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PRIME NEWS

PM wants Syariah Index to run parallel with TN50

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PUTRAJAYA: Prime Minister Datuk Seri Najib Razak yesterday wanted Malaysia Syariah Index to run parallel with the 2050 National Transformation (TN50) plan.

He said the government would ensure that Malaysia continued to be managed well, founded on the five principles of *maqasid syariah* (objectives of syariah) to protect the religion, life, mind, ancestry and properties.

The administration, he said, had a big dream for the country, turning it into a RM2 trillion economy within eight years, and to be a top-20 world-class country in 30 years.

"This is our mid-term target and there are signs we are on track to achieve it through projects, such as the Mass Rapid Transit, Kuala

Lumpur-Singapore High Speed Rail, Pan-Borneo Highway and the East Coast Rail Link," he said at the launch of the *Malaysia Maqasid Syariah Index Implementation Plan 2016-2018*.

The measures included:
COMING up with the scores of the Malaysia Syariah Index every two years;
PREPARING the implementation plan of the index every three years;
HOLDING continuous engagement with all quarters; and,
PROVIDING incentives to any government agencies and departments, including the private sector, that apply *maqasid syariah* in their administrations and services.

Najib was upbeat about Malaysia's coming up with the world's first



Prime Minister **Datuk Seri Najib Razak** at the launch of the 'Malaysia Maqasid Syariah Index Implementation Plan 2016-2018' book in Putrajaya yesterday. Pic by Fariz Iswadi Ismail

Syariah Index, which he launched in February last year.

"Jakim (Islamic Development Malaysia Department) has done its part to inform the people about the Syariah Index and I have announced the country's scores in nine areas — laws, politics, economy, education, health, culture, facilities and envi-

ronment as well as social.

"Now, we need to look at the follow-up measures on what improvements we can do," said Najib, adding that everything the government did would be guided by the principles of *maqasid syariah*.

"Any elements found to be damaging in nature will not be adopted

(in the country's policies and administration). The utmost importance is to gain God's blessings."

The Malaysia Syariah Index is the first of its kind in the world and Malaysia is the pioneer in having a scientific measurement system to gauge the effectiveness of policies based on the teachings of Islam.