

Penyampai : TAN SRI ABDUL HALIM BIN ALI  
Tajuk : THE OCCASION OF MIPM 1997 GRADUATION CEREMONY  
Lokasi : LEGEND HOTEL KUALA LUMPUR  
Tarikh : 29-11-1997

1. Terlebih dahulu ingin saya mengucapkan ribuan terima kasih kepada Y.Bhg. Dato' Nik Abdul Aziz, President MIPM, kerana sudi menjemput saya ke majlis ini dan memberi penghormatan kepada saya untuk berucap dan selanjutnya menyampaikan sijil dan diploma kepada para graduan MIPM bagi tahun 1997. Graduan-graduan tentu sekali telah mendapat banyak manfaat dari program latihan yang dianjurkan oleh MIPM dan dengan itu bersedia untuk memasuki tahap baru dalam kerjaya masing-masing. Setinggi-tinggi tahniah saya ucapkan kepada mereka atas kejayaan yang dicapai.

2. The training provided by MIPM has no doubt made a significant contribution to the development of a pool of trained management executives that the country needs. As the economy grows and will not doubt continue to grow in spite of the current difficulties, the need for good personnel managers become even greater, offering enormous opportunities for career development as well as the satisfaction of contributing to the nation's growth and development. In the context of the rapid changes that the world is witnessing today, brought about by dramatic, political and technological transformation, each and every nation faces an ever increasing competition for resources, human and material, for technology as well as for markets. As each nation strives to maintain its competitive advantage in order to stay ahead of its competitors, the management of human resources becomes a crucial success factor. For, growth in the coming millenium is expected to be technology driven, in particular information and multimedia technology, which calls for a new approach to human resource management. As opposed to the requirement of the industrial age when industrial workers and experts are indispensable, the information age calls for the creation of a large pool of knowledge workers, skilled in the use of information and multimedia technology.

3. To reap the full potential of the information age in the quest for economic growth and prosperity, managers and workers alike will have to master information technology and adapt to the new working environment created by the IT revolution - an environment in which meeting are held and decisions taken through teleconferencing, when training is done through distance learning and smart schools, when workers can do their work at home instead of at the office or factory. An interesting and challenging time awaits us all. An interesting and challenging time awaits all human resource professionals in the country.

4. To prepare the country for the inevitable development, active cooperation and partnership between the government and the private sector is of utmost importance. Malaysia Inc. concept that has served the country must be expanded more vigorously into the educational and training sector so that adequate number of trained manpower, skilled in the use of IT and new management techniques could be produced to meet the needs of the country. I must at this juncture express my satisfaction at the increasing role that the private sector is playing in the field of education and training.

We are witnessing today a rapid growth in the number of private institutions catering to the education and training needs of the country. We welcome this development and hope some will eventually emerge as centres of excellence that will attract students from other countries of the region.

5. Lastly, to conclude, I would like to congratulate the MIPM Council under the able leadership of its President, Dato' Nik Abdul Aziz and the General Manager/CEO, Encik Bujang Hussin, for their tireless efforts, not only at upgrading and enhancing the professional image of MIPM but also in its efforts to improve the professionalism of the HR profession and HR related activities.

6. Everyone gathered here tonight understand only too well that excellent human resource management is the cornerstone to sustainable success in business. It is my fervent hope that the HR profession continues to grow professionally and adds value to our country as we pursue our VISION 2020.