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TNB nurtures future leaders

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YAYASAN Tenaga Nasional (YTN) aims to tap the talents of bright students with keen interest in the electricity sector and engineering field through Tenaga Nasional Bhd's Nurturing Future Leaders (NFL) programme.

The programme started in 2014 with a collaboration with the Education Ministry (MOE) to identify potential candidates from fully residential boarding schools (SBP).

YTN offers scholarships to deserving students in line with the nation-building agenda to encourage the development of Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics.

Its director, Datuk Dr Shaari Md Nor, said the NFL programme gave students an in-depth understanding of Tenaga Nasional Bhd's role and the importance of its service to the nation.

"We also give them exposure on the

electricity industry and learning environment at Universiti Tenaga Nasional (Uniten) as students may have a wide interest in the engineering field. This will help them to get a better idea before deciding on their next move after their secondary education.

Shaari said the students, who were selected from recommendations by the MOE based on merit and their interest in technology, were given an explanation on the process of electricity generation, including its impact on the development of the country.

"A power breakdown would have negative consequences on the economy.

For example, we can't pump water without electricity, or develop new industrial and housing areas or infrastructure to benefit the public," he said.

"The people would also feel the effect when electrical appliances at



Yayasan Tenaga Nasional (YTN) director Datuk Dr Shaari Md Nor.

their homes are not functioning," he said.

Shaari said the work in the electricity industry also came with great responsibility as it involved lives as well.

He said an engineer must be competent and reliable.

"We are not able to see the electricity current like we see a flowing river," he said.

Therefore, Shaari said, students must have the knowledge, professionalism and the right attitude to venture into this field.

He said in Tenaga Nasional Bhd, besides developing the technology for power generation, it was also integral to develop the right talent among the next generation to become the successor.

Shaari said in tapping the best talent for TNB, they were looking into having forward-thinking students who looked beyond the aspects of only excelling in their job.

"As they progress in the career, the leaders would also need to have a business mindset to face future challenges in energy generation, as well as to steer the company to be prosperous and become a sustainable and profitable business."

Shaari said among the issues that energy company was looking into were



global warming and renewable energy.

He said YTN scholars were well-taken care of and they would feel a sense of belonging to the company through various programmes planned for them.

Shaari said engineers would gain more experience by having the opportunity to be involved in projects locally and abroad.

"They would also have the opportunity to grow their career with us," he said.

He said experienced engineers would also one day have the opportunity to become consultants and be

Students getting a briefing on electricity generation and the electricity industry.



Students in the Nurturing Future Leaders programme learn about Tenaga Nasional Berhad's role and the importance of its services to the nation.



Learning about electrical engineering

ONE of the participants, Nur Hana Fareeha Abdul Halim, is grateful to be selected for the programme as she is determined to become an electrical engineer.

Hana, 16, from Sekolah Menengah Sains Muzaffar Syah, said the visit to the Putrajaya Power Station was an eye-opener.

"We learnt how electricity is being generated to be supplied to buildings as well as how the turbines are being controlled at the power stations," she said.

"As Malaysians, we are blessed with having continuous electricity supply. I learnt that this was made possible through the hard work and relentless service of many, including the engineers, to power the nation," she said.

The students also visited the TNB Integrated Learning Solution (ILSAS).

"This programme was beneficial as it gives students a clearer idea on the industry and the job scope of an engineer, thus making it easier for students to select suitable scholarships for them."

Hana said she was more inclined towards Physics and aspired to become an engineer to follow in her father's footsteps as an electrical engineer.

The eldest of three siblings said she would apply for scholarships that offered courses which suit her interest the most.

"I hope to secure a spot in any Ivy

League university," she said.

Hana has been an all-rounder student with experience as the head of the sports house in her school and as a

representative for an international conference for Southeast Asia students.

She was also the top five in her school's diagnostic test.

Another participant, Adib Naufal Fadzil, 17, from Sekolah Sultan

Alam Shah in Putrajaya, said through the programme, he was exposed to various aspects of energy

such as the function of a generator and the fossil fuel it required.

Adib, who is the eldest of three siblings, said he also learnt about the manufacturing of solar cars, as well as nuclear energy and the need for Malaysia to have expertise in the field.

He was excited to be one of the participants in the programme which helped to build their confidence and nurture them into becoming holistic individuals.

"We had to be brave to speak up and volunteer ourselves to ask questions," he said.

Adib said they also had the chance to listen to current scholarship hol-

ders on their experiences.

"We were also encouraged to strengthen the spirituality aspect by performing congregational prayers and having imam selected among the participants of the programme," he said.

Adib said as a student, deciding on a career path after completing Sijil Pelajaran Malaysia was one of the crucial decisions to be made by a student.

"I will look into several aspects when it comes to choosing a scholarship. This includes courses of interest, opportunity to study at the world's top-ranking university, and the welfare of the students," he said.

Adib said career-wise, he hoped to gain exposure on the tasks, including having the opportunity to travel abroad and work with a good team.



Nur Hana Fareeha Abdul Halim



Adib Naufal Fadzil