

Empowerment Of Bumiputera Economy A New Chapter In BN's Struggle - Muhyiddin Bernama
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SHAH ALAM, Sept 14 (Bernama) -- The new measures and strategies to empower the Bumiputera economy announced by Prime Minister Datuk Seri Najib Tun Razak today is a new chapter in Barisan Nasional's (BN) struggle, especially for Bumiputera.

Deputy Prime Minister Tan Sri Muhyiddin Yassin said the long-awaited measures and strategies were the government's response to the calls made by Bumiputera leaders, non-governmental organisations and community, for economic development.

"For me, today is a very lucky day and indeed the most-awaited event, we are not apologetic or worried if the non-Bumiputera or even the international communities were to see this as something concerning only a certain group.

"For us, what matters most is the Bumiputera agendas and we truly respect the prime minister's firmness and courage," he told reporters after Najib announced the measures and strategies to empower the Bumiputera economy at Universiti Teknologi Mara (UiTM) here today.

Muhyiddin said the five main focuses of the empowerment measures and strategies also reflected the government's continuous attention to the inclusive agendas.

"The setting up of several bodies, including the Bumiputera Economic Council (MEB) which to be led by the prime minister himself and myself as his deputy, will definitely take the Bumiputera economic struggles to greater heights.

"The MEB secretariat will be led by a credible leader with minister status who are capable of ensuring that each agenda will be implemented," he said.

Muhyiddin said he was also confident that all measures and strategies could be implemented and that he hoped the Bumiputera's control in all economic areas would be increased in the next seven years or by 2020.

"We want the Bumiputera community to give their response to the announcement, we want to see, in this short time frame, a prominently visible increase in terms of the equity and asset ownership, as well as human capital development (will be achieved)," he said.

The prime minister today announced the new measures and strategies to empower the Bumiputera economy with the MEB, to be chaired by Najib himself, to be set up soon to replace the Bumiputera Agenda Action Council (MTAB).

The MEB will implement five main strategies as a continuation of the implementation of the Bumiputera economic empowerment agenda.

Najib also urged the people not to misconstrue the Bumiputera economic empowerment measures, saying its implementation would not trample on the interests of other groups or deny their rights.

In fact, he said it would be implemented in line with the government's desire to continue creating new wealth so that all Malaysians could share the benefits in a fair and just

manner.

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