



MINISTER OF FINANCE II

MALAYSIA

**GOLDEN EAGLE AWARD 2015
GALA AWARD PRESENTATION CEREMONY & DINNER**

**GRAND BALLROOM,
GENTING INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION CENTRE
OCTOBER 16, 2015**

YBhg Tan Sri Datuk Sir Tiong Hiew King, Group Executive Chairman and Executive Director, Media Chinese International Limited

YBhg Dato' Chua Tia Guan, Chief Judge, a founding member of PEMUDAH cum Co-Chairman of the PEMUDAH's Focus Group on Paying Taxes

Mr Ng Chek Yong, Executive Director, Media Chinese International Limited

Mr Chong Choong Nam, Editor in Chief of Nanyang Siang Pau

Mr Liew Sam Ngan, Organizing Chairman of the GEA2015 cum Group COO/ CEO of Nanyang Siang Pau.

YBhg Datuk Ter Leong Yap, President of The Associated Chinese Chamber of Commerce and Industry of Malaysia

Distinguished guests,

Members of the Media,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

1. I am very happy to be with you all again this year, particularly to meet with Tan Sri Datuk Sir Tiong Hiew King. While a few here tonight have been friends with me for many years, there are also a number of whom I can say are new friends. Whichever is the case, it seems like I am back here in Genting for a big family reunion.
2. Nanyang Siang Pau, I must congratulate you for the vision and initiative for holding this prestigious award for the SME industry. Your Golden Eagle Award is the most prestigious awards available for the business community in our country. To this year's winners, my heartiest congratulations, you deserve this achievement.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Preparation for the world in the future to shape our journey

3. We must always be prepared to shape our future journey. We are facing technological and cultural shift, a tremendous change to the world. A variety of future factors are coming together, encompassing a number of driving forces, trends, developments and emerging ideas that would shape our path towards the year 2025.
4. Technology has changed people's behaviours; in the way we communicate, how we disseminate ideas, or even how we shop. But this change is far more reaching than just technology. We are seeing changes in businesses, socio-demographics, politics, and our environment.
5. Complexities in the business environment have overall increased. Driven by the rapid pace of social and market change, recent innovations and regulatory requirements.
6. Therefore, we must continuously plan on how best for us to proceed forward; to maximize our chances of riding the wave to a higher level.
7. We need to embrace this change. We need to develop new models for innovation. We need to develop and enhance new skillsets whether it is technical competencies, soft skills, or thinking skills.

Recognizing SMEs critical contribution to our country

8. Our Government has great trust and ambitions for our SMEs. We want to create globally competitive SMEs that enhance wealth creation and contribute to the social well-being of our people and the nation. We take great pride when our SMEs achieve greater heights.
9. When I was Deputy Minister for International Trade and Industry; I was involved in the trade and investment mission abroad, where Top Glove was one of the participants. Today, with their determination, hard work and support from the Government, they are now the largest manufacturer of rubber glove in the world. As a Malaysian, I cannot help but feel very proud of Top Glove's achievements and similarly, the achievements of other Malaysian companies.
10. We fully recognize SMEs critical contribution to our country and we will do all we can to support you. Assistance will be always be there for market access, financing and training program.
11. I would like to share this experience at a recent National Export Council meeting. We were informed that the Market Development Grant for 2015 has been fully disbursed. That means there are no more grant for October, November and December. Ladies and gentlemen, we decided to provide new allocation so that the requirement for October, November and December will be met.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Working together as a family, building an harmonious ecosystem for the future

12. We are now at the door steps, entering a higher phase in our economic development. The Chinese strongly believe that the next generation must have a better life than the previous generation.
13. This aspiration is shared by all races; Malay, Chinese, Indian, Kadazan, Ibans and other indigenous groups. We ultimately want our children to do better than us.
14. It is this common aspiration and spirit of unity in diversity that gave us strength to overcome the many challenges till today. This will be the source of strength for us to go through future challenging times and enjoy the good times.
15. Together we need to build an ecosystem that links the Government, our private sector and most importantly our rakyat – who are our workers and consumers. The Government, for its part, will continuously strengthen the ecosystem with hard and soft infrastructure development. But ultimately, we need to work together, as a family.
16. Let us, as a family, grow together, travel this journey together, take this blessed country to a higher level of joy

and prosperity, for our future, our children's future and the future of our successive generations.

17. On this note, I thank the Organising Committee of the Golden Eagle Award and the Nanyang Siang Pau for its kind invitation for me to be here tonight and I thank all of you for your generous attention. Congratulations again to all the winners tonight.

Putrajaya

16 October 2015