

| | |
|-----------|------------------|
| Newspaper | THE STAR |
| Date | 28 NOVEMBER 2016 |

'Prepare for new digital era'

The star - 28/11/2016

PM wants Malay students to be fully equipped in STEM

By JO TIMBUONG

jo.timbuong@thestar.com.my

KUALA LUMPUR: Students need to be fully equipped in STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math) in preparation for the new digital era, says Datuk Seri Najib Tun Razak.

The Prime Minister, who is patron of the Federation of Malay Students Union (GPMS), said he witnessed the workings of the new digital era on his recent trip to China where a bank loan application could be done in three minutes and approved in one minute

with zero human interaction, all aided by big data.

"This 3-1-0 concept is an example of the new digital era and is already in place. We need to prepare young Malay students for this revolution and the key to doing so is STEM," he said in his speech while opening the 62nd GPMS annual general assembly here.

Najib added that the new digital era had created new job opportunities for today's world community.

"In the past, it may have been doctors, lawyers or engineers but in this new era, we need data scientists and professionals," he said.

In his speech, Najib also lauded GPMS for helping students in need overseas through the Malaysian Students Education Fund.

The fund was first set up to help students pursuing medicine and dentistry in Egypt, whose degrees were withheld because they could not settle the tuition fees.

According to GPMS, many of the students were self-sponsored.

The RM4mil fund was expanded after Najib made a donation of RM1mil.

"This will go into supporting the students' ambition to succeed in their studies," he said.

"In the past, it may have been doctors, lawyers or engineers but in this new era, we need data scientists and professionals."

Datuk Seri Najib Tun Razak