

ASEAN Needs Sustainable, Inclusive Economic Progress, Says Najib



Economic progress being sought by ASEAN must be sustainable and inclusive, with the fruits of success shared by all, said Prime Minister Dato' Sri Mohd Najib bin Tun Abdul Razak.

He noted that the establishment of the ASEAN Economic Community (AEC) by year-end would lead to a freer flow of goods, services, investment and skilled labour across the region.

"All the signs and trends are in our favour," he said in his keynote address at the 18th Asia Oil and Gas Conference 2015 at the Kuala Lumpur Convention Centre here on Monday.

Najib, who is also finance minister, said the economic slowdown in China would not remove Asia from the centre stage, with Southeast Asia having been transformed from a region of strife

and poverty to one of progress and development over the last four decades.

"Since 2001, the 10 states that make up ASEAN have grown by 300%. A combined ASEAN would already count as the seventh largest economy in the world," he said, adding, it was expected to be the fourth largest by 2050, at the latest.

"As it is, we are already the fourth largest exporting region in the world," the prime minister said. He noted that ASEAN's urbanisation and burgeoning middle class, expected to reach 144 million by 2017, were boosting consumer growth and demand for energy.

"Current energy consumption per capita is only half the global average, so considerable increase in demand is expected," he said. Najib reiterated that as ASEAN chair this year, Malaysia would ensure that its Community-building efforts are people-centred, just as the country's last budget focused on the "People Economy".

BERNAMA, 18 May 2015

"DRIVING Transformation, POWERING Growth"

