG.

Institut Darul Ridzuan has partnered with Northern Corridor Implementation Authority and the United Nations Development Programme for this year's Pangkor Dialogue. ■

Ipoh Car Free Day Revellers Take Up PFOI Ideation Challenge

JALAN RAJA DIHILIR, IPOH
27 AUGUST 2017

HUNDREDS of revellers at the Ipoh Car Free Day, held on August 27, took part in sharing their ideas to improve the city of Ipoh and the state as a whole.

During the three-hour activity, the Ipoh City Council received more than 200 ideas from those who were taking part in the monthly event. The monthly event, which began in 2015, is held during the last Sunday of each month at Jalan Raja DiHilir in Ipoh.

The gathering and sharing of ideas was carried out



Ipoh's Mayor (centre) and participants show off their contribution of ideas

under the banner of the Perak Festival of Ideas - a new programme facilitated by the Institut Darul Ridzuan.

The festival of ideas is the brainchild of the Perak Menteri Besar. It aims to collect innovate, fresh, intelligent and relevant ideas from the masses on how to push Perak on the path of greater growth and prosperity.

Ipoh mayor Dato' Zamri Man, who was present during the Ipoh Car Free Day, urged Ipoh folks to contribute their ideas for the benefit of all.

The Perak Festival of Ideas expects to collect 10,000 ideas through its various programmes to be held during the run-up to the Pangkor Dialogue 2017.

The aim of the campaign, held for the first time in conjunction with this year's Pangkor Dialogue, is to challenge the people of

Perak to think creatively as well as to nurture the culture of ideation among the people.

The Perak Festival of Ideas has been designed to be a platform which offers people the chance to deliver their ideas towards betterment of the state in a fun and colourful environment.

Contributors can pen their ideas by writing them down on given handmade pennants which then will be displayed at every event venue. Ideas can be contributed based on the following categories: family, personal, community, industry, academia, public service, nation building, tourism, environment and technology.

Ideas collected at the Perak Festival of Ideas will be compiled and analysed by Institut Darul Ridzuan before being presented to the Perak state government. ■

Uber Partners with IDR to be Official E-hailing Partner for Perak Festival of Ideas (PFOI)

CASUARINA HOTEL, IPOH
30 AUGUST 2017

UBER Malaysia, the leading e-hailing service operator, has agreed to become the official e-hailing partner for the inaugural Perak Festival of Ideas.

With a large number of festival of idea events expected to held at the Bulatan Amanjaya Meru Raya, Uber Malaysia will offer special promotion to people who want to attend them.

From September 6-12, visitors and participants can use special promo code PFOI2017 which entitles them to get RM10 discount for two rides: from pick-up point to Bulatan Amanjaya and from Bulatan Amanjaya



Aziph (left) and Tang hold a press conference announcing Uber's involvement in PFOI

back to the pick-up point.

Tomas Thang, the Uber co-ordinator for Ipoh city, said by applying the offered promo code, Uber riders would pay a minimum amount of hailing fees per ride.

"The average cost of a trip to the roundabout from the Ipoh city centre is RM14. With the code applied, this means your total payment is only RM4.

"Those who are staying nearer to Meru may be able to ride for free as their normal trip probably costs less than RM10," he said during a press conference to announce the collaboration.

Aziph Mustafa, who is director of the Perak Festival of Ideas, said he expected around 40,000 people to converge at Bulatan Amanjaya during the one week period.

"Visitors are highly recommended to use Uber service for its convenience. At the same time, engagement with Uber will help reduce traffic congestion as people are encouraged to use the e-hailing service.

"As for those who want to drive to the festival site, they are recommended to park near the Movie Animation Park Studios or Tenby International School," he said.

Aziph said Bulatan Amanjaya would be off-limit to private vehicles as the festival's exposition, comprising over 100 booths, would be held there. ■

Youngsters Should Look Out for Opportunities in Space Travel Industry, Says Expert



Dr Mazalan believes space industry can be developed in Perak leveraging on right resources and new mindset

KINTA RIVER FRONT HOTEL, IPOH
10 AUGUST 2017

EVER heard of a job specification called “space conductor”?

