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The Science, Technology and Innovation Ministry will host innovation bazaars to exhibit inventions and commercialise them

→ Report by **SYLVIA LOOI** on page 2

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Platform for budding inventors

SHOWCASE: The innovation bazaars will be held weekly next year and have 35 to 40 booths

THE Science, Technology and Innovation Ministry (Mosti) will organise innovation bazaars from next year to increase the number of invented products for commercialisation.

Its deputy minister Datuk Dr Abu Bakar Md Diah said only eight to 10 per cent of products funded by the ministry had been marketed.

"The bazaars will be held weekly," he said, adding that for a start, between 35 and 40 booths would be set up to allow budding inventors to exhibit their inventions.

Abu Bakar said the ministry targeted 360 high-impact invented products to be commercialised by 2020.

"Under the Ninth Malaysia Plan, RM2.8 billion had been spent to fund the creation of products," he said, at the launch of the Cyber Security Malaysia Awards, Conference and Exhibition 2014.

He said RM700 billion had been spent under the 10th Malaysia Plan until September.

Abu Bakar said for Malaysia to be on par with other advanced countries, 10 to 15 per cent of its inventions must be commercialised.

"The bazaar will be a platform for inventors to highlight their products," he said, adding that the ministry would also rope in other inventors to take part in the bazaar.

The event was opened by Menteri Besar Datuk Seri Dr Zambry Abd Kadir.

On another matter, Abu Bakar said the ministry had recorded 10,636 cyber attacks last year.

"For the first six months of this year, there were 587 cases involving RM14.9 million," he said, adding that credit card fraud for the year amounted to RM845,000.

Abu Bakar, who represented Science, Technology and Innovation

Minister Datuk Dr Ewon Ebin, said cyber attacks had become more frequent, widespread and sophisticated.

"The economic impact of cyber crime globally is so huge and today we are facing a wide range of cyberspace threats from criminals made up of individual hackers and organised groups," he said.

He added that while the Internet offered new opportunities to expand economic and business possibilities, it was also vulnerable to cyber-crimes and the growing misuse of personal information related to businesses.

"The increasing number of such incidents will harm the country's economic growth, competitiveness and innovation in the long run," he said.

Page 1 pic: The Internet offers new opportunities to **expand economic and business possibilities.**

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Datuk Seri Dr Zambry Abdul Kadir inaugurating the Cyber Security Malaysia Awards, Conference and Exhibition 2014. Pic by L. Manimaran

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