

RM2,000 special aid to PNB employees – PM

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KUALA LUMPUR, March 15 (Bernama) -- Prime Minister Datuk Seri Najib Tun Razak today announced a RM2,000 special aid to each employee of Permodalan Nasional Berhad (PNB), with the payment to be made in May.

Najib, who is chairman of Yayasan Pelaburan Bumiputera (YPB) under the jurisdiction of which PNB comes, said the special aid was in celebration of the PNB 40th anniversary and the outstanding achievement of the country's largest fund management company since its establishment.

"In conjunction with the 40th anniversary, I wish to announce a RM2,000 special aid to every PNB employee to be paid in May.

"So, you can celebrate Aidilfitri with much joy. I am confident the future of PNB will continue to be excellent,"he said in his address at the 40th-anniversary celebration of PNB here.

Also present at the event were Second Finance Minister Datuk Seri Johari Abdul Ghani and PNB Group Chairman Tan Sri Abdul Wahid Omar.

The Prime Minister congratulated PNB on maintaining its performance since its establishment, with assets under its management now valued at RM279 billion.

Najib said PNB had played an important role in the success of major government policies, such as the New Economic Policy, especially in the equitable distribution of the country's wealth among the people.

The performance and success of PNB is a matter of pride for all Malaysians, he said.

Najib also said that one of the elements of unity was when every citizen had a fair share of ownership and no group felt marginalised.

He said Malaysia had successfully implemented this, and added that the latest statistics showed that Bumiputera participation in the corporate sector had already exceeded 23 per cent.

Najib said that when the New Economic Policy was launched in the early 70s, his father and second prime minister Tun Abdul Razak Hussein explained it in a simple analogy.

He said that 'we must expand the cake; when you expand the cake then you can share the cake without taking away from anyone'. This is the formula that has brought us success, not only at PNB but in the distribution of wealth in a more equitable manner, he said.

Najib said PNB had kept paying dividends and at a good rate, with the amount of dividends and bonuses paid since 1981 totalling RM171.85 billion.

Evidently, the establishment of PNB has succeeded in raising the socio-economic status of the people, especially the Bumiputeras. For this success, I congratulate Tan Sri Abdul Wahid Omar and president and CEO Datuk Abdul Rahman Ahmad.

The Prime Minister said the achievements of PNB indirectly dismissed claims by certain quarters that Malaysia was a failed state and was headed for bankruptcy.

In conjunction with the PNB anniversary, Najib launched the PNB new corporate identity in line with the transformation initiatives under the STRIVE-15 Strategic Plan of the company.

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