

Why bumis needn't seek 100pc shares

Dr M opens gas factory with
majority bumi ownership

KOTA BARU, Sun. — Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad today listed three reasons why bumiputras need not form companies having 100 per cent bumiputra ownership and management.

Speaking at the opening of Gas Pantai Timur Sdn. Bhd., the only gas factory with majority bumiputra ownership in the east coast, in the Pengkalan Chepa industrial area near here, he said the reasons were:

- the companies would not have dealings solely with other bumiputras;
- bumiputras could learn from the business expertise of

their non-bumi partners; and
● they could widen their contacts through the non-bumiputra partners.

The Prime Minister said the factory, with authorised capital of \$2 million and issued and fully paid capital of \$1,223,701, was a symbol of bumiputra business capability.

Management skills

"The factory, owned and managed by bumiputras, shows that bumiputras can set up and manage factories."

He said bumiputras could seek to acquire the more complex management skills necessary in modern industry.

He told bumiputra en-

trepreneurs not to overemphasise aspects of business like office decoration but to pay more attention to the running of their businesses.

"The mistake in spending too much capital on the beautification of offices and similar expenditure and the neglect of the actual running of the businesses had caused many bumiputra business to fail," he said.

However, there were many more bumiputras who succeeded in business than those who failed, he said.

The factory is a totally Malaysian company with 71 per cent bumiputra ownership and 29 per cent non-bumiputra interest.