

**Najib moves to douse soup kitchen flames**  
**MalaysiaKini.com**  
**July 5, 2014**

Prime Minister Najib Abdul Razak has finally jumped in to douse the heat over the soup kitchen row saying he appreciates such efforts to help the homeless.

He said on Twitter today the government is very concerned about the plight of the vagrants and the destitute.

“(I) appreciate the role played by volunteers such as the soup kitchens,” he tweeted briefly.

In a second tweet he added, “Federal Territories Minister Tengku Adnan Tengku Mansor will be discussing with (those) soup kitchens to find a mutual acceptable solution for all parties.”

Najib’s (centre in photo, with Tengku Adnan on the right) intervention comes as the Federal Territories Ministry denying that it is acting cruelly in clearing out beggars and soup kitchens within the Kuala Lumpur city centre.

In the face of heavy fire, the Ministry promised that plans are under way to set up "one-stop centres" for the poor and homeless.

Tengku Adnan this week received flak for asking soup kitchens providing food for the homeless to move out from a 2km radius of the city centre by Monday.

This, he said, was aimed at cleaning up the city's "image".

The minister earlier said he did not consider his actions to be harsh but instead necessary to create a “disciplined society”, as he believes that donations and handouts encourage people to remain homeless and jobless.