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Najib launches Merdeka PNB118

ICONIC: 118-storey tower to be among world's tallest in 2020

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PRIME Minister Datuk Seri Najib Razak yesterday launched Merdeka PNB118, which will be Malaysia's tallest building in 2020.

Groundwork for the 118-storey tower, on a site located next to Stadium Merdeka, started in 2014.

It makes up the first phase of the Warisan Merdeka project that includes a shopping mall.

Najib said as Permodalan Nasional Bhd (PNB) approached its 38th anniversary, it was time for the government-linked company to reap benefits from its property investments.

He described Warisan Merdeka's construction as one of PNB's biggest achievements.

Najib said although PNB was established to empower the economy of the Bumiputeras, its unit trust products were available to

non-Bumiputeras, too, with 200 billion units invested by Malaysians of all races.

He said the achievements by PNB and other Malaysian companies were supported by the government's ability in ensuring the continuous growth of the economy.

Present were PNB chairman Tun Ahmad Sarji Abdul Hamid, its president and group chief executive Tan Sri Hamad Kama Piah Che Othman, Federal Territories Minister Datuk Seri Tengku Adnan Tengku Mansor and the PNB board of directors.

Najib said as part of the Greater Kuala Lumpur initiative under the Economic Transformation Programme, the Warisan Merdeka project would generate primary and secondary economic spin-offs.

At 630m tall, the tower will be the second tallest building in Asia after Shanghai Tower and the fifth tallest in the world.

It will be taller than Petronas Twin Towers, which at 452m, is the tallest building in Malaysia.

PNB had engaged Australian architecture firm Fender Katsalidis Architects to design Merdeka PNB118.

Sixty floors will be occupied by PNB and its subsidiaries, and 22 floors will be rented out.



Prime Minister Datuk Seri Najib Razak looking at a model of the **Merdeka PNB118 tower** after its launch in Kuala Lumpur yesterday. With him are PNB chairman **Tun Ahmad Sarji Abdul Hamid** (third from right) and its president and group chief executive **Tan Sri Hamad Kama Piah Che Othman** (second from right). Pix by Mohd Shahril Badri Saali