

'Get the skills to compete globally'

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BUTTERWORTH: Datuk Seri Abdullah Ahmad Badawi yesterday outlined three vital skills for Bumiputera entrepreneurs to ensure their products and services were able to compete globally.

The prime minister said top on the list was the need to acquire technical skills apart from entrepreneurial and leadership skills.

He said an entrepreneur should have technical skills to help workers in problem-solving, provide guidance on the right work ethics and maximise the workers' performance.

Abdullah said entrepreneurs also had to equip themselves with

business skills to create new products, manage the production and subsequently market it.

Leadership skills were important in running the business, he added.

"To become a successful entrepreneur, one should have the ability to plan, arrange and control the business according to one's ability.

"The entrepreneur must combine all the resources available in the organisation towards achieving the set target.

"I believe if an entrepreneur succeeds in acquiring all three skills, then he will be able to overcome any obstacle in the business

world," he said in his speech at the launching of the Penang Bumiputera Entrepreneur Expo here.

His speech was read out by Rural and Regional Development Minister Datuk Seri Abdul Aziz Shamsuddin.

Abdullah said in today's globalised world, Bumiputera entrepreneurs not only had to compete with other races in the country, but also the business community worldwide.

"As such, it is my hope that Bumiputera entrepreneurs continue to work hard to ensure success.

"It is not easy to become an entrepreneur, a good one must be willing to sacrifice his wealth, time

and energy.

"The government is ever sensitive to the situation faced by entrepreneurs and acknowledges their role in the growth of the economy.

"In this respect, we have developed the Bumiputera Commercial and Industrial Community as part of the agenda to restructure society and ensure more meaningful participation of Bumiputera entrepreneurs in the economy under the Ninth Malaysia Plan," he said.

Numerous strategies and programmes had been devised for the purpose and would be carried out accordingly, he added.