

Empowering entrepreneurs with relevant skills training

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KUANTAN: Contractor Mustafa Mohd Nor Haizad, 35, started a small company in 2005.

To expand his business, the Felda Chini 3, Pekan, resident underwent electrical and electronic training under the Empower East Coast Economic Region (Ecer) Skills Training and Entrepreneurship programme, three years ago.

He was awarded a certificate by **Universiti Malaysia Pahang (UMP)** in Pekan, where he trained.

"I used to depend on other people to do electrical work and they would sometimes

take a long time to complete the job. Now, I do not need to hire anyone," he said.

Another Empower Ecer participant Akmaliza Mahulud Nor, 31, said she was now more confident about accepting delivery orders after joining the cooking course held at Kolej Komuniti Kuantan.

"I came to know about the programme from a friend. I was called for an interview as they wanted to know whether I was really serious about attending the classes," she said.

Rosmiza Ahmad, 42, too was grateful for

help to expand her traditional cake business.

Sharifah Maziah Syed Omar's from Sungai Karang, persistence in applying for the programme paid off.

The 58-year-old was initially rejected because of her age.

The most valuable thing she gained from the programme was online marketing skills.

"I have my own website now to promote my pizza. I decided to operate from home, which increased my income because I do not have to rent a shop anymore," she said. —

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