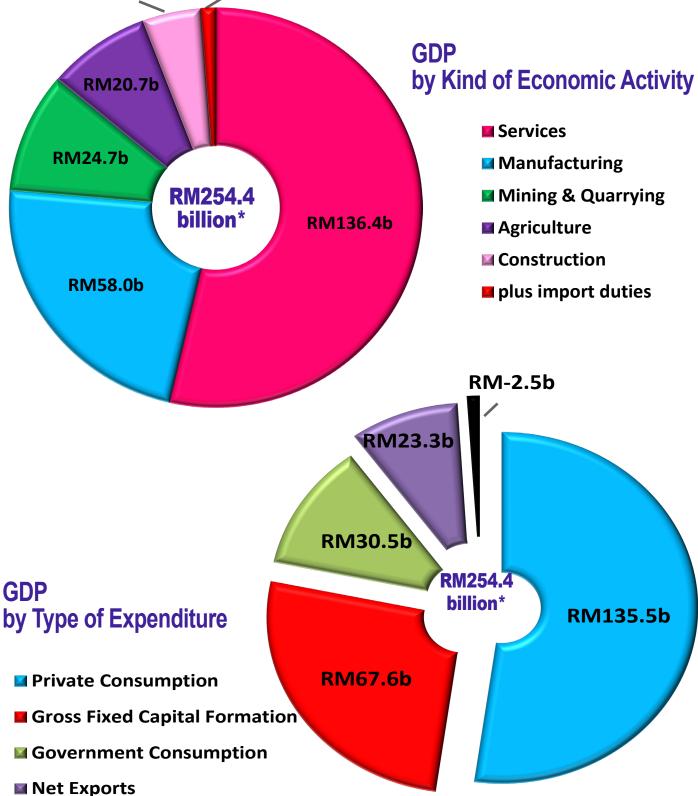
MALAYSIA

Gross Domestic Product (GDP), Q1 2011 - Q1 2015





GDP Composition, Q1 2015 RM3.0b RM11.7b **GDP** RM20.7b

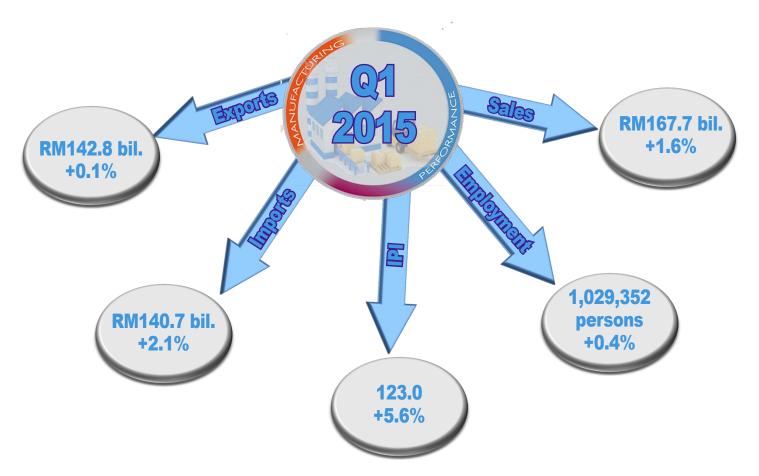


■ Changes in Inventories

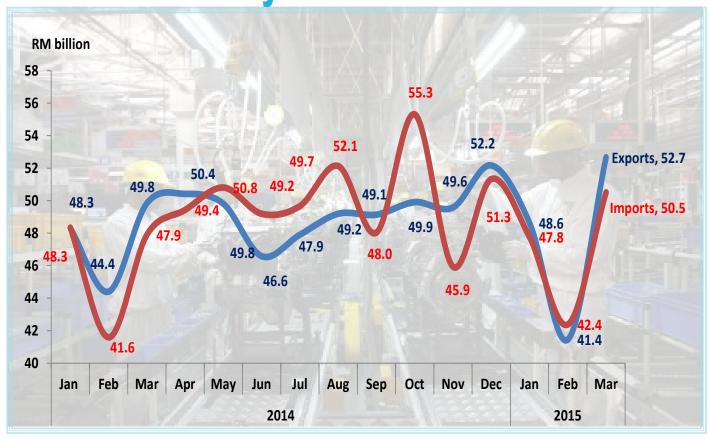
Note: *GDP at constant 2010 prices Source: Department of Statistics, Malaysia



Manufacturing Performance, Q1 2015



Trade in Manufacturing, January 2014 - March 2015



Major Export Products in Manufacturing Sector Q1 1990, Q1 2000 and Q1 2015

Q1 1990

- #1 E & E Products RM5.4 billion (30.3%)
- #2 Textiles, Clothing & Footwear RM0.8 billion (4.6%)
- #3 Machinery,
 Appliances & Parts
 RM0.5 billion (2.8%)
 - EXPORTS RM10.4 billion

Q1 2000

- #1 E & E Products RM48.5 billion (57.3%)
- #2 Chemicals & Chemical Products RM3.2 billion (3.7%)
- #3 Machinery,
 Appliances & Parts
 RM3.0 billion (3.5%)

EXPORTS RM71.0 billion

Q1 2015

- #1 E & E Products RM64.2 billion (35.1%)
- #2 Chemicals & Chemical Products RM12.9 billion (7.1%)
- #3 Petroleum Products RM12.7 billion (6.9%)

EXPORTS RM142.8 billion

Major Import Products in Manufacturing Sector Q1 1990, Q1 2000 and Q1 2015

Q1 1990

- #1 E & E Products RM4.6 billion (26.8%)
- #2 Machinery,
 Appliances & Parts
 RM2.5 billion (14.3%)
- **#3 Transport Equipment** RM1.5 billion (8.5%)

IMPORTS RM15.1 billion

Q1 2000

- #1 E & E Products RM33.4 billion (49.2%)
- #2 Machinery,
 Appliances & Parts
 RM6.8 billion (10.0%)
- #3 Chemicals & Chemical Products RM4.7 billion (6.9%)

IMPORTS RM61.4 billion

Q1 2015

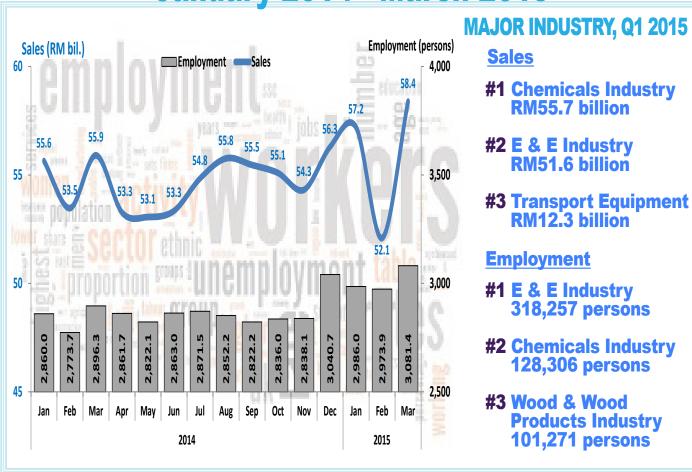
- #1 E & E Products RM46.2 billion (28.5%)
- #2 Chemicals & Chemical Products RM15.5 billion (9.5%)
- #3 Petroleum Products RM14.8 billion (9.1%)

