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# More Than 100k Students Will Be Exposed To Digital Education Through #mydigitalmaker Initiative

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Supported by the Ministry of Education Malaysia (MoE), the mobilisation of "Kembara #mydigitalmaker bersama PINTAR" aims to expose students, teachers, parents, and local communities in rural Malaysia to digital making content and tools.

**KUALA LUMPUR** – PINTAR Foundation has launched a mobile learning unit under the national *Kembara #mydigitalmaker* initiative, aiming to expose and create opportunities to digital education for around 100,000 students in rural, sub-urban and underprivileged schools.

As an organisation that advocates school adoption programmes, PINTAR has collaborated with Malaysia Digital Economy Corporation (MDEC) and Ministry of Education (MoE) to expose students, teachers, parents and local communities in rural Malaysia in creating digital content and the tools to make them.

Hopefully, the initiative would pique the students' interests in digital content creation and later develop a better understanding of digital technology and its exciting future.

"At the rate digital ecosystems are accelerating, careers in digital technology will soon be a large part of Malaysia's future; and filling these highly sought-after positions will be talents that are digital economy ready.

"To achieve this, it is important that we look at the very foundation of our future – our children and educators today," said Deputy Education Minister Datuk P Kamalanathan. He said that the ministry has trained 20,000 teachers to effectively deliver the new computational thinking and computer science modules into this year's curriculum.

He spoke during the launch ceremony of the mobile learning unit for #mydigitalmaker at SMK Kompleks KLIA yesterday, which is a #mydigitalmaker Model School.

*Kembara #mydigitalmaker Bersama PINTAR* mobile learning unit is a bus, equipped with digital creation tools, including information about future digital technology careers and safe practices of digital technology. The bus will travel to rural areas in most states in the peninsular to reach around 100,000 teachers and students over a period of two years.



*Kembara #mydigitalmaker bersama PINTAR* is an initiative to offer mobile learning unit customised to fit a range of exciting digital making tools as well as information about future digital technology careers and the safe usage of digital technology.

Among the companies that contribute to this initiative are Google Malaysia, DiGi, Sasbadi, Designex3D, Cytron Technologies, Janalima, Centillion Robotics, Acestor and Maker21, where they will provide robotics, creative animation, virtual reality, app development, cyber safety and 3D printing.

"Today, digital innovation is reinventing all sectors and changing the job landscape. To ensure Malaysia remains competitive in the local and global scene, it is vital that we equip our young with essential digital skills so they are ready for the future 'digital workforce' and to embrace global digital opportunities.

"Creating a nation of digital makers requires concerted efforts from industry players and academia, which brings us to this milestone today. We are pleased to cement a partnership with PINTAR Foundation in supporting this outreach, and we thank all our strategic partners for their contribution in "*Kembara #mydigitalmaker bersama PINTAR*" and for their instrumental role in helping to transform our children from digital users to digital producers," said Datuk Yasmin Mahmood, Chief Executive Officer of MDEC.

The #mydigitalmaker programme is an initiative that follows students throughout their education years to expose them in careers related to digital technology. This movement aims to transform Malaysian youth from digital users to makers in the digital economy by infusing digital competencies into the formal school curriculum and complementing it with co-curricular digital maker activities.

MDEC and its industry partners also offer internship placements during school holidays and potential scholarships to support tertiary studies in digital technology courses.

"When the opportunity rose to collaborate with MDEC and extend the outreach of "*Kembara #mydigitalmaker bersama PINTAR*", we were excited to be on board as we knew the difference it would make to expose rural and suburban students to the rich and rewarding outlooks of digital technology.

"While school curriculum is important in shaping young minds, introducing a different approach through informal learning will certainly provide the boost our education system needs to give the future generation a competitive edge in an increasingly technological and digital world," said Encik Sabri Ab Rahman, Board of Trustee Member for PINTAR Foundation.