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Najib-Teachers

TEACHERS IMPORTANT TO KNOWLEDGE-BASED ECONOMY

KUALA LUMPUR, May 16 (Bernama) -- Teachers are an important component in producing a progressive society with a knowledge-based economy, Education Minister Datuk Seri Najib Tun Razak said today.

He said such an economy needed teachers who could create a thinking and educated society with a reading culture and capable of collating information for knowledge.

"Since the pre-independence era, the role played by teachers has been most significant. Their struggle now is to place the race and country on par with other developed nations," he said at the launch of the Teachers' Day celebration, here.

Najib said the ultimate goal of education was to produce smart, creative and noble individuals who prioritised a knowledge-based culture.

He said that in recognition of the teacher's service to the nation, the government had implemented various programmes for them including setting up the Sultan Idris Education University to realise the dream of educators.

The national-level celebration attended by 4,500 educators and teachers from all over the country was launched by Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad.

Dr Mahathir also presented awards to five outstanding teachers -- -- Puan Molly Chong, Haji Mohamed Mokhtar Talib, Hajjah Rahmah Hussain, Haji Hambali Abdul Razak and Haji Kasim Muhammad -- all of whom had retired.

-- BERNAMA

GM JK