

Sex video: Truth matters most, says Najib
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Prime Minister Najib Razak appeared to be in no mood today to discuss the sex video purportedly showing an opposition leader in sexual tryst with a prostitute.

When asked if the controversial video had somehow created sympathy for PKR de facto leader Anwar Ibrahim, alleged to be involved in the sex tape, Najib said he did not wish to comment on the matter.

Najib was told earlier that both the Pakatan Rakyat's and the Permatang Pauh MP, Anwar's reputation was somewhat sliding downhill, that is until the video emerged.

Recently, Anwar's road show to explain the conspiracy behind the video - exposed by individuals linked to Umno - former Malacca chief minister Abdul Rahim Tamby Chik, Perkasa treasurer-general Shuaib Lazim and a businessman Shazryl Eskay Abdullah - had attracted a large number of supporters in Penang, Selangor and Sarawak.

"Let the people decide. People want the truth, not perception," he told reporters after attending a 1Malaysia event at Permatang Pasir today.

However, Najib wasted no time in criticising the Pakatan government for their lack of credibility.

He pointed out that Pakatan was not even a registered political party, "So how can you call them an alliance?" he asked.

Getting high in flinging mud

He also took a swipe at Anwar for being PKR supremo, declaring himself the party leader when not elected democratically.

"PKR is a family party. The husband is the de facto leader, the wife is the president and the daughter is the vice-president," he said.

...And the deputy president? That you would have to ask (Bayan Baru MP) Zahrain (Mohamed Hashim)," Najib said tongue in cheek, pointing to the independent MP who was present among the VIP guests in the front row.

Najib (centre in photo) on a full day working visit to Penang, met various groups in Jelutong, Rifle Range, Kampung Melayu and Balik Pulau.

He also met BN leaders before attending an Indian Cultural Carnival, and at the official launching ceremony of the Football Association of Penang's in the evening.

Meanwhile, Najib, who is BN and Umno chief, said during his speech, he had felt a wind of change in Penang where there are signs of the people's support returning to the BN.

On how he arrived at the conclusion, Najib said he made a rough gauge of the people's sentiments when meeting various groups today.

Convicted politician to remain as Lenggeng rep

He added that he had met a group of Malay traders who had "whispered into my ears" their grievances and hardship in doing business in Penang these days.

"They told me it was not so difficult before when the BN was ruling the state; at that time they told me they used to get a lot of support from the state," he told the 2,000 participants who attended the event.

Najib also said that Mustafa Salim's conviction for corruption does not remove him as the Lenggeng assemblyman as he is filing an appeal.

The Seremban Sessions Court yesterday sentenced Mustafa to three years jail and fined him RM20,000 in default 12 months jail after finding him guilty of accepting a RM2,000 bribe from a contractor three years ago.

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