

MARA STUDENTS EXCELLING IN TVET

New Straits Times, Friday 30 Sept 2016

PUTRAJAYA

SKILLED and talented Malaysian youth shone at the recent Asean Skills Competition (ASC) 2016, emerging as the overall winner of the competition with 24 gold, four silver and five bronze medals.

One of the gold medalists was Muhammad Yusri Baharuddin, in the electronics category.

Yusri, 20, from Negri Sembilan, is a third-year Diploma in Electronic Engineering (Robotics and Automation) student at the Mara-Japan Industrial Institute (MJII) in Beranang, Selangor.

He competed in WorldSkills Malaysia and was selected to represent the country at the ASC 2016.

"I faced stiff competition from contestants from the Philippines, Vietnam, Singapore and Indonesia during the three-day competition for my category at the Malaysia Agro Exposition Park Serdang."

The competition comprised several modules which were hardware design, programming, troubleshooting and assembly.

Yusri's biggest competitors were the Vietnamese and Indonesians who showed persistence and precision in their craft.

"I practised for eight months prior to this competition. I needed to come up with the solutions as this is not a team competition. As part of my preparations, I discussed with my coach on the best way to face the challenges," he said.

He attributed his win to being adequately prepared and giving his best

during the event.

He was trained by expert Muhammad Muklis Ahmad, coaches Muhammad Fauzan Abdul Hakim and Muhammad Fadzy Md Zain, and adviser, Ismail Adam.

Another gold medalist was Muhammad Syafiq Tumin for the Mechanical Engineering Design - CAD category.

Syafiq, 21, is a first-year diploma student in manufacturing product design at the German-Malaysian Institute.

An alumni of Institut Kemahiran Mara Johor Baru, he was chosen out of four contestants to represent the country.

Syafiq said the three-day competition tested his skills in reverse engineering, mechanical assembly and mechanical fabrication.

"I made a decision to take study leave as this was my only chance to prove my mettle at the international level," he said.

He was placed at a Centre of Excellence in Universiti Kuala Lumpur (UmikL) for eight months of training prior to the competition.

His training was funded by the Works Ministry. He was trained by an expert in the field, Junita Mohd Said, a lecturer from UmikL in design and fabrication.

Junita said the mechanical engineering design scope was broad, testing the contestant's knowledge in critical thinking and speed.

"Syafiq showed dedication and concentration during the preparations. This is an application of what he learnt in the syllabus," she said.



Malaysia emerged as the overall champion of the ASC 2016 by winning 24 gold medals. Deputy Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Ahmad Zahid Hamidi presented medals to the winners at the closing ceremony on Wednesday.

Education and Training (TVET) as a means of training our students to become effective workers that would contribute to the country's robust economic growth," he said.

Ismail said Mara's TVET students have prepared themselves to be industry ready and many had become successful entrepreneurs through their skills and craftsmanship.

The winners received their medals during the closing ceremony at the Putrajaya International Convention Centre on

Rural and Regional Development Minister Datuk Seri Ismail Sabri Yaakob said Majlis Amanah Rakyat (Mara) had played an integral part in developing skilled and semi-skilled workers in the country to produce more than 30 per cent of the nation's skilled workforce.

He said this contribution was crucial to the economic and social development of the nation.

"I am very proud of the achievements of our students in this competition as this would strengthen Technical Vocational

Wednesday.

Present were Deputy Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Ahmad Zahid Hamidi, Works Minister Datuk Seri Fadillah Yusof and Human Resources Minister Datuk Seri Richard Riot Jaem.

The 11th edition of the competition, themed "Skills for A Brighter Future", was held from Sept 19 to 29.

Categories for the competition included beauty therapy, refrigeration and air conditioning, aircraft maintenance, cabinet-making, hair dressing and welding.