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More projects for bumis

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Business partners: Najib and Dr Ahmad Zahid witnessing the exchange of documents between SME Corp chief executive Datuk Hafsa Hashim and Mara director-general Datuk Ibrahim Ahmad in Putrajaya.

Bumiputera Economic Council sets higher KPI targets

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PUTRAJAYA: The Bumiputera Economic Council (MEB) has targeted 50.6% of the value of contracts from the Mass Rapid Transit Line 1 (MRT 1) project in 2017 to be awarded to bumiputra contractors.

Prime Minister Datuk Seri Najib Tun Razak said this was top among the 93 Bumiputera Economic Empowerment (PEB) key performance indicators (KPIs) set by the council for this year.

Other KPIs include a 25% target for bumiputra contractors for the Warisan Merdeka tower project and distributing 30% of major high-way construction projects to bumiputra contractors.

"The setting of the KPIs for 2016 is seen to be more high impact, more outcome-based, with targets that are higher than 2015.

"The impact of implementing

these KPIs will help elevate the economy of the bumiputra community and thus help realise the Government's goal to make Malaysia a developed nation by 2020," he told newsmen after chairing the MEB meeting at Perdana Putra yesterday.

Also present at the meeting were Deputy Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Ahmad Zahid Hamidi, Cabinet ministers and council members.

On the 98 PEB KPI targets that were set for 2015, Najib said all 25 ministries had achieved at least 80% of the KPIs.

"Of the total 25 federal ministries, 20 have managed to achieve 100% of the PEB KPI targets for 2015. This is a remarkable achievement," said Najib.

Among the main achievements of 2015, he said, was the increase of

vendor and anchor companies from 68 in 2014 to 90 in 2015 under the Vendor Development Programme.

Najib, who is Finance Minister, noted that RM4.1bil worth of contracts under the High Speed Broadband projects were awarded to bumiputra contractors in 2015.

Launched in 2013, the MEB was formed to enhance bumiputra equity ownership in the corporate sector as well as asset ownership, among others.

On another matter, Najib announced that accounting students under the Bumiputera Education Steering Foundation had achieved an impressive 75.3% passing rate for accounting-related courses.

"This passing rate is higher than the global passing rate of 67.6%," he said.

Later, the Prime Minister witnessed the exchange of documents between the Bumiputera Education Steering Foundation and the Pahang Foundation.

He also presented certificates to two holders of the Peneraju Scholarship for Professional Young Accountants and three graduates of the Peneraju Professional Accountants programme.

At the same event, Najib also witnessed the exchange of documents between SME Corporation Malaysia (SME Corp) with Majlis Amanah Rakyat (Mara) and eight bumiputra associations.

SME Corp and Mara have agreed to implement the Bumiputera Export Promotion Programme, which is aimed to help 400 bumiputra SMEs to build their export capacities by 2020.