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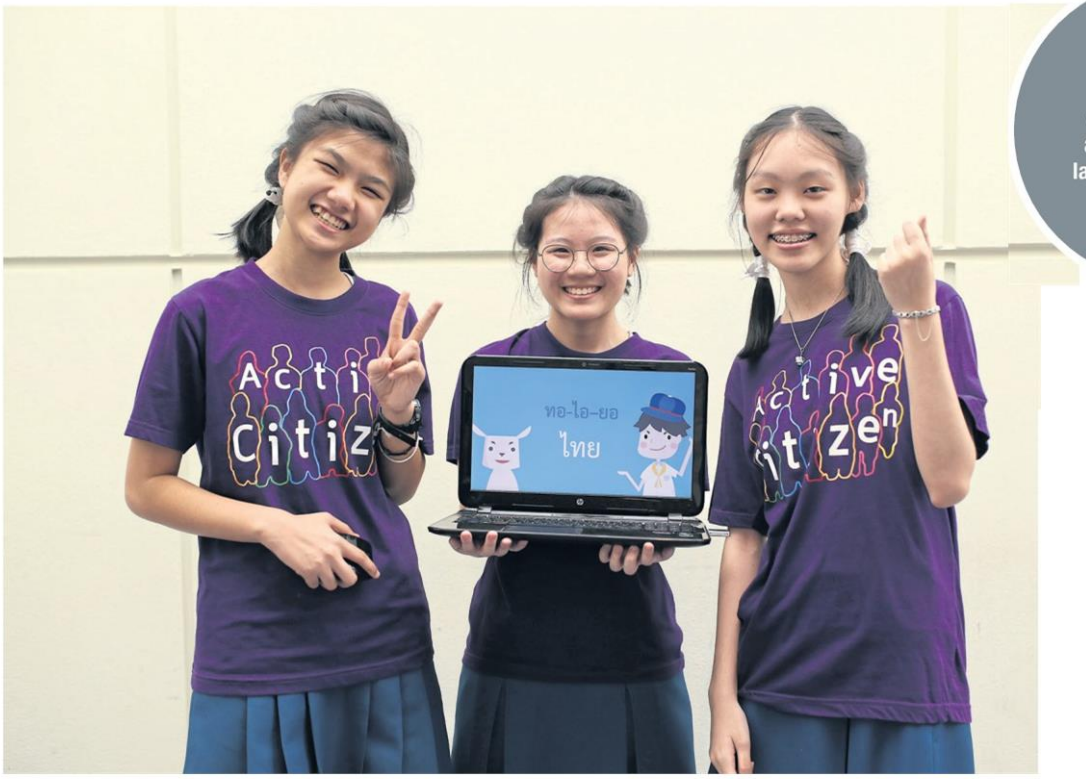

'Thai-I-Yor-Thai' allows the kids to articulate the Thai language accurately.

A new programme is offering financial support to budding digital entrepreneurs

NURTURING YOUNG TALENT

STORY: **SASIWIMON BOONRUANG**

Tor Kla Hai Terb Yai, which means nurturing saplings in Thai, is an initiative that aims to support talented youngsters in making use of information technology to benefit society, and is now in its fourth year. The programme is designed to show the competence of young Thais, demonstrating their work has the potential to be further developed in the future.

Supported by Siam Commercial Foundation and the National Electronics and Computer Technology Centre (Nectec), Tor Kla Hai Terb Yai aims to enhance those young people's digital projects which triumphed at the National Software Contest and the Young Scientists Competition.

According to Dr Sarun Sumriddetchkajorn, Nectec's director, the programme will also help young people become entrepreneurs or establish start-ups.

"We would like these students to be ready when they graduate by bringing skills and experience from the programme as a foundation of their work development," said the director.

This programme provides young participants with an opportunity to face questions and real-life problems. It enhances the capabilities of the young people, focusing on mind maps, business planning and meeting users. These basic skills will provide a solid foundation for them in the future.

Here are a selection from the 15 projects chosen to receive financial support from Siam Commercial Bank.

"The Backpacker" is a mobile application in the form of a game, compatible with Android-

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Backpacker team.

PHOTOS COURTESY OF SCB FOUNDATION

based operating systems. Through this game, players learn traditions and cultures across Thailand through competitions at each level. It was designed to offer several different game-playing styles and tests memory, using puzzles and observation games.

"The game also aims to inspire players to travel to real places and exchange dialogue about Thainess," said a member of the game developer team. The game was developed by a team of students from Satri Angthong School.

Angle Words, a word fishing game, was developed as a tool for students to learn English through role-playing. Players use a hook to take vocabulary, letters or pictures to match with questions.

"Today, the game comprises over 100 pieces of vocabulary in five groups, namely fruits, colours, shapes, household tools and animals, and we plan to have some 500 pieces of vocabulary in the future," said a member of the developer team,

> "We would like these students to be ready when they graduate

noting that the game is designed for both single and two players. It also has a playing record to support the "Library Words" mode that records the vocab that players have learnt.

The "Achievement" mode was created for players to record their successful history in order to move forward to the harder challenges. There are also several modes, such as "Shop" for special items purchased and "Dress Up" for dressing up the characters.

Our Darkest Night is a survival strategy game in which players are trained to have strategic planning skills in order to survive. Developed

The student teams supported by the 'Tor Kla Hai Terb Yai' programme.

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The team from Chonkanyanukul School and their 'DogMate' application.

by a student team from Bodindecha School, the game was created in 2.5D, presenting a challenging experience. The aim is to tackle home invasion and help characters survive burglars. Within the atmosphere of Action Sandbox Survival, Our Darkest Night gives freedom to players and lets them do whatever to survive. The game also trains the players to be observant.

Secret Du Corps, a learning media application in biology, was developed by students from Trang Christian Suksa School. The bilingual mobile app is suitable for students at Mathayom 4 majoring in science. There are 10 lessons related to the human body by which users can evaluate themselves after learning at the testing session. The application was designed using animation, ensuring players learn with fun.

Thor-I-Yor-Thai is for kindergarten to Prathom 2 students, helping them with Thai. The developer team focuses on basic Thai reading in a multimedia platform.

Developed by a team of students from St. Francis Xavier School, the application comprises content, exercises, testing and games by which the content is made in a story. The story is of a boy, who represents young players, travelling to "take back" the Thai language from a robotic ghost, who robbed it from the village.

Users are able to complete exercises after learning and evaluating themselves in the testing part. The system displays overall scores by ranking players and records each learner in each lesson. The application is now downloadable on the Play Store.

DogMate, a mobile application available on both iOS and Android, was developed by a team from Chonkanyanukul School. It enables a dog owner to learn to set times of feeding. The application was designed to help busy or absent dog owners feed their pets via smartphone.

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