

Strive to improve business, Abdullah tells Malay entrepreneurs

The Star - 30/6/2007

KUALA LUMPUR: Think big! Datuk Seri Abdullah Ahmad Badawi drove home this message to aspiring Malay businessmen.

The Prime Minister wants them to be high-calibre managers as well as to always strive for continuous improvement in their business.

He said they had to improve their business even if it means merging their companies with others.

"Combine the strength of your companies to make it a bigger enterprise such as a consortium, so that it doesn't remain just a family business.

"It's time to grab bigger opportunities," he said when speaking at the Malay Chamber of Commerce Malaysia Entrepreneur Awards night here yesterday.

"No small company can get a big

deal.

"You can only be a small manager if you manage a small company," he added.

Abdullah said it was important to have good managerial and entrepreneurial skills, adding that a person with both skills would be more ready to take on risks.

He also said strong human capital development was needed to ensure

a high quality management force and to help achieve the 30% bumiputra equity ownership.

"We need managers especially those strong enough and capable to face the stiffer competition today.

"Human capital development must be developed well and polished until it shines," he added.

Singling out Petronas, he said the oil corporation's name was con-

stantly mentioned worldwide due to its success.

Earlier, Abdullah and his wife Datin Seri Jeanne Abdullah were invited on stage to cut a *pulut kuning* as a celebration of their wedding recently.

The Chamber's president, Datuk Seri Abdul Rahman Maidin, also presented a couple portrait to Abdullah and Jeanne.