

PM proud of M'sia footballers
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Prime Minister Najib Abdul Razak gave the thumbs up to the Malaysian players despite bowing out of the 2014 World Cup Qualifier to Singapore on a 6-4 aggregate.

Singapore who had won the first leg of the Asian Zone World Cup qualifier 5-3 at the Jalan Besar Stadium in Singapore on Saturday, managed a 1-1 draw in the second leg at the National Stadium in Bukit Jalil here tonight, to advance on a 6-4 aggregate.

Najib and his wife Rosmah Mansor who attended a people's dinner themed 'Perdana Menteri Bersama Rakyat' at Dewan Wawasan, in Jitra, Kedah watched the live telecast of the match on a big screen with 2,000 others.

The Prime Minister and 2,000 other supporters were jumping for joy when Mohd Safee Sali scored Malaysia's first goal in the 57th minute but had to be contended with the 1-1 draw as Singapore equalised in the 72nd minute.

Najib who is in Kedah for a one day official visit told reporters after the match that he was proud of the players who had shown loads of determination and commitment during the match.

"We were in for a tough time due to the two-goal deficit since Singapore had won 5-3 in the first leg last week.

"However, I am happy to see their fighting spirit. I want the players to consider the loss as a lesson to strengthen their performance in the future," he said.

- Bernama