

Don't ape chair-throwing party, PM tells gov't staff
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Prime Minister Najib Abdul Razak took a poke at PKR while advising government district officers not to use violence to settle political disagreements.

Speaking at a ceremony to launch a district officers' meeting in Putrajaya yesterday, Najib told them that he was alarmed by a bloody incident involving a political party.

"Look at today's news, blood was spilled," PM Najib was quoted saying by Utusan Malaysia in a speech.

"Sure, have an argument about it but don't resort to throwing chairs like in the recent party elections of a political party," he added.

Najib said this while urging district officers to know the proper way to solve small issues, such as the appointment of a village chief for example.

Utusan reported that Najib referred to an incident on Sunday at PKR's Kota Raja re-elections, which was marred by violence. The Umno-owned paper said this showed that PKR was made up of "gangsters and samseng (thugs)."

Yesterday, PKR polls committee chairperson Johari Abdul expressed disappointment over the fight but explained that the fight might have nothing to do with party politics and quipped it could be due to two rival camps fighting over a girl. A similar incident happened in Kuala Langat PKR re-elections.

Meanwhile, in the same event, Najib also dished out some political advice to district officers, telling them not to be too formal in following protocol, and that not only ministers and politicians but administrators too, needed to be close to the concerns of the people.

"We can't say we are the 'boss' and others must bow to us," Najib was quoted as saying.