

PM: Reconciliation possible if GE results accepted

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PARLIAMENT The opposition must be able to accept the 13th general election results before engagement about national reconciliation can begin, Prime Minister Najib Abdul Razak told the Parliament today.

Answering a question by Lim Kit Siang (DAP-Gelang Patah) during question time, Najib said that acceptance of the election results is the "main premise" for national reconciliation.

"The government has plans to set up a national consultative council on unity. We can discuss all issues about race, religion and policies there. But first accept the results," he said.

When asked by Ngeh Koo Ham (DAP-Beruas) if the government can guarantee that Pakatan Rakyat parliamentarians will be afforded the same treatment as BN MPs in terms of being allowed to enter schools, Najib refused to discuss what he called as "specifics".

"Even we can raise many specific issues here, one by one. You can reprimand us, but we also can reprimand them. If we continue criticising each other, we will never move forward; there will be no end to it," he noted.

"All these specifics, they can be discussed in the council once it is set up," he added.

'Baseless allegations'

He also chided the opposition for making "baseless" allegations about electoral fraud.

"Don't make accusations without basis. You cannot simply accuse that there were 40,000 Bangladeshi voters. I have yet to receive evidence that there were flaws in the election. If you are not satisfied, just base on the constitution and act according to the constitution," he said.

Najib also said that his government is "not afraid" of the term 'Malaysian spring'.

"We are not afraid, but whatever we do must be based on the constitution," he

stressed.

Meanwhile, Najib said that compulsory voting would be impossible to be implemented in the country.

"Any suggestion... we must see if we can implement. Compulsory voting - I don't think it can be enforced. Automatic voting is something we can consider, though the government has not taken any steps to that end."

He was answering a question from Dr Abdul Latiff Ahmad (BN-Mersing) as to whether the government would consider automatic and compulsory voting in future elections.

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