

PM: Tenang by-election bigger than Teoh Beng Hock
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Prime Minister Najib Abdul Razak today pledged his commitment to unravel the mystery behind Teoh Beng Hock's death as he addressed Tenang's sizeable Chinese community.

"We also want to know the real truth and what happened to him. Don't politicise this issue. We have ways to find out the truth. We won't protect anyone. This is the government's vow."

Najib's speech today at SJK(C) Labis appears to be an attempt to pre-empt moves by the opposition to capitalise on the open verdict delivered during the conclusion of the inquest into Teoh's death.

"We also have the same intention in the Teoh Beng Hock case," he told some 700 Chinese residents during an afternoon tea session in the school hall.

However, he reminded Tenang voters that they should make a decision that looks beyond Teoh's death.

"This (by-election) is bigger than Teoh Beng Hock, this is about the future of Malaysia, the future of all of us, the future of our next generation.

"Don't gamble away our future. The opposition cannot govern this country," said Najib.

His fiery speech was followed by a round of applause.

Azan row: 'That's why I initiated 1Malaysia'

Najib also touched on the recent azan row in Kuala Lumpur, saying that after the MCA lawyer Ng Kian Nam (centre in photo) had apologised for his action, the matter had been solved.

"This means Chinese and Malays, Muslims and non-Muslims, we can live together in harmony if we respect each other. This is why I initiated the 1Malaysia concept."

He did not reveal whether he had received the letter from the complainant and who directed the mosque to lower its azan volume.

Before giving his speech, Najib officially opened the new RM5.6 million teaching building of the school.

Najib assured the Chinese community that Chinese education and culture will be protected and that BN is the only coalition that can govern the multiracial nation.

"This is not the time for us to experiment with something which we are not sure of," he said.

He described the cooperation between DAP and PAS as "not a workable relationship" as the

latter insists on its agenda to build an Islamic state while the former pursues a secular state.

"But they will cooperate just to defeat BN."

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