

**SOE MINISTER ERICK THOHIR APPRECIATES  
PETROKIMIA GRESIK "SEKOLAH MAKMUR" PROGRAM**

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Petrokimia Gresik inaugurated the "**Sekolah Makmur**" program which was marked by the departure of 30 **Taruna Makmur** to various regions, from Gresik, East Java, Friday (30/9). The Petrokimia Gresik initiation program is the company's effort to improve the quality of human resources in agriculture as well as a commitment to improving services for farmers in various regions.

Virtually, the Minister of SOEs of the Republic of Indonesia (RI), Erick Thohir said that increasing agricultural productivity and farmer welfare is currently the focus of the Ministry of SOEs under the direction of the President of the Republic of Indonesia. For this reason, he appreciated the Sekolah Makmur initiative implemented by Petrokimia Gresik as a holding member of the Pupuk Indonesia, as a commitment to improving services in encouraging high productivity and welfare of farmers.

"We must be able to run the Makmur program, which we are currently expanding our understanding and contribution, to the regeneration of agricultural fighters through the placement of Prosperous Cadets. I entrust the responsibilities and duties of the Makmur program in work areas throughout Indonesia through synergy and compact aboration cabbage in the field, in maintaining sustainable Indonesian food sovereignty," said the Minister of SOEs.

Makmur itself started from the Agrosolution Project initiated by Pupuk Indonesia, which was then adopted by the Ministry of SOEs and rolled out into a national program in August 2021. Both Makmur and Agrosolution, are programs that create a comprehensive agricultural ecosystem, ranging from the provision of funds or business capital in synergy with banking institutions, insurance guarantees, fertilizer availability, and pest control, to off-takers to provide productivity and welfare guarantees for farmers.

Responding to this, the President Director of Petrokimia Gresik, Dwi Satriyo Annurogo explained that, Sekolah Makmur was initiated to optimize the implementation of the Makmur Program of the Ministry of SOEs and the Pupuk Indonesia Group Agrosolution Project. Where through the Makmur School, Petrokimia Gresik seeks to produce superior human resources in agriculture called Taruna Makmur to be placed in various regions.

"This program is one of the implementations of the Petrokimia Gresik intimacy customer strategy in presenting solutions to various problems that have been experienced by farmers," said Dwi Satriyo.

In its implementation, Petrokimia Gresik in collaboration with several Agricultural Development Polytechnics (Polbangtan) provides opportunities for active Polbangtan students to take part in this program. In Batch I, as many as 30 participants were selected to become Taruna Makmur, who came from Polbangtan Malang, Polbangtan Yogyakarta-Magelang, and Polbangtan Bogor. Before being dispatched, Taruna Makmur had undergone a period of induction or material debriefing, as well as mental and physical coaching for 10 days on 12 – 21 September 2022.

The induction program is focused on knowledge about the company, crop cultivation, marketing, communication skills, Social and Environmental Responsibility (TJSL), as well as fertilizer distribution and socialization techniques. Meanwhile, mental and physical coaching is carried out to increase the fighting power of Taruna Makmur in facing various obstacles when carrying out their duties in the field.

"Currently, dozens of Taruna Makmur are ready to be dispatched to various regions in East Java, Central Java, and West Java. Taruna Makmur will play a role in assisting the administration and operation of agricultural cultivation in the area for six months, support the improvement of productivity and income of farmers who are partners of the Makmur Program and Project Agrosolution," he said.

In addition to optimizing the implementation of the Makmur Program and Project Agrosolutions, Sekolah Makmur is also one of the benefits of Petrokimia Gresik in encouraging the regeneration of farmers in the country. As is known, Petrokimia Gresik always actively involves the younger generation in efforts to optimize the agricultural sector, one of which is through the Young Farmer Jamboree which is held every year, and this time through the Prosperous School.

"Through this program, we invite the younger generation to see firsthand how great the potential of the agricultural sector is if it is managed optimally. This is expected to be a magnet for the Muda generation to enter the agricultural sector," added Dwi Satriyo.

This was agreed upon by the Head of the Education and Training Center of the Ministry of Agriculture of the Republic of Indonesia, Idha Widi Arsanti. She revealed that the Ministry of Agriculture has set the direction of the agricultural development policy, namely realizing advanced, independent, and modern agriculture.

Therefore, her party continues to consistently make efforts to encourage the development of agricultural Human Resources (HR), as well as collaborating with various stakeholders including SOEs, in this case, Petrokimia Gresik, to produce strategies and concrete steps in strengthening agricultural human resources.

"We thank you for Petrokimia Gresik's trust in Polbangtan, where our children have been trusted to participate in Sekolah Makmur and become cadets, this is extraordinary," she said.

Finally, he advised the Polbangtan students who were selected to become Taruna Makmur so that the opportunity they obtained could be utilized seriously and as well as possible to increase their capacity to become millennial agricultural entrepreneurs.

PT Petrokimia Gresik

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