

'Umno won more seats under me than Pak Lah'

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Prime Minister Najib Abdul Razak has refuted allegations that his performance is worse than his predecessor Abdullah Ahmad Badawi.

In a frequently asked questions (FAQ) list published on his blog today, Najib said under him, Umno had in fact performed better in the 13th general election.

"BN won 11 state governments compared to nine in the previous GE. We regained Kedah, maintained Terengganu and solidified our position in Perak. Umno (also) won more seats in GE13 when compared to GE12," he pointed out.

The page, titled "Tun M FAQ" aims to answer allegations hurled against Najib by former prime minister Dr Mahathir Mohamad.

Among them is that Abdullah, also fondly known as Pak Lah, did better at the ballot box than Najib even though the former was always "sleeping".

Under Abdullah, BN suffered huge losses in the 2008 polls, losing 58 seats, winning only 140.

Then in 2013, BN lost seven more seats, holding on to power with 133 seats in Parliament and only 47 percent of the popular vote.

Mahathir said BN and Umno will perform even worse, and will lose the next general elections if Najib was still in power

Najib, however, says the ruling coalition will still come out on top if he continues getting support and if BN members stop believing in rumours and half-truths.

'End is nigh' rumour

"If I get the support that I need to pursue the transformation programmes, we will succeed. If we are united and stop the infighting, we will succeed.

"If we focus on constructive rather than destructive politics, we will succeed. If we focus on work instead of believing and spreading rumours, spins and half-truths, we will succeed," he said.

Najib said the impact of his transformation programmes will convince the people that BN can deliver on its promises and that much has already been achieved.

He added BN has already survived five decades of rumours that the opposition will topple the government through the ballot box.

"Improvements are happening before our very eyes. But I know that many would, of course, rather look at the bad and continue to harp on neverending rumours, half-truths and spins. They continue to believe that the 'end is nigh' and that the Opposition will win.

"These are claims that have been made over and over again in the last five decades and yet we are still here," he said.

"While everyone is free to criticise me and list all my 'failures,' it is also important to recognise how far we have come in the last six years in order to have a fair view of things," he added.

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