

PM: Help Malaysian inventors

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PUTRAJAYA: Malaysian inventors are as good as their foreign counterparts but lack local support, recognition and experience, Datuk Seri Abdullah Ahmad Badawi said.

"Let us change our mindset and attitude. Let us be ready to give our support to local inventors so that the tools or equipment they create can be of great use to Malaysia and also to the rest of the world.

"We will only disappoint and discourage our local talent from

carrying out their good work if we do not support them. I hope the public and private sectors, as well as individuals, will play their part in supporting and accepting local inventions, especially those related to science and technology.

"This is certainly a step forward for Malaysia - to carve out its name in the field of science and technology," he said at the launching of Malaysia's first oxy-hydrogen mobile incinerator yesterday.

The new-generation incinerator, which was invented by Iris Corporation Berhad, allows for

toxin-free burning of solid and liquid domestic wastes.

Abdullah said it was also important to provide valuable and positive feedback to local inventors so that they could further develop their products to achieve international standards.

"If we want to bring about development and achieve developed-nation status, progress must be made in the field of science and technology.

"With our suggestions and feedback, local inventors can use the information to further develop their products. This is

how progress and development of products are made, through feedback and views from consumers," he added.

Abdullah observed that Malaysians were more receptive towards foreign inventions and more forgiving if foreign products had defects and flaws compared with a similar situation involving local products or companies.

"However, I would like to remind local inventors that just because we are ready to accept their inventions, it does not mean they should be *cincai* (sloppy) in their work.

"You must try your best to do the best. You must be able to offer the public the best," he said.

Abdullah also praised Iris Corporation for inventing the incinerator, which he believed had tremendous potential.

"I have been informed that a Thailand-based company was already keen on buying the machine even before it was introduced locally," he added.

Iris Corporation Berhad chairman Tan Sri Razali Ismail said the mobile incinerator would be a boon for local councils and waste management

companies.

He said that unlike thermal incinerators, which use hydrocarbon as fuel for burning, the oxy-hydrogen mobile incinerator generated its own green gas as auxiliary fuel for combustion.

"Two versions of the incinerator will be manufactured by Iris Corporation through our subsidiary Mega Silicon Sdn Bhd: the mobile incinerator on wheels, capable of incinerating two tonnes of waste; and the mini version, capable of incinerating between 20 tonnes and 50 tonnes of waste," he said.