

# 15 STUDENTS FOR HUAWEI'S PROGRAMME IN CHINA: YAP

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CYBERJAYA: Next month, 15 Malaysian students from public and private higher learning institutions will embark on a three-week study trip to China under Huawei's "Seeds for the Future" programme.

The three-year consecutive programme is aimed at exposing students to training, practical work experience and culture in Beijing and at Huawei's headquarters in Shenzhen.

Speaking at the students' orientation ceremony here Saturday, Higher Education Deputy Minister Datuk Mary Yap Kain Ching said this industry-academia collaboration would help graduates boost their employability and set-ups on the path to achieve a high-income nation status.

She said there was always a great need for these partnerships as companies faced challenges on shortage of talent and a mismatch of skills in the market.

"Huawei, being the leading global information and communications technology (ICT) solutions provider, the 'Seeds for the Future' programme will definitely help enable our graduates to make informed decisions, and groom them for the digital age," she added.

In addition, Yap also advised students to learn ICT and understand the culture, as well as the value system in China, in order to become a holistic, entrepreneurial and balanced student.

Meanwhile, Huawei Southern Pacific Region human resources director, Zhang Wei, said through this fully-sponsored programme, the students would be able to familiarise themselves with the company's cutting-edge technologies and latest industry trends.

"The 'Seeds for the Future' programme will help create their path for a successful career in the ICT industry.

They will be able to hone the right skills set and the experience will enable them to succeed in the digital future," he said.

According to Zhang, the students will learn about trends in mobile Internet application and development, intelligent network application and development through technology workshop and networking events from Sept 9 to 24.

"The current landscape shows Malaysia as a fast emerging hub for regional IT innovation projects in Southeast Asia.

We believe it is crucial for this generation to receive the right education and training to build and match their skills," he said.

Universiti Teknologi Malaysia student, Harnasyrin Afiqah Hakimi, 22, said she was looking forward to this lifetime golden opportunity to learn the latest technologies to give back to society and country.

"Besides exposure on latest technologies, this is also a challenge to learn on life skills such as adaptability, patience and confidence throughout the programme. I am eager to learn the smart city technology, 4G," said the final year Science Computer Bio-Infometrics student.

Echoing her sentiments, Kuhanraj Balan, and Kwek Yeek Ling, both 24, from Universiti Malaysia Sarawak (Unimas) are thankful to Huawei for giving the opportunity to discover a different side of the technology industry.

As Balan is looking forward to learn on the newest and future technology from China and their iconic touristic spots, Kwek is anticipating to gather knowledge on Huawei's 5G network opportunities and the mobile revolution technology.

Modelled after its global skill development initiative that started in 2008, Huawei launched the 'Seeds for the Future' programme in Malaysia in 2014 as part of its efforts in nurturing ICT and telecom experts for the Malaysian industry.