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Don't stop learning and acquiring knowledge, Workers' Day gathering told

KUALA LUMPUR, Sat. - Workers must possess a culture of constant learning and acquiring new knowledge to meet ever-changing needs, said Human Resources Minister Datuk Dr Fong Chan Onn.

In his address to the 15,000 attending a Workers' Day gathering, he said knowledge workers were the most sought-after today.

"Workers who are knowledgeable are the capacity builders of a nation which is competitive, strong and success-driven. The K-worker has been identified as the pioneer and is very important in meeting the challenges of globalisation."

Present were Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad, his wife Datuk Seri Dr Siti Hasmah Mohd Ali, Fong's wife Datin Tan Lay Hwa and Human Resources Ministry secretary-general Datuk Yahya Nordin.

Also present were Malaysian Trades Union Congress Zainal Rampak and Cuepacs president Datuk N. Siva Subramaniam.

The gathering, attended by workers and employers from the private and public sector, was a riot of colours as each group tried to outdo the other in terms of being the best dressed and having the most creative cheer.

The crowd was treated to performances by Siti Sarah Raisuddin, Hazami and Misha Omar, and the Human Resources Ministry's choir group.

This was followed by a poetry recital by Universiti Malaya vice-chancellor Datuk Professor Dr Hashim Yaakob, after which the audience took the worker's pledge.

The gathering ended with a brief musical by The Petronas Arts Group.