

CNS8843

U GE 10-01 00162 EG190

aae

ECONOMIC CONGRESS IMPORTANT TO BUMPUTERAS

Congress - performance 10 JAN 1992

bm

KUALA LUMPUR, Jan 10 (Bernama) -- Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad said today the Third Bumiputera Economic Congress, which began today, is very important in efforts to enhance their involvement and performance in commerce and industry.

The congress also represented a channel for efforts to develop a Bumiputera business and commercial community as envisaged under the National Development Policy (NDP), he said.

Opening the congress, he said it was a forum for the expression of views, aspirations, suggestions and proposals towards enhancing the involvement and performance of Bumiputeras in commerce and industry.

+Creating a Bumiputera community which is more active in business and trade has **become all** the more urgent as the country headed towards the ranks of the developed nation by 2020. We don't wish to see Bumiputeras still backward when the country became a developed nation. -- more

▼10/01/13-56MST

CNS8861

U GE 10-01 00176 EG191

aae

Congress - performance 2 Kuala Lumpur

The Prime Minister said the problem of Bumiputera participation in the economic field had still not been resolved even though the country had been independent for 34 years and the government had drawn up various policies and allocated thousands of millions of ringgit for the purpose and had set up various agencies to help Bumiputeras.

Describing the New Economic Policy (NEP) as a bold social engineering exercise, **the Prime** Minister acknowledged that the objective of 30 per cent Bumiputera participation in the economic field had still not been achieved as envisaged under the NEP.

However the 20 per cent achievement was a major success which represented nearly a 1,000 per cent increase from the two per cent participation at the beginning of the NEP.

Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir said a single congress alone was not likely to resolve or identify all the problems of Bumiputera businessmen as this should be followed by more congresses, conventions and workshops. -- more

▼10/01/14-17MST

CNS8862
U GE 10-01 00115 EGI.92
aae

Congress - performance 3 Kuala Lumpur

Nevertheless he cautioned against having too many resolutions and a lot of discussions as this would not provide enough time to implement any of them effectively.

+While we review our achievements from time to time, we should also give enough time for implementation and for results to yield,+ he said.

He said the government was prepared to listen to- all criticisms and accept the resolutions and proposals made at the congress.

+Just as the business sector should be frank, the government has also to be frank if everyone wishes to benefit from the congress,+ he said. --
Bernama

♥10/01/14-18MST

♥10/01/15-16MST

CNS8947
U GE 10-01 001.36 EA443
aae tb

Congress - performance4(last) Kuala Lumpur (reopens)

On the two previous congresses, held in 1965 and 1968, Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir said these were held in view of the desire of the Malays and other Bumiputeras to enjoy the fruits of development 'just like the other communities.

As a result of the congresses, Mara was set up to replace Rida to help the Malays and other Bumiputeras in the fields of commerce and industry, he said.

Apart from that, Bank Bumiputra Malaysia Berhad and several other corporations and companies were set up following the two congresses.

This clearly proved the government's willingness to accept and implement the resolutions of the congress for the benefit of Bumiputeras, the Prime Minister said. -- Bernama

♥10/01/16-19MST