

NEW STRAITS TIMES

DATE: 9/2/2010



Prime Minister Datuk Seri Najib Razak addressing the staff of the Prime Minister's Department at their monthly gathering at Dataran Perdana in Putrajaya yesterday. With him are (from left) Deputy Prime Minister Tan Sri Muhyiddin Yassin, Minister in the Prime Minister's Department Tan Sri Dr Koh Tsu Koon and Chief Secretary to the Government Tan Sri Mohd Sidek Hassan.

Be innovative, be quick, govt servants urged

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PUTRAJAYA: Civil servants should be more creative and innovative in implementing the government's programmes and activities for the people.

They should also be quick in making decisions and policies, and implementing them.

Making the call yesterday, Prime Minister Datuk Seri Najib Razak said civil servants should adopt the approach when discharging their responsibilities and executing the four "pillars" of the government's agenda.

These four are the 1Malaysia (People First, Performance Now) concept, the Government Trans-

formation Programme, the New Economic Model to be announced next month and the 10th Malaysia Plan.

"The right mindset, when blended together can result in a successful year for the country," he said.

"I hope civil servants will give their full commitment, which is important to fulfil the expectations of the people."

Najib said the "People First" had been repeatedly espoused in the 1Malaysia concept because it was a government for the people and as such, it was essential that all programmes, activities and policies be translated into actual implementation.

"If not, the people will become

cynical... we announce a policy or a programme but its implementation raises much questions."

Najib said the GTP and the new economic model must also be successfully executed by civil servants.

"Making the right decisions quickly is also related to productivity and the competitiveness of the nation that will be gauged by the World Competitiveness Report.

"If the country is ranked among the top 10, definitely people will see the country as an highly efficient nation."

Najib said utilising the 1Malaysia concept would also be another means to promote and enhance the country's national

unity, which in turn would lead to stability and enable the people to move in the same direction as a big family.

He added that there are groups or individuals who sought to derail this by disrupting harmony and unity in the country.

"Although these are merely embers but remember a small ember which is not put out will become a conflagration which in turn will destroy us," he cautioned.

Najib said as such the 1Malaysia concept was important to inculcate the spirit of togetherness as a family in a diverse Malaysian community.

"Despite the differences due to ethnicity, culture and others, we are still 1Malaysia," he said.