

**Not easy for gov't to repeal ISA, says Najib**  
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**By Aidila Razak**

Letting go of the Internal Security Act (ISA) 1960 has been a difficult thing for the government.

NONESaying this at the police headquarters in Bukit Aman today, Prime Minister Najib Abdul Razak said it was especially difficult for Home Minister Hishammuddin Hussein.

“It was not easy for the home minister to give up the powers to detain individuals but he did so willingly because he understands the rakyat’s expectations,” he said.

The Security Offences (Special Measures) Bill 2012, which is to replace the ISA was tabled for first reading on Tuesday.

Najib also thanked the Inspector General of Police Ismail Omar and his force for supporting the move to repeal the ISA, which allows detention without trial.

“The force did not oppose it but hoped that the move will not impede on their job... dealing with global terrorism, extremists and crime syndicates,” he said.

NONENajib said the job of the government and the police is to find that delicate balance between observing fundamental human rights and national peace and security.

He said it these expectations from the rakyat are “not unreasonable” and “can be achieved”.

Najib was officiating the new office tower in Bukit Aman built at a cost of RM435 million.

The tower includes a clinic, a creche and a Permata early childhood education centre for children aged one to five.

He also announced that a new hall for Bukit Aman which will be “included in next year’s budget”.

The PM later presented cheques to 20 former police personnel who had served during the Emergency.

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