



SIARAN MEDIA UNTUK SIARAN SEGERA

Malaysia Mencarta Masa Depan Lestari dalam Bahan Kritikal di XThREE 2025

Kuala Lumpur, 3 November 2025 – Seminar Penerokaan, Thorium dan Nadir Bumi (XThREE) 2025 telah berlangsung hari ini, menghimpunkan pakar-pakar terkemuka, pembuat dasar dan pemain industri untuk meneroka hala tuju strategik Malaysia dalam sektor unsur nadir bumi (REE) dan torium yang pesat berkembang.

Acara yang dianjurkan oleh Persatuan Saintis Penyelidikan Malaysia (MARS) dan Pejabat Pengurusan Projek Thorium (ThX) ini telah dirasmikan oleh Menteri Sains, Teknologi dan Inovasi (MOSTI), YB Chang Lih Kang, yang menekankan komitmen Malaysia untuk memajukan industri REE dan torium negara melalui kecemerlangan saintifik, pandangan jauh strategik dan kemampanan.

“Dengan tema ‘Menjamin Masa Depan: Sains, Strategi & Kemampanan dalam REE dan Thorium’, seminar ini mengingatkan kita bahawa kemajuan negara kita mesti dibina di atas penerokaan yang bertanggungjawab dan tadbir urus yang dipacu sains,” kata YB Chang Lih Kang dalam ucapan pembukaannya.

Beliau menyatakan bahawa permintaan global untuk unsur nadir bumi semakin meningkat dengan pesat, dengan pasaran dijangka meningkat lebih daripada dua kali ganda menjelang 2030 kepada antara USD 6 dan 28 bilion, didorong oleh kenderaan elektrik, turbin angin dan elektronik canggih. Ini, katanya, memberikan cabaran dan peluang kepada Malaysia untuk melangkaui peranannya sebagai pemegang sumber dan menjadi rakan kongsi serantau yang dipercayai dan mampan dalam rantai bekalan bahan kritikal global.

Kelebihan Daya Saing Malaysia dalam REE dan Thorium

YB Chang Lih Kang menekankan bahawa Malaysia sudah mempunyai sumber REE dan torium yang ketara, terutamanya dalam deposit tanah liat penjerapan ion yang terkenal dengan radioaktiviti rendah dan kebolehdan alam sekitar. Kajian awal telah mengenal pasti 16.1 juta tan metrik sumber REE yang disimpulkan, dengan anggaran nilai in-situ lebih RM809 bilion, tersebar di beberapa negeri termasuk Perak, Kedah, Terengganu, dan Sarawak.

“Kelebihan sebenar kita bukan sahaja terletak di bawah tanah tetapi juga pada kapasiti saintifik dan tadbir urus institusi kita yang kukuh,” tegasnya, memetik agensi seperti Nuklear Malaysia, Jabatan Mineral dan Geosains (JMG), dan Jabatan Tenaga Atom (Atom Malaysia) atas peranan mereka dalam memastikan pembangunan yang selamat dan beretika.

Malaysia, tambahnya, berdiri di antara beberapa negara membangun dengan rangka kerja kawal selia keselamatan nuklear dan radiasi yang komprehensif, selaras dengan piawaian Agensi Tenaga Atom Antarabangsa (IAEA) melalui Akta Pelesenan Tenaga Atom [Akta 304].

Bagi memastikan dasar dan pelaksanaan yang diselaraskan, Kerajaan juga telah menubuhkan Pasukan Petugas Khas mengenai Unsur Nadir Bumi, yang terdiri daripada MOSTI, NRES, MITI, MOF dan kerajaan negeri — yang mengguna pakai pendekatan seluruh kerajaan untuk mengurus penerokaan, pemprosesan dan aktiviti hiliran secara telus dan lestari.

Peranan MOSTI Berasaskan Sains

Dalam rangka kerja ini, MOSTI berfungsi sebagai enjin sains dan teknologi yang memacu sektor REE dan torium Malaysia yang sedang membangun. Melalui Pelan Hala Tuju Teknologi Bahan Termaju Negara (NAMTR), MOSTI bekerjasama dengan ahli akademik, institusi penyelidikan dan pemain industri untuk mempercepat penyetempatan teknologi dan memperkukuh hubungan penyelidikan-ke-industri.

Selaras dengan Rancangan Malaysia ke-13 (RMKe-13) dan Pelan Induk Perindustrian Baharu (NIMP 2030), NAMTR menghubungkan inovasi tempatan dengan rangkaian nilai global dalam bahan termaju dan teknologi bersih. MOSTI juga menyokong penyelidikan berimpak tinggi melalui Dana Penyelidikan Strategik (SRF), Majlis Bahan Termaju Negara (NAMC) dan Program Moonshot REE, yang memberi tumpuan kepada teknologi pengekstrakan hijau, kitar semula magnet dan proses pemisahan termaju.

YB Chang Lih Kang menekankan bahawa teknologi baru muncul seperti kecerdasan buatan, kebolehsesanan rangkaian blok dan sistem pemantauan digital akan menjadi kunci dalam memperkukuh ketelusan dan memastikan pematuhan dengan piawaian Alam Sekitar, Sosial dan Tadbir Urus (ESG) yang tertinggi.

