

**Solidarity Forms Pillar In Determining Direction Of National Development:
Muhyiddin
Bernama
Jan 24, 2015**

KOTA KINABALU, Jan 24 (Bernama) -- Deputy prime minister Tan Sri Muhyiddin Yassin pointed out that solidarity among the various races and religious beliefs in Malaysia forms the main pillar in determining the direction of national development.

As such, he said the government always emphasised on the elements of solidarity among the people of Malaysia which comprised more than 219 ethnic groups in drawing up every policy for implementation whether in the economic, social or political fields.

He said the government had also formulated a clear strategic plan and direction for every national policy and plan in facing and tackling issues and problems frequently raised by certain groups who had personal interest or agenda.

"The government had adopted numerous measures to ensure that the value and spirit of solidarity in the community could be maintained without being threatened by irresponsible groups who tried to create restlessness in the country.

"Based on this awareness, the aspects of solidarity had been made as the main agenda in the efforts to realise a developing and progressive nation in the various fields with its own identity," he said.

Muhyiddin said this in his speech when officiating the presentation of the Rukun Tetangga Premier Award, here today.

The national-level award presentation with the theme 'Gemilang Perpaduan' was also attended by Sabah Chief Minister Datuk Seri Musa Aman and Minister in the Prime Minister's Department Tan Sri Joseph Kurup.

According to the deputy prime minister, the government had formulated the Rukun Tetangga Act 2012 which took effect in June 2012 through the Department of National Unity and Integration under the Prime Minister's Department, aimed at inculcating and strengthening solidarity through various activities such as the Voluntary Patrolling Scheme (SRS) in the Rukun Tetangga Sectors (KRT).

He said that besides social activities, the role of the 7,137 KRTs with a membership of 178,425 people throughout the country in maintaining security had been empowered when the SRS was recognised as one of the main implementation in the National Key Result Area (NKRA) initiatives to enhance security and prevent crime.

"I believe the Rukun Tetangga members comprising various religions and ethnic groups, carry the trust as inheritors who should continue the struggles to inculcate and enrich the

national solidarity that had been built.

"Those joining the Rukun Tetangga do so out of their sense of responsibility to preserve peace and their love for the country. This is a heavy responsibility to ensure that the prosperity enjoyed by the people is preserved especially for the future generation," Muhyiddin said.

In addition, he said an important programme implemented by the government to promote solidarity among the people from a young age was the formation of the 'Taska Permata Perpaduan' which provided quality education for children from the age of four years old.

He said the 1,781 kindergartens with 39,919 pupils were capable of playing an important role as the starting point in the government's efforts to unite the people of various races through education.

At the event, Rukun Tetangga Kg Gong Baru/Tok Tasek, Kuala Terengganu was announced as the winner in the Rukun Tetangga Management category, followed by RT Jalan Usaha, Kluang, Johor in second place while in third place was RT Bandar Damansara, Kuantan, Pahang.

They each received a cash prize of RM20,000, RM15,000 and RM10,000 together with a certificate and trophy.

-- BERNAMA

Copyright © 2014 BERNAMA

Source :<http://www.bernama.com/bernama/v7/newsindex.php?id=1103460>