For hundreds of participants who attended a special forum on space economy and tourism development held in Ipoh recently, the term space conductor was one of many terms they learnt during a talk presented by Professor Dr Patrick Collins from the Azabu University, a world-famous expert on space travel.

The forum was organised to expose the public to the potentials of space economy and tourism industry. More than 300 participants comprising lecturers and undergraduates from universities, and public officials attended the forum.

Dr Collins is a professor of economics at Azabu University in Japan and collaborating researcher at Institute for Space and Astronautically Science. He is a respected authority on space economics, space tourism and space solar power.

The focus of Dr Collins’ research for the past 25 years has been on how to stimulate growth of commercial space activities, the two main opportunities being tourism and energy supply.

In his speech, IDR’s chief executive officer Dr Mazalan Kamis said space tourism industry may have been perceived as irrelevant in the past.

“But, as the world evolves in the Industry

4.0 stage, space tourism can boost economic development. With the advances in technology, the pace of collaboration involving relevant parties in the industry is progressing rapidly.”

Dr Mazalan said he believed that Perak had the potential to develop its space tourism industry if it is equipped with right resources and new mindset.

In his talk, Dr Collins presented the history of aerospace industry and the future outlook of the space industry especially the job opportunities available and the prospect of affordable space tourism experience.

He said one of the interesting jobs that youngsters could grab was as space conductors. He anticipated that in next few years space travel service would boom with enhanced package offered by increasing number of space travel companies which would require space conductors.

He predicts that space travel services may grow to become as large as today’s air travel industry. At the end of his talk, he fielded questions from the floor.

Dato’ Dr Muhammad Amin Zakaria, who is chairman of the state education, science, environment and green technology committee, presented Dr Collins with token of appreciation. ■

Social Project Challenge: IDR and DHL Joined Hands as Strategic Partners

DHL IT SERVICES, CYBERJAYA
25 AUGUST 2017

The Social Project Challenge entered its third series this year. The programme was organised by myHarapan in collaboration with IDR and DHL. The main objective of the project challenge is to engage youths in nation’s social development by getting them to provide solutions to various socio-economic issues.

SMK Tamparuli, a public school in Sabah, became the winner of the third edition of the Social Project Challenge held in Cyberjaya recently.

The school’s team was declared champion for its project to provide water filter device which could filter impurities in water supply.

The innovation by the school’s students will help communities living in rural areas which do not have access to potable water.

The water filter will enable rural dwellers to obtain clean water which they normally source from rivers near their settlements.

SMK Tamparuli was one of the five schools shortlisted to present its innovation for review by a panel of judges comprising Institut Darul Ridzuan’s chief executive officer Dr Mazalan Kamis and academicians from several institutions of higher learning.

Social Project Challenge is open to all secondary schools in Malaysia where each participating school is allowed to submit a maximum of two proposals.

The proposals must be submitted online and the participating schools need to select their projects from five categories, namely, environment, science and technology, healthcare, education, and community development.

Besides SMK Tamparuli, the other schools shortlisted for this year’s challenge were, SMJK Yoke Kuan (Selangor), SM Sains Kuching Utara (Sarawak), SMK Seri Ampangan (Negeri Sembilan) and Kolej Vokasional Teluk Intan (Perak). ■

Next Year's Perak Youth Assembly Kicks Off with Selection of New Representatives



11 – 13 AUGUST & 18 – 20 AUGUST 2017
KOMPLEKS RAKAN MUDA KAMPAR & KOMPLEKS
RAKAN MUDA LARUT MATANG DAN SELAMA

PREPARATIONS to host the next sitting of the DUN Belia Perak or the Perak Youth Legislative Assembly are already underway.

The arrangement for next year's youth assembly session kicked off in August this year with the selection process of prospective candidates.

The Institut Darul Ridzuan (IDR), which acts as the secretariat for DUN Belia, is responsible for managing the selection and election process, organising the youth assembly sessions and conducting trainings.

The prospective candidates were selected from two youth camps which were held in Kampar (August 11-13) and Taiping (August 18-20).

