

# Najib: Hard work pays off

## Malaysia now a prosperous nation

The Star - 19/1/2007

**KUALA LUMPUR:** Malaysia has transformed from a poor agrarian nation with a gross domestic product of RM12.8bil to a diversified and relatively prosperous country with a GDP of RM277.3bil over the past 50 years.

Deputy Prime Minister Datuk Seri Najib Tun Razak, who said this, added: "These achievements do not happen by chance or luck.

"It was shaped by the vision, strategies and efforts of our leaders and thinkers.

"We have been blessed with the right leader at the appropriate time to further turn the vision into reality."

Najib said this when launching an expo themed *Malaysia's 50 Years of Achievement: Towards A Brighter Future* yesterday.

The expo, showcasing the country's achievements since 1957, will be held at the Kuala Lumpur Convention Centre from Sept 4 to 6 in conjunction with the 50th National Day celebrations.

"Along the way we faced many trials such as the Emergency, the Confrontation, the financial crisis and the racial clashes. In fact, they enriched our experiences," he said.

"Despite these challenges we were able to persevere, signifying, perhaps, that we may have had the right recipe for success," Najib said.

The ingredients, he added, include power sharing, political stability and racial integration.