

**Government To Devise Formula To Enhance Bumiputera Entrepreneurs Resilience – Najib
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KUALA LUMPUR, July 29 (Bernama) -- The government will hold a series of discussions with Bumiputera entrepreneurs in an effort to devise a salient long-term formula to enhance their resilience, Datuk Seri Najib Tun Razak said.

The prime minister said the government would also continue to focus on the Bumiputera Economic Empowerment Agenda as a national agenda by implementing various programmes to enable them to compete in the open and global market.

He was speaking at the Bumiputera Manufacturers and Services Industry Association of Malaysia's (PPIPBM) gala dinner in conjunction with the its 22nd Annual General Meeting and the launch of PPIPBM Cooperative here tonight.

Najib said the implementation of that agenda, based on five core thrusts, had begun to bear fruit.

He said one important branch in strengthening the Bumiputera Economic Empowerment Agenda was the development of Bumiputera vendors which had created many Bumiputera entrepreneurs.

"Various measures will continue to be taken by the government and I myself will steer the machinery to achieve this objective through the Bumiputera Economic Empowerment Council which meets every two months.

"Our challenge is to ensure that companies placed under this programme become stronger and are able to compete internationally," he said.

Najib said the small and medium enterprise was targeted to contribute 41 per cent to the country's gross domestic product by 2020.

Works Minister Datuk Fadillah Yusof, Deputy International Trade and Industry Datuk Ahmad Maslan and Malaysia External Trade Development Corporation chairman Datuk Noraini Ahmad were present.

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