

SPEECH BY: DATO' SERI DR. MAHATHIR BIN MOHAMAD  
( PRIME MINISTER )

EVENT: THE AGREEMENT SIGNING CEREMONY BETWEEN SIME DARBY  
TYRE TECHNOLOGY CENTRE AND SUMITOMO RUBBER INDUSTRIES LIMITED

VENUE: CARCOSA SERI NEGARA

DATE: 09JUN 1992

TIME:

I would like to thank the organisers for inviting me to this gathering today and to congratulate Sime Darby Tyre Technology Centre and Sumitomo Rubber Industries Limited for pooling their resources together for the growth of the rubber industries in Malaysia.

2. The opportunity to witness a significant case of technology transfer from a major industrial company of the developed world to a company from a developing country does not come very often and I am delighted therefore to be here today to witness the formal agreement being signed.

3. The Sumitomo Rubber Industries Company of Japan is to be commended for its far-sighted and generous approach in this technology transfer arrangement. At the same time, we all should appreciate and accept that no one gives away technology without expecting some return. This is what constitutes enlightened self-interest. How much each side will benefit will depend largely on the efforts each will make. A good working relations is absolutely essential if the agreement is to mean anything at all.

4. In this case, I understand that the Sime Darby Group is bringing three tyre factories from two Asean countries into the agreement and in addition offers the prospect of practical working experience for ultra-large earthmoving natural rubber tyres in many development projects and mining operations in countries spread throughout the region.

5. In effect, this represents an ideal joint venture between a company from the developed industrial world and an expanding regional organisation from the developing world. It includes a genuine transfer of technology, involves natural rubber, a basic commodity resource from the developing world and combines joint research and development on the improvement of existing products for markets throughout the Asia-Pacific region.

6. I congratulate both parties involved in this arrangement, namely Sumitomo Rubber Industries and the Sime Darby

Group and wish them every success in this new and enterprising joint venture.