

Najib: 6,000 new members in August alone shows Umno still has support
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An increase of 6,000 Umno members in the month of August alone proves that the party still receives the people's support, its president Najib Abdul Razak said today.

Najib, who is also prime minister, said the figure comprised 374 ordinary members, Wanita Movement 731, Youth 2,716 and Puteri 2,179.

"I mention this because there are parties that only get 30 members but receive front-page coverage, so I want to inform that Umno had 6,000 members in August, but this did not appear in the front page of the newspapers," Najib told a news conference after chairing the Umno supreme council meeting at the Putra World Trade Centre in Kuala Lumpur today.

Najib said the figure also showed that Umno was still the choice of the people, especially the younger generation.

In fact, he said, the success of the Pro-Aspirasi at 12 public universities at the campus elections earlier also showed that the government policies continued to receive acceptance from the group.

"This is positive news that the government policies continue to be accepted by the younger generation, as long as we are given the opportunity to explain to and engage with the younger generation," he said.

Dec 1 to 3 for general assembly

Najib said the Umno general assembly 2016 would be held from Dec 1 to 3.

He said that prior to the assembly, the presidential briefing would be held on Nov 29 followed by the opening ceremony for the Youth, Wanita and Puteri movements in the evening.

He said the simultaneous opening of the three party wings would be officiated by Deputy Prime Minister Ahmad Zahid Hamidi, as vice-president carrying out the duties of the deputy president.

The assemblies of the three party wings would be held on Nov 30, he said.

Meanwhile, Najib said that at the meeting the supreme council members wanted Umno to draw up counter-proposals to the Election Commission (EC) on the proposed redelineation of electoral boundaries.

He said that Umno secretary-general Tengku Adnan Tengku Mansor would coordinate the matter at the state and divisional levels, which would then be submitted to the EC.

In addition, he said, the supreme council would also give several opinions and suggestions on the 2017 Budget, but this would take into consideration the country's financial capacity.

- *Bernama*

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