

PM: Women can do well in business

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KUALA LUMPUR: Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad paid tribute last night to women workers for their contributions to economic and national development.

He said attempts to separate women from the world of business and management would impede the smooth progress of the nation because they had certain qualities which could help achieve development.

"To achieve economic development, we will need expertise in business and enterprises.

"The involvement of women in this aspect is very important in view of certain qualities they have," he said at the Women Entrepreneurship Awards 1993 presentation ceremony here.

Dr Mahathir said women were generally more disciplined and prudent in the management of finance due to the local culture.

The same quality, he said, had also made them more likely to succeed in business.

He added that there were certain careers and fields where women had

that special ability but there were also some jobs unsuitable for women.

However, the notion that for women to be on equal standing with men, they should do whatever men could had become irrelevant and unacceptable, he said.

"But there are some fields which had been the domain of men which can be taken part by women, for example in engineering.

"The involvement of women in this field will definitely help fill the need for manpower in this field," he said.

Dr Mahathir also reminded Muslims not to neglect their strength which was in their women when facing competition with other people.

He hoped the Women Entrepreneurs Association — Peniagawati — would continue its efforts to educate the people of the competitive but rewarding world of business.

He said women should take up the business opportunities available besides producing more female entrepreneurs who were independent, brave and enthusiastic.