

# KERATAN AKHBAR

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## PM: New digital plans to boost robotic tech usage

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*The plan will be able to increase productivity and reduce dependence on foreign labour*

by ANIS HAZIM

THE National Digital Economy and the Fourth Industrial Revolution Council (MED4IRN) have decided on several plans to empower new technologies to holistically drive the country's digitisation.

Among the plans is to develop the national robotics roadmap to mainstream the use of robotic technology in the country.

Prime Minister (PM) Datuk Seri Ismail Sabri Yaakob said the plan is able to increase productivity and reduce dependence on foreign labour thereby, minimising the flow of currency abroad.

"The density of robots in Malaysia per 10,000 employees in 2019 is 55 units, and the target is 195 units per 10,000 employees in 2030," Ismail Sabri, who chaired the maiden MED4IRN meeting, said in a statement yesterday.

He said the meeting also has supported the concept of catalytic



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projects to drive Malaysia Digital Economy Blueprint (MyDigital) aspirations.

"The meeting agreed to establish a MyDigital Catalytic Project Task Force to select appropriate projects and monitor a public-private part-

nership implementation," he said.

According to him, the catalytic project will be funded by the private sector and the government as facilitating roles.

"Among the examples of the catalytic projects are smart medicine,

targeting the establishment of hospitals that use 5G technology to improve the standard of healthcare of the people and smart cities with various use cases to ensure the sustainability of a more meaningful life," he added.

Meanwhile, he said the meeting also noted the progress and achievements of other initiatives such as the National Digital Network, Digital Nasional Bhd's 5G rollout and the Small Entrepreneur Digital Empowerment Programme.

In conjunction with the first anniversary celebration of the MyDigital, several programmes have been implemented and will also be implemented throughout February and March.

Among the programmes include the Technopreneur Industry Dialogue by the World Bank and MyDigital Corp, Pasar Siti Khadijah Digital Transformation Programme in Kelantan, Roundtable Discussion Session on Islamic Digital Technology and Digital Literacy Programme for civil servants.

"The success of MyDigital will be the determinant of the success of the digitisation of Malaysian families as expected by 2030," he further said.