

PM tired and embarrassed for BN in Selangor

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Prime Minister Najib Abdul Razak feels "tired" and "embarrassed" whenever Barisan Nasional is referred to as the opposition in Selangor.

"I feel so tired and it is such a big embarrassment when we (BN) are mentioned as the opposition.

"I know all of you feel tired and embarrassed, too," said Najib in his speech during the Selangor Umno convention today.

As such, Najib told Selangor Umno members today that they had to be "brave" in making a change in order to wrest the state from Pakatan Rakyat in the next general election.

Nevertheless, Najib said although Selangor Umno is the opposition, it had to continue with its struggle.

He told the members that they had to accept several realities, that they had lost the two general elections, that Selangor is a strategic state (with its rapid economic growth and plenty of job opportunities) and that most seats are either semi-urban or urban.

'People smarter now'

Najib also admitted that people are more educated as well as critical-minded, with some believing that they do not need to depend on the government to survive.

As such, Selangor Umno needs to think of new ways to obtain a different outcome (winning back Selangor), he said.

"If we don't change our strategy and mindset, will we be getting the same outcome?" said Najib, urging them to think out of the box.

He also gave the assurance that he will help Selangor Umno win the state, but results should be achieved with "low cost and high returns" and not "high cost and low returns".

He also reminded them to put the party's interests first, criticising those who recommend candidates during polls just because he or she is their supporter.

"This means we are thinking about our interests only rather than Umno's victory," he said.

'Capitalise on Sgor crisis'

Taking a dig at Pakatan Rakyat, he pointed out how they were not practising democracy when opposition leader Anwar Ibrahim wanted his wife, Dr Wan Azizah Wan Ismail, to be Selangor menteri besar.

"People of Selangor became tired due to the Selangor fiasco. Yes they were tired of Pakatan, but does this mean support can be shifted to Umno?"

Urging the delegates to capitalise on the Selangor crisis, he said they should show the rakyat that the Umno leadership is better.

"I know that if we are given the trust, we will do better than Pakatan," he said, pointing out how the opposition coalition had even managed to garner the wrath of the Selangor sultan.

Urging them to get more voters to join the party, he also urged them to rise from defeat.

"Nothing will make me happier than us reclaiming our dignity by winning in the next general election.

"Let us pray to Allah, but remember that He will not change a person's fate without that person making an effort," he said.