

Overseas Training For Instructors Vital For High-tech TVET Rollout - Experts

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KUALA LUMPUR- Sending Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET) instructors abroad for industry attachment and specialised training should be a top priority to ensure the success of Malaysia's new high-technology training programmes scheduled to begin in July, according to education experts.

National TVET Council member Prof Dr Ramlee Mustapha said the move is crucial to strengthening the capabilities of local educators, many of whom were trained in traditional technical disciplines.

While welcoming the introduction of emerging fields such as artificial intelligence (AI), cryptology and green technology into the national TVET ecosystem, he said challenges relating to infrastructure and instructor expertise must be addressed through exposure to advanced training systems overseas.

"TVET instructors should undergo attachment programmes in countries such as the United States, Germany, the United Kingdom, South Korea and Japan, where strong links between industry and training institutions have long been established" Germany's dual-training model and the AI innovation ecosystem in the United States offer valuable examples that Malaysia can adapt to significantly enhance the capabilities of its educators," he told Bernama in response to the government's plans to introduce training programmes in emerging technology fields for selected TVET students from next month. During the National TVET Day celebration last Saturday, Prime Minister Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim announced that all government training and research institutions would be required to offer programmes in new technology areas beginning in July. Ramlee said one of the biggest challenges facing the sector is the shortage of instructors with expertise in machine learning, industrial automation, big data analytics and green engineering systems. Without continuous professional development through international collaboration and industry certification, he warned, educators may struggle to effectively deliver future-oriented curricula. Mohd Hasril Amiruddin emphasised that investment in instructor competency development, curriculum enhancement, and adequate learning facilities is crucial for the success of the TVET MADANI agenda. He also stressed the importance of stronger industry collaboration to ensure training programmes remain relevant to technological advancements and labour market needs. According to him, the TVET 2.0 initiative supports high-impact sectors such as smart agriculture, food security, automation, and digitalisation, thereby strengthening Malaysia's economic competitiveness.

