

PM boards bus for one-day visit in Perak

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For the first time in his nationwide tour, Prime Minister Najib Razak, wife Rosmah Mansor and entourage boarded a bus plying to attend programmes in Perak.

"It used to be by car but this time we board the bus to meet the people. I want to feel what its like to do away with protocol.

"There must be no barrier to separate leaders and the people," he said at his first event, the Aidilfitri banquet with the Prime Minister at Taman Soon Choon in Ipoh today.

The visit involves 50km travel from Ipoh to Sungai Siput during which the prime minister mingled with people of all races including the Orang Asli in Lasah, Sungai Siput.

Later in Batu Gajah, he told journalists that he was thrilled with his first bus ride tour during his one-day visit.

"Very interesting, will try more of this 'Bus Tour' concept... so far it has been very enjoyable.

"We were exchanging jokes and did not feel tired. The journey also gave us an opportunity to discuss a lot of things."

Najib urged BN leaders to go to every nook and corner of the country to garner support for BN although the party already has its core supporters.

"We can't afford to pay attention to our hardcore supporters only. We have to gain support from those who will become our supporters."

The BN chairman said the approach is in line with the New Economic Model which has inclusive and social justice concepts as among its main principles.

No one should feel marginalised

Through the concepts, the government did not want the people to feel marginalised while social justice will bring aid to the poor and less fortunate.

"This is a government that put the people first," he told some 5,000 guests from all races at the Aidilfitri banquet.

Najib said the 'turn padang' (go to the ground) and 'tinjauan mesra' (friendly walkabout) are aimed at finding out the people's problems and providing solutions.

On response given by the people, he said that he is touched by it and hopes it is a clear message that a majority of the people support BN.

Menteri Besar Zambry Abdul Kadir told guests he was happy that the prime minister brought the famous 'Murtabak Pekan' from Pekan, Pahang, to be shared together.

- Bernama

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