



SPEECH BY
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MINISTER OF INTERNATIONAL TRADE AND INDUSTRY
AT *ANUGERAH KECEMERLANGAN INDUSTRI* 2018
19 APRIL 2019, KUALA LUMPUR CONVENTION CENTRE

Good Evening

YAB TUN DR. MAHATHIR MOHAMAD
Prime Minister of Malaysia

YB DR ONG KIAN MING
Deputy Minister of International Trade and Industry

YBHG DATUK LOKMAN HAKIM ALI
Secretary General Ministry of International Trade and Industry

YBHG TAN SRI DATO' SRI AZMAN HASHIM
Chairman of The *Anugerah Kecemerlangan Industri* Council

Distinguished guests

Ladies and Gentlemen,

1. First and foremost, on behalf of Ministry of International Trade and Industry (MITI), let me express my sincere gratitude to YAB Tun Dr. Mahathir Mohamad, our Prime Minister for taking time and honouring us with his presence today. Let me also welcome all of you to *Malam Anugerah Kecemerlangan Industri* 2018. We are gathered here to celebrate the accomplishments and success

stories of Malaysian businesses across a variety of industries. Your presence shows commitment and support towards the Government's initiatives to encourage our industries to thrive despite facing global challenges.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

2. Tonight, we are presenting the *Anugerah Kecemerlangan Industri* 2018 awards to outstanding companies in Malaysia. AKI is a prestigious recognition awarded by the Government biennially to promote excellence as well as stimulate healthy and positive competition within the industry. The competition is open to all companies incorporated in Malaysia under the Companies Act 2016, including multinational companies. The key objective is to recognise companies that produce high value-added products and services, as well as implement best practices. These successful companies will become role models that inspire other companies in Malaysia.

3. The AKI was initiated since 1991 to recognise domestic companies in three categories under the manufacturing sector and four categories under the services sector, based on sales turnover. In 2016, a new category known as the Open Category was introduced to recognise multinational companies operating in Malaysia. In addition, the Most Promising Category recognises new companies, with less than 5 years in operation that displays exceptional promise of leadership and significant growth for the

future. Winners from these categories are all eligible to be selected for AKI premier award which is the Prime Minister's Award.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

4. In 2016, a total of 63 companies comprising 60 domestic companies and 3 multinational companies competed for the AKI. I am pleased to note a significant increase in competitors for the 2018 AKI, where the numbers increased by 33 percent to 84 companies representing a total of 76 domestic companies and 8 multinational companies. The award is gaining popularity among industry players and it is much sought after.
5. The competing companies underwent several layers of stringent evaluation before selection. The evaluation process was carried out by the AKI Assessors Committee under MITI's AKI Council.
6. The evaluation scoring for AKI is based on the Malaysia Business Excellence Framework which is a framework to ensure productivity, quality and sustainability of an organisation. As at end of 2017, a total of 5,326 Malaysian companies have adopted the Malaysia Business Excellence Framework. The Business Excellence Framework has been adapted by a total of 83 countries worldwide with 96 award administrators.

7. The Malaysia Business Excellence Framework is recognised by the Global Excellence Model Council. This Council is an international network of 11 countries overseeing the Business Excellence (BE) framework. Malaysia is represented by the Malaysia Productivity Corporation, an agency of MITI, since 2014. The Global Excellence Model Council accepts countries that have a comprehensive framework for organisational sustainability and award process which is supported by a strong governance system.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

8. All winners will be awarded with a trophy and certificate of recognition and be in the running for the exclusive Prime Minister's Award. Another incentive accorded to all winners is publicity given in terms of using AKI logo for three years, be featured in all AKI publicity programmes, MATRADE's website, online news as well as advertisement space in the export directory. The grand prize winner of the Prime Minister's Award will receive RM500,000 cash as a reward for overall industry excellence. They will also be publicised in MITI and its Agencies websites. MITI will include the winners in all AKI Programmes and publish their details in AKI Winner's Book for distribution as promotional material.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

9. Before I end, I would like to take this opportunity to extend my appreciation to the AKI Council and the Assessors Committee for their hard work in evaluating and selecting the winners of the 2018 AKI awards. My heartiest appreciation also goes to the various

committees and teams from MITI and agencies involved in organising this event.

10. Lastly, I would like to congratulate all winners for winning these prestigious awards. I also would like to acknowledge all other companies that have participated. We look forward to your continued commitment to improve productivity at the organisation level and participate in future competitions.

Thank you.