

Ucapan: 18/07/2017

Launching of PEMUDAH Annual report 2016 And Prize Giving Ceremony For PEMUDAH Challenge 2016 & Pemudah Journalism Competition

Bismillahirrahmanirrahim

Fellow members of PEMUDAH

Distinguished Guests

Ladies and Gentlemen

Assalamualaikum

Salam Sejahtera and a very good afternoon.

Welcoming remarks

1. I would like to welcome and extend my sincere appreciation to all PEMUDAH members and distinguished guests who are here today to witness the launch of the **tenth PEMUDAH ANNUAL REPORT**. This will be followed by prize-giving ceremony for **PEMUDAH CHALLENGE 2016 & PEMUDAH JOURNALISM COMPETITION 2016**.
2. This year, on 7 February, PEMUDAH marked its tenth year anniversary as the **Special Task Force to Facilitate Business**. The past decade has been challenging as PEMUDAH pursued and resolved wide-ranging business concerns to ensure a world-class regulatory environment in Malaysia.
3. In this regard, I would like to thank all members of PEMUDAH, **past and present**, for their sterling leadership and sheer commitment in driving improvements in service delivery and regulatory quality for the business community.

Ladies & Gentlemen

Malaysia's competitiveness ranking

4. Malaysia remains the most competitive economy among developing countries in Asia and has been ranked commendably in the 2016-2017 editions of the **Global Competitiveness Report, World Competitiveness Yearbook and Doing Business Report**.
5. However, in this increasingly competitive world, we must not rest on our laurels. We will continue to **dissect the causes of the slips in ranking indicators** and **make immediate improvements** though the drop in overall rankings was also due to factors beyond the government's ambit.

PEMUDAH strives on

6. In 2016, PEMUDAH continued to track a broad spectrum of **business-friendly initiatives** with Ministries, Agencies and Departments (MDAs) as well as private stakeholders. The new Companies Act 2016 is an example of the reforms undertaken for incorporation to simplify processes and thus reduce costs.
7. The implementation of 5 modules in the **e-Tanah system in Kuala Lumpur** last month is another significant testimonial of PEMUDAH and its stakeholders to improve search time for land title, company and winding-up through a single point. The system is expected to roll out to all the other states in Peninsular Malaysia within the next few years.
8. **PEMUDAH Focus Group and Task Force are also collaborative at state level**. Together with various state agencies, local authorities and the private sector, they address local issues that affect businesses.

Ladies & Gentlemen

PEMUDAH Challenge 2016 and PEMUDAH Journalism Competition 2016

9. Today, we are awarding the winners of the PEMUDAH Challenge 2016 and PEMUDAH Journalism Competition 2016. The PEMUDAH Challenge 2016 has attracted a total of 80 submissions from public universities in Peninsular Malaysia. Ten (10) winning entries have been selected while there are 5 consolation prize winners. Winners will receive RM1,000 each and Consolation prize winners RM500 each, from the **kind sponsorship of Tan Sri G. Gnanalingam**.

10. Mooted in 2013, the **PEMUDAH Journalism Competition** aims to **encourage journalists to publish reforms** undertaken by the Government, so as to enhance public perception and awareness. Through the competition, we hope that journalists will also uncover opportunities for reforms and provide us feedback on the reality on the ground.

11. I would like to thank all journalists for their participation and excellent contributions. Congratulations to the winners.

Ladies and Gentlemen

12. My heartfelt gratitude goes to our Honourable Prime Minister for entrusting PEMUDAH with the responsibility to help **realise a developed, high-income nation**. PEMUDAH is honoured to shoulder this responsibility and will remain steadfast towards upholding a **vibrant, resilient and competitive economy** for Malaysia.

Wabillahittaufikwalhidayah, Wassalamualaikumwarahmatullahiwabarakatuh

Thank you.

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