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Plan well to succeed

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SHAH ALAM, Tues. - Bumiputera businessmen were today reminded by Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad to plan well and take up ventures that were within their capability.

He said among reasons Bumiputera ventures did not do well were insufficient planning and trying something which was beyond their financial and technological capabilities.

"I hope Bumiputera entrepreneurs will examine themselves again and determine their abilities. They should not try something that is beyond their capability," Dr Mahathir said in his speech to launch the Royal Mint of Malaysia and the production of the first Malaysian gold bullion coins named "Kijang Emas".

He called on Bumiputera businessmen to start on a small scale and expand later.

Dr Mahathir, however, added that there were also some who preferred to stay small and be satisfied with their earnings.

"I hope Bumiputeras will remind themselves of the importance of making the National Development Policy a success," he said.

Dr Mahathir said Bumiputera businessmen should not rush to become rich but should assess their capabilities to avoid failure.

The Bank Negara mint in Shah Alam has been producing the country's coins since 1971 and is now privatised to a wholly-owned Bumiputera company, Mariwasa Kraftangan Sdn Bhd, which specialises in producing award medals, silverware, jewellery and pewterware.

Dr Mahathir said Malaysia was capable of producing gold bullion of the same standard and quality as countries like Austria, Canada, the United Kingdom and South Africa.

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