

Govt

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contracts for members

PORT DICKSON, Thurs. — Bumiputra businessmen who are members of the Malay Chamber of Commerce and Industry will have the edge when competing for Government projects against non-members, **Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad** said here tonight.

The Prime Minister said he would issue a directive to this effect to Government servants to encourage non-members to join the chamber.

Speaking at the dinner given by the chamber at a leading hotel here, the Prime Minister said the chamber had played an important role in helping the Government achieve national objectives.

This role should be recognised by both the Government and the people, especially bumiputras, he said.

Skills

He urged bumiputra businessmen, especially non-members who were enjoying the benefits brought about by members, to join the chamber.

He also called on them to extend their activities in the commercial and industrial fields.

The Prime Minister also spoke of the importance of skilled labour in business and industry and the increasing need for skills under the New Economic Policy.

There was no point, he said, if there were many factories but no skilled personnel to man them.

Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir told the chamber to work closely with other chambers of commerce and industry in the country.

Compartmentalisation was a thing of the past but a closer relationship would benefit all parties, he said.