A total of 142 youths were identified to attend the camps. Besides attending the selection process, these youths were also exposed to various activities to improve their self-confidence, soft skills and knowledge about the legislative process.

They were, firstly, briefed on the roles of the Perak Youth Legislative Assembly and the procedures that they needed to adhere. They were then taught high-impact presentation



Grooming future leaders through enhancement of contemporary knowledge and soft skills



skills which included how to craft impactful text and deliver short, compact presentations.

Each participant was given the chance to deliver presentation based on what each person has learned during the workshop. They were also put in groups to discuss youth-related issues.

On the final day, the participants were interviewed by a panel of interviewers from IDR, Malaysian Youth Council and

government agencies.

The establishment of DUN Belia Perak was approved by the Perak state executive council in July 2015 with the objective of developing a new line of young leaders and as a medium for youths to voice their opinions.

The representatives chosen for the assembly are between 15 and 30 years old, and represent various ethnicities and districts in Perak. ■

PERAK FESTIVAL OF IDEAS

FORUM
WORKSHOP
FIESTA
EXHIBITION
CONVENTION

CHALLENGING THE NORM

MOH RAIKAN IDEA!

6-12 SEPT 2017

www.perakfestivalofideas.com
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FINDING HAPPINESS IN A TUMULTUOUS TIME



At a time of great distress, finding happiness becomes a conscious effort. It takes great courage and perseverance to battle negative thoughts, insecurity and toxic environments in order to steal a smile and uplift our own spirits.

Simply said, it takes effort to build a fire and use the light to guide us in our journey into a dark night. For many of us, it is easier to sleepwalk through life and wait for fate to steer the course of our lives. However, this passive attitude does not guarantee success nor happiness. Happiness is not found in the material or eventful. Happiness is how we choose to react to our surroundings no matter how daunting they might be. Fighting for happiness can be very difficult as we battle the extra forces around us.

The world, as we know it, is going through a fast changing pace of technological and social advancements, where fear of the unknown rising from geo-political imbalance and anxiety of economic uncertainty are common. In the midst of it all, where can one man or woman find solace in order to live a truly fulfilling life?

Take for example the term 'digital disruption'—a term that has become a staple to many corporate offices sending many workers into a state of confusion. This so-called disruption is caused by technological development that is supposed to make life and work easier for people. Yet, businesses have to shift their strategy and adapt or be prepared to die, workers strive to be chameleon who can respond to daily challenges or risk losing their livelihood. The rat race has never been steeper and more competitive, especially for the Millennials who are at the heart of the fire. This, has certainly caused a lot of mental and emotional unrest.

It is definitely okay to be confuse for a while

THE RAT RACE HAS NEVER BEEN STEEPER AND MORE COMPETITIVE, ESPECIALLY FOR THE MILLENNIALS WHO ARE AT THE HEART OF THE FIRE.

DR MAZALAN KAMIS

but it is also important to take a breather and use the gift of intellect to quickly twist our negative thoughts into positive ones. The world is changing? Tell me when it is not! Changing times are interesting times because they allow humanity to become our best and push the boundaries of our capabilities.

It is through hardship that we find strength. It is through failure that we find success. There is a saying about successful people is that what most people do not know is that they fail more than other people do because it is through failure and constantly pushing yourself to be better that you will become better. Take my earlier example about digital disruption.

It may be difficult to cope but the world and its borderless connectivity has allowed us the opportunity to learn from almost anyone and anywhere in the world. How great of a disruption is this? Years ago, I can only dream of attending a lecture from a Nobel Peace Laureate but now I can easily go to Youtube and watch the video—whether its live-streaming or shared by others. I can enroll in an online class on any subject I want and pick the skills I need to advance further in life. That is how we learn to take things positively instead of mulling about how others are getting better and ahead. The time we spent wasting on thinking about what other people are doing are better spent on improving ourselves.

On this beautiful month, I call upon our readers to reflect and review their state of being and strive to achieve happiness no matter how hard it might seem. ■



Advanced technology creates disruption that affects humans