The nation had at one time attained glory in football and was well-known in the Asian region, even defeating the Japanese and South Korean teams, who have now emerged as world-class football giants. What happened to our players?

— Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad

looked at all sectors that could contribute towards the strength of the country’s economy.

— Information Minister and Umno secretary-general Tan Sri Khalil Yaakob

"The budget has given more attention to the poor and the needy, which should be appreciated. The bonus payment for the civil servants is thank-you to the government workers."

MCA secretary-general Datuk Seri Dr Ting Chew Peh:

"A very good and futuristic budget. Its focus on education, especially the incentives to make education more accessible for the poor, shows the government’s care and concern for the people’s well-being."

MCA vice-president and Human Resources Minister

Transport Minister and MCA president Datuk Seri Dr Ling Long Sik:

"It is a people’s budget and it comes from a man who cares very much for the people and nation. The Prime Minister has looked at every sector with a touch of kindness with the aim of improving and encouraging productivity, especially within the domestic market and its players."

Works Minister and MIC president Datuk Seri S. Samy Vellu:

"This year’s budget is very people-friendly as every proposal has ensured that Malaysians’ interests have been taken care of."

Primary Industries Minister and Gerakan president Datuk Seri Dr Lim Keng Yaik:

"Problems and issues raised by my ministry have been answered. I am glad that the matter of land consolidation is going to be tackled, as the small size of present estates no longer make this economically sustainable."

Defence Minister and Umno vice-president Datuk Seri Najib Tun Razak:

"This is a unique and special budget because more benefits have been planned for all segments of Malaysians."

International Trade and Industry Minister and Wanita Umno leader Datuk Seri Rafidah Aziz:

"It is a budget for national resilience because Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad has

Datuk Dr Fong Chan Onn:

"The budget is aimed at stimulating domestic consumption besides helping the poor and disabled."

MCA vice-president and Health Minister Datuk Chua Jui Meng:

"The allocation of RM7.6 million will mean better quality services through the upgrading of hospitals and recruitment of overseas and local medical staff. This is the best budget for the medical sector."

MCA vice-president and Housing and Local Government Minister Datuk Seri Ong Ka Ting:

"A comprehensive budget that brings lots of goodies for everybody, particularly the lower income group, the elderly, women and children."

Science, Technology and Environment Minister Datuk Seri Liang Ching:

"It is one of the best budgets and is progressive. You can’t focus on the environment all the time... the focus has shifted to education, poverty eradication and human resource."

Wanita MCA chief and Deputy Culture, Arts and Tourism Minister Datuk Dr Ng Yen Yen:

"It is a caring development oriented budget. I am happy about the fund for students because it will encourage parents to be aware of pre-planning and savings for their children."

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