

Najib dismisses claim 1Malaysia not original
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Prime Minister Najib Razak said today he felt slighted by the allegation that the 1Malaysia concept had been plagiarised from another country.

Describing the allegation as "a big lie", he said the 1Malaysia concept which was introduced after he helmed the country's administration was his own creation.

"The 1Malaysia concept was not copied from another country. It is my own creation. Other countries may have a one this and a one that but nowhere in this world is there a 1Malaysia: People First, Performance Now," he said when opening the Cuepacs triennial convention, here.

In a stern voice, Najib said the government moved forward on the basis of reality and not any dream.

"It is very easy for us to make a political promise, but will that something based on the most populist approach be beneficial to us or otherwise?" he asked.

Najib said a responsible government focused on developing a country should uphold and implement responsible policies.

"A responsible government needs responsible policies ... not promises which are not founded on reality," he said.

PM under fire over Apco

Najib has come under criticism by several quarters, particularly Opposition Leader Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim who had alleged that the government, through global communication consulting firm Apco Worldwide, had plagiarised the 1Malaysia concept from the 'One Israel' campaign which the same company had allegedly created for the Zionist regime in 1999.

The Parliamentary Rights and Privileges Committee found Anwar's allegation to be without basis and recommended to the Dewan Rakyat for him to be suspended from the house for six months.

Last Thursday, before it adjourned sine die, the Dewan Rakyat suspended Anwar for six months. Three other opposition MPs, Karpal Singh (DAP-Bukit Gelugor), R Sivarasa (PKR-Subang) and Azmin Ali (PKR-Gombak), were also suspended for six months for contempt because of making public information privy to the rights and privileges committee.