

Newspaper	THE STAR
Date	07 MAY 2017

Be the boss, PM urges youngsters

The Star 7/5/2017

Groundwork done, it's your move now, says Najib

By STEPHANIE LEE
stephanielee@thestar.com.my

KOTA KINABALU: Youngsters can become bosses and create jobs for others if they are provided with assistance to start their own businesses, says Prime Minister Datuk Seri Najib Tun Razak.

The Government, he added, would create sufficient platforms, including providing training centres and financing to help the young entrepreneurs.

Najib said this when launching the Gathering of Rising Entrepreneurs, Act Together (Great) 2017 at the Magellen Sutura Harbour Resort here yesterday.

He told the 5,000-odd youngsters present that some of the programmes already in place included the Malaysian Global Innovation and Creativity Centre (MaGIC), which provided opportunities for eligible participants to buy or start up companies.

The Sabah Entrepreneurship Institute Council (Makisa), mean-



Premier advice: Najib giving a pep talk to motivate the youngsters at Great 2017 in Kota Kinabalu, Sabah. Accompanying him is Sabah Chief Minister Datuk Musa Aman (on Najib's right).

while, helps in coordinating initiatives between private and public higher learning institutions and the corporate sector in Sabah, which includes entrepreneurial programmes.

The Prime Minister said that the state government should set up a centre for young entrepreneurs in Sabah similar to Sarawak's Borneo 744.

Borneo 744 is a Blue Ocean Entrepreneurs town, the first of its kind

in the country that helps nurture creative talents in entrepreneurship.

"If there is a suitable site, I wish to propose for the setting up of a Blue Ocean Entrepreneurs town, making it the second of its kind after Sarawak.

"We must find ways to increase the participation of young people with education, skills, leadership skills and entrepreneurship," said Najib.

The Prime Minister said some young Sabahans had proven their entrepreneurial skills not only in the state but also overseas.

As an example, he spoke about the son of Kinabatangan MP (Datuk Bung Mokhtar Radin) who partnered with three others from the peninsula to open a bakery in Metro Manila, Philippines.

Najib added that the operators recovered their capital just four months into the business and were

now making profits.

"There is another person, Bashirul Abd Mukti, who has been successful in health products.

"Now, I am told he is planning to open a three-star boutique hotel here," he said, adding that there were several other young entrepreneurs who had opened gyms and fitness centres.

He added that they were able to succeed in these with support from the Government.