

**Human Capital, Government's Core Agenda – Najib
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NILAI, April 5 (Bernama) -- Human capital development is the core agenda of the government because it is the key to the country's aspiration and ambition, said Datuk Seri Najib Tun Razak.

The Prime Minister said through knowledge and education, it became the foundation to produce knowledgeable, skilled and competitive people with morals.

"A nation that does not have knowledge will be lost to other parties because without knowledge, we do not have the strength to overcome them.

"A very clear example is when the Melaka Malay civilisation reached its peak and lost to the Portuguese civilisation that only deployed three ships because at that time, the Melaka sultanate could only fight with spears and kris but the Portuguese had artillery armament," he said when speaking at the opening of the Universiti Sains Islam Malaysia (USIM) Permata Insan Complex here today.

Also present were the Prime Minister's wife, Datin Seri Rosmah Mansor, who is also the Permata Insan Programme patron; Minister in the Prime Minister's Department Datuk Seri Jamil Khir Baharom; Negeri Sembilan Menteri Besar Datuk Seri Mohamad Hasan, USIM vice chancellor Prof Datuk Dr Musa Ahmad and state exco members.

Elaborating further, Najib said the government must provide the future generation with adequate knowledge encompassing spiritual and intellectual aspects.

The Prime Minister also said in Islam, it was obligatory for Muslims to pursue knowledge.

"Particularly in the context of our society today with all the influences of social media and other problems in the context of contemporary society such as drug problem, mat rempit and other elements available in the internet, including IS ideology (Daesh militants).

"And if we do not have the knowledge to distinguish the right from wrong, then we will become victims to all the influences that exist," he said.

Meanwhile he said the Permata Insan programme was timely.

"Because we want to build a civilisation, we are not only going to provide for those who graduated in their academic field, we want leaders, we want them to have passion, skills but based on the knowledge of the Al-quran and As sunnah and this makes us as complete human beings," he said.

The Permata Insan Complex is based on the concept of a school within a campus and is adjacent to the USIM main lake that has 113 students.

It is equipped with basic facilities such as dormitories, academic block, digital information blogs, a

dining hall and a multipurpose hall.

The complex is built on a 4.8-ha site at a cost of about RM68 million.

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