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Shafie-ex-servicemen

NUMBER OF EX-SERVICEMEN IN BUSINESS STILL MUCH TO BE DESIRED, SAYS SHAFIE

KUALA LUMPUR, April 17 (Bernama) -- The number of ex-servicemen in business is still much to be desired especially those with skills, said Deputy Defence Minister Datuk Mohd Shafie Apdal said today.

He said they should make full use of their experience while in service for the growth of their companies.

"We don't want them to be just members of the board of directors but to operate their own companies," he said at a news conference after receiving contributions from sponsors of the Business Convention and Exposition 2002 at Teratai Room, Wisma Kementah, here.

He said the government provided many opportunities that allow ex-servicemen to go into business in appreciation of the services they rendered to the country.

Shafie cited as an example the recent Defence Services Asia Exhibition and Conference 2002 (DSA) here where few ex-servicemen were involved even though they had the expertise in such services.

He said they could set up a strong network of business partners through associations for ex-servicemen.

Meanwhile, the deputy president of chamber of commerce for ex-servicemen, Mej-Gen (rtd) Datuk Ahmad Ibrahim said the chamber has between 600 and 800 members in the Kuala Lumpur Federal Territory, Selangor, Terengganu, Kelantan, Kedah, Johor, Melaka and Negeri Sembilan.

He said the Business Convention and Exposition 2002 to be held from May 16 to 19 at the Putra World Trade Centre (PWTC) would provide information to ex-servicemen on existing facilities and opportunities in business.

Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad will open the business convention and exposition.

-- BERNAMA
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