IMPORTS RM140.6 billion

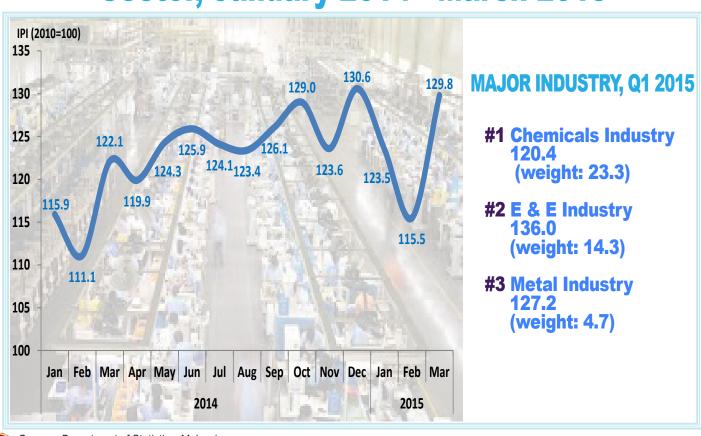
Note: Percentage refers to share to total exports/imports
Source: Department of Statistics, Malaysia
MITI Weekly Bulletin / www.miti.gov.my

"DRIVING Transformation, POWERING Growth"

Sales and Employment in Manufacturing Sector, January 2014 - March 2015

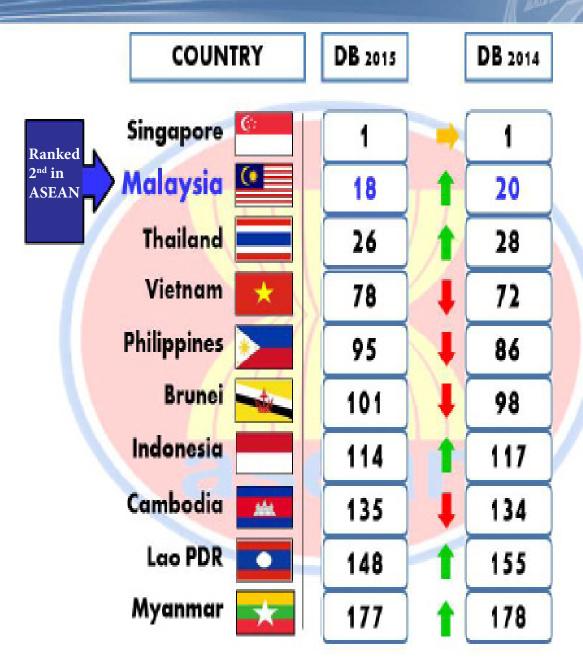


Industrial Production Index in Manufacturing Sector, January 2014 - March 2015





WORLD BANK DOING BUSINESS REPORT



Source: World Bank

"DRIVING Transformation, POWERING Growth"

MITT's ASEAN Portal can be accessed via http://www.miti.gov.my/cms/aec2015 .jsp.

Did You Know?



HABITS OF PEOPLE WHO ARE Happy at Work

#1

THEY HAVE COMMITTED TO CONTINUOUSLY IMPROVING AS A LIFETIME GOAL

Happier people believe in doing the best they can whether or not they are given credit for the work they do. Giving their best makes them feel better about themselves. It creates character, builds self-regard, and forms good work habits that will benefit them in the future regardless if anyone in their present position notices or cares.

#2

THEY HAVE GOALS WORTH STRIVING FOR

People with clear goals they are working toward are able to look beyond everyday workplace irritants and problems. They know they will be temporary, and are able to see beyond them. When things are not going well, they focus on their goals instead of the negative situation that surrounds them at work.

#3

THEY DON'T GET CAUGHT UP IN ISSUES BEYOND THEIR CONTROL

Happier people don't let themselves get emotionally caught up in negative vibes or gossip that is toxic in the workplace. They focus on the work at hand and on what they are able to do. They avoid getting involved in issues and conflicts that do not involve them and are beyond their area of involvement. They always focus their attention and energies on areas they have control over, which gives them a sense of satisfaction.

