

Achieving country's vision via education

> PM outlines four main pillars of academic plan

PUTRAJAYA: Datuk Seri Najib Abdul Razak yesterday said the four main objectives in developing higher education, among other things, are to create a centre to generate knowledge and manpower that can carry as well as fulfil the country's vision.

The prime minister said a generation or a treasury of the highest level of learning must take root in this country and subsequently expanded.

"We also want manpower that can implement and fulfil all the country's visions, transformations and aspirations in facing the 21st century as well as the fierce competition.

"This requires us to generate and create manpower with the capability and qualification to face global competition," Najib said at the eighth edition of the National Academic Award (AAN) ceremony at the Putrajaya International Convention Centre.

At the event, Najib presented the 2013 National Academic Personality Award to the first vice-chancellor of Universiti Putra Malaysia, Prof Emeritus Tan Sri Dr Mohd Rashdan Baba, Bernama reports.

Also present were Deputy Prime Minister Tan Sri Muhyiddin Yassin, who is also the education minister,



Najib presenting the National Academic Personality Award to Mohd Rashdan at the event in Putrajaya yesterday.

Second Education Minister Datuk Seri Idris Jusoh and deputy education ministers Datuk Mary Yap Kain Ching and P. Kamalanathan.

According to Najib, the third objective is to create a future generation that is truly educated and not merely possessing academic qualifications.

"We want a future generation that is educated, not just an academic person but a truly educated person, that is our task when we refer to the future legacy and interests of our

grandchildren," he said.

Najib said the fourth objective is the role of the academia, which is just as important in helping the country to generate wealth through cooperation and industry.

"I emphasise that the academia also has a role.

"For example, in the process of national innovation because we want to encourage wealth generation through innovation, so we must inculcate cooperation between the academia and the industry," he said.