

Three key criteria to succeed

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9th Malaysia Plan

HAVE a thirst for knowledge and be innovative and creative. These are the traits that Malaysians must have to lead the country to success, said Deputy Prime Minister Datuk Seri Najib Tun Razak.

He added that Malaysians could accomplish a great deal if they took advantage of the country's rich resources in the services, manufacturing and agriculture sectors.

A mindset shift among the people was all that was needed for Malaysia to become a successful and developed country, he said in his speech seconding the motion on the Ninth Malaysia Plan by Prime Minister Datuk Seri Abdullah Ahmad Badawi.

Najib said that, at the same time, Malaysians must also nurture a "preci-

sion culture" so that every task that is carried out would meet the highest possible standards.

He said the private sector would be encouraged to play its role in supporting the country's development programmes, and added that the Government aimed to eradicate poverty and generate a more balanced growth to benefit all Malaysians.

MCA president Datuk Seri Ong Ka Ting said the 9MP would prepare the

country and the people to be more competitive in facing globalisation.

He urged all Malaysians to rally together to meet the goals of the Plan, and added that his party was giving its full support to the 9MP.

The MCA would brief representatives of the Chinese community about the Plan, Ong, who is Housing and Local Government Minister, told reporters at the Parliament lobby yesterday.

He said the ministry would come out with a National Urbanisation

Policy to further improve the services of local authorities in the urban areas besides a master plan for new villages and due emphasis on traditional villages.

"Besides that, there will be a master plan for new villages in the country and we will also emphasise traditional villages," he said.

MIC president Datuk Seri S. Samy Vellu commended the Prime Minister for coming out with a "comprehensive and visionary plan" to achieve better economic growth and distribution of

wealth as well as to improve the quality of life of all Malaysians.

He thanked Abdullah and the Government for meeting some recommendations made by the party, especially with regard to improving the economic standards of the Indian community.

Under the 9MP, he said, Indian equity ownership would be increased to 3% by 2020 and more opportunities would be given to the community to take part in selected unit trust schemes.



GOOD ONE: Ong congratulating Abdullah on the 9MP as Najib looks on at the Parliament yesterday.