#4

THEY ARE WILLING TO HELP OTHERS

Happy people are always looking for ways they can help others. Researchers at the University of Wisconsin-Madison found that people who helped others at work were happier than those who didn't. While helping others can lead to promotion, there are also warm feelings of satisfaction that come from helping out our fellow human beings.

5

THEY AVOID NEGATIVE PEOPLE AS MUCH AS POSSIBLE

When coming across a negative person or chronic complainer at work, happy people find ways to try to refocus on coming up with solutions or looking at the situation from another angle. Their positive energy often causes complainers and whiners to avoid them since they know they will not receive a sympathetic ear. Happy people are aware that negative people are an energy drain, and find ways to limit the amount of time that they have to spend with them.

#6

THEY MAKE GRATITUDE AN INTEGRAL PART OF THEIR LIFE

While they strive for more in life, happy people are constantly aware of all the reasons they have to be grateful. They express their gratitude freely and openly, and are quick to offer thanks to those who help them or do a kind deed. This attitude of gratitude attracts people to the positive energy that they give off. Colleagues want to be around them and work with them. When things are not going well, they choose to focus on all of the things that have gone well in their lives.

7

THEY MANAGE THEIR EMOTIONS AND HAVE A SENSE OF HUMOR

Happy people automatically try to make the most of every situation, whether at work, home, or play. They have discovered they can change their emotions by smiling or thinking of humorous situations. They are also able to distract themselves by thinking of pleasant, happy, fun times and places. Whenever a situation comes up that threatens to engulf them in negative energy, they rely on their ability to rise above it and remain in a positive mental space.

Source: http://m.fastcompany.com/3045979/know-it-all/7-habits-of-people-who-are-happy-at-work

Malaysian Ringgit Exchange Rate with Pound Sterling and Chinese Yuan



Source : Bank Negara, Malaysia

Gold Prices, 9 January - 15 May 2015



Source: http://www.gold.org/investments/statistics/gold_price_chart/

Silver Prices, 9 January - 15 May 2015



Number and Value of Preferential Certificates of Origin (PCOs) Number of Certificates (Provisional Data)

	22 Mar 2015	29 Mar 2015	<u>5 Apr 2015</u>	12 Apr 2015	19 Apr 2015	26 Apr 2015	3 May 2015	10 May 2015
AANZFTA	776	910	869	770	903	804	640	689
AIFTA	651	529	708	462	616	533	507	649
AJCEP	250	177	209	163	181	209	121	191
ATIGA	4,562	4,322	4,496	3,719	4,001	4,231	3,334	4,009
ACFTA	1,566	1,569	1,464	1,484	1,763	1,618	1,196	1,355
AKFTA	889	782	767	661	759	941	650	704
MICECA	355	289	385	322	335	338	262	335
MNZFTA	4	14	3	6	6	16	2	4
MCFTA	57	52	52	54	80	46	57	51
MAFTA	409	336	402	290	466	428	317	343
MJEPA	775	838	836	819	632	866	659	797
MPCEPA	118	165	160	125	250	141	112	149
GSP	139	112	164	68	102	134	104	110

The preference giving countries under the GSP scheme are Japan, Switzerland, the Russian Federation, Norway, Cambodia and Notes: Liechtenstein.

AANZFTA: ASEAN-Australia-New Zealand Free Trade Agreement (Implemented since 1 January 2010)

ATIGA: ASEAN Trade in Goods Agreement (Implemented since 1 May 2010)



AJCEP: ASEAN-Japan Comprehensive Economic Partnership

(Implemented since 1 February 2009)



ACFTA: ASEAN-China Free Trade Agreement (Implemented since 1 July 2003)



AKFTA: ASEAN-Korea Free Trade Agreement (Implemented since 1 July 2006)



AIFTA: ASEAN-India Free Trade Agreement

(Implemented since 1 January 2010)



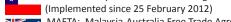




Cooperation Agreement (Implemented since 1 July 2011)

