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# PM: EMPLOY ARMY VETERANS

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New generation of veterans has vast experience, expertise

## KUALA LUMPUR

**P**RIME Minister Tun Dr Mahathir Mohamad has called for the private sector to contribute to the wellbeing of the Malaysian armed forces (MAF) veterans, especially in securing jobs for qualified individuals.

Dr Mahathir said this move would not hurt the private sector as the new generation of MAF

veterans had vast experience and expertise in various fields, from food manufacturing to aerospace.

“Army veterans, aged between 34 and 42, will have ample time to contribute their expertise and experience to their employers,” he said in his speech at the 52nd Armed Forces Ex-Servicemen Affairs Corporation convocation here.

The text of Dr Mahathir’s speech was read by Defence Minister Mohamad Sabu, who presented certificates to graduates from the first session of the convocation.

Dr Mahathir, referring to the Mid-Term Review of the 11th Malaysia Plan (2016-2020), said

the private sector was expected to continue leading the country’s economic growth, with investments expected to grow by 5.7 per cent per annum.

“This is the best platform for the private sector to help the government, but more importantly, it shows appreciation for veterans’ services in the armed forces.

“Let us build a high-income nation together, as well as restore Malaysia’s status as an Asian Tiger.”

Dr Mahathir said job placements for MAF veterans and their children would reduce the country’s dependence on foreign workers.

“I am confident that the new

generation of veterans can become part of the country’s skilled workforce in sectors such as the automotive industry and contribute to the Fourth Industrial Revolution.”

He believed that the majority of the people were aware of the country’s economic situation and the government’s limitation in offering employment opportunities.

“I think Perhebat, in collaboration with private companies and government-linked companies, can address this matter.

“It is also hoped that the private sector will be sensitive and proactive in helping the government in carrying out programmes to ensure the wellbeing of MAF veterans.” **Bernama**