

Newspaper	NEW STRAITS TIMES
Date	02 MAY 2017

Disabled workers recognised with TM researcher's achievement

NST- 2/5/2017

PUTRAJAYA: The government's recognition of its workforce, including the disabled, clearly shows its concern in making sure that nobody is left behind.

Telekom Malaysia Bhd (TM) research and development associate principal Dr Ahmad Ismat Abdul Rahim, who lost his sight due to a rare condition known as "Eales disease", thanked the government for recognising his contributions.

"I'm sure this will encourage others to thrive and achieve success in their fields, which once was thought impossible for the disabled," he said.

The 47-year-old received the "Tokoh Pekerja Negara 2017" award under the disabled category at the national Labour Day celebration here yesterday.

"The government has been committed to helping the community and its efforts must be commended," he said after receiving the award from Prime Minister Datuk Seri Najib Razak at Putrajaya International Convention Centre.



Prime Minister Datuk Seri Najib Razak presenting the 'Tokoh Pekerja Negara 2017' award to Dr Ahmad Ismat Abdul Rahim in Putrajaya yesterday. PIC BY MOHD FADLI HAMZAH

Ismat also expressed gratitude to TM for allowing him to work after losing his vision.

"Recognising my strength and abilities, my employer has motivated me to continue working in

churning out ideas to build and develop products for TM.

"I have been working for TM for 13 years and despite my condition, I have headed two projects to develop chipsets, published 65

papers and have written a book."

Ismat planned to focus his research on digital economy in line with Najib's hope for the country to take on a digital transformation.

When asked about the secret of his success, he said being disabled only made him stronger.

"I hope this award will inspire other disabled people to not give up. Our disability should never be an obstacle to achieve our dreams."

Ismat received RM5,000, a trophy and a certificate.

Malaysia Green Technology Corporation (MGTC) group chief executive officer Ahmad Hadri Haris, who received the "Tokoh Mahir 2017" award said he would continue develop the field of green-technology.

"This award from the Human Resources Ministry showed that our work is credited and recognised. I hope this win will inspire more people to contribute to the country through various efforts."

Hadri played a prominent role in the development of the National Green Technology Policy 2009, feed-in tariff (FIT) mechanism and National Electric Mobility Action Plan, among others. He took home RM15,000, a trophy and a certificate.