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Focus on 11MP, PM tells civil servants

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5 THRUSTS: Govt has set the groundwork to become a high-income nation

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PRIME Minister Datuk Seri Najib Razak has set a clear direction for the civil service sector based on the core elements listed in the 11th Malaysia Plan (11MP).

As civil servants, he said, the 11MP should be the main focus without allowing other things to distract them from the nation's main agenda.

"I have tried to explain (the 11MP) as simply as possible on what the government plans to do as the country strives to become a high-income nation," he said at the Prime Minister's Department's monthly gathering yesterday.

Present were Chief Secretary to the Government Tan Sri Dr Ali Hamsa and ministers in the Prime Minister's Department.

Najib said the 11MP had laid out the groundwork needed to push the nation for the next five years in the final leg to become a high-income country by 2020. In this respect, the prime minister listed five key thrusts, namely pro-growth, pro-people, pro-business, environment-friendly and emphasis on nation-building.

Explaining the pro-growth philosophy of the government, Najib, who is also finance minister, said the government must implement policies that would bring about a high and moderate growth rate.

"If there is no growth rate, there will be various problems ... we will have less income, employment opportunities and investments. But, when we have good growth, we can distribute wealth to the people."

For the pro-people government thrust, Najib said the government must achieve a positive and encouraging growth rate to be able to distribute the national wealth to the people.

"We must be a pro-people government that gives importance to the people's economy. That is what we must implement in terms of distributing the bottom 40 per cent (B40) income group, raising household income, ensuring higher skills and education level, and tackling the cost of living. This is a government that is sensitive to the people's economy and requirement."

The third thrust, Najib said, meant Malaysia must become a pro-business government by empowering the national economy.

He said the private sector, government-linked companies and

corporate bodies must play the role of drivers of the economy.

"If there are decisions that can make the private sector and GLCs to move and progress faster to increase investment and facilitate them in making decisions on business, then we must implement them."

On the fourth thrust, Najib said the government must be environment-friendly and achieve sustainable development.

"At the end of last year, a major flood hit a significant portion of the country and proved to be an important lesson for us. If we don't look after the environment, we will eventually be punished."

On nation-building, Najib said: "We must be a government that practises policies which strengthen unity and solidarity between the various races and religions."

"All these must be centred on the moderation philosophy or *wasatiyyah* and the principles of 1Malaysia. These are the thrusts in simple terms for the next five years for Malaysia."

The prime minister expressed hope that the government's delivery system would continue to improve so that Malaysia's aspiration to become a developed nation could be achieved.

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