THE BUMIPUTRA CORPORATE STRATEGIES IN MALAYSIAN SECURITIES INDUSTRY WITH SPECIAL EMPHASIS ON THE BUMIPUTRA STOCK EXCHANGE

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1.0 INTRODUCTION

The Malaysian Securities Industry is still relatively young as compared to that of developed countries like the United States, Japan and Great Britain. A Stock Exchange, therefore, has a crucial role to play in the capital formation so necessary for the growth of, and investment in the dynamic corporate sector.

With the rapid growth of the corporate sector in Malaysia and thus the economy, there is a necessity to see that wealth is evenly distributed, where the Bumiputras are given a meaningful stake in the corporate sector to eliminate racial stereo-typing by occupation and economic functions. Hence, corporate restructuring along the lines of the New Economic Policy (NEP) poses new challenges to corporate planners. In the floatation of public companies, it becomes necessary to reserve a specified quota of new shares for Bumiputras and Bumiputra institutions.

The Bumiputra Stock Exchange (BSE) was set up not to compete with the Kuala Lumpur Stock Exchange (KLSE) but merely to provide an alternative for the Bumiputra companies that are not qualified to be listed in the latter to participate in the stock market catering only for the Bumiputra investors. The Bumiputra companies listed on the BSE will be groomed and later when they are already successful, they may have the option to be promoted to the KLSE.

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Con	tents		Page ESIS
ACE	MON	LEDGEMENTS	i
1.0	INT	RODUCTION	1
2.0	BUMIPUTRA UNIT TRUSTS		
	2.1	THE CONCEPT OF UNIT TRUSTS	2
	2.2	THE PERMODALAN NASIONAL BERHAD (PNB)	4
	2.3	THE AMANAH SAHAM NASIONAL (ASN)	. 4
	2.4	THE AMANAH SAHAM MARA BERHAD (ASMB)	6
	2.5	THE BUMIPUTRA STOCK EXCHANGE (BSE)	7
		BSE Versus PNB/ASN And ASMB	8
		The Role Of BSE	9
	2.6	THE LISTING PROCEDURES TO QUOTE ON THE BSE	10
		Documentation	10
		Application Letter	11
		Quotation	11
		Board Lot/Marketable Parcel	11
		Processing Time	12
		Processing Fees	12
		Compliance Of The Securities Industry Act, 1983 And The Companies Act, 1965	12
		Permission To Include The Words "Bumiputra Stock Exchange (BSE)" In The Prospectus	12
		Issuing House	13
		The Advertisement Of Prospectus & Official Application Form	13

	2.7	THE PRE-REQUISITES TO PARTICIPATE ON THE BSE	13
	2.8	THE OBSTACLES HINDERING THE PROGRESS OF BSE	14
		The Proposals To Activate The Operations Of BSE	15
	2.9	ACHIEVING THE 30 PER CENT NEP TARGET BY 1990	16
		Pegging	17
		A Special Bumiputra Board In The Premise Of KLSE	18
		Equity Ownership Through Mergers And Acquisitions	19
3.0	A C	OMPARATIVE STUDY OF THE KLSE AND THE BSE	19
	3.1	SIMILARITIES	19
		Capital Market	20
		Trading Location	20
		Administrative Structure	20
		Serves As An Up-To-Date Information Centre	21
	3.2	MAJOR DIFFERENCES	21
		Implications Of The Securities Industry Act, 1983 (SIA)	21
	٠	The Capital Issue Committee (CIC)	21
	•	Pre-Requisites Of The Regulatory Bodies In Corporate Investments	23
		- Floatations Of New Companies	23
		- Rights Issue	24
		- Mergers And Acquisitions	24
		Body Of Memberships	25
		Trading Procedures At The BSE	25
		The Speculative Elements Of The Securities Market	26
		Supply And Demand Of Securities	27