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Human factor key to k-economy success

Shamsuddin Bardan

WHAT IS K-ECONOMY?

THE Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) defines k-economy as an economy directly based on the production, distribution and use of knowledge and information.

In short, ideas and knowledge will need to be treated as capital or intellectual capital as opposed to real capital assets (plant and machinery) and financial capital (such as equity and bonds) with its own rates of return.

In Malaysian context, the emphasis will be on the use of knowledge and information to enable individuals, corporations and the country to compete more effectively.

In transforming p-economy into the k-economy, the key element is the human factor. This transformation requires a change in mindset and attitude.

In a speech on k-economy, the Prime Minister, Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamed emphasised the attitudinal as follows:

"We must embrace change, pursue novelty, crave innovation. We must learn. Even harder still, we must unlearn. We must remember to forget old ways. We must force ourselves into new habits. We must build new processes, institutions and organisations that are necessary for the information age".