

will take place.

Sir, if the system does not provide fair prosecution, your whole plan will fail. One good example: When Raja Petra Kamaruddin was released, the A-G's Chambers appealed, but when Abdul Razak Baginda was acquitted, the A-G decided not to appeal. It is about public perception.

We will see what form of mechanisms to use. We haven't lost touch with that. As in the anti-corruption initiatives, the senior public prosecutor can decide on the charges.

There was resistance to the setting up of a complaints commission on the police before. Why would those opposed to any sort of reform to enforcement agencies, especially the police be any different now?

I don't think that anyone is opposed to 'reform'. But different groups want to be heard; to give their input into the design of the reform. That is why the situation now is very different. The police have been more involved, as well as other enforcement groups. There are many things to be worked out but the important guiding philosophy for me is that the Bill must be workable - it must be acceptable to both the police, the ex-Royal Commissioners as well as other civil society groups. As in all things, this means coming to a workable compromise. It is a difficult process, but it is worthwhile.

When you started off five years ago, we were all supportive of you. What went wrong along the way? Was there opposition to your reforms and plans?

Reforms are not easy. I have tried so, so very hard and it is not easy. I know. I tried with the IPCMC (Independent Police Complaints and Misconduct-Commission), see how difficult it was? You can't just rush in and bulldoze through and have a "I don't care a damn" attitude.

So there were elements out to sabotage your efforts.

I wouldn't call it that but it was not easy to get people on the same page.

But you had 90% of the mandate - not just from Umno, but from the rakyat! People who would normally vote Opposition voted for Barisan Nasional. You could have capitalised on this overwhelming support.

Yes, my dear friend, but my survival is in Umno! If Umno doesn't want me what can the 90% do? That is the system; unfortunately. This is not like (electing) the president of the United States who is appointed directly by the people (*laughs*).

Maybe you need to reform Umno first before you reform the agencies.
Ah well ...

Pemudah was one of your master strokes. (Chief Secretary to the Government) Tan Sri Mohd Sidek Hassan is doing a great job, but do you think it's a bit too late?

Well, I won't deny it, but we could have started earlier. It is doing well. But you must remember

the second half of the period towards 2020. That's the national mission! National mission is not for a four-year period. Without national mission you cannot achieve much.

And what is this national mission?

In talking about national mission, it must be based on the premise of developing our human capital. I'm not talking about human resource, but quality human capital. We have to make sure they are dedicated, physically resilient, have moral integrity ... these qualities we must have. If we don't have quality human capital, forget about national mission! You can have quality machines that can do all the work but ... machine is there (and) you don't want to use it or don't know how to use it, (are) lazy, can't be bothered! Thirty functions, but you only use three, *mana boleh pakai?*

Creativity and innovation is the way. Machines just do the work for you. If you are stupid, the machine will not be able to do the work also.

Human capital development is about education and developing a first class mentality, a

This is why I want all of us - from both sides of the divide - to think about what's in the best interest of the people. Just because you are Opposition you vote against the Bill, this is not the way. This is going to change how the ACA works. You will see a different kind of ACA. One with clout and one that responds and is answerable to the rakyat."

value added mentality. The clerks work differently today than the clerks of yesteryears. There is a revolution in the development of human capital now. Management gurus are everywhere! This is how we can go forward, by adding quality and value. It is going to be difficult, but we can do it.

It sounds all good, but we need a tangible beginning. Where do we start?

Close the disparity gap. We should not talk about ethnic gap, we must talk about economic gap ... When I introduced the corridors of development, they were for equal distribution of ...

• **Wealth?**
Opportunity! Not wealth! Opportunities ... this is what developing the human capital is all about - providing equal opportunities to create wealth. Good quality schools in the villages that can produce brilliant students, but if you get lousy schools, teachers not trained ... where in the urban areas, you have good schools, but in the rural areas, lousy schools. This is injustice, that's why the equal distribution of opportunity is important. We are talking about the economic gap not the ethnic gap. This is the whole idea of the economic corridors.

You talk about human capital development, but are all parties within the BN on the same page on this? It seems that politicians prefer popular figures than those who can actually do the work. Look at the MIC, there are so many intellectuals out there who are willing to contribute to the upliftment of the Indian community. However, they complain that they can only do so through the MIC.