

Nazri tells Malay chambers to  
refrain from politicking

# Develop, not fight

KOTA KINABALU: Members of the various Malay chambers of commerce in the country should concentrate on developing and helping Malay entrepreneurs and refrain from politicking and fighting among themselves, Entrepreneur Development Minister Datuk Seri Mohamed Nazri Abdul Aziz said Tuesday.

"Such chambers are established to help our Malay entrepreneurs, not for members to clash with officials," he said at the closing of a basic and intermediate course for building contractors here. A total of 31 participants took part in the 10-day course which ended here Tuesday.

"Don't just come to the chambers' offices once a year for the annual general meeting and fight among yourselves while electing officials," Mohamed Nazri said.

They should instead emulate the approach taken by members and officials of the Chinese chambers of commerce and industry who usually sat together to discuss the advancement of their members, he added.

Referring to the building contractors' course organised by the Sabah Malay Chamber of Commerce and Mara, he said it should also be adopted by other Malay chambers in the country.

"Organising courses (by the chambers) is something I want to see. Don't come to talk politics with me, I know more than you," Mohamed Nazri said.

He also asked bumiputera contractors to safeguard their reputation and trust so that they would not be labelled as "kuda kepang" (hobby-horse) or "ayam daging" (poultry) entrepreneurs bent on getting contracts from the Government and subsequently selling them to others instead of undertaking the projects themselves.



Nazri...don't clash  
among yourselves.

Bumiputera contractors, especially Malays, should change such an attitude as the practice of selling contracts had taken place since 30 years ago, he stressed.

On Monday, Mohamed Nazri said the Entrepreneur Development Ministry would emphasise on developing bumiputera entrepreneurs in Sabah and Sarawak so that they would not be left far behind their counterparts in the other states.

"We have to do more in Sabah and Sarawak so they are not left far behind," he said after signing a memorandum of understanding between his Ministry and the Sabah Economic Development Corporation (Sedco) and Universiti Malaysia Sabah (UMS).

Mohamed Nazri said he had directed his Ministry to choose entrepreneurs for training programmes in accordance with the quota of 50 per cent Muslim bumiputeras and 50 per cent non-Muslim bumiputeras.

Under the MoU, the Ministry, Sedco and UMS will undertake the training programme for 20 bumiputera entrepreneurs in Sabah.

They will attend eight weeks of courses at UMS and three weeks of internship with employers in the private and public sectors. They then will draw up a viable business plan after their internship.