



27 SEPTEMBER 2018
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CYBERSECURITY MALAYSIA AIMS TO FOSTER GOOD DIGITAL CITIZENSHIP AMONG YOUNG MILLENNIALS THROUGH HIGHER PARTICIPATION IN ICT DISCOURSE

KUALA LUMPUR (27 SEPTEMBER 2018) – CyberSecurity Malaysia calls for more secondary schools nationwide to join its annual ICT discourse, as part of its key initiatives to increase cybersecurity awareness and instill digital citizenship amongst Malaysia's young millennials.

National ICT Security Discourse – CyberSAFE Challenge Trophy or NICTSeD is the annual English-based cybersecurity discourse organized annually by CyberSecurity Malaysia with the support from the Ministry of Education Malaysia (MOE) through Educational Technology Division (BTP). The national ICT security school discourse is open to all secondary school students in Malaysia.

The NICTSeD 2018 Grand Final discourse topic is: **“Malaysia’s National Child Protection Policy and Plan of Action on Child Online Protection is consistent with the Convention on the Rights of the Child and the country’s Child (Amendment) Act 2016 which aims to protect minors. This includes inappropriate cyber content. This is pertinent and important especially in the 4th Industrial Revolution. Categories of inappropriate cyber content include hate groups, violence, pornography, illegal activities, extremist groups, online advertising etc. Carry out a survey in your school. In your survey, you should indicate the current situation faced by minors. Propose a program/campaign to build cyber resilience to help minors cope with this predicament in the 4th Industrial Revolution”**. The grand final was officiated by the Minister of Education Malaysia, YB Dr. Maszlee Malik in conjunction with Cyber Security Malaysia - Awards, Conference and Exhibition (CSM-ACE) 2018.



“In this era of digitalization, good digital citizenship is vital. Digital citizenship empowers our young generation to reap the benefits of digital technology in a safe and effective way. We need to teach them to respectfully engage with people in cyber space and assess the authenticity of online sources of information. More importantly, we need to create responsible digital citizens who will leverage technology to advocate social causes and help shape public policies,” said YB Dr. Maszlee during his opening address at NICTSeD 2018.

YB Dr. Maszlee also reminded finalists that freedom in the cyber space must be balanced against responsibilities. He said viewing inappropriate content is potentially damaging to young minds, especially teenagers and young adults and the situation must be looked into seriously by all stakeholders.

The 6th National ICT Security Discourse (NICTSeD) 2018 attracted 160 secondary schools nationwide which participated in the state-level competitions, from which 16 schools with a total of 80 students progressed through elimination rounds before two (2) schools eventually emerged as finalists - SMJK Jit Sin, Pulau Pinang and SMK Abdul Rahman Talib, Pahang.

“The digital economy of the future creates wealth through creativity and collaboration, sometimes with people in cyber space whom we have never met before. In the cyber future, success hinges on adaptability and flexibility. We need to build young dynamic knowledge workers that can bend to change and be resilient,” said YBhg. Dato’ Ts. Dr. Haji Amirudin Abdul Wahab, Chief Executive Officer, CyberSecurity Malaysia.

Dato’ Ts. Dr. Amirudin reiterated that CyberSecurity Malaysia aims to foster greater creativity and critical-thinking skills among students on current issues pertaining to Information and Communication Technology (ICT), cyber security as well as positive use of the Internet. In addition, it also helps inculcate self-confidence and interpersonal skills through public speaking.

After a hotly contested competition, SMJK Jit Sin, Pulau Pinang emerged as overall champion after impressing a panel of distinguished judges with their superb performance. The winning team was awarded with a CyberSAFE challenge trophy, certificates of participation and RM5,000 prize money. Participation in a school debate offers students the opportunity to hone their communications and research skills which are critical for university readiness and success.

NICTSeD 2018 is also supported by DiGi Telecommunications, BAE Systems, Symantec as well as Dewan Bahasa & Pustaka (DBP).

~ End ~

Issued by Outreach & Corporate Communications Department, CyberSecurity Malaysia.

For further enquiries, please email: media@cybersecurity.my or call +603-89926888,

Mohd Shamil Mohd Yusoff (ext: 6978) / Zul Akmal Abdul Manan (ext: 6945)