

**Cooperation Between Polytechnic, Private Sector Can Produce Successful Entrepreneurs - Khaled Bernama**  
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TANJUNG MALIM, Feb 2 (Bernama) -- The cooperation between polytechnics and the private sector can give a positive impact to development programmes in polytechnics said Higher Education Minister Datuk Seri Khaled Nordin.

Khaled said his ministry had always supported programmes jointly organised by the polytechnics and the private sector to ensure the continuous growth of entrepreneur programmes.

"Sectors like catering, hospitality, tourism and financial services programmes in polytechnics has the potential to develop successful entrepreneurs in the future.

"The development of entrepreneurial programmes will give a positive impact and increase the success of a country's economic growth," he said after launching an entrepreneurial programme in conjunction with the 10th year anniversary of the Sultan Azlan Shah Polytechnic (PSAS) at Dewan Serbaguna PSAS here Thursday.

"The input from companies and agencies in relation to business administration and marketing strategy can provide valuable information to aspiring entrepreneurs," he said.

He added that PSAS had chartered a new chapter by forming an alliance with Proton Holdings Berhad to offer enhanced diploma programmes in the field of automotive design and manufacturing through a Work-Based Learning system.

Meanwhile, Khaled said Universiti Pendidikan Sultan Idris (UPSI) would establish the country's first laboratory school to teach pre-school to secondary level students, in stages starting early next year.

"For the first stage, the ministry will allocate RM5 million while the remaining RM10 million needed for setting up the school will be self-funded by UPSI," he said.

He said the setting up of the school would give students and graduates from UPSI enough exposure and training.

UPSI Vice Chancellor Prof Datuk Dr Zakaria Kasa said though the actual building for the laboratory school has yet to be build, classes for pre-school had already started early this year at one of UPSI's premises.

"We have about 70 children and we expect the number to increase next year when they move on to Standard One," he said.

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