

High-Tech Gadgets Not That Important For STPM Top Performer

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MELAKA, March 2 (Bernama) -- An outstanding achiever in the Sijil Tinggi Pelajaran Malaysia (STPM) examination considers the use of high-tech gadgets such as the smartphone, not so important in his life as a student.

Norfitri Khamis, 20, who scored principles in four subjects does not have a mobile phone like other youths of his age, because he believes face-to-face communication is better than communicating through the phone.

"My family and I could afford to buy mobile phones and other high-tech gadgets but I wanted to focus on doing well in the STPM to repay my parents. I considered this my priority.

"If I had to make an important phone call, I used my mother's mobile phone and as for my friends, I could get in touch with them at school," he told reporters, here, Monday.

The SMK Tun Haji Abdul Malek student was met during the STPM results announcement by Melaka Education Department director Datuk Md Rashid Hussin here.

Norfitri said not using high-tech gadgets did not impede him to be an informed student as there were other mediums for obtaining information such as newspapers, television and computers.

This son of a retired military personnel Khamis Hussin, 53, and housewife Maznah Ibrahim, 50, also admitted that he did not have any account with social media such as Facebook, Twitter or Instagram.

Norfitri, who is the third of four siblings, aspires to continue his studies at Universiti Pertahanan Nasional Malaysia to follow his father's footsteps by becoming an army personnel.

Another top student, Nur Fathiha Asyikin Baharin, 20, said her success in the STPM exam was the greatest gift for her grandfather Johan Talib, 64, and her grandmother Mariam Ali, 63, who have been looking after her since she was six months old after her parents' marital break-up.

The student from SMK Iskandar Shah in Jasin said this success also redeemed her disappointment of getting grade three in the Sijil Pelajaran Malaysia (SPM) examination.

"Although I did not expect to get four principles, it is much better than my results in the trials and SPM exam," said Nur Fatihah, who aspires to be a lecturer in history.

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