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Najib-Mahathir

MEMBERS WILL ACCEPT DR M'S DECISION TO DEFEND PRESIDENCY - NAJIB

KUALA LUMPUR, Dec 30 (Bernama) -- Umno vice-president Datuk Seri Najib Razak said today he supported Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad's intention to defend the Umno presidency next year and believes party members will accept the prime minister's decision.

"I believe Dr Mahathir feels he has some unfinished work to be done since he has said that (the Nov 29) general election is his last," said Najib.

He said that under Dr Mahathir's leadership, the government had contributed much towards the nation's success including transforming it into a country having the characteristics of a developed country.

Najib, who is the defence minister, was speaking to reporters at his ministry after receiving Hari Raya goodies for members of the armed forces serving at the borders.

He received them from Datuk Seri Dr Siti Hasmah Mohamed Ali, the president of Bakti, the association of the wives of ministers and deputy ministers.

Najib said he expected Dr Mahathir's decision to be well received by most Umno members and "we can see the development in the next few days".

On his part, he said, he supported the decision "personally and as the vice-president".

"What's important for Umno is for it to ensure stability and unity, and carry out whatever changes in an organised manner without creating problems," he said.

In an interview with RTM on Wednesday, Dr Mahathir said he would defend the Umno president's post if he was renominated for the post in next year's party election.

-- BERNAMA

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