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TAJUDIN-SUPPORT

GOVT SUPPORT NEEDED TO ENSURE BUMIPUTERAS IN STRATEGIC SECTORS

KUALA LUMPUR, Sept 10 (Bernama) -- The government's and local trust agencies' roles are important in ensuring Bumiputera participation in the country's strategic sectors and industries for the coming millennium, said the president of the Malay Chambers of Commerce and Industry Malaysia (MCCIM), Tan Sri Tajudin Ramli.

The functions of MCCIM meanwhile is to indentify the industries and sectors where Bumiputerases need to venture into - with the assistance and support of the government, he said, during a speech at the official opening of the fourth Bumiputera Economic Congress, here today.

It is important that important public trust agencies like the Employees Provident Fund, Tabung Haji, Tabung Angkatan Tentera, and Permodalan Nasional should support in full, Malay/Bumiputera corporate leaders, he said, adding that the government should ensure that they carried out those functions.

Citing examples of major company restructuring exercises that have taken place in the US and Europe resulting in bigger and stronger corporate organisations, he said many previously family owned companies have become giant organisations headed by corporate leaders with the support of the families who originally owned the company shares and public agencies like pension funds.

The same principles can be applied in Malaysia, he said.

Tajuddin also spoke of the challenges thrown in by the globalisation process.

He said as the globalisation process was taking place faster now than ever before, Western corporate organisations through mergers and acquisition and their added strength of wider resources in funds, technology and manpower, continue to outpace others on the global scale.

He also pointed out that in the new millennium, some companies would expand and some would vanish, as the quicker pace of things continue to dictate the new business directions.

"Question is, are we as a country, prepared for these challenges, and are we as one race and community (Malay and Bumiputera) ready to face these challenges,?" he said.

He said these challenges pointed towards the need for continued acquisition of knowledge and technology among the people.

He added the process of learning, knowledge gathering and training should continue throughout life and should not stop as soon as one comes out of the university or college.

During his speech, Tajudin also commended Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad, saying that he was the most successful trainer in the country. -- BERNAMA

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