

Facebook, Twitter Spurred STPM Student To Succeed
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KUALA LUMPUR, March 2 (Bernama) -- Despite living in a rural area, Nadrah Syaqrin Ramlan, 20, benefited from communication technology to help her become one of the best students for the 2014 Sijil Tinggi Persekolahan Malaysia (STPM) in the Rural category.

Nadrah Syaqrin, a student of Sekolah Menengah Kebangsaan (LKTP) Tersang, Raub, Pahang, made the social website as a medium to revise with her schoolmates and other STPM candidates throughout the nation.

"I used Facebook and Twitter for study groups where I could discuss exam questions and the syllabus for the STPM.

"I found that technological advancements made it easy for me to have discussions, and I could exchange questions with candidates from other schools all over the country," she said when met at the 2014 STPM results announcement and award presentation ceremony to excellent 2014 STPM and MUET students here Monday.

Nadrah Syaqrin, one of five top STPM students in the Rural category, obtained grade A in all the four subjects she took - General Studies, Malay Language, Geography, and Business Studies, and achieved a perfect Cumulative Grade Point Average (CGPA) score of 4.00.

The third child of five siblings, Nadrah Syaqrin aspires to become an engineer and hopes to pursue her studies at Universiti Putra Malaysia.

Also present to receive the awards were the best students in the Urban category, Special (Handicapped), Orang Asli (the first time this is held), and the best MUET candidate category.

Besides Nadrah Syaqrin, others who were listed as the best 2014 STPM candidates for the Rural category were Nurul Shafinas Ahmad Tamigi (SMK Labu Besar, Kulim, Kedah), Mohammad Ridzuan Mohamed Yunus (SMK Padang Serai, Kedah), Amirah Abdin (SMK Arshad, Kota Belud, Sabah) and Siti Norfariha Juhari (SMK Machang, Kelantan).

The six best students for the Urban category were Ho Kar Meng (SMK Methodist (ACS), Ipoh, Perak, Khor Siew Ching (SMK King Edward VII, Taiping, Perak), Lim Kai Yik (SMK Sungai Besar, Selangor), Fong Jian Yip (SMK St Mary, Sandakan, Sabah), Neoh Yong Seng (SMJK Chung Hwa Confucian, Pulau Pinang) and Denedy Wong Siong Yong (SMK Batu Lintang, Kuching, Sarawak).

Ten schools were announced as the best for the 2014 STPM, which were the SMKA Sheikh Hj Mohamad Said, Seremban, Negeri Sembilan; SMK Jinjang and SMK Kepong Baru, Kuala Lumpur; SMJK Sin Min, Sungai Petani, Kedah; Kolej Islam Sultan Alam Shah, Klang,

Selangor; SMK Hua Lian, Taiping, Perak; SMK Chung Hua, Sibu, Sarawak; SMA Persekutuan Labu, Seremban; SMJK Yok Bin, Melaka; and SMA (Atas) Sultan Zainal Abidin, Kuala Terengganu.

Five other schools announced as the top performers were SMK Jitra, Kedah; SMK Mantin, Negeri Sembilan; SMK Putra, Jerneh, Terengganu; SMK Shing Chung, Sungai Siput, Perak; and SMK Air Putih, Kuantan, Pahang.

The Pusat Akademik Menengah Impian, Penang was the best Private School for the 2014 STPM.

One of the four best students for the Special Candidates category, P. Kaveintran, 20, said being visually impaired encouraged him to do his best in the STPM.

The student of Sekolah Menengah Kebangsaan St John here said: "Besides using reference books in 'Braille' to revise, the encouragement of my friends and family also helped me."

Kaveintran obtained grade A in General Studies, Malay Language, and Communicative Malay Literature as well as a grade A- in History, with a CGPA of 3.92.

Besides Kaveintran, three other students who obtained excellent results in the category were Mohamad Asri Arshad and Mohamad Firdaus Ngatiman from Maktab Sultan Abu Bakar, Johor; and Farah Raihana Atan (SMK Sultan Ibrahim, Kulai Johor).

The 2014 STPM results which were announced by the Malaysian Examination Council Chairman Professor Datuk Dr Mohd Noh Dalimin saw an improvement in all categories of assessment criteria, including the national CGPA of 2.62 compared to 2.57 in the 2013 STPM.

A total of 48,854 candidates registered for the 2014 STPM, with 42,854 (88.25 per cent) sitting for it compared to 53,233 (94.65 per cent) in 2013.

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