

9MP work plans finalised: PM



Abdullah (left) presents the Innovative Award to Zainuddin. Looking on is Malay Chamber of Commerce president Datuk Seri Rahman Maidin

• By Azura Abas and
Anna Maria Samsudin
bt@nstp.com.my

JULY is a significant month for the nation's development as it will see projects listed under the Ninth Malaysia Plan (9MP) taking off.

Prime Minister Datuk Seri Abdullah Ahmad Badawi said 9MP work plans have been finalised and are ready to be implemented.

"InshyaAllah (God willing) it will happen. I must make it happen. I don't want people to say that Pak Lah is making empty promises," he said in his speech at the Malay Chamber of Commerce (MCC) Entrepreneur Award ceremony in Kuala Lumpur last night.

In line with this, Abdullah said the Government will establish 11 clusters to represent different business sectors, including information and communications

technology, tourism, agriculture, manufacturing and automotive.

These clusters will be the main driving force to mobilise the various projects under the 9MP.

"These clusters will be participated by successful business players and professionals who will work hand-in-hand with the Government to implement the action plans.

"Minister in the Prime Minister's Department Datuk Seri Effendi Nawawi has tabled to the Cabinet the action plans involved," he said.

Abdullah also expressed his hope that the Malay Chamber of Commerce will take the lead in creating more Malay business players by 2020.

The Prime Minister also asked the business community to point out any weaknesses quickly so that the Government can make the

necessary adjustments.

"It is much easier to achieve the target today, compared to 20 years ago, as we do not have to start from zero base. Currently, we already have quite a number of successful Malay entrepreneurs. We are in a better position now.

"However, we have to be aware of the stiff challenges due to globalisation and liberalisation in our effort to achieve the Malay agenda," he pointed out.

Later, Abdullah presented six entrepreneur awards, including the President Entrepreneur Award to MK Land Bhd chairman Tan Sri Mustapha Kamal Abu Bakar; the MCC Entrepreneur Innovative Award to Synergy Farm Sdn Bhd chairman Datuk Zainuddin Md Wazir; and the MCC Woman Entrepreneur Award to Sendayu Corp founder Rozita Ibrahim.