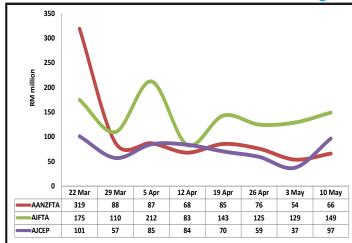




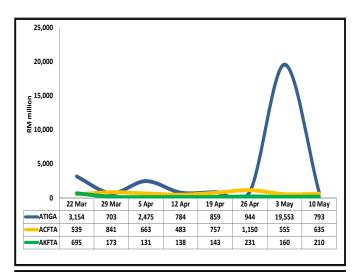


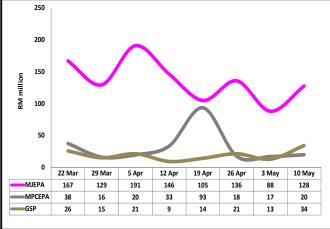
MAFTA: Malaysia-Australia Free Trade Agreement (Implemented since 1 January 2013)

Value of Preferential Certificates of Origin



	90								
	80								
	70					/ \			
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RM million	50								
Σ	40								
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	20			\					7
	10								
	10								
	0	22 Mar	29 Mar	5 Apr	12 Apr	19 Apr	26 Apr	3 May	10 May
<u>—</u> мі		22 Mar 48.01	29 Mar 50.53	5 Apr 64.51	12 Apr 55.21	19 Apr 79.98	26 Apr 48.47	3 May 36.94	10 May 40.91
	0				-		-		
MN	0 CECA	48.01	50.53	64.51	55.21	79.98	48.47	36.94	40.91







Commodity Prices

			SUGAR	SMR 20			
	Crude	Crude	Raw	Rubber	Cocoa	Coal	Scrap Iron
Commodity	Petroleum	Palm Oil	Sugar	SMR 20	SMC 2	(per MT)	HMS
	(per bbl)	(per MT)	(per MT)	(per MT)	(per MT)	(per wrr)	(per MT)
15 May 2015 (US\$)	59.7	654.0	287.5	1,510.0	2,260.7	51.8	270 (high) 250 (low)
% change*	1 0.5	1.1	↓ 0.4	1 0.5	1 7.2	↓ 0.4	unchanged unchanged
2014 ⁱ	54.6 - 107.6	823.3	352.3	1,718.3	2,615.8	59.8	370.0

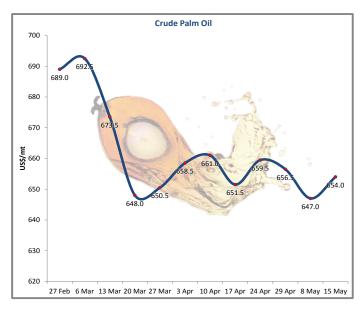
Notes: All figures have been rounded to the nearest decimal point

- * Refer to % change from the previous week's price
- i Average price in the year except otherwise indicated
- n.a Not availble