“Biarlah seminar ini menandakan permulaan era kerjasama baharu, di mana sains memaklumkan strategi dan kemampanan membimbing setiap keputusan yang kita buat,” beliau menyimpulkan, sebelum merasmikan pembukaan Seminar Penerokaan, Thorium dan Nadir Bumi (XThREE) 2025.

Pertanyaan & Maklumat Lanjut:

Cik Hasfazilah: +6011-8888 2021 / Cik Husna: +6013-408 5058

Pejabat MARS: +6011-5551 2021

Emel: mars.pspm@gmail.com

Laman Web: www.mymars.org

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/mymars01>



PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Malaysia Charts Sustainable Future in Critical Materials at XThREE 2025

Kuala Lumpur, 3 November 2025 – The Seminar on Exploration, Thorium and Rare Earth (XThREE) 2025 convened today, bringing together leading experts, policymakers, and industry players to explore Malaysia's strategic direction in the rapidly evolving rare earth elements (REE) and thorium sectors.

The event, organised by the Malaysian Association of Research Scientists (MARS) and the Thorium Project Management Office (ThX), was officiated by Minister of Science, Technology and Innovation (MOSTI), YB Chang Lih Kang, who underscored Malaysia's commitment to advancing the nation's REE and thorium industry through scientific excellence, strategic foresight, and sustainability.

"With the theme 'Securing the Future: Science, Strategy & Sustainability in REE and Thorium', this seminar reminds us that our nation's progress must be built upon responsible exploration and science-driven governance," said YB Chang Lih Kang in his opening address.

He noted that the global demand for rare earth elements is accelerating rapidly, with the market expected to more than double by 2030 to between USD 6 and 28 billion, driven by electric vehicles, wind turbines, and advanced electronics. This, he said, presents both a challenge and an opportunity for Malaysia to move beyond its role as a resource holder and become a trusted, sustainable regional partner in the global critical materials supply chain.

Malaysia's Competitive Edge in REE and Thorium

YB Chang Lih Kang highlighted that Malaysia already possesses significant REE and thorium resources, particularly in ion-adsorption clay deposits known for their low radioactivity and environmental manageability. Preliminary studies have identified 16.1 million metric tonnes of inferred REE resources, with an estimated in-situ value of over RM809 billion, spread across several states including Perak, Kedah, Terengganu, and Sarawak.

"Our true advantage lies not only beneath the ground but in our scientific capacity and strong institutional governance," he stressed, citing agencies such as Nuklear Malaysia, Department of Minerals and Geoscience (JMG), and Department of Atomic Energy (Atom Malaysia) for their roles in ensuring safe and ethical development.

Malaysia, he added, stands among the few developing nations with a comprehensive nuclear safety and radiation regulatory framework, aligned with International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) standards through the Atomic Energy Licensing Act [Act 304].

To ensure coordinated policy and implementation, the Government has also established a Special Task Force on Rare Earth Elements, comprising MOSTI, NRES, MITI, MOF, and state governments — adopting a whole-of-government approach to manage exploration, processing, and downstream activities transparently and sustainably.

MOSTI's Science-Driven Role

Within this framework, MOSTI serves as the science and technology engine driving Malaysia's emerging REE and thorium sector. Through the National Advanced Materials Technology Roadmap (NAMTR), MOSTI is working with academia, research institutions, and industry players to accelerate technology localisation and strengthen research-to-industry linkages.

Aligned with the 13th Malaysia Plan (RMKe-13) and the New Industrial Master Plan (NIMP 2030), NAMTR connects local innovation with global value chains in advanced materials and clean technologies. MOSTI also supports high-impact research via the Strategic Research Fund (SRF), National Advanced Materials Council (NAMC), and Moonshot REE Programme, focusing on green extraction technologies, magnet recycling, and advanced separation processes.

YB Chang Lih Kang emphasised that emerging technologies such as artificial intelligence, blockchain traceability, and digital monitoring systems will be key in strengthening transparency and ensuring compliance with the highest Environmental, Social and Governance (ESG) standards.

A Call to Collaboration and Responsibility

"The global race for critical materials is not merely about economic gain — it is about strategic resilience and technological sovereignty," said YB Chang Lih Kang, calling for deeper collaboration among government, academia, and industry.

He urged all stakeholders to approach REE and thorium development with responsibility, innovation, and foresight, ensuring that Malaysia's growth in this sector aligns with the principles of Malaysia MADANI — delivering not just economic value but environmental care and societal well-being.

"Let this seminar mark the beginning of a new era of collaboration, where science informs strategy and sustainability guides every decision we make," he concluded, before officially declaring open the Seminar on Exploration, Thorium and Rare Earth (XThREE) 2025.

Inquiries & Further Information:

Ms. Hasfazilah: +6011-8888 2021 / Ms. Husna: +6013-408 5058

MARS Office: +6011-5551 2021

Email: mars.pspm@gmail.com

Website: www.mymars.org

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/mymars01>