

**Felda's New Generation Empowered Through Learning Opportunities - Najib
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PUTRAJAYA, Sept 20 (Bernama) -- The government always strives to develop and empower Felda's new generation by providing them with opportunities to gain as much knowledge as possible, says Prime Minister Datuk Seri Najib Tun Razak.

Besides that, he said, they were also given the opportunity to gain new experiences and the latest knowledge from in and outside the country.

"I am proud that what we have dreamed for since 2005 under the new strategies of the 21st century and in the next 50 years, that is, developing a dynamic new generation for Felda, has been achieved.

"If the first generation of Felda (land scheme) settlers had opened up land, the second and third generation are mind openers of the 21st century," he said at a luncheon with students from Felda at Seri Perdana, here, Thursday.

The function was organised by LimKokWing University to fete 100 Felda students who were selected to go on the New Generation Study Tour to London from Sept 24, 2012 to Jan 18, next year.

The prime minister said Felda had become successful as the settlers had toiled the land with their own sweat, and gone through hardship and persevered before becoming successful planters.

"The first transformation was from not owning land to becoming owners with incomes that can be said to be much better than before and a more secure future.

"So much so, many people regard Felda settlers as a lucky lot while some have regretted not applying to join the Felda land schemes.

"However, our efforts must not stop here, but we should look far ahead, to be futuristic to progress further."

Najib said the traditional sources for success had thus been replaced with new sources of wealth in the 21st century, namely knowledge, technology and innovation.

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