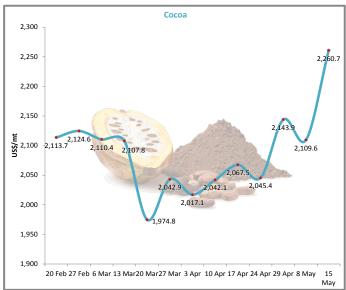


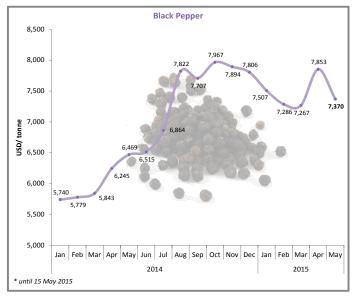


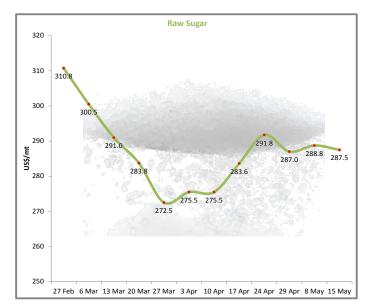
Commodity Price Trends

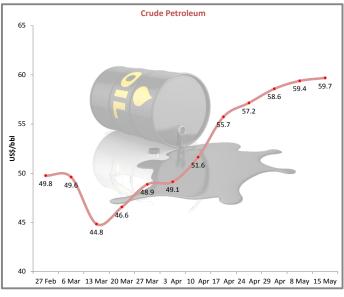






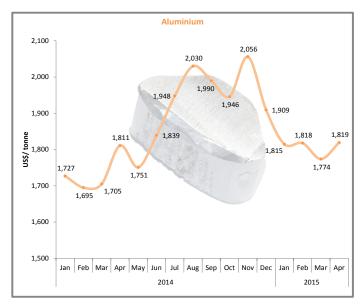


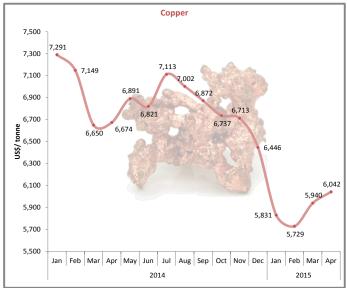


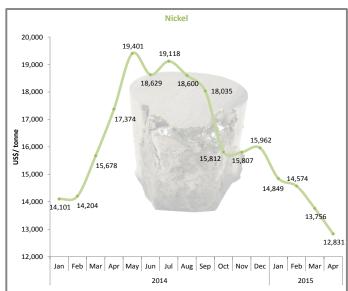


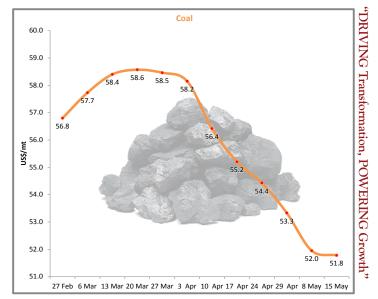
Sources: Ministry of International Trade and Industry Malaysia, Malaysian Palm Oil Board, Malaysian Rubber Board, Malaysian Cocoa Board, Malaysian Pepper Board, Malaysian Iron and Steel Industry Federation, Bloomberg and Czarnikow Group, World Bank.

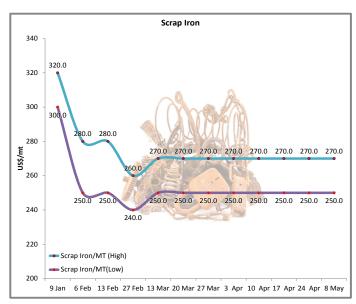
Commodity Price Trends

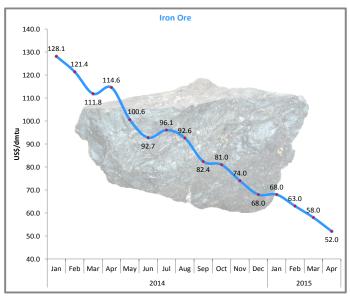












Sources: Ministry of International Trade and Industry Malaysia, Malaysian Palm Oil Board, Malaysian Rubber Board, Malaysian Cocoa Board, Malaysian Pepper Board, Malaysian Iron and Steel Industry Federation, Bloomberg and Czarnikow Group, World Bank.

SUCCESS STORY

Kedai Ummie Enterprise

Online Selling a Budding Business

Puan Hajarina Othman envisions that her online store, Kedai Ummie Enterprise, will one day become a well-known online shop like the famous online retailer, Zalora. This may seem like a lofty ambition but it is not a goal she sets without due consideration. Amidst the hectic lifestyle and growing interest in ICT devises, more and more consumers are resorting to online purchases even in Sarawak, she notes. Kedai Ummie also has a huge competitive advantage as its products are not readily available outside Sarawak. The online store complete with the shopping cart facilities carries over 20 types of food products and crafts from Sarawak.



In its nascent stage, Kedai Ummie's modest offerings were limited to several types of layered cakes and salted fish. As demand grew in tandem with the number of her online customers, she added more products to her store's repository. However, it is not just the product line that keeps the customers coming back to her site. Puan Hajarina says good quality products, quick and friendly customer service and responsive after sales service are her unique selling points. "I respond promptly to any inquiries or orders. Once a customer submits payment, I will make sure their order is shipped immediately and provide them with a tracking number for reference," she says.

Given that Kedai Ummie's specialities are food products and crafts from Sarawak, her target market are mainly customers who live outside the state particularly Sabah and Peninsular Malaysia. However, her wares have also attracted customers in neighbouring countries such as Singapore and Brunei and even countries as far as Australia, Austria, and the United Kingdom. In this fast growing technology era, PuanHajarina is well aware that a great product line and wonderful customer service count for little if potential customers do not find their way to her online store. To spread the word about Kedai Ummie, Puan Hajarina maintains a Facebook page and a blog. In addition to utilising Google Adwords, she also makes full use of free advertising opportunities on websites that provide such service. While business is thriving, Puan Hajarina admits that things are not always smooth sailing. Business transactions may be conducted online but there is no other means of delivering physical products except through the postal service. Unfortunately, hiccups are bound to occur. "Sometimes orders are delayed in reaching the customers. When that happens, I will contact the post office to find out the status of my shipments and then inform my customers. To date, all of them have been understanding and cooperative when this occurs," says Puan Hajarina.



