

Professional Accounting Centre to be Set up to Boost Number of Bumiputra Accountants - Najib

Bernama

June 18, 2014

KUALA LUMPUR, June 18 (Bernama) -- The government will create a professional accounting centre at Universiti Teknologi Mara (UiTM) to boost the number of professional Bumiputra accountants.

Prime Minister Datuk Seri Najib Tun Razak on Wednesday said the centre would offer four professional accounting studies, namely, Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales (ICAEW), Association of Chartered Certified Accountants (ACCA), Certified Institute of Management Accountants (CIMA) and Malaysian Institute of Certified Public Accountants (MICPA).

"Through the programme, we target to boost the number of Bumiputras holding professional accounting certificates from only eight percent or 1,554 Bumiputra currently, to 25 percent by 2020," he said.

The Prime Minister said this to reporters after chairing the No 6/2014 Bumiputra Economic Meeting (MEB) at Parliament Building, here.

Najib said the number of Bumiputra students who qualified in accounting at the university level was 64 percent or 7,363 of 11,660 students nationwide.

Furthermore, Najib said the meeting also proposed to amend the Accountants Act 1967 to encourage more Bumiputra to have qualifications in professional accounting.

"We also discussed to study the anomaly which exists at present. In the government, those having a degree in accounting get more pay than accountants with professional qualifications.

"As such, this does not provide an incentive to them (those with degree qualifications) to sit for the professional accounting certification offered," he said.

Najib hoped the measures could correct the situation and was confident the number of Bumiputra professional accountants could be boosted in a certain period of time.

Also present was Deputy Prime Minister Tan Sri Muhyiddin Yassin, Second Finance Minister Datuk Seri Ahmad Husni Hanadzlah, Minister in the Prime Minister's Department, Datuk Seri Abdul Wahid Omar and International Trade and Industry Minister Datuk Seri Mustapa Mohamed.

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