

29/05/1997

Najib: Our achievement among the world's best

TAMPIN, Wed. - Education Minister Datuk Seri Najib Tuk Razak said Malaysians should be proud that the country with a population of just over 19 million had made a drastic impact in Asia within the last few years.

He said under the present leadership the country had seen tremendous changes forcing its presence to be felt by others in Asia and the rest of world.

"Our achievements are among the world's best," he said, adding that the cornerstone of this is that the country is multi-racial.

Despite this, Najib, who is a Umno vice-president, said the people had lived in harmony and helped the country develop beyond the expectations of many.

Speaking after launching a teacher's activity centre here last night, he said this was evident from the fact that many foreign investors were flocking to Malaysia to participate in the booming economy.

He said the opportunities offered by the Government were plenty and catered to every need including housing, education and jobs. "When I visit our students abroad, none of them was ashamed or hesitant to say they are Malaysians."

He said Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad had also been rated as the second most successful international leader in Asia by Asiaweek magazine.

This, Najib said, showed that other countries had grown to recognise the great modernisation process the country was going through in recent years.

However, he urged the people to emphasise education in steering the country to the future.

He said various steps taken by the Government, like the setting up of the educational fund, showed that education still received top billing.

"Despite the move towards corporatisation of our local universities, the Government still maintained the fees structure to ensure they were easily accessible to everyone," he said.

Najib urged the people to take notice of the various measures taken by the Government for the nation.

He said the people should play a complementary role and not place individual interests above those of the country.

"We have come a long way since independence and must continue to strive for our national development," he said.

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