



MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCES

MEDIA RELEASE

**MALAYSIAN YOUTHS TO CONTEST FOR ULTIMATE VICTOR AT THE ASEAN SKILLS
COMPETITION (ASC 2018) IN BANGKOK, THAILAND**

Shah Alam, 17 August - Malaysia will be joining the ASEAN Skills Competition (ASC) 2018 in Bangkok, Thailand from the 26 August to 4 September 2018. 131 representatives will be joining the Malaysian Contingent to Bangkok comprising En. Nidzam Kamarulzaman, the Director General of *Jabatan Pembangunan Kemahiran (JPK)* as the Chief de Mission, official delegates, technical delegates, team leader, official observers, experts, participants, and secretariats.

The objectives of the ASC are to; encourage close cooperation between governments, industries, employers' and workers' organizations, and vocational training institution of ASEAN member countries; provide recognition for work excellence and develop new generation of highly skilled workers; and as preparation of ASEAN countries in participating at the World Skills Competition (WSC).

Malaysia's participation in this 12th ASEAN Skills Competition (ASC) involves 48 participants and 37 national experts in 24 skill areas. These participants are selected among students of public and private training institutes, public and private universities, and skilled workers from industries.

Participation in this regional skills competition has benefited the country in terms of recognition of youths and students in Technical Education and Vocational Training (TVET) sector; benchmarking the level of our skills workers at the international level; promoting Malaysia's Technical Education and Vocational Training (TVET) at the ASEAN level; and producing more world-class skilled workforce.

Skill competitions are one of the important activities in upholding the national skills training. The participation of Malaysia in ASC 2018 will demonstrate the ability of our skilled workforce at the international arena. This is in line with the Government's efforts to produce creative, innovative and highly skilled workforce, and thus contribute to the country's economic growth. Therefore, Malaysia is committed to organizing strategic action through a timely preparation to ensure greater achievement in this competition. Collaboration with various parties including TVET institutions, public and private universities and industries in preparing the national team is testimony towards realizing this.

The ASEAN Skills Competition (ASC) is the biggest skills competition in the ASEAN region. It is held every two (2) years and participated by skilled youth from all ASEAN member countries aged 22 years and below except for mechatronics category, participants are aged 25 years and below.

To date, Malaysia has participated in eleven (11) ASC and has hosted three (3) ASC's in Malaysia. The best achievement was in the year 2016 where we were the overall champion by earning 22 gold medals.

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