

**Retired Soldiers, Policemen Also Important Component Of Society, Says Muhyiddin Bernama
January 29, 2012**

MUAR, Jan 29 (Bernama) -- Deputy Prime Minister Tan Sri Muhyiddin Yassin today told retired soldiers and policemen that they are very much an important component of society in the country's quest to become a developed nation in 2020.

"Even when you are referred to as former soldiers and former policemen, all of you are important in society. Today, our country is known globally, and this is also due to your steadfastness and sacrifice.

"We have achieved many extraordinary successes over the last 54 years since independence, including the eradication of poverty," he said when addressing a gathering of retired soldiers and policemen and their families from the Muar district, here.

Also present were Deputy Defence Minister Datuk Dr Abdul Latiff Ahmad and president of the Malaysian Ex-Servicemen's Association Datuk Muhammad Abdul Ghani.

Muhyiddin said the government hoped that the retired soldiers and policemen would always stand by the government in upholding the country's sovereignty in the face of questions being raised over the Federal Constitution, the special privileges of the Malays and the institution of the monarchy.

"The (general) election may be held soon and we do not want the country to be administered by groups greedy for power who question many matters in the constitution," he said.

Muhyiddin, who is the MP for Pagoh, said the government will never marginalise retired soldiers and policemen and added that they are also entitled to the benefits as the rest of society through the New Economic Model.

He also announced an aid of RM100,000 for the ex-servicemen's association and RM30,000 for the ex-policemen's association in the Muar district.

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