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Najib ends Davos meet on high note

'MALAYSIAN NIGHT': WEF participants give thumbs up to transformation programmes

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PRIME Minister Datuk Seri Najib Razak ended his participation at the World Economic Forum here on a high note, saying the people he met in the past three days indicated that Malaysia was one of the few bright spots in a generally weakened global economy.

Meeting reporters after attending a packed "Malaysian Night" soiree, Najib said from his meetings with heads of government and business leaders here, he noted that they viewed Malaysia as being successful in carrying out various transformation programmes, espe-

cially in the economic sector.

"We made a conscious effort to ensure our participation at the WEF this year would be visible because the past three years have shown that we were able to transform our economy and remain on track in meeting our Vision 2020 aspirations," he said.

The 1,000-odd guests at the soiree cemented Najib's optimism, all satisfied with hearing the Malaysian story besides enjoying the Malaysian delicacies served at the event.

"We could have come to the WEF

in a big way such as now last year, or even three years ago, but we wanted to make sure that when we talk about our transformation programmes, they are not mere promises of the future, but something that has been achieved."

"This is the (success) story we wanted to tell participants at this forum."

Datuk Seri Najib Razak

He outlined some of Malaysia's economic achievements in the last three years, including a resilient stock market and providing a healthy climate for investments. He said the strong economy had generated plenty of jobs, so much so that there is technically full-employ-

ment in Malaysia at present.

"We have managed inflation and have been consistently rated highly by international bodies, such as the World Bank.

"This is the story we wanted to tell participants at this forum and WEF is the biggest such forums in the world."

This was Najib's first appearance at WEF as prime minister.

"We have been successful and we will be more successful if we are given the trust to continue managing the country. Our per capita income is around US\$9,750 (RM29,300) and if we grow at five per cent a year, we will achieve developed nation status with a per capita income of about US\$15,000 by 2020."