

PUBLIC AWARENESS
of Science and Technology Malaysia

2004

FOREWORD

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The 2004 Public Awareness of S&T Study was the sixth in a series of biennial surveys conducted by the Malaysian Science and Technology Information Centre (MASTIC). The aim of the survey was to assess the Malaysian public awareness, attitude towards, interest in, and understanding of Science and Technology (S&T) as well as to ascertain the extent of the public's involvement in the S&T programmes and the success of the implementation of these programmes.

Comparisons were also made with other countries for policy making and benchmarking. The findings are useful particularly for policy makers to plan and employ better strategies to make S&T less formidable and more appealing to Malaysians. The public, in turn, will benefit from effective S&T programmes, which bring positive impact on both social and economic development. The findings of the latest study allow us to take a closer look on how we could employ S&T to the best advantage and more importantly, to strengthen our position in the international arena and bring our country on par with develop nations.

We at MASTIC will continue to be at the forefront of providing S&T information and being an important link between policy makers, researchers, research fund providers and users of research results. The Public's Awareness of Science and Technology in Malaysia, 2004 Report is certainly important at a time that our country is placing greater emphasis on S&T to propel us towards the challenges of the future.