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Najib-Science

ACHIEVEMENT PROVE WRONG THAT MALAYS ARE ONLY GOOD IN SOCIAL SCIENCE,  
SAYS NAJIB

KUALA LUMPUR, June 29 (Bernama) -- The Malays' achievement in science and technology as a result of the New Economic Policy (NEP) proves wrong that they are only good in social science, said Defence Minister Datuk Seri Najib Tun Razak today.

He said the number of Malay scientists and technologists had increased tremendously over the past 50 years, some even venturing into new fields such as terrestrial science, space science and marine.

"I was told almost 80 per cent of the researchers in these fields are Malays.

"As such, it is not unusual now to hear about Malay scientists conducting research on land and at sea in the Antarctica, designing world's fastest car engine in automotive laboratories in Europe and heading post-degree institutions in United Nations University," he said.

Najib said this when closing a two-day 2nd Malay National Congress on Science and Technology, organised by Centre for Intellectual Promotion and Technological Advances (CIPTA).

He said it was clear that the government policies especially those on education had paid off.

Najib also said the Malays should give seriously consideration to defence science and technology to provide them with the capabilities to defend themselves.

He said all government agencies, universities and private sector should work together to produce new military equipment.

Biological weapon might be used for ethnic cleansing although there was no possibility of such a threat to the country in the near future, he said.

Earlier, CIPTA Advisory Panel Chairman Tan Sri Ahmad Sarji Abdul Hamid handed over to Najib 51 resolutions made at the congress, to be presented to Deputy Prime Minister Datuk Seri Abdullah Ahmad Badawi and Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad.

Among others, the resolutions urged the government to allow Malay scientists involved in the Bio Valley project from the start to continue with their researches to ensure continuity.

The proposed Bio Valley covers 484 hectares in the Multimedia Super Corridor. It is expected to attract investments from more than 250 companies and provide 17,000 employment opportunities within eight to 10 years' time.

Speaking to reporters later, Najib said the government was not worried if certain people tried to sabotage the National Service Programme to be implemented next year.

He said those eligible would have no choice but to take part, failing which they could be fined RM3,000 or jailed six months under the law.

"Where possible we don't want to use the law because if it is seen as a good programme, none will oppose it," he said.

-- BERNAMA

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