Puan Hajarina also notes that the increase in fuel prices has contributed to the hike in delivery fees. However for her, these challenges are par for the course as she had a steep learning curve. "I started from ground zero and had to pick up the business knowledge in the beginning. Little by little, I learned from my mistakes and experiences," says Puan Hajarina who also joined entrepreneurial groups on Facebook to acquire proficiency and insights on running a business, particularly online business. She attributes her start-up success to the RM1,000 grant from the Google Get Malaysian Business Online (GMBO) programme by the Malaysian Communications and Multimedia Commission which helped get her business off the ground and the Kedai Ummie website registered. While she has tasted the early sweetness of her business endeavours, Puan Hajarina is not contented to rest on her

laurels. The mother of four is currently a mentee under the Cherie Blair Foundation's Mentoring Women in Business programme. The programme, which is managed locally by Yayasan Pembangunan & Vokasional Wanita Malaysia, matches women from developing and emerging countries with mentors from around the world. Through an online platform, they will work together over a period of twelve months to achieve key business goals. In addition, Puan Hajarina is currently upgrading her infrastructure to improve the quality of images on the Kedai Ummie website. She has also set her sights on e-Bay as a means of broadening her market reach.

As an emerging online entrepreneur, Puan Hajarina believes that SMEs in this business are in need of advice, marketing training as well as seminars and workshops related to business in general and online business particularly. "However, the onus to take the first step is on the budding entrepreneur and they should do it with confidence," she says. From someone who started off with just a used laptop from her husband and a mobile phone to take pictures of her products, Puan Hajarina and Kedai Ummie have definitely come a long way.



Kedai Ummie Enterprise (MA0156391-D) No 5 Taman Hj Ludin Jln Semariang Petra Jaya 93050 Kuching, Sarawak

Tel 013-8286377

Website: http://kedaiummie.blogspot.com/
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Malaysia's Investment Performance 2014

Sabah Economic Development and Investment Authority (SEDIA)



The Sabah Economic Development and Investment Authority (SEDIA) had a busy year promoting investments within the Sabah Development Corridor (SDC), participating in numerous events and trade missions. The region has attracted a total of RM138.1 billion in investments since its launch in 2008, of which RM50.4 billion has been realised thus far.



SEDIA's first major event in 2014 was the public SDC Innovation Forum in Kota Kinabalu, which included participants from the Institute of Technology, Tallaght of Ireland. The objective of the public forum was to brainstorm various approaches to enhancing human capital in Sabah. SEDIA also stepped up the 1Agro-SAIP programme with four courses for potential agrient repreneurs and SME incubators at the Sabah Agro-Industrial Precinct (SAIP). SAIP will become a centre of excellence in agro-biotechnology, optimising the State's biodiversity and abundant natural resources to produce higher valueadded food and specialty products based on botanicals, aquatic plants and animals.

In 2014, the Kimanis Power Plant began full operations and is expected to add an additional 95 MW of electricity to the state's energy grid. This is expected to make the SDC an even more exciting investment destination as development ripples throughout the state. The real estate sub-sector is seeing greater expansion of more premium property development within a 5km radius of Kota Kinabalu as the Kota Kinabalu City Waterfront (KKCW) Entry Point Project begins to gain traction.

MITI Programme Official Visit of WTO Director General to MITI, 19 May 2015









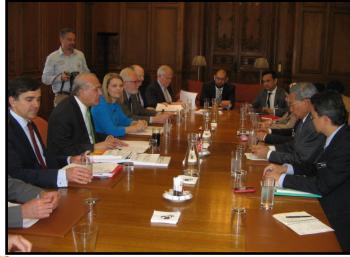
"DRIVING Transformation, POWERING Growth"

YB MITI Minister's Visit to OECD, 12 May 2015













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"Where is the Life we have lost in living? Where is the wisdom we have lost in knowledge? Where is the knowledge we have lost in information?"

T. S. Eliot

Essayist, Poet & Social Critic (1888-1965)

Comments & Suggestions

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