Aiding entrepreneurs with computer units



By **RENA LIM**

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Chow (centre) posing for a photo with the sponsor of some of the 350 computer sets at his office in Komtar.

THE Penang government will give out 350 sets of computers worth RM320,950 to eligible recipients under the 'Mikro Go Digital' pilot entrepreneur programme.

Chief Minister Chow Kon Yeow said the programme, launched in November last year, was meant to help entrepreneurs affected by the Covid-19 pandemic.

"It is to ease their digital transactions, which is a much-needed business trend as the pandemic has hampered physical activities within their businesses.

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"We identified 350 recipients out of 1,808 applications through Penang Development Corporation (PDC), which is the secretariat for this.

"Six categories of entrepreneurs, from products, online business, clothing, food and beverages, grocery and services are eligible for the programme, " he said in a statement after a handover session at Komtar recently.

Chow said the computer sets were given to the eligible recipients in sessions.

"We will hand out 10 sets to 10 recipients in each session until all 350 computer sets are given out.

"With these computer sets, we hope the entrepreneurs can enhance their digital knowledge and take the opportunity to improve their businesses through e-commerce."

On another matter, Chow said the state government was thankful for the sponsorship of 100 used computer sets worth RM100,000 for its 'E-Learning Computer Programme' Task Force.

The task force is dedicated to tackle the challenges of e-learning such as a lack of internet connectivity and computer devices and so on.

"The computer sets include 25 laptops and 75 desktop computers.

"This brings the total number of computers under the task force to 927 sets and until now, the programme has benefitted 730 students.

"The students were chosen to receive the computer sets for free and a total of 97 computers were distributed to six selected schools," he said.

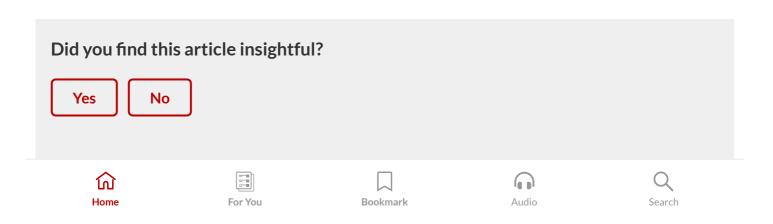
Besides computer sets, Chow said the task force had also prepared 224 smartphones and 60 routers for students from needy families.

"There are some 200 students who are still unable to obtain computers for e-learning.

"We hope more corporate companies and individuals would donate old computers to the state for repairs so that we can help these students, " he said.

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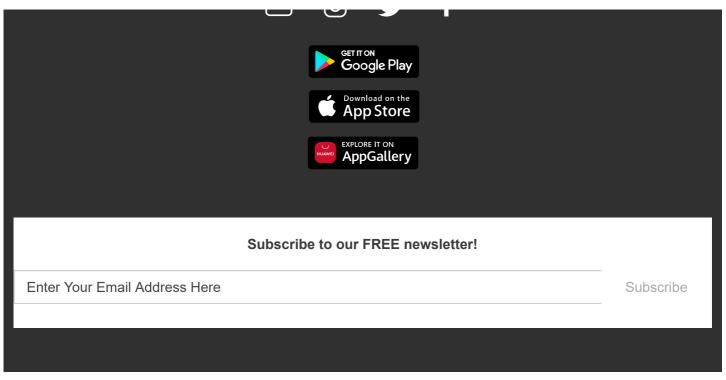












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