

Empowering 25, 000 Malaysians with digital skills

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PETALING JAYA: Microsoft Malaysia, the Social Security Organisation (Socso) and Junior Achievement (JA) Malaysia, which is a youth-serving non-governmental organisation, have forged a partnership to upskill some 25, 000 Malaysians, targeting graduates and unemployed individuals, through the Digital Skills for Tomorrow's Jobs programme.

The programme is in support of the government's MyDigital and National Fourth Industrial Revolution (4IR) policy.

"The joint initiative aims to reach 25, 000 Malaysians through online webinars on digital skills and data science, based on Microsoft's industry and training resources," they said in a joint statement.

From the pool, 400 participants will then be selected to continue with an extensive digital skills course which also includes mentorship and soft skills training to enhance their work readiness. Participants will be able to select from five career tracks, including data analyst, data scientist, development operations, software developer and IT support, the statement said.

Socso chief executive Datuk Seri Dr Mohammed Azman said the reskilling and upskilling of the Malaysian workforce, especially those affected by Covid-19, are essential to empower them either to compete in the demanding job market of today as well as embrace and find success in the digital economy.

“We are excited with this partnership and together, we are committed to addressing the challenges faced by our local talents and help strengthen Malaysia’s digital workforce,” he said.

Microsoft Malaysia managing director K Raman (pic above) said with Malaysia’s future anchored on a digital-first economy, the digital workforce will be an important driver for the nation’s economic recovery.

“Efforts will be made to ensure successful candidates will be offered employment, internship or practical training opportunities. To achieve this, Microsoft will be working together with Socso and JA Malaysia to engage Microsoft’s partner ecosystem and customers to be part of the programme,” he added.

Meanwhile, JA Malaysia Trustee Datuk Timothy Garland said business and organisations all around the globe have transformed, adopting new technologies to continue operating under unprecedented circumstances brought forth by Covid-19.

“Alongside the rise in demand for technology, comes a rise in demand for digital skills – presenting incredible opportunities for people to find a career that they can be passionate about,” he said.

Graduates and unemployed individuals can register for the Digital Skills for Tomorrow’s Jobs programme starting yesterday.